Lecture Note for Applied Econometrics

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Chapter 1

Preface

Welcome to Applied Econometrics using R!

1.1 About this

This lecture note is maintained by Yuta Toyama.

1.2 Update: April 23, 2019

• Upload chapter 6 (review of statistics)

1.3 Update: April 16, 2019

- Update chapter 3 (basic programming)
- Upload chapter 4 (Data frame)
- Upload chapter 5 (Exercise 1)

1.4 Acknowledgement (as of April 16, 2019)

- Chapter 2 through 4 are largely based on Applied Statistics with R. https://daviddalpiaz.github.io/appliedstats/
- Chapter 6 is based on "Introduction to Econometrics with R". https://www.econometrics-with-r.org/index.html

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Chapter 2

Introduction to the course

2.1 What is econometrics?

- 1. Estimating economic relationships
 - 1. Demand curve $\log(Q_t) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 P_t + \epsilon_t$
 - 2. Production function $Y_{it} = A_{it} K_{it}^{\alpha} L_{it}^{\beta}$
- 2. Testing economic theory
 - Does adverse selection exists in insurance markets?
 - Are consumers rational?
- 3. Determine the effect of a given intervention (causal inference)
 - What is the effect of increasing minimum wage on employment?
 - Do mergers increase the output price?
 - Does democracy cause economic growth? (a series of works by Acemoglu, Robinsohn, and their co-authors).
 - Effects of going to private colleges on your future earnings.
 - Note: Some questions may have underlying economic models, others may not.
- 4. Describe the data (prediction/forecasting)
 - How does the distribution of wage look like?
 - Relationship between electricity consumption and temperature (possibly nonlinear).
 - Related to machine learning (ML).

2.2 Why do we need to learn computation

- 1. Conduct statistical and empirical analysis using your own data set
 - 1. Construct the data set
 - 2. Describe the data
 - 3. Run regression or estimate an economic object
 - 4. Make tables and figures that show the results of your analysis.
- 2. Verify the econometric theory through numerical simulations.
 - Ex. Asymptotic theory considers the case when the sample size is large enough (i.e., $N \to \infty$)
 - Law of large numbers, central limit theorem
 - How well is the asymptotic approximation?
 - Monte Carlo simulations
- We will learn both aspects in this course.

2.3 Why do we use R?

- Many alternatives: Stata, Matlab, Python, etc...
- 1. Free software!!
 - Stata and Matlab are expensive.
 - Though you can use Matlab through the campus license from this April.
- 2. Good balance between flexibility in programming and easy-to-use for econometric analysis
 - Stata is easy to use for econometric analysis, but hard to write your own program.
 - Matlab is the opposite.
 - You can do everything with R, including data construction, regression analysis, and complicated structural estimation.
- 3. Many users
 - Popular in engineering.
 - Many packages being developed (especially important for recently popular tools.)
- Note: Python seems also good, though I have not used it before.

Chapter 3

Introduction of R and R studio

3.1 Getting Started

- You can use R/R studio in the PC room.
- However, I strongly recommend you install R/Studio in your laptop and bring it to the class.
- Install in the following order
 - 1. R: https://www.r-project.org/
 - 2. Rstudio: https://www.rstudio.com/
- Now open Rstudio.

3.2 Helps

- The RStudio team has developed a number of "cheatsheets" for working with both R and RStudio.
- This particular cheatsheet for Base R will summarize many of the concepts in this document.

3.3 Quick tour of Rstudio

- There are four panels
 - 1. Source: Write your own code here.
 - 2. Console:
 - 3. Environment/History:
 - 4. Files/Plots/Packages/Help:
- In the Source panel,
 - Write your own code.
 - Save your code in .R file
 - Click Run command to run your entire code.
- In the concole panel,
 - After clicking Run in the source panel, your code is evaluated.
 - You can directly type your code here to implement.

3.4 Basic Calculations

To get started, we'll use R like a simple calculator.

Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division

Math	R	Result
3 + 2	3 + 2	5
3 - 2	3 - 2	1
$3 \cdot 2$	3 * 2	6
3/2	3 / 2	1.5

Exponents

Math	R	Result
3^{2}	3 ^ 2	9
$2^{(-3)}$	2 ^ (-3)	0.125
$100^{1/2}$	100 ^ (1 / 2)	10
$\sqrt{100}$	sqrt(100)	10

Mathematical Constants

Math	R	Result
π	pi	3.1415927
e	exp(1)	2.7182818

Logarithms

- Note that we will use ln and log interchangeably to mean the natural logarithm.
- There is no ln() in R, instead it uses log() to mean the natural logarithm.

Math	R	Result
log(e)	log(exp(1))	1
$\log_{10}(1000)$	log10(1000)	3
$\log_2(8)$	log2(8)	3
$\log_4(16)$	log(16, base = 4)	2

Trigonometry

Math	R	Result
$\sin(\pi/2)$	sin(pi / 2)	1
$\cos(0)$	cos(0)	1

3.5 Getting Help

- In using R as a calculator, we have seen a number of functions: sqrt(), exp(), log() and sin().
- To get documentation about a function in R, simply put a question mark in front of the function name

and RStudio will display the documentation, for example:

?log
?sin
?paste
?lm

3.6 Installing Packages

- One of the main strengths of R as an open-source project is its package system.
- To install a package, use the install.packages() function.
 - Think of this as buying a recipe book from the store, bringing it home, and putting it on your shelf.

install.packages("ggplot2")

- Once a package is installed, it must be loaded into your current R session before being used.
 - Think of this as taking the book off of the shelf and opening it up to read.

library(ggplot2)

- Once you close R, all the packages are closed and put back on the imaginary shelf.
- The next time you open R, you do not have to install the package again, but you do have to load any packages you intend to use by invoking library().

