

# Lecture 2: Introduction to Counting, Spring 2019

## Columbia University

Fan Huang

February 1, 2019

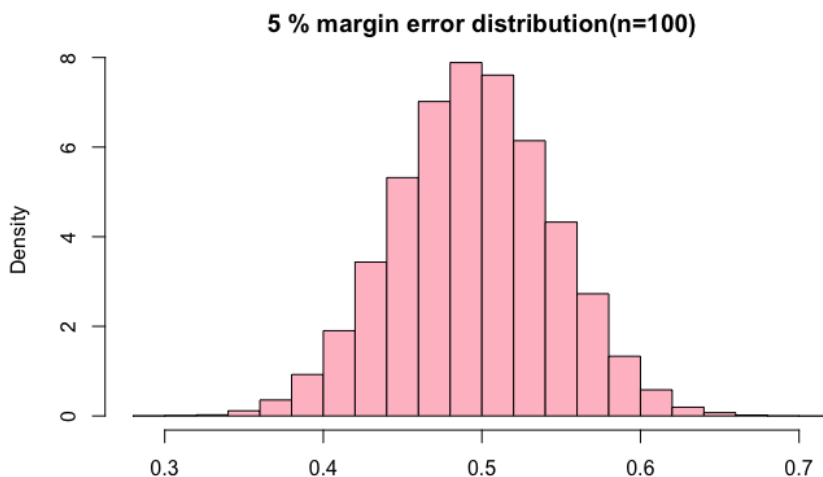
### 1 Part 1

#### 1.1 Conduct 5% margin of error

**5% margin** margin of error means 5% standard error or 5% standard deviation in sampling distribution for the mean.

**Given 5%** margin of error, 100 samples are needed. However, if the standard error is large such as 10%, less samples will need. Following R codes has provided to demonstrate.

```
# flip n times p=0.5
rbinom(n,1,p)
#estimate p by measuring the fraction of heads
mean(rbinom(n,1,p))
# repeat this 100,000 times
p.hat- replicate(1e5,mean(rbinom(n,1,p)))
# look at a histogram of the estimates
hist(p.hat)
# compute the standard deviation of the estimates
sd(p.hat)
```



## 1.2 Apply Central Limit Theorem to Binomial Distribution

$$\text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^n X_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=0}^n X_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \left(\sum_{i=0}^n \text{Var}(X_i)\right) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n} \quad (1)$$

As a result, the number of sampling can be calculated by following way

$$S = SD\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^n X_i\right) = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} \quad (2)$$

$$n = \frac{p(1-p)}{S^2} \quad (3)$$

## 2 Part 2

### 2.1 Why Counting

**Traditionally** difficult to obtain reliable estimates due to small sample sizes or sparsity.

for example, (100age x 2sex x 5race x 3 party)=3,000 groups

As we know, 100 samples are needed to conduct 5% margin error. For 3,000 groups, we need 100x3,000=300,000 samples. Apparently, it is almost impossible to conduct such experiment.

#### Potential solution

- 1.Combine large observations into fewer groups,which can cause of missing other important info.
- 2.Come up with more sophisticated methods generated by small samples.
- 3.**Obtain larger data samples** by other ways and then count and divide to make estimates through its relative frequencies.

#### Good and bad of large data

**Pros:** move away from complicated and complex models generated by small samples to simpler models on large samples.

**Cons:** Computationally challenging at large data.

### 2.2 Learning to count

**Claim:** Solving the counting problem at scale enables you to investigate many interesting questions in the social sciences.

#### R functions:

Split: Arrange observations into groups of interest.

Apply: Compute distributions and statistics within each group

Combine: Collect results across groups.

