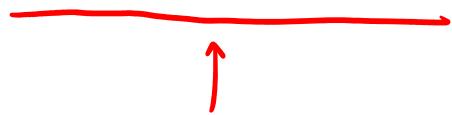


# Math 3501 - Probability and Statistics I

## 5.3 - Several random variables



generalizes some of notions from Chp 4 to  
any number of r.v.s.

## Linear combination independent random variables

### Theorem

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  independent random variables with respective means  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n$  and variances  $\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2, \dots, \sigma_n^2$ .

The mean and variance of

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i ,$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real constants, are, respectively,

always holds



$$\mu_Y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mu_i$$

$$\rightarrow E[a_1 X_1 + \dots + a_n X_n] = a_1 E[X_1] + \dots + a_n E[X_n]$$

expectation is linear

and

where independence  
is really needed!



$$\sigma_Y^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \sigma_i^2 .$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Var}(a_1 X_1 + \dots + a_n X_n) = a_1^2 \text{Var}(X_1) + \dots + a_n^2 \text{Var}(X_n)$$

## Statistic

### Definition

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample of size  $n$ .

Any function of the sample observations  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  that does not have any unknown parameters is called a *statistic*.

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m$$
$$Y = \max \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$$

} statistic

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - \mu)^2 \quad \text{is NOT STATISTIC if } \mu \text{ is not a STATISTIC}$$

## Sample mean and sample variance

### Definition

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample of size  $n$ .

Its sample mean is

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n}$$

and its sample variance is

$$S^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2.$$

main topic of today's discussion

### Example

The sample mean and the sample variance of a random sample of size  $n$  are statistics.

## Mean and variance of the sample mean

Theorem

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample of size  $n$  from a distribution with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

The mean and variance of the sample mean  $\bar{X}$  are

and

Variance of  $\underline{\bar{X}}$

i.i.d

$\sigma^2 = \text{variance of each } x_i$

$$\mu_{\bar{X}} = E(\bar{X}) = \mu$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}}^2 = \text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

as  $n$  increases  
our estimate  $\bar{X}$  for  $\mu$   
improves in quality  
as measured by  $\sigma_{\bar{X}}^2$

$$\mu_{\bar{X}} = E[\bar{X}] = E\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right] = \frac{1}{n} E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{E[x_i]}_{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \cdot n \mu = \mu$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}}^2 = \text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \overbrace{\text{Var}(x_i)}^{\sigma^2} = \frac{1}{n^2} n \sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$x_1, \dots, x_n$  independent

# Math 3501 - Probability and Statistics I

## 5.4 - The moment generating function technique

$\mathfrak{f}$   
helps us determine the distribution of sums  
of random variables

## Linear combination of independent random variables mgf

Theorem

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent random variables with respective moment-generating functions  $M_{X_i}(t)$  defined on intervals of the form  $(-h_i, h_i)$ , for some positive constants  $h_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

The moment-generating function of the linear combination

mgf of the linear combination of  $X_1, \dots, X_m$   
is the product of  
mgf of  $X_1, \dots, X_m$

is given by

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i$$

$$M_Y(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n M_{X_i}(a_i t),$$

special cases:

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_m = 1$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m X_i \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_m = \frac{1}{m}$$

where  $t$  satisfies each one of the conditions  $-h_i < a_i t < h_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M_Y(t) &= E[e^{tY}] = E\left[e^{t \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i}\right] = E\left[e^{a_1 t X_1 + a_2 t X_2 + \dots + a_m t X_m}\right] = E\left[e^{a_1 t X_1} \cdot e^{a_2 t X_2} \cdots e^{a_m t X_m}\right] \\ &= E[e^{a_1 t X_1}] \cdot E[e^{a_2 t X_2}] \cdots E[e^{a_m t X_m}] = M_{X_1}(a_1 t) \cdot M_{X_2}(a_2 t) \cdots M_{X_m}(a_m t) \end{aligned}$$

## Sample mean mgf

Corollary

If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample of size n from a distribution with mgf  $M(t)$ , where  $-h < t < h$ .