Chapter 4

Data and Programming

4.1 Data Types

R has a number of basic data types.

- Numeric
 - Also known as Double. The default type when dealing with numbers.
 - Examples: 1, 1.0, 42.5
- Logical
 - Two possible values: TRUE and FALSE
 - You can also use T and F, but this is not recommended.
 - NA is also considered logical.
- Character
 - Examples: "a", "Statistics", "1 plus 2."

4.2 Data Structures

- R also has a number of basic data structures.
- A data structure is either
 - homogeneous (all elements are of the same data type)
 - heterogeneous (elements can be of more than one data type).

Dimension	Homogeneous	Heterogeneous
1 2 3+	Vector Matrix Array	List Data Frame

4.3 Vectors

4.3.1 Basics of vectors

- Many operations in R make heavy use of vectors.
 - Vectors in R are indexed starting at 1.
- The most common way to create a vector in R is using the c() function, which is short for "combine."

```
c(1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9)
```

[1] 1 3 5 7 8 9

- If we would like to store this vector in a variable we can do so with the assignment operator =.
 - The variable x now holds the vector we just created, and we can access the vector by typing x.

```
x = c(1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9)
```

[1] 1 3 5 7 8 9

```
# The following does the same thing.

x <- c(1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9)

x
```

[1] 1 3 5 7 8 9

- The operator = and <- work as an assignment operator.
 - You can use both. This does not matter usually.
 - If you are interested in the weird cases where the difference matters, check out The R Inferno.
- In R code the line starting with # is comment, which is ignored when you run the fode.
- A vector based on a sequence of numbers.
- The quickest and easiest way to do this is with the : operator, which creates a sequence of integers between two specified integers.

```
(y = 1:100)
```

```
##
     [1]
                 2
                      3
                               5
                                   6
                                        7
                                             8
                                                 9
                                                     10
                                                                                     17
            1
                          4
                                                         11
                                                              12
                                                                   13
                                                                       14
                                                                            15
                                                                                 16
    [18]
           18
                19
                    20
                         21
                              22
                                  23
                                       24
                                            25
                                                26
                                                     27
                                                         28
                                                              29
                                                                   30
                                                                       31
                                                                            32
                                                                                 33
                                                                                     34
##
                                  40
                                            42
##
    [35]
           35
                36
                    37
                         38
                             39
                                       41
                                                43
                                                     44
                                                         45
                                                              46
                                                                   47
                                                                       48
                                                                            49
                                                                                     51
                                                                                 50
##
    [52]
           52
                53
                    54
                         55
                             56
                                  57
                                       58
                                            59
                                                60
                                                     61
                                                         62
                                                              63
                                                                   64
                                                                       65
                                                                            66
                                                                                 67
                                                                                     68
##
    [69]
           69
                70
                    71
                         72
                             73
                                  74
                                       75
                                            76
                                                77
                                                     78
                                                         79
                                                              80
                                                                   81
                                                                       82
                                                                            83
                                                                                 84
                                                                                     85
    [86]
           86
               87
                    88 89
                             90 91
                                       92
                                           93
                                                     95
                                                         96
                                                              97
                                                                   98
                                                                       99 100
```

- By putting parentheses around the assignment,
 - R both stores the vector in a variable called y and
 - automatically outputs y to the console.

4.3.2 Useful functions for creating vectors

• Use the seq() function for a more general sequence.

```
seq(from = 1.5, to = 4.2, by = 0.1)
## [1] 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.9 3.0 3.1
## [18] 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6 3.7 3.8 3.9 4.0 4.1 4.2
```

Here, the input labels from, to, and by are optional.

```
seq(1.5, 4.2, 0.1)
```

```
## [1] 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.9 3.0 3.1 ## [18] 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6 3.7 3.8 3.9 4.0 4.1 4.2
```

• The rep() function repeat a single value a number of times.

```
rep("A", times = 10)
```

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```
• The rep() function can be used to repeat a vector some number of times.
rep(x, times = 3)
## [1] 1 3 5 7 8 9 1 3 5 7 8 9 1 3 5 7 8 9
   • We have now seen four different ways to create vectors:
       1. c()
       2. :
       3. seq()
       4. rep()
  • They are often used together.
c(x, rep(seq(1, 9, 2), 3), c(1, 2, 3), 42, 2:4)
         1 3 5 7 8 9 1 3 5 7 9 1 3 5 7 9 1 3 5 7 9 1 2
## [1]
## [24] 3 42
               2
  • The length of a vector can be obtained with the length() function.
length(x)
## [1] 6
length(y)
## [1] 100
4.3.3
        Subsetting
  • Use square brackets, [], to obtain a subset of a vector.
   • We see that x[1] returns the first element.
## [1] 1 3 5 7 8 9
x[1]
## [1] 1
x[3]
## [1] 5
  • We can also exclude certain indexes, in this case the second element.
x[-2]
## [1] 1 5 7 8 9
   • We can subset based on a vector of indices.
x[1:3]
## [1] 1 3 5
x[c(1,3,4)]
```

[1] 1 5 7

• We could instead use a vector of logical values.

