



**BITTIGER**

DS 501 Data scientist express bootcamp

*[Ella]*

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What is statistics? Why is it important?



# Statistics

- All about quantifying uncertainty (which subject is studying certainty?)
- Why uncertainty? **imperfect** data
  - Psychology
  - Geology
  - Economics
- Why imperfect data?
  - Only observe a small fraction, e.g., candidate poll
  - Only observe indirect signs, e.g., neuro signal
  - Data always contain noise, e.g., measurement error



# Probability

- Probability is central to statistics
  - Probability = Statistics?
- Basic concepts
  - **Experiment**
  - **Sample space**: all possible outcomes of an **experiment**
  - **Event**: subset of sample space



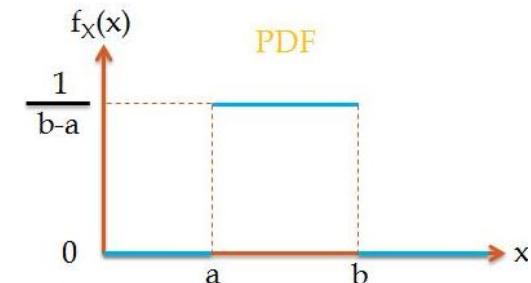
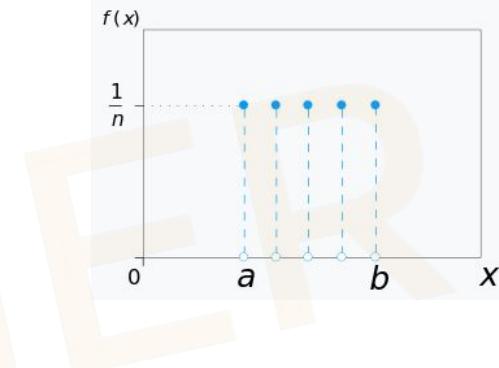
# Random variable and types

- Random variable (X)
  - Enumerate sample space to real value
- Categories
  - Discrete
  - Continuous
- Examples
  - Flip a coin; Daily traffic; Number of people click on an ad; BMI
- R
  - bar chart, pie chart
  - Probability density



# How to describe probability of random variable

- Probability density function (PDF)
  - PDF:  $x \sim P(X = x)$
  - For  $X$ , frequency of possible outcome  $x$ 's occurrences of the total possible occurrences
    - Example: rolling dice,  $P(X = 1) = \frac{1}{6}$
  - Discrete (pmf) v.s continuous (pdf)
  - Non-negative, sum up to 1
- Rules
  - $0 \leq P(X = x) \leq 1$ ,  $P(X = \Omega) = 1$ ,  $P(X = \emptyset) = 0$ ,  $P(X = x) + P(X \neq x) = 1$ ,  $P(X = x \text{ or } Y = y) = P(X = x) + P(Y = y) - P(X = x \text{ and } Y = y)$





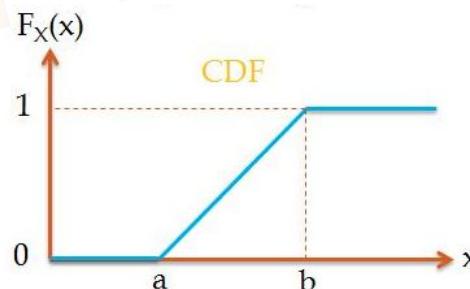
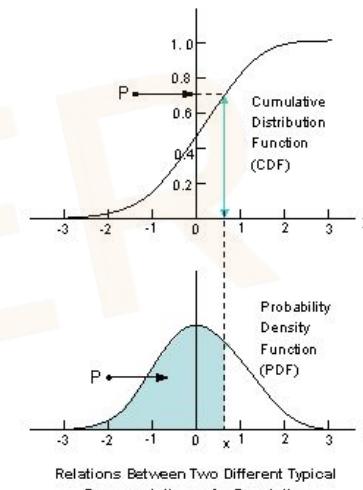
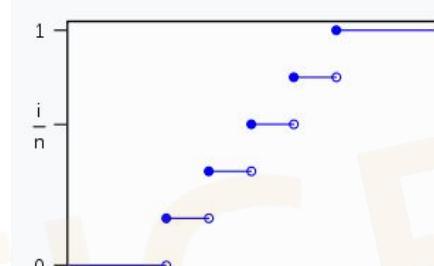
## Example interview questions

- 2 dices, probability of at least one 4 shows up
- 2 dices, probability of the sum is 6
- ...