(a) The mgf of the sum  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 1$

$$M_Y(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n M(t) = [M(t)]^n, \quad -h < t < h.$$

(b) The mgf of the sample mean  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = \frac{1}{n}$

$$M_{\bar{X}}(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n M\left(\frac{t}{n}\right) = \left[M\left(\frac{t}{n}\right)\right]^n, \quad -h < \frac{t}{n} < h.$$

## Example

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  denote the outcomes of  $n$  Bernoulli trials, each with probability of success  $p$ .

Find the mgf of  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ .  $\Rightarrow Y \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$

Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  be a random sample from a Bernoulli ( $p$ ) distribution

Then common mgf is  $M(t) = 1-p + pe^t$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M_Y(t) &= E[e^{tY}] = E[e^{t \sum X_i}] = E[e^{tX_1 + tX_2 + \dots + tX_m}] = \\ &= E[e^{tX_1}] \cdot E[e^{tX_2}] \dots E[e^{tX_m}] \\ &= \underbrace{M(t) \cdot M(t) \dots M(t)}_{m \text{ times}} = (M(t))^m = \underbrace{(1-p+pe^t)^m}_{\text{mgf of binomial}(n,p)} \end{aligned}$$

### Example

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be the observations of a random sample of size  $n$  from the exponential distribution having mean  $\theta$ .

Find the mgf of  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ .

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m \sim \text{Exponential } (\theta)$ .

Then the mgf of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  is  $M(t) = \frac{1}{1-\theta t}$ ,  $t < \frac{1}{\theta}$

and so

$$M_Y(t) = (M(t))^n = \left(\frac{1}{1-\theta t}\right)^n = \frac{1}{(1-\theta t)^n}, \quad t < \frac{1}{\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow Y \sim \text{Gamma } (n, \theta)$$

## Math 3501 - Probability and Statistics I

5.5 - Random functions associated with the normal distribution

## Linear combination of normally distributed r.v.

### Theorem

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  independent normally distributed random variables with respective means  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n$  and variances  $\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2, \dots, \sigma_n^2$ .

The linear combination

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i X_i$$

has the normal distribution

$$N \left( \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2 \sigma_i^2 \right).$$

proof : Use the mgf  
technique from  
Sec. 5.4  
(Exercise)



Very special feature of the normal distribution

### Example

Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be independent normally distributed random variables with respective distributions  $N(5, 2)$  and  $N(2, 1)$ .

Find  $P(X_1 > X_2)$ .

Let  $X_1 \sim N(5, 2)$  and  $X_2 \sim N(2, 1)$  be independent r.v.

$$P(X_1 > X_2) = P(\underbrace{X_1 - X_2}_{\text{linear combination of } X_1 \text{ and } X_2} > 0) = ???$$

$$\text{Let } Y = X_1 - X_2 \sim N\left(\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ \uparrow \\ E[Y] \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 3 \\ \uparrow \\ \text{Var}(Y) \end{array}\right)$$

$$E[Y] = E[X_1 - X_2] = E[X_1] - E[X_2] = 5 - 2 = 3$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(X_1 - X_2) = (1)^2 \cdot \text{Var}(X_1) + (-1)^2 \cdot \text{Var}(X_2) = \text{Var}(X_1) + \text{Var}(X_2) = 2 + 1 = 3$$

$\square$   $X_1$  and  $X_2$  independent

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 > X_2) &= P(X_1 - X_2 > 0) \\ &= P(Y > 0) = P\left(\frac{\underbrace{Y}_{Z}}{\sqrt{3}} > \frac{0-3}{\sqrt{3}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$Y \sim N(3, 3)$$



$$Z = \frac{Y - 3}{\sqrt{3}} \stackrel{\mu}{\leftarrow} \sim N(0, 1)$$

was the following result from Sec 3.3

$$\text{If } X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$= P(Z > -\frac{3}{\sqrt{3}})$$

$$= P(Z > -\sqrt{3})$$

$$= 1 - P(Z \leq -\sqrt{3})$$

$$= 1 - \phi(-\sqrt{3})$$

$$= 1 - (1 - \phi(\sqrt{3}))$$

$$= \phi(\sqrt{3}) \approx \phi(1.73) \approx 0.9582$$

table

## Sample mean of normally distributed r.v.

### Corollary

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be observations of a random sample of size  $n$  from the normal distribution  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

The distribution of the sample mean  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is  $N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \text{ is } N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$
$$E[\bar{x}]$$
$$\text{Var}(\bar{x})$$

### Example

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{64}$  be a iid random sample from the  $N(50, 16)$  distribution.