```
z = c(TRUE, TRUE, FALSE, TRUE, TRUE, FALSE)
z
## [1] TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE
x[z]
## [1] 1 3 7 8
```

4.4 Vectorization

- One of the biggest strengths of R is its use of vectorized operations.
 - Frequently the lack of understanding of this concept leads of a belief that R is slow.
 - R is not the fastest language, but it has a reputation for being slower than it really is.)
- When a function like log() is called on a vector x, a vector is returned which has applied the function to each element of the vector x.

```
x = 1:10

x + 1

## [1] 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

2 * x

## [1] 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20

2 ^ x

## [1] 2 4 8 16 32 64 128 256 512 1024

sqrt(x)

## [1] 1.000000 1.414214 1.732051 2.000000 2.236068 2.449490 2.645751

## [8] 2.828427 3.000000 3.162278

log(x)

## [1] 0.0000000 0.6931472 1.0986123 1.3862944 1.6094379 1.7917595 1.9459101
```

4.5 Logical Operators

[8] 2.0794415 2.1972246 2.3025851

Operator	Summary	Example	Result
x < y	x less than y	3 < 42	TRUE
x > y	x greater than y	3 > 42	FALSE
x <= y	x less than or equal to y	3 <= 42	TRUE
x >= y	x greater than or equal to y	3 >= 42	FALSE
x == y	xequal to y	3 == 42	FALSE
x != y	x not equal to y	3 != 42	TRUE
!x	$\operatorname{not} \mathbf{x}$!(3 > 42)	TRUE
х І у	x or y	(3 > 42) TRUE	TRUE
x & y	x and y	(3 < 4) & (42 > 13)	TRUE

• Logical operators are vectorized.

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```
x = c(1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9)
## [1] FALSE FALSE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
x < 3
       TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
## [1]
x == 3
## [1] FALSE TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE
x != 3
## [1] TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
x == 3 & x != 3
## [1] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
x == 3 | x != 3
## [1] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
  • This is extremely useful for subsetting.
x[x > 3]
## [1] 5 7 8 9
x[x != 3]
## [1] 1 5 7 8 9
4.5.0.1 Short exercise
  1. Create the vector z = (1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2), which has the same length as x.
```

2. Pick up the elements of x which corresponds to 1 in the vector z.

Matrices 4.6

4.6.1 **Basics**

- R can also be used for matrix calculations.
- Matrices have rows and columns containing a single data type.
- Matrices can be created using the matrix function.

```
x = 1:9
## [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
X = matrix(x, nrow = 3, ncol = 3)
Х
##
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]
           1
## [2,]
           2
                      8
```

```
## [3,] 3 6 9
```

- We are using two different variables:
 - lower case x, which stores a vector and
 - capital X, which stores a matrix.
- By default the matrix function reorders a vector into columns, but we can also tell R to use rows instead.

```
Y = matrix(x, nrow = 3, ncol = 3, byrow = TRUE)
Y
```

```
## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 1 2 3
## [2,] 4 5 6
## [3,] 7 8 9
```

• a matrix of a specified dimension where every element is the same, in this case 0.

```
Z = matrix(0, 2, 4)
Z
```

```
## [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
## [1,] 0 0 0 0
## [2,] 0 0 0 0
```

- Matrices can be subsetted using square brackets, [].
- However, since matrices are two-dimensional, we need to specify both a row and a column when subsetting.
- Here we get the element in the first row and the second column.

Х

```
## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 1 4 7
## [2,] 2 5 8
## [3,] 3 6 9
```

X[1, 2]

[1] 4

• We could also subset an entire row or column.

```
X[1,]
```

```
## [1] 1 4 7
```

X[, 2]

[1] 4 5 6

rep(1, 9)

• Matrices can also be created by combining vectors as columns, using cbind, or combining vectors as rows, using rbind.

```
x = 1:9
rev(x)
```

```
## [1] 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
```

```
## [1] 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
```

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```
rbind(x, rev(x), rep(1, 9))
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8] [,9]
## x
        1
             2
                   3
                        4
                             5
                                   6
                                        7
##
        9
             8
                   7
                        6
                             5
                                   4
                                        3
                                             2
                                                   1
##
        1
             1
                   1
                        1
                             1
                                   1
                                        1
                                             1
                                                   1
  • When using rbind and cbind you can specify "argument" names that will be used as column names.
cbind(col_1 = x, col_2 = rev(x), col_3 = rep(1, 9))
```

```
##
        col_1 col_2 col_3
   [1,]
                  9
##
            1
                        1
##
   [2,]
            2
                  8
                        1
                  7
##
  [3,]
            3
                        1
  [4,]
            4
                  6
##
                        1
   [5,]
            5
                  5
##
                        1
   [6,]
##
            6
                  4
                        1
            7
## [7,]
                  3
                       1
## [8,]
            8
                  2
                       1
## [9,]
            9
                  1
                        1
```

4.6.2 Matrix calculations

• Perform matrix calculations.

[3,]

2

-4

8