# How to describe probability of random variable(cont'd)

- Cumulative density function (CDF)
  - CDF:  $x \sim P(X \leq x)$
  - Discrete v.s continuous
  - Non-decreasing, up to 1
- Examples
  - Roll dice
  - Uniform distribution

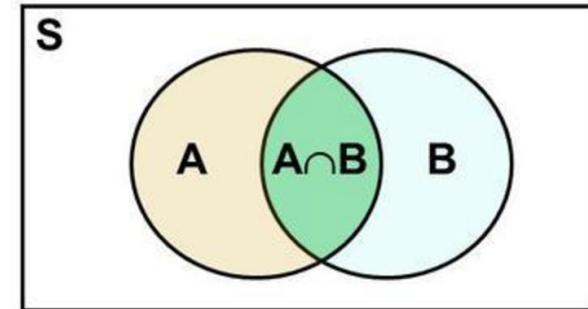




# Conditional probability

- How to update uncertainty after getting new information?
  - $P(\text{dice} = 1) = \frac{1}{6}$ , what if we know it's an odd number?
- Definition, Probability of A given B
- Intuition
  - Only consider B
  - Renormalize
- Example question

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$





# Independence

- Def:  $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \times P(B)$
- Considering conditional probability  $P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(B)} = P(A)$$

- A and B are conditionally independent given C

$$P(AB | C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$$

- Example question



A and B are independent  $\leftrightarrow$   
A and B are independent given C ?



# Bayes' theorem

- Reverse the conditional probability

$$P(B | A) = \frac{P(A | B)P(B)}{P(A | B)P(B) + P(A | B^c)P(B^c)}$$

- Prove it
  - Hint:
- Fair coin and unfair coin problem

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$



# Expectation

- Measure what's the center of a random variable
  - Discrete  $E[X] = \sum_x xp(x)$
  - Continuous  $E(X) = \int_x x P(X=x)$
  - Roll dice, flip coin, uniform distribution
- Population mean v.s. sample mean
  - Sample mean **itself** is random variable, estimator of population mean
  - Unbiased:  $E(\text{sample mean}) = \text{population mean}$
- Why always larger sample is better?
  - Biased when fewer data?
  - Proof. Hint:  $E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$



# Variance

- Variance ( $\sigma^2$ ) measure how random variable spreads

$$Var(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

- Calculate variance from rolling dice

- Standard deviation ( $\sigma$ )

- Sample variance ( $s^2$ ) and standard deviation ( $s$ )

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

- why  $(n-1)$ : unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$
  - Proof (HW), Hint  $Var(X+Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$  if  $X, Y$  independent



# Important discrete distribution

- Bernoulli

- $P(X = x) = p^x(1 - p)^{1-x}$

- Binomial

- Sum of N Bernoulli variables

- 

$$P(X = x) \equiv \binom{N}{x} p^x(1 - p)^{N-x}$$

$$E(X) = p, \text{Var}(X) = p(1-p)$$

What's the mean and variance?

$$E(X) = N*p, \text{Var}(X) = N*p(1-p)$$



## More details about other distributions

- Geometric distribution

- Prob of seeing first success with k independent trials, each with success probability p.

$$\Pr(X = k) = (1 - p)^{k-1} p$$

- Negative geometric distribution

- Prob of seeing r failures with k success trials , each with success probability p.

$$\Pr(X = k) = \binom{k + r - 1}{k} p^k (1 - p)^r$$



# Important distribution

- Poisson, count data per time unit

- $P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$

- Examples

- Exponential distribution

- In a poisson distribution, inter-arrival time follows exponential distribution

- PDF:  $\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$  CDF:  $1 - e^{-\lambda x}$