Find  $P(49 < \bar{X} < 51)$ .

$$\mu = 50$$

$$\sigma^2 = 16$$

Since  $X_1, \dots, X_{64} \sim N(50, 16)$ , then

$$\boxed{\bar{X} \sim N\left(50, \frac{16}{64}\right)}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\mu$

$\uparrow$   
 $\sigma^2/n$

From the previous corollary

$$Z = \frac{\bar{X} - 50}{\sqrt{\frac{16}{64}}} = \frac{\bar{X} - 50}{4} \sim N(0, 1)$$

using that :  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$

$$P(49 < \bar{X} < 51) = P\left(\frac{49-50}{1/2} < \underbrace{\frac{\bar{X}-50}{1/2}}_{Z \sim N(0,1)} < \frac{51-50}{1/2}\right)$$

$$= P(-2 < Z < 2)$$

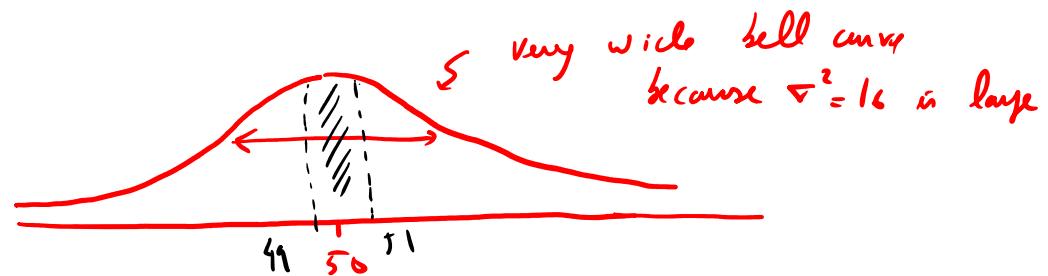
$$= \phi(z) - \underbrace{\phi(-z)}_{1 - \phi(z)} = \phi(z) - \overbrace{(1 - \phi(z))}^{\phi(-z)}$$

$$= 2\phi(z) - 1 = 2(0.9772) - 1 = \dots$$

table

$\uparrow$   
very close to 1

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{64} \rightarrow \text{pdf } N(50, 16)$$

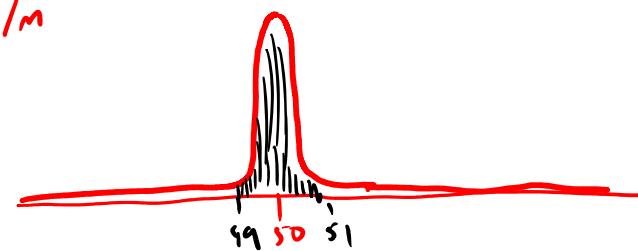


If we tried to compute  $P(49 < X_i < 51) = \text{area shaded in black} = \underline{\text{small number}}$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{64} X_i \sim N\left(50, \frac{1}{4}\right) \rightarrow \text{pdf looks like}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\sigma^2/m$

$$P(49 < \bar{X} < 51) = \text{nearly 1}$$



# Math 3501 - Probability and Statistics I

## 5.6 - Central Limit Theorem

The most fundamental result  
to probability and statistics

## Central Limit Theorem

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

### Theorem

Let  $\bar{X}$  be the mean of a random sample  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  of size  $n$  from a distribution with a finite mean  $\mu$  and a finite positive variance  $\sigma^2$ .