```
x = 1:9
y = 9:1
X = matrix(x, 3, 3)
Y = matrix(y, 3, 3)
X
##
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]
          1
                4
                     7
## [2,]
           2
                      8
                5
## [3,]
           3
                6
                      9
Y
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
## [1,]
           9
                6
                      3
## [2,]
           8
                5
                      2
## [3,]
           7
                4
                      1
X + Y
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
## [1,]
          10
               10
                    10
## [2,]
          10
                10
                     10
## [3,]
          10
               10
                    10
Х - У
##
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
          -8
               -2
## [1,]
                      4
## [2,]
          -6
                0
                      6
```

##

```
##
         [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
   [1,]
            9
                 24
                      21
## [2,]
           16
                 25
                      16
                 24
## [3,]
           21
                       9
X / Y
##
               [,1]
                          [,2]
                                    [,3]
## [1,] 0.1111111 0.6666667 2.333333
## [2,] 0.2500000 1.0000000 4.000000
## [3,] 0.4285714 1.5000000 9.000000
   • Note that X * Y is not matrix multiplication.
   • It is element by element multiplication. (Same for X / Y).
   • Matrix multiplication uses %*%.
   • t() which gives the transpose of a matrix
X %*% Y
         [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
## [1,]
           90
                 54
                      18
## [2,]
          114
                 69
                      24
## [3,]
          138
                 84
                      30
t(X)
         [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
## [1,]
                  2
            1
                       3
## [2,]
            4
                  5
                       6
## [3,]
            7
                  8
                       9
   • solve() which returns the inverse of a square matrix if it is invertible.
Z = matrix(c(9, 2, -3, 2, 4, -2, -3, -2, 16), 3, byrow = TRUE)
Z
##
         [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]
            9
                  2
                      -3
## [2,]
            2
                  4
                      -2
## [3,]
           -3
                 -2
                      16
solve(Z)
##
                 [,1]
                               [,2]
                                           [,3]
## [1,] 0.12931034 -0.05603448 0.01724138
## [2,] -0.05603448  0.29094828  0.02586207
## [3,] 0.01724138 0.02586207 0.06896552
   • To verify that solve(Z) returns the inverse, we multiply it by Z.
       - We would expect this to return the identity matrix.
       - However we see that this is not the case due to some computational issues.
       - However, R also has the all.equal() function which checks for equality, with some small tolerance
          which accounts for some computational issues.
solve(Z) %*% Z
```

[,2]

[,1]

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```
## [2,] 0.0000000000000008326673 1.00000000000000022204460
##
               [,3]
## [2,] 0.0000000000000005551115
diag(3)
    [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]
     1
## [2,]
## [3,]
     0
          1
all.equal(solve(Z) ** Z, diag(3))
## [1] TRUE
```

4.6.2.1 Exercise

• Solve the following simultaneues equations using matrix calculation

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 = 105x_1 + x_2 = 20$$

• Hint: You can write this as Ax = y where A is the 2-times-2 matrix, x and y are vectors with the length of 2.

4.6.3 Getting information for matrix

• R has a number of matrix specific functions for obtaining dimension and summary information.

```
X = matrix(1:6, 2, 3)
Х
        [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
## [1,]
           1
                 3
## [2,]
           2
                      6
dim(X)
## [1] 2 3
rowSums(X)
## [1] 9 12
colSums(X)
## [1] 3 7 11
rowMeans(X)
## [1] 3 4
colMeans(X)
```

- ## [1] 1.5 3.5 5.5
 - The diag() function can be used in a number of ways. We can extract the diagonal of a matrix.

```
diag(Z)
```

[1] 9 4 16

• Or create a matrix with specified elements on the diagonal. (And 0 on the off-diagonals.)

```
diag(1:5)
```

```
##
         [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,]
## [2,]
            0
                  2
                        0
                              0
                                    0
## [3,]
            0
                  0
                        3
                              0
                                    0
            0
                  0
                        0
                              4
                                    0
## [4,]
## [5,]
            0
                  0
                        0
                              0
                                    5
```

• Or, lastly, create a square matrix of a certain dimension with 1 for every element of the diagonal and 0 for the off-diagonals.

diag(5)

```
##
         [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,]
            1
                  0
                        0
## [2,]
            0
                  1
                        0
                              0
                                   0
## [3,]
            0
                  0
                             0
                                   0
                        1
## [4,]
            0
                  0
                        0
                              1
                                   0
## [5,]
                        0
                                   1
```

4.7 Lists

- A list is a one-dimensional heterogeneous data structure.
 - It is indexed like a vector with a single integer value,
 - but each element can contain an element of any type.

```
# creation
list(42, "Hello", TRUE)
## [[1]]
## [1] 42
##
## [[2]]
## [1] "Hello"
## [[3]]
## [1] TRUE
ex_list = list(
  a = c(1, 2, 3, 4),
  b = TRUE,
  c = "Hello!",
  d = function(arg = 42) {print("Hello World!")},
  e = diag(5)
)
```

- Lists can be subset using two syntaxes,
 - 1. the \$ operator, and
 - 2. square brackets [].