- Expectation

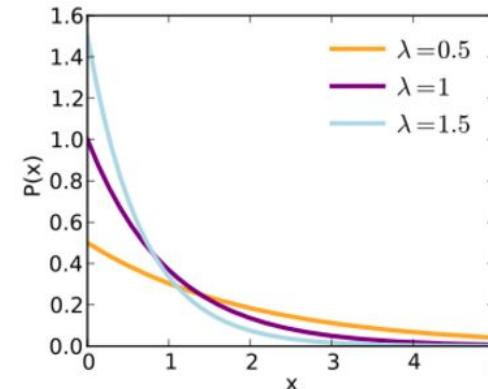
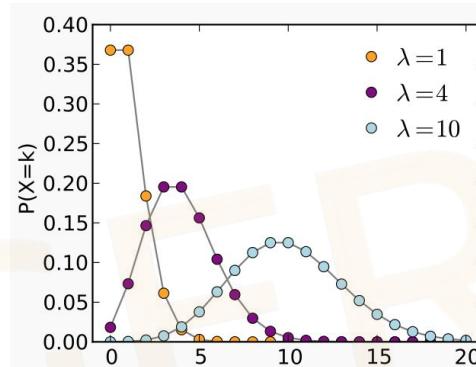
$$E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

- “Memoryless”

$$P(X > s+t \mid X > s) = P(X > t)$$





# Important continuous distribution

- Normal distribution

$$P(X = x) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}$$

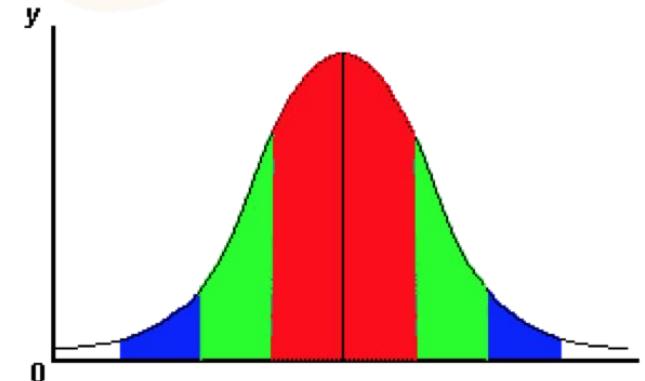
$$E[X] = \mu \text{ and } Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

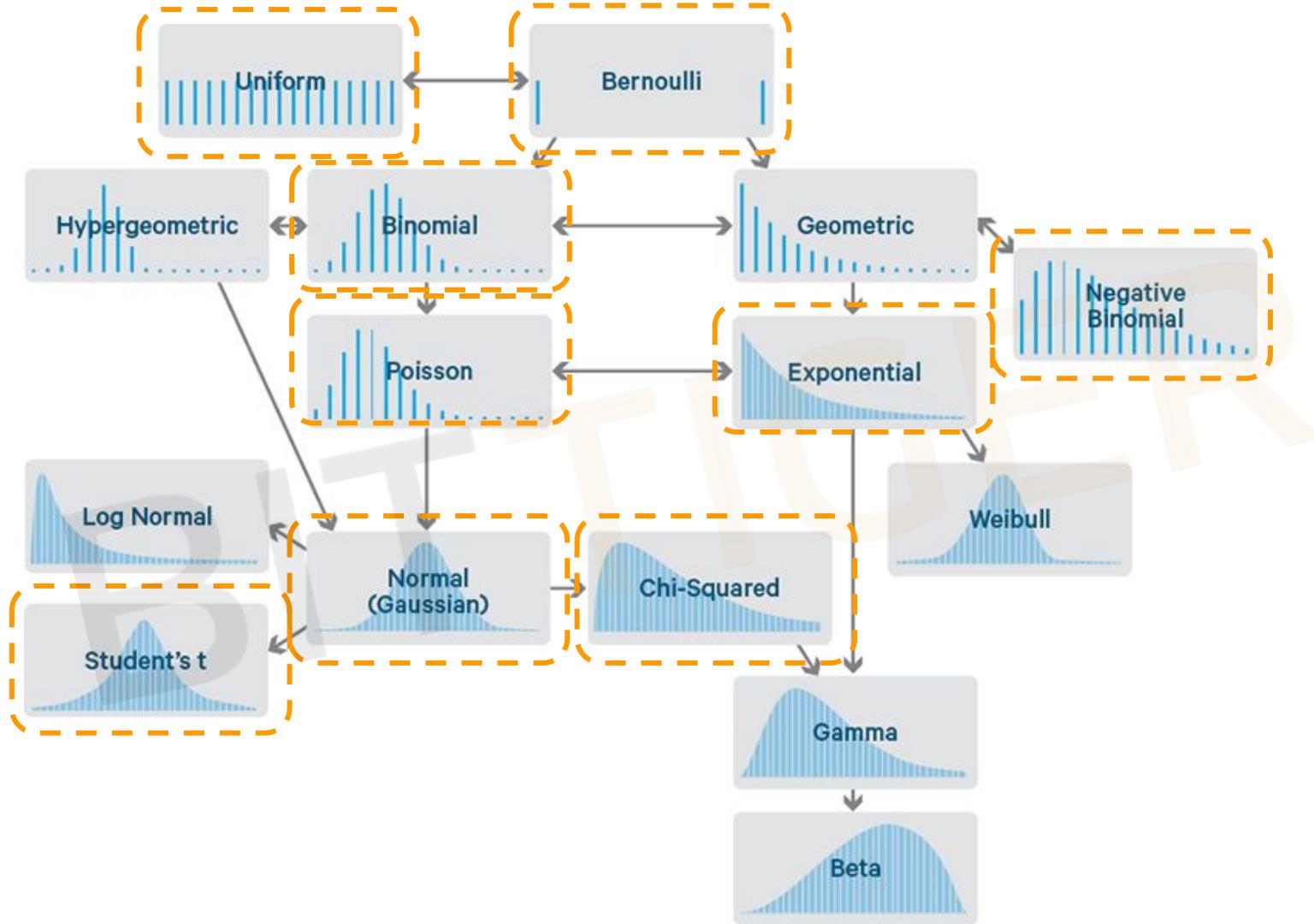
- Standard normal distribution (Z)  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$