Then the distribution of

$$W = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - n\mu}{\sqrt{n}\sigma}$$

approaches a standard normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$  in the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

No requirements concerning the distribution of  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$

**Consequence:** For sufficiently large  $n$ :

1)  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is approximately  $N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$  distributed

2)  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is approximately  $N(n\mu, n\sigma^2)$  distributed

**Notes:** The Central Limit Theorem describes the limit behavior of the distribution of the sequence of random variables

$$W = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Note how powerful the statement is: regardless of the distribution from which we are sampling (provided it has finite mean  $\mu$  and finite variance  $\sigma^2$ ), the limiting distribution of  $W$  is  $N(0, 1)$ .

For sufficiently large  $n$ , the Central Limit Theorem may be used to approximate the cdf of  $W$ :

$$P(W \leq w) \approx \int_{-\infty}^w \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} dz = \Phi(w)$$

In general the approximation is reasonably good for  $n \geq 30$ .

- In the special case of symmetric and unimodal distributions of the continuous type,  $n \geq 5$  may be enough for an adequate approximation.

### Example

Let  $\bar{X}$  be the mean of a random sample of  $n = 25$  currents (in milliamperes) in a strip of wire in which each measurement has a mean of 15 and a variance of 4.

Find  $P(14.4 < \bar{X} < 15.6)$ .

$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{25}$  random sample from a distribution with mean  $\mu = 15$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 4$

Using the CLT we know that

$$Z = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} = \frac{\bar{X} - 15}{2/\sqrt{25}} = \frac{\bar{X} - 15}{2/5} \text{ is approx } N(0,1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } P(14.4 < \bar{X} < 15.6) &= P\left(\frac{14.4 - 15}{2/5} < \underbrace{\frac{\bar{X} - 15}{2/5}}_Z < \frac{15.6 - 15}{2/5}\right) \\ &= P(-1.5 < Z < 1.5) \approx \phi(1.5) - \phi(-1.5) = \phi(1.5) - (1 - \phi(1.5)) \\ &\quad Z \text{ is approx } N(0,1) \qquad \qquad \qquad = 2\phi(1.5) - 1 \approx 2(0.9332) - 1 \approx \dots \end{aligned}$$

## Example

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{20}$  denote a random sample of size 20 from the uniform distribution  $U(0, 1)$ .

If  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^{20} X_i$ , find  $P(8.5 \leq Y \leq 11.7)$ .

Since  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{20} \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1) \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu = E[X_i] = \frac{1}{2} \\ \sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X_i) = \frac{1}{12} \end{array} \right\}$  check the formula tables

$$(\text{CLT} \Rightarrow) Z = \frac{Y - m\mu}{\sqrt{m}\sigma} = \frac{Y - 20 \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\sqrt{20} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{12}}} = \frac{Y - 10}{\sqrt{5/3}} \text{ is approx } N(0, 1)$$

$$\text{Thus } P(8.5 < Y < 11.7) = P\left(\underbrace{\frac{8.5 - 10}{\sqrt{5/3}} < \frac{Y - 10}{\sqrt{5/3}} < \frac{11.7 - 10}{\sqrt{5/3}}}_{Z}\right)$$

$$= P\left(-\frac{1.5}{\sqrt{5/3}} < Z < \frac{1.7}{\sqrt{5/3}}\right) \approx \phi\left(\frac{1.7}{\sqrt{5/3}}\right) - \phi\left(-\frac{1.5}{\sqrt{5/3}}\right) = \dots$$

*CLT approx*

use table  
to complete  
evaluation!

# Math 3501 - Probability and Statistics I

↙ half-unit correction!

## 5.7 - Approximations for discrete distributions

how to apply CLT to discrete r.v.'s where support is a subset of  $\mathbb{N}$

ISSUE

if  $X$  is discrete:

$P(X=k)$  is a positive number  
if  $k$  is in the  
support of  $X$

For a continuous r.v.  $P(X=k) = 0$

If  $X$  is discrete with support contained in  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  
and we use the CLT to approx  $P(X=k)$   
we cannot just do  $P(Z = \text{some number})$   
would be zero!

## CLT approximation for the binomial distribution

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a Bernoulli distribution with mean  $\mu = p$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = p(1 - p)$ , where  $0 < p < 1$ .

Then  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is  $b(n, p)$ . [we've seen this today !!]

