

ECON6190 Section 8

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Motivation convenient symbol for random variables and random vectors which converge in probability to zero or are stochastically bounded.

DEF Nonstochastic Orders

For nonstochastic sequence x_n and a_n

① (small-oh) $x_n = o(a_n)$ if $\frac{x_n}{a_n} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

↳ "as $n \rightarrow \infty$, x_n is eventually small compared to a_n "

② (big-oh) $x_n = O(a_n)$ if \exists finite scalars (M, N_M) s.t. $\forall n \geq N_M, |\frac{x_n}{a_n}| < M$.

↳ x_n and a_n may be of the same order, but $\frac{x_n}{a_n}$ is always bounded for sufficiently large n .

Important special case arise $a_n = (1, \dots, 1)$, then

① $x_n = o(1)$ if $x_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

② $x_n = O(1)$ if $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n < \infty$ x_n is bounded uniformly in n .

DEF Stochastic Orders

For stochastic sequence x_n and nonstochastic sequence a_n ,

① (small oh-p) $x_n = o_p(a_n)$ if $\frac{x_n}{a_n} \xrightarrow{P} 0$.

↳ " x_n is of smaller stochastic order than a_n "

② (big oh-p) $x_n = O_p(a_n)$ if $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M_\epsilon, N_{\epsilon, M}$ s.t.

$P(|\frac{x_n}{a_n}| > M_\epsilon) \leq \epsilon, \forall n \geq N_{\epsilon, M}$.

↳ " x_n is of the same stochastic order as a_n ".

Again, consider special case $a_n = \{1, \dots, 1\}$.

① $x_n = o_p(1)$ if $x_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ → " x_n vanishes"

② $X_n = O_p(1)$ if $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists$ constant M_ε s.t. $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(|X_n| > M_\varepsilon) \leq \varepsilon$.
 $\hookrightarrow X_n$ is stochastically bounded".

Note: If X_n is stochastically bounded, this doesn't imply a deterministic upper bound on X_n , even for large n .

What it means is X_n can't take arbitrarily high values with non-vanishing probability.

Notes: $O_p(1)$ is a weaker notion than $o_p(1)$, in the sense that $X_n = o_p(1) \Rightarrow X_n = O_p(1)$, not the reverse.

• A "typical" instance of $X_n = O_p(1)$ is that $X_n \xrightarrow{d} Z$, where Z is some known random variable.

ex. If X_n is a studentized test statistic, let $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$.

\rightarrow very large values of Z are possible but very unlikely.

• Another important use of the term is " \sqrt{n} -consistent".

\leadsto An estimation error $(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)$ is said to be of stochastic order $n^{-1/2}$. If $\hat{\theta} - \theta_0 = O_p(n^{-1/2}) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = O_p(1)$.

• By Chebyshev inequality, we can show $(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = O_p(\sqrt{\text{MSE}(\hat{\theta})})$

Proof. For each $\varepsilon > 0$, pick $M_\varepsilon = (\frac{1}{\varepsilon})^{1/2}$.

By Chebyshev inequality:

$$P\left(\left|\frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta_0}{\sqrt{\text{MSE}(\hat{\theta})}}\right| > M_\varepsilon\right) = P\left(|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0| > \overbrace{\sqrt{\text{MSE}(\hat{\theta})} M_\varepsilon}^{s'}\right)$$

$$\leq \frac{E[(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)^2]}{\underbrace{\text{MSE}(\hat{\theta}) M_\varepsilon^2}_{s^2} \cdot \underbrace{1}_{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}} = \varepsilon, \forall n \geq N_{\varepsilon, M}$$