$$X = \mu + \sigma Z \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

- Beauty of normal curve ( $6\sigma$ )

- [ $\mu - 3\sigma, \mu + 3\sigma$ ] covers 99.7%
- [ $\mu - 2\sigma, \mu + 2\sigma$ ] covers 95%
- [ $\mu - \sigma, \mu + \sigma$ ] covers 68%







## Example interview questions

- In a country in which people only want boys every family continues to have children until they have a boy. If they have a girl, they have another child. If they have a boy, they stop. What is the proportion of boys to girls in the country?
  - What distribution is this?
  - What's expected number of kids ( $X$ ) each family has?
  - What the ratio of boys to girls?



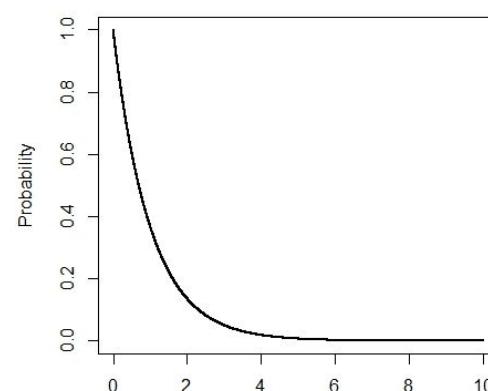
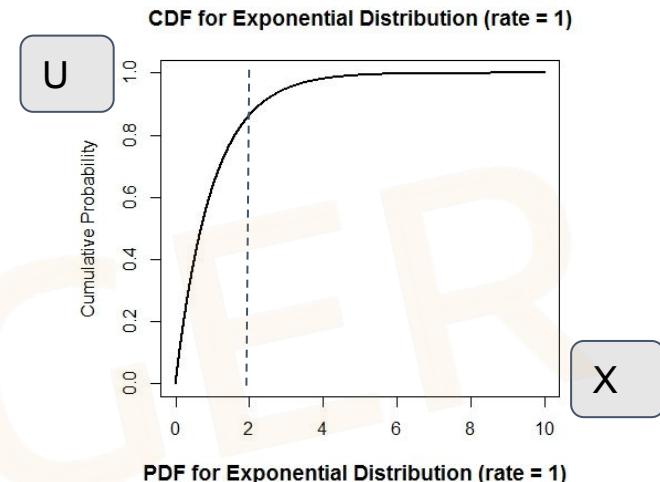
## Another type of distribution Interview question