The central limit theorem states that the distribution of

$$W = \frac{Y - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} = \frac{\bar{X} - p}{\sqrt{\underbrace{p(1 - p)}/n}}$$

is  $N(0, 1)$  in the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

For  $n$  sufficiently large, the distribution of  $Y$  is approximately  $N[np, np(1 - p)]$ :

- probabilities for the binomial distribution  $b(n, p)$  can be approximated using the normal distribution.
- Rule of thumb:  $n$  is sufficiently large if  $np \geq 5$  and  $n(1 - p) \geq 5$

## Half-unit correction for continuity

If  $V$  is  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then  $P(a < V < b)$  equals the area bounded by the pdf of  $V$ , the horizontal-axis and the vertical lines  $v = a$  and  $v = b$ .

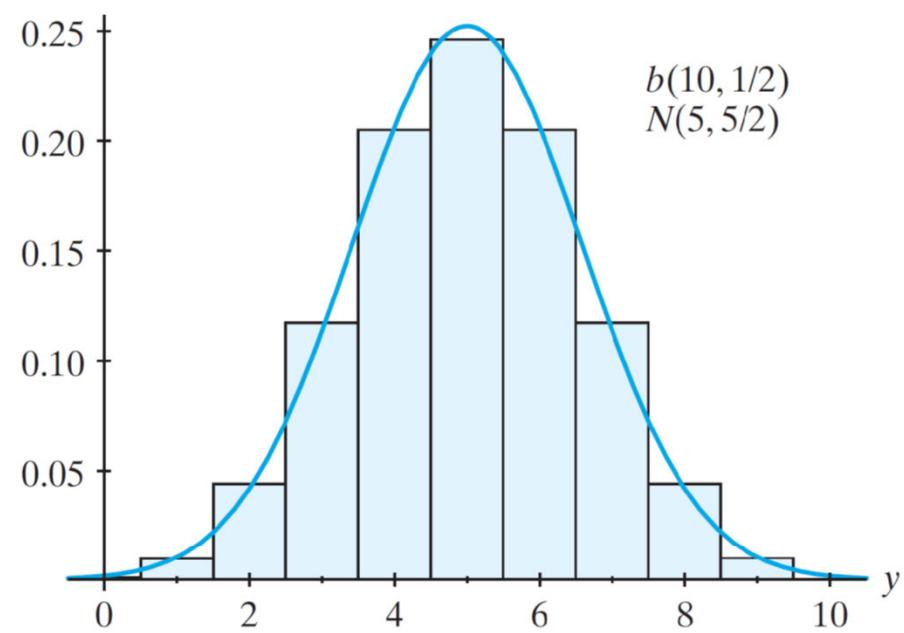
If  $Y$  is  $b(n, p)$ , then  $P(Y = k)$  can be represented by the area of a rectangle with a height of  $P(Y = k)$  and a base of length 1 centered at  $k$

For an integer  $k$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(Y = k) &= P(k - 1/2 < Y < k + 1/2) \\
 &= P\left(\frac{k - 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}} < \frac{Y - np}{\sqrt{npq}} < \frac{k + 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}}\right) \\
 &\approx \Phi\left(\frac{k + 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{k - 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

*x is the only integer in  $(k - 1/2, k + 1/2)$*

(iii)  ~~$\dots$~~   
 ~~$y = k$~~   
 ~~$k - 1/2 < y < k + 1/2$~~



In general, if  $Y$  is  $b(n, p)$ ,  $n$  is sufficiently large, and  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ , then

*include  $k$*

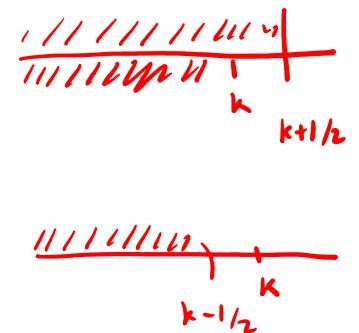
$$P(Y \leq k) \approx \Phi \left( \frac{k + 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}} \right)$$

and

*exclude  $k$*

$$P(Y < k) \approx \Phi \left( \frac{k - 1/2 - np}{\sqrt{npq}} \right)$$

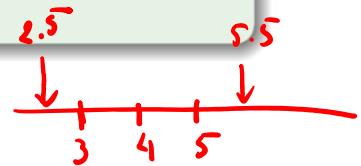
because in the first case  $k$  is included and in the second it is not.