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```
# subsetting
ex_list$e
      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,]
      1 0 0
                    0
## [2,]
      0
          1
                0
## [3,]
          0 1 0 0
      0
      ## [4,]
## [5,]
ex_list[1:2]
## $a
## [1] 1 2 3 4
##
## $b
## [1] TRUE
ex_list[1]
## $a
## [1] 1 2 3 4
ex_list[c("e", "a")]
## $e
##
      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,] 1 0 0 0
## [2,] 0 1 0 0 0
## [3,] 0 0 1 0 0
## [4,] 0 0 0 1 0
## [5,] 0 0 0 1 1
##
## $a
## [1] 1 2 3 4
ex_list["e"]
## $e
##
      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,] 1 0 0 0 0
          1
      0
## [2,]
              0 0 0
## [3,]
                      0
      0
          0 1 0
## [4,]
      0 0 0 1 0
## [5,]
ex_list$d
```

4.8 Data Frames

• We will talk about Dataframe in the next chapter.

function(arg = 42) {print("Hello World!")}

4.9 Programming Basics -Control flow-

4.9.1 if/else

• The if/else syntax is:

```
if (...) {
  some R code
} else {
  more R code
}
```

• Example: To see whether x is large than y.

```
x = 1
y = 3
if (x > y) {
  z = x * y
  print("x is larger than y")
} else {
  z = x + 5 * y
  print("x is less than or equal to y")
}
```

```
## [1] "x is less than or equal to y"
z
```

[1] 16

- R also has a special function ifelse()
 - It returns one of two specified values based on a conditional statement.

```
ifelse(4 > 3, 1, 0)
```

[1] 1

• The real power of ifelse() comes from its ability to be applied to vectors.

```
fib = c(1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21)
ifelse(fib > 6, "Foo", "Bar")
```

```
## [1] "Bar" "Bar" "Bar" "Bar" "Foo" "Foo" "Foo"
```

4.10 for loop

• A for loop repeats the same procedure for the specified number of times

```
x = 11:15
for (i in 1:5) {
   x[i] = x[i] * 2
}
```

[1] 22 24 26 28 30

- Note that this for loop is very normal in many programming languages.
- In R we would not use a loop, instead we would simply use a vectorized operation.

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- for loop in R is known to be very slow.

```
x = 11:15

x = x * 2

x
```

[1] 22 24 26 28 30

4.11 Functions

- To use a function,
 - you simply type its name,
 - followed by an open parenthesis,
 - then specify values of its arguments,
 - then finish with a closing parenthesis.
- An **argument** is a variable which is used in the body of the function.

```
# The following is just a demonstration, not the real function in R. function_name(arg1 = 10, arg2 = 20)
```

- We can also write our own functions in R.
- Example: "standardize" variables

$$\frac{x-\bar{x}}{s}$$

- When writing a function, there are three thing you must do.
 - 1. Give the function a name. Preferably something that is short, but descriptive.
 - 2. Specify the arguments using function()
 - 3. Write the body of the function within curly braces, {}.

```
standardize = function(x) {
  m = mean(x)
  std = sd(x)
  result = (x - m) / std
  return(result)
}
```

- Here the name of the function is standardize,
- The function has a single argument **x** which is used in the body of function.
- Note that the output of the final line of the body is what is returned by the function.
- Let's test our function
- Take a random sample of size n=10 from a normal distribution with a mean of 2 and a standard deviation of 5.

```
test_sample = rnorm(n = 10, mean = 2, sd = 5)
test_sample

## [1] 2.4657762 -1.0489769 10.6456829 -2.7005938 -2.7815826 4.1409846

## [7] 5.5636709 1.5682079 0.1506471 4.7900080

standardize(x = test_sample)

## [1] 0.04461135 -0.79660715 2.00238438 -1.19190395 -1.21128776

## [6] 0.44555454 0.78605927 -0.17021201 -0.50949000 0.60089133
```

• The same function can be written more simply.

```
standardize = function(x) {
  (x - mean(x)) / sd(x)
}
```

• When specifying arguments, you can provide default arguments.

```
power_of_num = function(num, power = 2) {
  num ^ power
}
```

Let's look at a number of ways that we could run this function to perform the operation 10² resulting in 100.

```
power_of_num(10)

## [1] 100

power_of_num(10, 2)

## [1] 100

power_of_num(num = 10, power = 2)

## [1] 100

power_of_num(power = 2, num = 10)
```

[1] 100

• Note that without using the argument names, the order matters. The following code will not evaluate to the same output as the previous example.

```
power_of_num(2, 10)
```

[1] 1024

• Also, the following line of code would produce an error since arguments without a default value must be specified.

```
power_of_num(power = 5)
```

- To further illustrate a function with a default argument, we will write a function that calculates sample variance two ways.
- By default, the function will calculate the unbiased estimate of σ^2 , which we will call s^2 .

$$s^{2} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x - \bar{x})^{2}$$

• It will also have the ability to return the biased estimate (based on maximum likelihood) which we will call $\hat{\sigma}^2$.

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x - \bar{x})^2$$

```
get_var = function(x, unbiased = TRUE) {
  if (unbiased == TRUE) {
    n = length(x) - 1
```

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```
} else if (unbiased == FALSE){
    n = length(x)
}

(1 / n) * sum((x - mean(x)) ^ 2)
}

get_var(test_sample)

## [1] 17.4571

get_var(test_sample, unbiased = TRUE)

## [1] 17.4571

var(test_sample)

## [1] 17.4571
```

• We see the function is working as expected, and when returning the unbiased estimate it matches R's built in function var(). Finally, let's examine the biased estimate of σ^2 .

```
get_var(test_sample, unbiased = FALSE)
```

[1] 15.71139

Chapter 5

Data frame

5.1 Introduction

• A data frame is the most common way that we store and interact with data in this course.

```
example_data = data.frame(x = c(1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9),

y = c(rep("Hello", 9), "Goodbye"),

z = rep(c(TRUE, FALSE), 5))
```

- A data frame is a **list** of vectors.
 - Each vector must contain the same data type
 - The difference vectors can store different data types.

example data

```
##
     Х
             у
         Hello TRUE
## 1
     1
## 2
     3
         Hello FALSE
## 3 5
         Hello TRUE
## 4
     7
         Hello FALSE
## 5
    9
         Hello TRUE
         Hello FALSE
## 6
    1
## 7
     3
         Hello TRUE
         Hello FALSE
## 8 5
## 9 7
         Hello TRUE
## 10 9 Goodbye FALSE
```

• write.csv save (or export) the dataframe in .csv format.