- How can we generate certain distribution?
  - Q1: Generate exponential distribution from uniform distribution
  - Q2: Generate normal distribution from uniform distribution



# Inverse transform sampling

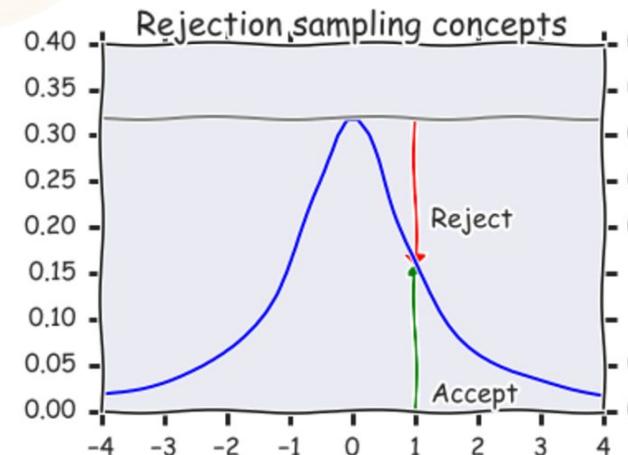
- To generate  $X$  with PDF:  $P(X)$ 
  - Calculate CDF of  $X$ :  $F(X)$  and inverse  $F^{-1}(\cdot)$
  - Generate  $U$  with uniform distribution, say  $u$
  - Calculate  $F^{-1}(u)$
  - Repeat  $n$  times
- Intuition
- Let's solve Q1
- Can we solve Q2 as well?





# Acceptance rejection sampling

- Simple version: if good, accept; else, reject.
  - Ex1: Generate Y with uniform  $[1/4, 1]$  given  $X \sim [0, 1]$
  - Ex2: Generate random integer Y in  $[1, 7]$  given random integer X in  $[1, 5]$   $5*(X-1) + X$
  - Ex3: Generate normal distribution given uniform distribution
    - Sample a point,  $x$ , calculate  $P(x)$
    - Generate random number  $u$  from uniform distribution
    - If  $u < P(x)$ , accept  $x$ , else reject, back to step 1
- Check out this [video](#)





# Percentile

- Definition ( $c\%$ ,  $N$ )



- Special percentiles
  - Median
  - 1st quantile
  - 3rd quantile
- Median, quantiles in normal distribution?
  - Look up z score, alpha: area outside  $[-z, z]$



Why normal distribution is so important?

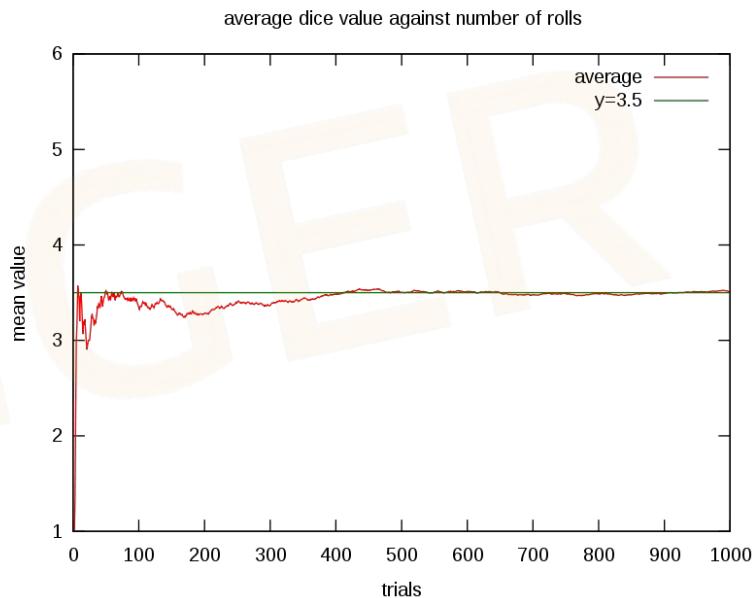


# Law of large numbers

$X_1, X_2 \dots X_n \dots$  are independent, identically - distributed (IID) random variables,  $X$  has finite mean  $\mu$ .

