

Weak Law of Large Numbers for Fair Coin Tossing

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ define $\Sigma_n = \{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) : \text{each } \alpha_j = 0 \text{ or } 1, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$.

For each $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \Sigma_n$ define $P_n(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{1}{|\Sigma_n|}$.

For each $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \Sigma_n$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$ define $X_j(\alpha) = \alpha_j$, which is the result of the j 'th toss. The random variables $X_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$, are independent; that is, for all $\bar{\alpha} = (\bar{\alpha}_1, \bar{\alpha}_2, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_n) \in \Sigma_n$

$$P\left(\bigcap_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{\alpha \in \Sigma_n : X_j(\alpha) = \bar{\alpha}_j\}\right) = P_n\left(\bigcap_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{X_j = \bar{\alpha}_j\}\right) = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} P_n(X_j = \bar{\alpha}_j).$$

Proof.
$$P_n\left(\bigcap_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{X_j = \bar{\alpha}_j\}\right) = P_n((\bar{\alpha}_1, \bar{\alpha}_2, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_n)) = \frac{1}{2^n}$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} P_n(X_j = \bar{\alpha}_j)$$

because $P_n(X_j = \bar{\alpha}_j) = \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2}$. QED

How should we formulate a law of large numbers for $S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n X_j$?
Is it true that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_{2n}\left(\frac{S_{2n}}{2n} = \frac{1}{2}\right) = 1$? The answer is

no because $P_{2n}\left(\frac{S_{2n}}{2n} = \frac{1}{2}\right) = P_{2n}(\alpha \in \Sigma_{2n} : n \alpha_j = 0, n \alpha_j = 1)$
 $= \frac{(2n)!}{n!n!} \frac{1}{2^{2n}}$. Apply Stirling's formula: $k! \sim k^k e^{-k} \sqrt{2\pi k}$. We

have
$$P_{2n}\left(\frac{S_{2n}}{2n} = \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{(2n)!}{n!n!} \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \sim \frac{(2n)^{2n} e^{-2n} \sqrt{2\pi \cdot 2n}}{(n^m e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n})^2 2^{2n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi n}} \rightarrow 0.$$

Theorem (Weak Law of Large Numbers). Define $S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n X_j$. For any $\epsilon > 0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n\left(\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2}\right| < \epsilon\right) = 1.$$

Proof. Using Chebyshev's Inequality, we prove that
 $0 \leq P_n\left(\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2}\right| \geq \epsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \rightarrow 0$, where $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X_1) = \frac{1}{4}$.

Define $A_n = \{j \in \mathbb{N} : \frac{1}{2} - \epsilon < \frac{j}{n} < \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon\} = \{j \in \mathbb{N} : n(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon) < j < n(\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon)\}$.

We have the exact formula $P_n\left(\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2}\right| < \epsilon\right) = \sum_{j \in A_n} P_n\left(\frac{S_n}{n} = \frac{j}{n}\right)$

$= \sum_{j \in A_n} \frac{n!}{j!(n-j)!} \frac{1}{2^n}$, but it is too complicated to prove that

$P_n\left(\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2}\right| < \epsilon\right)$ converges to 1.