5.2 Load csv file

- We can also import data from various file types in into R, as well as use data stored in packages.
- Read csv file into R.
 - read.csv() function as default
 - read_csv() function from the readr package. This is faster for larger data.

```
# install.packages("readr")
library(readr)
example_data_from_csv = read_csv("example-data.csv")
```

- Note: This particular line of code assumes that the file example_data.csv exists in your current working directory.
- The current working directory is the folder that you are working with. To see this, you type

getwd()

[1] "C:/Users/Yuta/Dropbox/Teaching/2019S_Applied_Econometrics_JPN_ENG/Material_Github"

• If you want to set the working directory, use setwd() function

```
setwd(dir = "directory path" )
```

5.3 Examine dataframe

• Inside the ggplot2 package is a dataset called mpg. By loading the package using the library() function, we can now access mpg.

library(ggplot2)

- Three things we would generally like to do with data:
 - Look at the raw data.
 - Understand the data. (Where did it come from? What are the variables? Etc.)
 - Visualize the data.
- To look at the data, we have two useful commands: head() and str()

```
head(mpg, n = 10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 11
##
      manufacturer model displ year
                                         cyl trans drv
                                                                   hwy fl
                                                                             cla~
                                                            cty
##
                    <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr> <chr> <int> <chr> <int> <int> <chr>
                                                                             <ch>
##
                            1.8 1999
   1 audi
                    a4
                                           4 auto~ f
                                                             18
                                                                    29 p
                                                                             com~
                            1.8
##
    2 audi
                    a4
                                 1999
                                           4 manu~ f
                                                              21
                                                                    29 p
                                                                             com~
                                  2008
##
   3 audi
                    a4
                                           4 manu~ f
                                                             20
                                                                    31 p
                            2
                                                                             com~
##
   4 audi
                   a4
                            2
                                  2008
                                           4 auto~ f
                                                             21
                                                                    30 p
                                                                             com~
                            2.8 1999
##
    5 audi
                   a4
                                           6 auto~ f
                                                             16
                                                                    26 p
                                                                             com~
                            2.8 1999
##
    6 audi
                    a4
                                           6 manu~ f
                                                              18
                                                                    26 p
                                                                             com~
##
   7 audi
                    a4
                            3.1 2008
                                           6 auto~ f
                                                              18
                                                                    27 p
                                                                             com~
##
   8 audi
                    a4 q~
                            1.8 1999
                                           4 manu~ 4
                                                              18
                                                                    26 p
                                                                             com~
## 9 audi
                    a4 q~
                            1.8
                                 1999
                                           4 auto~ 4
                                                              16
                                                                    25 p
                                                                             com~
## 10 audi
                    a4 q~
                            2
                                  2008
                                           4 manu~ 4
                                                                    28 p
                                                                             com~
```

- The function str() will display the "structure" of the data frame.
 - It will display the number of **observations** and **variables**, list the variables, give the type of each variable, and show some elements of each variable.
 - This information can also be found in the "Environment" window in RStudio.

