

Normal distribution

PDF of normal distribution with mean $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$, standard deviation $\sigma > 0$ (i.e. variance σ^2):

$$\phi_{\mu, \sigma^2}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Corresponding CDF:

$$\Phi_{\mu, \sigma^2}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \phi_{\mu, \sigma^2}(x') dx'$$

Central Limit Theorem

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent, identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables with

mean $\mu = E[X_i]$

variance $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[X_i]$.

Consider $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$.

① Normal approximation without standardization/scaling:

Note that $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = n\mu$

$$\text{Var}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{independence}}}{=} n\sigma^2$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(a < \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \leq b\right) \approx \Phi_{n\mu, n\sigma^2}(b) - \Phi_{n\mu, n\sigma^2}(a) \text{ for } n \text{ large}$$

② Normal approximation with standardization and scaling:

$$\text{Let } S_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma}.$$

Then $E[S_n] = 0$

$$\text{Var}[S_n] = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^2 \text{Var}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right] \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{independence}}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\text{Var}\left[\frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right]}_{=1} = 1$$

$$\leadsto P(c < S_n \leq d) \longrightarrow \Phi_{0,1}(d) - \Phi_{0,1}(c) \text{ for } n \rightarrow \infty$$

more rigorous statement than ①