- Sample mean  $\bar{X}_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  converge to the true mean  $\mu$  as  $n$  increases:

$$\bar{X}_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu$$





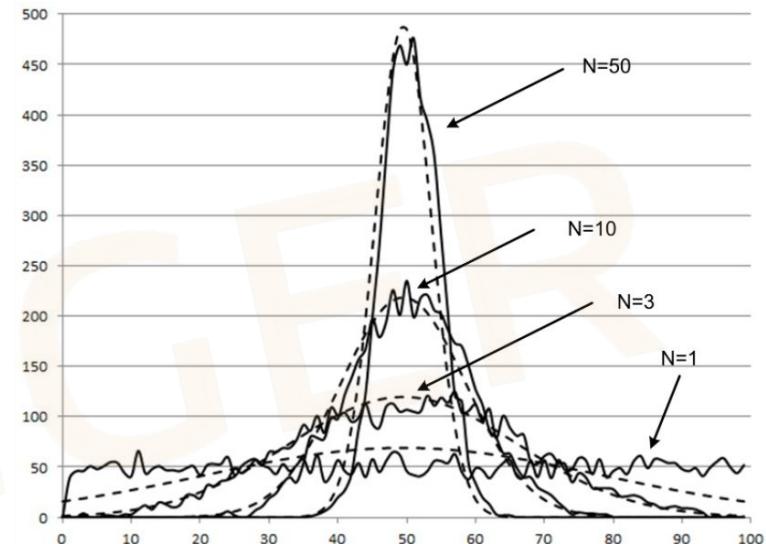
# Central limit theorem

- $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \dots$  are independent, identically-distributed (IID) random variables,  $X$  has finite mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$

$$\bar{X}_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2/n)$$

(replacing  $\sigma$  by sample standard error, CLT still holds)

- Application
  - Binomial distribution
  - Flip coin example



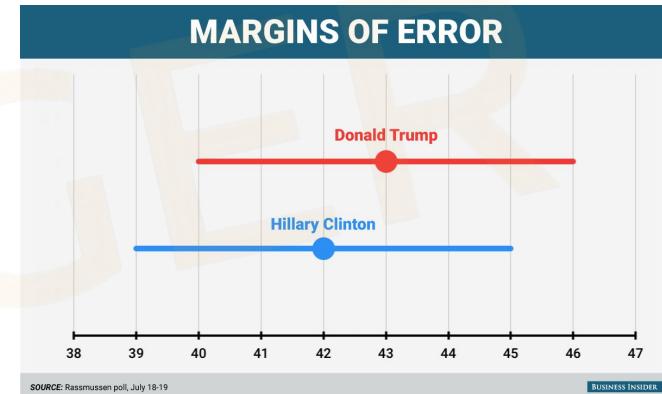


# Confidence intervals

- Recall normal curve
  - What range covers 95% of possibility? 99%?
- Confidence interval (CI)
  - Derive 95% CI of  $p$  in Binomial distribution

$$\hat{p} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} \quad \hat{p} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \quad \text{approx.}$$

- How many voters in the candidate poll?
- Can Trump relax? How many are enough?





# When CLT doesn't hold?

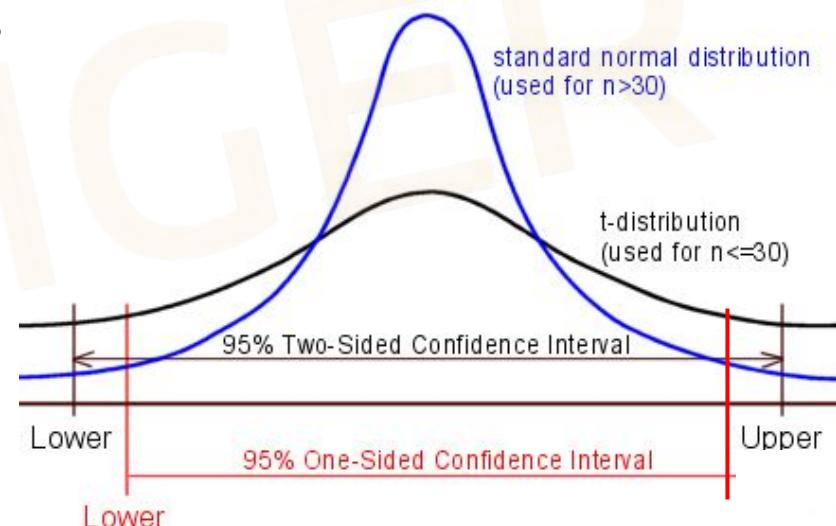
- Normal distribution -> T distribution when  $N < 30$ 
  - T distribution has only one parameter: degree of freedom ( $df = N-1$ )
  - Approximate normal as  $df$  increases
  - CI under normal distribution