str(mpg)

```
## Classes 'tbl_df', 'tbl' and 'data.frame':
                                                234 obs. of 11 variables:
   $ manufacturer: chr "audi" "audi" "audi" "audi" ...
                        "a4" "a4" "a4" "a4" ...
##
   $ model
                 : chr
   $ displ
                  : num 1.8 1.8 2 2 2.8 2.8 3.1 1.8 1.8 2 ...
                         1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 ...
##
   $ year
                  : int
##
   $ cyl
                         4 4 4 4 6 6 6 4 4 4 ...
                  : int
                         "auto(15)" "manual(m5)" "manual(m6)" "auto(av)" ...
##
   $ trans
                  : chr
                        "f" "f" "f" "f" ...
   $ drv
                  : chr
                  : int 18 21 20 21 16 18 18 18 16 20 ...
##
   $ cty
```

```
$ hwy
                         29 29 31 30 26 26 27 26 25 28 ...
                  : int
## $ fl
                         "p" "p" "p" "p" ...
                  : chr
## $ class
                  : chr
                         "compact" "compact" "compact" ...
  • names() function to obtain names of the variables in the dataset
names (mpg)
    [1] "manufacturer" "model"
                                      "displ"
                                                      "year"
##
    [5] "cyl"
                       "trans"
                                      "drv"
                                                      "cty"
   [9] "hwy"
                       "fl"
                                      "class"
##
  • To access one of the variables as a vector, we use the $ operator.
mpg$year
##
     [1] 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008
    [15] 2008 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008
   [29] 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999 2008 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999 1999 2008
##
   [43] 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 1999
   [57] 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 1999 2008 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
##
   [71] 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999
##
    [85] 1999 1999 1999 2008 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008
   [99] 2008 1999 1999 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008
##
## [113] 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999
## [127] 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999 2008 1999 2008 2008
## [141] 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008
## [155] 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999
## [169] 1999 2008 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008
## [183] 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 1999
## [197] 2008 2008 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008
## [211] 2008 1999 1999 1999 1999 2008 2008 2008 1999 1999 1999 1999 1999
## [225] 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008 2008 1999 1999 2008
mpg$hwy
##
     [1] 29 29 31 30 26 26 27 26 25 28 27 25 25 25 25 24 25 23 20 15 20 17 17
    [24] 26 23 26 25 24 19 14 15 17 27 30 26 29 26 24 24 22 22 24 24 17 22 21
##
   [47] 23 23 19 18 17 17 19 19 12 17 15 17 17 12 17 16 18 15 16 12 17 17 16
   [70] 12 15 16 17 15 17 17 18 17 19 17 19 17 17 17 16 16 17 15 17 26 25
  [93] 26 24 21 22 23 22 20 33 32 32 29 32 34 36 36 29 26 27 30 31 26 26 28
## [116] 26 29 28 27 24 24 24 22 19 20 17 12 19 18 14 15 18 18 15 17 16 18 17
## [139] 19 19 17 29 27 31 32 27 26 26 25 25 17 17 20 18 26 26 27 28 25 25 24
## [162] 27 25 26 23 26 26 26 26 25 27 25 27 20 20 19 17 20 17 29 27 31 31 26
## [185] 26 28 27 29 31 31 26 26 27 30 33 35 37 35 15 18 20 20 22 17 19 18 20
## [208] 29 26 29 29 24 44 29 26 29 29 29 29 23 24 44 41 29 26 28 29 29 29 28
## [231] 29 26 26 26
  • We can use the dim(), nrow() and ncol() functions to obtain information about the dimension of the
    data frame.
```

```
## [1] 234
```

[1] 234

nrow(mpg)

11

dim(mpg)

```
ncol(mpg)
## [1] 11
```

5.4 Subsetting data

- Subsetting data frames can work much like subsetting matrices using square brackets, [,].
- Here, we find fuel efficient vehicles earning over 35 miles per gallon and only display manufacturer, model and year.

```
mpg[mpg$hwy > 35, c("manufacturer", "model", "year")]
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
    manufacturer model
                            year
##
    <chr> <chr>
                           <int>
## 1 honda
               civic
                           2008
## 2 honda
                            2008
                civic
## 3 toyota
                corolla
                            2008
## 4 volkswagen jetta
                            1999
## 5 volkswagen
                new beetle 1999
## 6 volkswagen
                new beetle 1999
```

• An alternative would be to use the subset() function, which has a much more readable syntax.

```
subset(mpg, subset = hwy > 35, select = c("manufacturer", "model", "year"))
```

• Lastly, we could use the filter and select functions from the dplyr package which introduces the %>% operator from the magrittr package.

```
library(dplyr)
mpg %>%
filter(hwy > 35) %>%
select(manufacturer, model, year)
```

• I will give you an assignment about dplyr package in the DataCamp as a makeup lecture.

Chapter 6

Exercise 1

• Due date: April 22th (Monday) 11pm

Rules for Problem Sets

- If you are enrolled in Japanese class (i.e., Wednesday 2nd), you can use both Japanese and English to write your answer.
- Submit your solution through CourseN@vi.
- Submit both your answer and R script.
- Using Rmarkdown would be appreciated, though not mandatory.
 - Rmarkdown introduction in Japanese: https://kazutan.github.io/kazutanR/Rmd_intro.html
 - Rmarkdown introduction in English: https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com/articles_intro.html
- I might cover Rmarkdown in the course later.

6.1 Update (as of 10am, April 18th)

- Please calculate the standard deviation, not the variance in your simulation. The parameter you set when drawing the random number is the mean μ and the standard deviation σ in normal distribution.
- Use seq function to create the sequence of the sample sizes that you use in the simulation.

6.2 Question: Examine the law of large numbers through numerical simulations

Consider the random sample of $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$ drawn from the random variable X. The law of large numbers implies that

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i \xrightarrow{p} E[X]$$

In other words, the sample mean converges to the population mean in probability as the sample size goes to infinity (i.e., $N \to \infty$).

Similary, the sample variance also converges to the population variance in probability

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \stackrel{p}{\longrightarrow} V[X]$$

(Note on 4/18) This implies that the sample standard deviation also converges to the population standard deviation

(This is an application of the law of large numbers, though it is a bit involved to prove this.)

The goal of this problem set is to demonstrate these two properties through numerical simulations. Here is what we are going to do:

- 1. For a certain sample size N, draw N random numbers from the normal distribution with known mean and standard deviation.
- 2. Calculate the sample mean and the sample variance for the "data" you draw.
- 3. Repeat this for many different sample sizes.
- 4. Examine to see whether the sample mean and **standard deviation** are getting closer to the true value, which you set when you draw the random numbers, as the sample size gets larger.

6.2.1 How to implement

I explain how to implement this in R step by step below.

