

**Theorem.** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $EX_i = 0, EX_i^2 = \sigma^2$ , and  $E|X_i|^3 = \rho < \infty$ . If  $F_n(x)$  is the distribution of  $(X_1 + \dots + X_n)/\sigma\sqrt{n}$  and  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  is the standard normal distribution, then

$$|F_n(x) - \mathcal{N}(x)| \leq 3\rho/\sigma^3\sqrt{n}$$

*Proof* Let  $\varphi_F$  and  $\varphi_G$  be the ch.f.'s of  $F$  and  $G$ . Applying Lemma 3.4.19 to  $F_L = F * H_L$  and  $G_L = G * H_L$ , gives

$$|F_L(x) - G_L(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int |\varphi_F(t)\omega_L(t) - \varphi_G(t)\omega_L(t)| \frac{dt}{|t|} \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-L}^L |\varphi_F(t) - \varphi_G(t)| \frac{dt}{|t|}$$

since  $|\omega_L(t)| \leq 1$ . Using Lemma 3.4.18 now, we have

$$|F(x) - G(x)| \leq \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-L}^L |\varphi_F(\theta) - \varphi_G(\theta)| \frac{d\theta}{|\theta|} + \frac{24\lambda}{\pi L}$$

where  $\lambda = \sup_x G'(x)$ . Plugging in  $F = F_n$  and  $G = \mathcal{N}$  gives

$$|F_n(x) - \mathcal{N}(x)| \leq \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-L}^L |\varphi^n(\theta/\sqrt{n}) - \psi(\theta)| \frac{d\theta}{|\theta|} + \frac{24\lambda}{\pi L}$$

and it remains to estimate the right-hand side. This phase of the argument is fairly routine, but there is a fair amount of algebra. To save the reader from trying to improve the inequalities along the way in hopes of getting a better bound, we would like to observe that we have used the fact that  $C = 3$  to get rid of the cases  $n \leq 9$ , and we use  $n \geq 10$  in (e). To estimate the second term in (3.4.1), we observe that

$$(a) \quad \sup_x G'(x) = G'(0) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} = 0.39894 < 2/5$$

For the first, we observe that if  $|\alpha|, |\beta| \leq \gamma$

$$(b) \quad |\alpha^n - \beta^n| \leq \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} |\alpha^{n-m}\beta^m - \alpha^{n-m-1}\beta^{m+1}| \leq n|\alpha - \beta|\gamma^{n-1}$$

Using (3.3.3) now gives (recall we are supposing  $\sigma^2 = 1$ )

$$(c) \quad |\varphi(t) - 1 + t^2/2| \leq \rho|t|^3/6 \text{ so if } t^2 \leq 2$$

$$(d) \quad |\varphi(t)| \leq 1 - t^2/2 + \rho|t|^3/6$$

Let  $L = 4\sqrt{n}/3\rho$ . If  $|\theta| \leq L$ , then by (d) and the fact  $\rho|\theta|/\sqrt{n} \leq 4/3$

$$|\varphi(\theta/\sqrt{n})| \leq 1 - \theta^2/2n + \rho|\theta|^3/6n^{3/2} \leq 1 - 5\theta^2/18n \leq \exp(-5\theta^2/18n)$$

since  $1 - x \leq e^{-x}$ . We will now apply (b) with

$$\alpha = \varphi(\theta/\sqrt{n}) \quad \beta = \exp(-\theta^2/2n) \quad \gamma = \exp(-5\theta^2/18n)$$

Since we are supposing  $n \geq 10$

(e)

$$\gamma^{n-1} \leq \exp(-\theta^2/4)$$

For the other part of (b), we write

$$n|\alpha - \beta| \leq n|\varphi(\theta/\sqrt{n}) - 1 + \theta^2/2n| + n|1 - \theta^2/2n - \exp(-\theta^2/2n)|$$

To bound the first term on the right-hand side, observe (c) implies

$$n|\varphi(\theta/\sqrt{n}) - 1 + \theta^2/2n| \leq \rho|\theta|^3/6n^{1/2}$$

For the second term, note that if  $0 < x < 1$ , then we have an alternating series with decreasing terms so

$$|e^{-x} - (1 - x)| = \left| -\frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} - \dots \right| \leq \frac{x^2}{2}$$

Taking  $x = \theta^2/2n$ , it follows that for  $|\theta| \leq L \leq \sqrt{2n}$

$$n|1 - \theta^2/2n - \exp(-\theta^2/2n)| \leq \theta^4/8n$$

Combining this with our estimate on the first term gives

(f)

$$n|\alpha - \beta| \leq \rho|\theta|^3/6n^{1/2} + \theta^4/8n$$

Using (f) and (e) in (b) gives

$$\frac{1}{|\theta|} |\varphi^n(\theta/\sqrt{n}) - \exp(-\theta^2/2)| \leq \exp(-\theta^2/4) \left\{ \frac{\rho\theta^2}{6n^{1/2}} + \frac{|\theta|^3}{8n} \right\} \leq \frac{1}{L} \exp(-\theta^2/4) \left\{ \frac{2\theta^2}{9} + \frac{|\theta|^3}{18} \right\}$$

since  $\rho/\sqrt{n} = 4/3L$ , and  $1/n = 1/\sqrt{n} \cdot 1/\sqrt{n} \leq 4/3L \cdot 1/3$ , since  $\rho \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 10$ . Using the last result and (a) in Lemma 3.4.19 gives

$$\pi L |F_n(x) - \mathcal{N}(x)| \leq \int \exp(-\theta^2/4) \left\{ \frac{2\theta^2}{9} + \frac{|\theta|^3}{18} \right\} d\theta + 9.6$$

Recalling  $L = 4\sqrt{n}/3\rho$ , we see that the last result is of the form  $|F_n(x) - \mathcal{N}(x)| \leq C\rho/\sqrt{n}$ . To evaluate the constant, we observe

$$\int (2\pi a)^{-1/2} x^2 \exp(-x^2/2a) dx = a$$

and writing  $x^3 = 2x^2 \cdot x/2$  and integrating by parts

$$2 \int_0^\infty x^3 \exp(-x^2/4) dx = 2 \int_0^\infty 4x \exp(-x^2/4) dx = -16e^{-x^2/4} \Big|_0^\infty = 16$$

*This gives us*

$$|F_n(x) - \mathcal{N}(x)| \leq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{2}{9} \cdot 2 \cdot \sqrt{4\pi} + \frac{16}{18} + 9.6 \right) \frac{\rho}{\sqrt{n}} < 3 \frac{\rho}{\sqrt{n}}$$

*For the last step, you have to get out your calculator or trust Feller.*