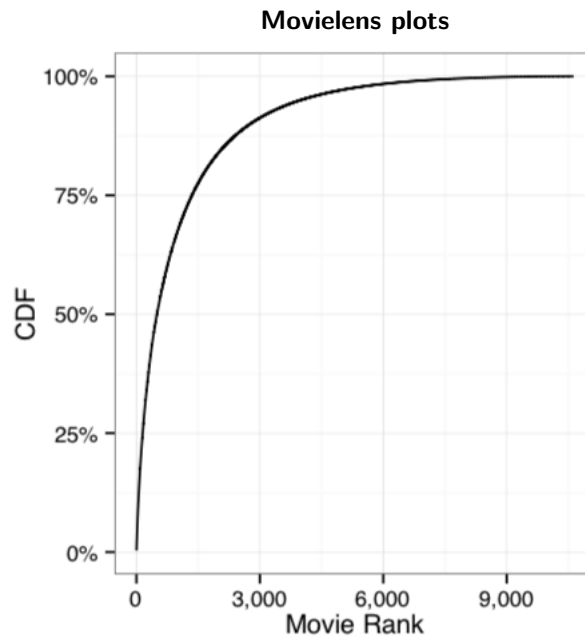
#### Examples:

Group	Value
a	2
b	3
a	4
c	10
c	12
b	9

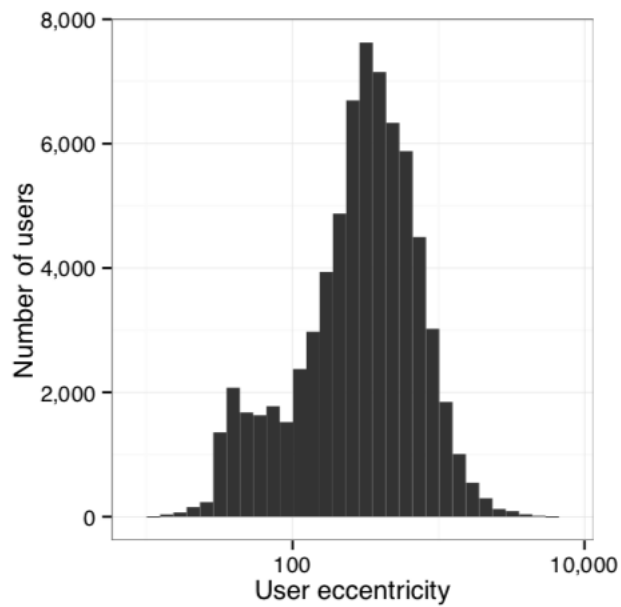
**Several** ways to approach the solution of finding the average per group.

1. First, find all a's and make a list of values such as  $(2+4)/2=3$  for a's. Then, repeat for each group. With  $G*N$  steps and  $N$  space.
2. Run through observations and create list for each group. Then compute average each list. With  $N$  steps and  $N$  space
3. Create list for each group and keep running average instead of list.

$O(n \cdot \log n)$ : time for binary search and sorting algorithms.



According to the graph, majority rankings are from the most popular movies.



Compute median movie rank as user eccentricity. However, when encountering a large data set, median is

nearly impossible to find.

### Examples:

Ex1.

Take all your movies and look at popularity rank such as following  
(3,7,100,120,9800)

The median rank as well as eccentricity is 100.

Ex2.

user	movie id	rating	ranking
1	37	1.5	8,000
1	43	4.5	10
1	2	3.0	.
.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.
2	37	.	8,000

## 3 Part 3

### 3.1 The group-by operation

Usually large data sets need large memory store.

For arbitrary input data:

Memory	Scenario	Distributions	Statistics
N	Small dataset	Yes	General
V*G	Small distributions	Yes	General
G	Small # groups	No	Combinable
V	Small # outcomes	No	No
1	Large # both	No	No

$N$  = total number of observations

$G$  = number of distinct groups

$V$  = largest number of distinct values within group

**Combinable:** means that all data is needed to compute median.

**Streaming:** is required when full data-set exceeds available memory. It reads data one observation at a time, storing only needed state. It is also useful for computing a subset of within-group statistics with a limited memory footprint such as min, mean, variance but not median, requiring complete data set to compute.

**Median rating** are used by both Netflix and YouTube.

**Mean rating** is also utilized by YouTube, using streaming to compute combinable statistics.

**uniq-c** in R: `c(a,b,a,a,b,c)` to `c(a,b,a,b,c)`. Only delete next repeated occurrence.

## 4 Part 4

### 4.1 Practice of Shell

**Shell** in Mac OS is called Terminal.

If you use Windows, you can try the built in bash/Ubuntu shell on Windows 10 or you can install it which includes bash and a terminal application by default. Linux also includes a working shell and terminal.

**Useful** commands in terminal: `curl -o [short name] [URL]`.