$$Mean_{estimate} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} * StdErr_{estimate}$$

- CI under t distribution

$$Mean_{estimate} \pm t_{n-1} * StdErr_{estimate}$$

- z or t?

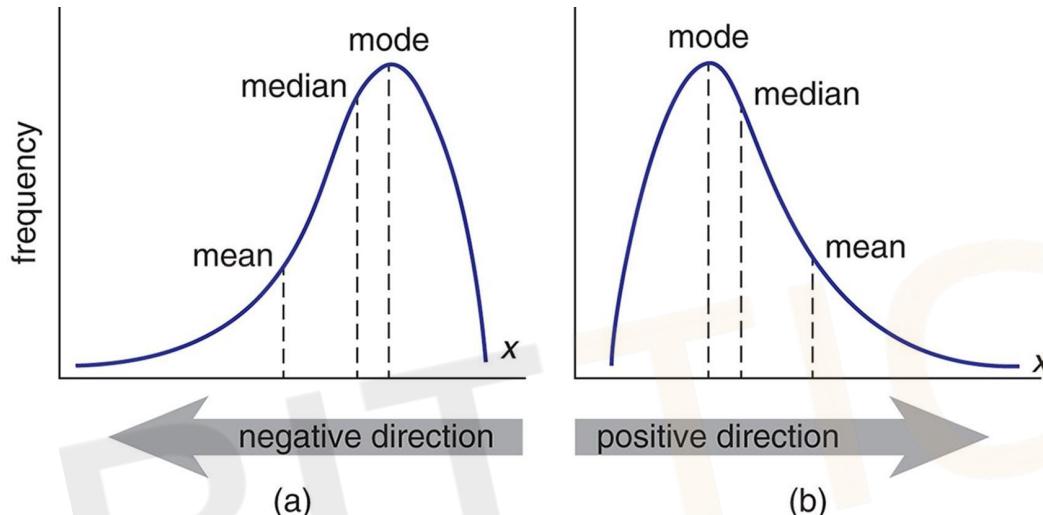




What about CI of not normal distribution?



# Skewed distribution



- What caused skewness
  - Bounded: lower bound or upper bound
- Can we still use normal distribution to estimate mean of skewed variable?



# How to treat skewed variable

- Log transformation
- Use median, if so, what's CI of median?
  - Non-parametric method (v.s. parametric method)
    - Bootstrap
    - Jackknife



# Covariance and correlation

- Definition

- $cov(X, Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$

- $\rho_{X,Y} = corr(X, Y) = \frac{cov(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$

- What's sample covariance and correlation?

- $cov(X, Y) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) = \frac{1}{n-1} (\sum x_i y_i - n \bar{x} \bar{y})$

- $cor(X, Y) = \frac{cov(X, Y)}{s_x s_y}$



# Properties of correlation

- Properties

- $\text{cor}(X, Y) = \text{cor}(Y, X)$
- $-1 \leq \text{cor}(X, Y) \leq 1$
- $\text{cor}(X, Y) = 1$  or  $-1$ :  $X, Y$  aligned on a line perfectly
- $\text{cor}(X, Y) = 0$ :  $X, Y$  are independent

- Geometric interpretation

- $$\rho_{X, Y} = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x'_i y'_i}{\|x'\| \|y'\|} = \cos(x', y')$$
- $\text{cor}(X, Y) = 0, \text{cor}(Y, Z) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{cor}(X, Z) = 0?$