## Example

Suppose  $Y$  is  $b(10, 1/2)$ .

Use the normal distribution to approximate  $P(3 \leq Y < 6)$ .



$$Y \sim b(10, 1/2) \quad m = 10, \quad p = 1/2$$

$$CLT \Rightarrow Z = \frac{Y - mp}{\sqrt{mp(1-p)}} = \frac{Y - 10 \cdot 1/2}{\sqrt{10 \cdot 1/2 \cdot 1/2}} = \frac{Y - 5}{\sqrt{5/2}} \text{ is approx } N(0,1)$$

$$P(3 \leq Y < 6) = P(2.5 \leq Y \leq 5.5) =$$

↑      ↑  
include 3    exclude 6      ↓

*3, 4, 5 are the only integers in  
the interval (2.5, 5.5)*

*half unit correction*

$$= P\left( \frac{2.5 - 5}{\sqrt{s/2}} \leq \underbrace{\frac{Y - 5}{\sqrt{s/2}}}_{Z} \leq \frac{5.5 - 5}{\sqrt{s/2}} \right)$$

$$= P\left( -\frac{2.5}{\sqrt{s/2}} \leq Z \leq \frac{0.5}{\sqrt{s/2}} \right) \stackrel{\text{CLT approx}}{\approx} \Phi\left(\frac{0.5}{\sqrt{s/2}}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{2.5}{\sqrt{s/2}}\right)$$

CLT  
approx       $\approx$  use table etc....

## CLT approximation for the Poisson distribution

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a Poisson distribution with mean  $\lambda = 1$ .

Then  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is Poisson distributed with mean  $\lambda = n$  (and variance  $\lambda = n$ ).

The central limit theorem states that the distribution of

$$W = \frac{Y - n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

is  $N(0, 1)$  in the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Annotations:

- $n \mu = \lambda = 1$  (written above the mean  $n$ )
- $n \sigma = \sqrt{\lambda} = 1$  (written below the standard deviation  $\sigma$ )

In general, for sufficiently large  $\lambda$ , the distribution of

$$W = \frac{Y - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

approx  $N(0, 1)$

is approximately  $N(0, 1)$ .

The approximation is reasonably good provided  $\lambda \geq 10$  and an appropriate continuity correction is used:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{P(Y = k)} &= P(k - 1/2 < Y < k + 1/2) \\ &= P\left(\frac{k - 1/2 - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}} < \frac{Y - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}} < \frac{k + 1/2 - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right) \\ &\approx \Phi\left(\frac{k + 1/2 - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{k - 1/2 - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

*same as  
done for  
binomial !!*

for any nonnegative integer  $k$ .

## Example

Suppose  $Y$  is Poisson with mean 20.

Use the normal distribution to approximate  $P(16 < Y \leq 21)$ .

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(20) \quad \lambda = 20$$

$$\text{CLT} \Rightarrow Z = \frac{Y - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}} = \frac{Y - 20}{\sqrt{20}} \text{ is approx } N(0,1)$$

$$P(\underbrace{16 < Y \leq 21}_{Y=17,18,19,20,21}) = P(16.5 \leq Y \leq 21.5) = \rightarrow$$

$\uparrow$   
*half unit  
correction*

$$P\left(\frac{16.5 - 20}{\sqrt{20}} \leq \underbrace{\frac{Y - 20}{\sqrt{20}}}_{Z} \leq \frac{21.5 - 20}{\sqrt{20}}\right)$$

$$= P\left(-\frac{3.5}{\sqrt{20}} \leq Z \leq \frac{1.5}{\sqrt{20}}\right)$$

$$\approx \Phi\left(\frac{1.5}{\sqrt{20}}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{3.5}{\sqrt{20}}\right) = \dots$$

CLT

approx.