□

Algebra of stochastic orders

① If $X_n = O_p(a_n), Y_n = O_p(b_n)$, then

- $X_n Y_n = O_p(a_n b_n)$
- $X_n + Y_n = O_p(\max\{a_n, b_n\})$

② Replace O with o everywhere in ①, still holds

③ If $X_n = O_p(a_n)$, $Y_n = O_p(b_n)$, then $X_n Y_n = O_p(a_n b_n)$

④ If $X_n = O_p(a_n)$, and $\frac{a_n}{b_n} \rightarrow 0$, then $X_n = o_p(b_n)$

$$o_p(1) + o_p(1) = o_p(1)$$

$$o_p(1) + O_p(1) = O_p(1)$$

$$O_p(1) + O_p(1) = O_p(1)$$

$$o_p(1) O_p(1) = o_p(1)$$

$$o_p(1) O_p(1) = o_p(1)$$

$$O_p(1) O_p(1) = O_p(1)$$

8* Let $\{X_1 \dots X_n\}$ and $\{Y_1 \dots Y_n\}$ be mutually independent sequences of iid random variables, such that $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = 0$, $\text{var}(X_i) = 1$, $\mathbb{E}(Y_i) = 3$, $\text{var}(Y_i) = 2$. Let $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, $\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$, $\bar{XY} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i Y_i$. Find the orders in probability (the sharpest results possible) of:

- \bar{X} ,
- \bar{Y} ,
- $(\bar{X})^2$,
- $(\bar{Y})^3$,
- \bar{XY} ,
- $\bar{X} + 2$.

(a) Since $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0 < \infty$, iid, by WLLN, $\bar{X} \xrightarrow{P} \mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{X} = o_p(1)$$

convergence

To find the sharpest stochastic order, want to find the rate of \downarrow

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{X} - 0 = \bar{X} &= O_p\left(\sqrt{\text{MSE}(\bar{X})}\right) \\ &= O_p\left(\sqrt{\underbrace{(\text{bias}(\bar{X}))^2}_{=0 \text{ b/c } \bar{X} \text{ is unbiased}} + \underbrace{\text{var}(\bar{X})}_{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}}\right) \\ &= O_p\left(\sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}\right) \quad \sigma^2 \text{ is a finite constant} \\ &= O_p\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right) = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{x} = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

(b) \bar{Y} $E[Y_i] = 3$, $\text{var}(Y_i) = 2$.

By WLLN, $\bar{Y} \xrightarrow{P} E[Y_i] = 3 \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{Y} = O_p(1)$$

or equivalently, $\bar{Y} \xrightarrow{P} 3 \Rightarrow \bar{Y} = 3 + o_p(1)$

$$= \underbrace{O_p(1)}_{\text{bounded}} + \underbrace{o_p(1)}_{\rightarrow 0}$$

$$= O_p(1)$$

(c) $(\bar{x})^2$

From (a), $\bar{x} = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$

$$(\bar{x})^2 = \bar{x} \cdot \bar{x} = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) = O_p\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

↑ by O_p algebra

(d) $(\bar{Y})^3$

From (b), $\bar{Y} = O_p(1)$

$$(\bar{Y})^3 = \bar{Y} \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot \bar{Y} = O_p(1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1) = O_p(1)$$

(e) \overline{XY}

Since x_i, y_i mutually independent, $E[XY] = \overset{0}{E[X]} \overset{3}{E[Y]} = 0$

$$\text{var}(XY) = E[(XY)^2] - \underbrace{(E[XY])^2}_0$$

$$= E[X^2 Y^2]$$

$$\overset{\text{ind}}{=} E[X^2] E[Y^2]$$

$$= (\text{var}(X) + (E[X])^2) (\text{var}(Y) + (E[Y])^2) < \infty$$

By Chebyshev inequality, $\rightarrow \overline{XY} - E[XY] = O_p\left(\sqrt{\text{MSE}(\overline{XY})}\right)$

$$\overline{XY} - \underbrace{E[XY]}_0 = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{XY} = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

(f) $\bar{x} + z$

From (a), $\bar{x} = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$

$$\bar{x} + z = O_p\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) + O_p(1) = O_p\left(\max\left\{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, 1\right\}\right) = O_p(1).$$