- 1. Prepare a function like this
 - 1. There are two inputs: (1) a vector that contains the data $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$ and (2) the indicator of whether you calculate the mean or the standard deviation.

```
fun_something = function(firstinput, secondinput){
    # Two inputs: firstinput, secondinput
    # One output: output

# Do something.

return(output)
}
```

2. Use if/else sentence. Example:

```
# "secondinput" is the name of the input variable in your function
if ( secondinput == "mean") {
    # calculate mean of the data (firstinput)
} else if ( secondinput == "sd") {
    # Calculate standard deviation of the data (firstinput)
}
```

- 3. Use return function to define the output of the function.
- 2. Construct a vector that contains the sample size you want to use in your simulation. For example:

```
samplesize\_vec = seq(from = 100, to = 100000, by = 100)
```

Here, let's try 100 different sample sizes that ranges from 100 to 100000.

3. Prepare two vectors that contain the result in the forloop below. Since we are trying 100 different sample sizes, let's create a vector with the length of 100.

```
# Hint:
# numeric(k) returns a zero vector with the length of k
# length( vector) returns the length of `vector`

# result_mean = ....
# result_sd = ....
```

4. To create the random draw from the normal distribution, use below

```
# You can choose the mean and the standard deviation as you like.
rnorm(n = 100, mean = 2, sd = 5)
```

4. Use forloop to calculate both mean and the standard deviation for each sample size. For example:

```
for (i in 1:length(samplesize_vec)){
    # Draw the random number

# Calculate the mean using the function you construct.

# Calculate the standard deviation using the function you construct.
}
```

- 5. Plot the result with ggplot2.
 - 1. Install the package if you have not done it yet.
 - 2. Load ggplot2 by library(ggplot2)
 - 3. Use qplot command to make a figure

```
# Create plot and save it as the variable `plot1`
plot1 <- qplot(x = samplesize_vec, y = yourresult, geom = "line")

# print "plot1"
print(plot1)

# save the plot as PNG file
ggsave(file = "filename.png", plot = plot1)</pre>
```

6.2.2 What to submit

Your answer should include

- 1. The true value of mean and variance you choose in your simulation.
- 2. The plot that describes the relationship between the sample mean (variance) and the sample size.
- 3. Explain what the plots from your simulation indicate.

Chapter 7

A Review of Statistics

Acknowledgement: This chapter is largely based on chapter 3 of "Introduction to Econometrics with R". https://www.econometrics-with-r.org/index.html

The goal of this chapter is

- 1. Review of important concepts in statistics
 - 1. Estimation
 - 2. Hypothesis testing
- 2. Review of tools from probability theory
 - 1. Law of large numbers
 - 2. Central limit theorem

7.1 Estimation

- Estimator: A mapping from the sample data drawn from an unknown population to a certain feature in the population
- Example: Consider hourly earnings of college graduates Y.
- You want to estimate the mean of Y, defined as $E[Y] = \mu_y$
- Draw a random sample of n i.i.d. (identically and independently distributed) observations Y_1, Y_2, \ldots, Y_N
- How to estimate E[Y] from the data?
- Idea 1: Sample mean

$$\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i,$$

- Idea 2: Pick the first observation of the sample.
- Question: How can we say which is better?

7.1.1 Properties of the estimator

Consider the estimator $\hat{\mu}_N$ for the unknown parameter μ .

1. Unbiasdeness: The expectation of the estimator is the same as the true parameter in the population.

$$E[\hat{\mu}_N] = \mu$$

2. Consistency: The estimator converges to the true parameter in probability.

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \lim_{N \to \infty} Prob(|\hat{\mu}_N - \mu| < \epsilon) = 1$$

- Intuition: As the sample size gets larger, the estimator and the true parameter is close with probability one.
- Note: a bit different from the usual convergence of the sequence.

7.1.2 Sample mean \bar{Y} is unbiased and consistent

- Showing these two properties using mathmaetics is straightforward:
 - Unbiasedness: Take expectation.
 - Consistency: Law of large numbers.
- Let's examine these two properties using R.
- Step 1: Prepare a population. Here, I prepare income and age data from PUMS 5% sample of U.S. Census 2000.
 - PUMS: Public Use Microdata Sample
 - Download the example data here as a .csv file. Put this file in the same folder as your R script file.

```
# Use "readr" package
library(readr)
pums2000 <- read_csv("data_pums_2000.csv")

## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
## AGE = col_double(),
## INCTOT = col_double()
## )</pre>
```

• We treat this dataset as **population**.

```
pop <- as.vector(pums2000$INCTOT)</pre>
```

ullet Population mean and standard deviation

```
pop_mean = mean(pop)
pop_sd = sd(pop)

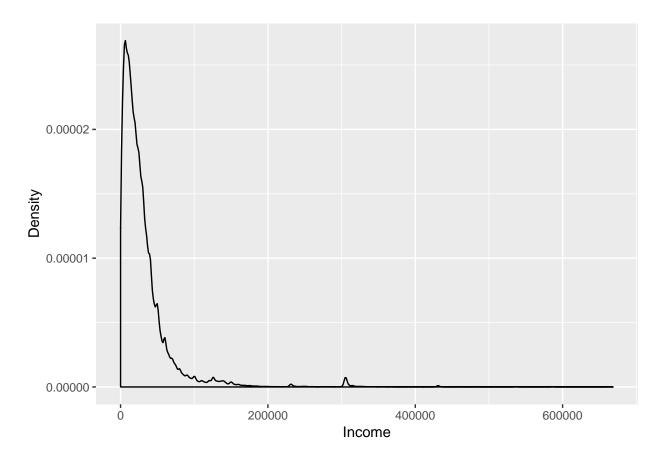
# Average income in population
pop_mean

## [1] 30165.47

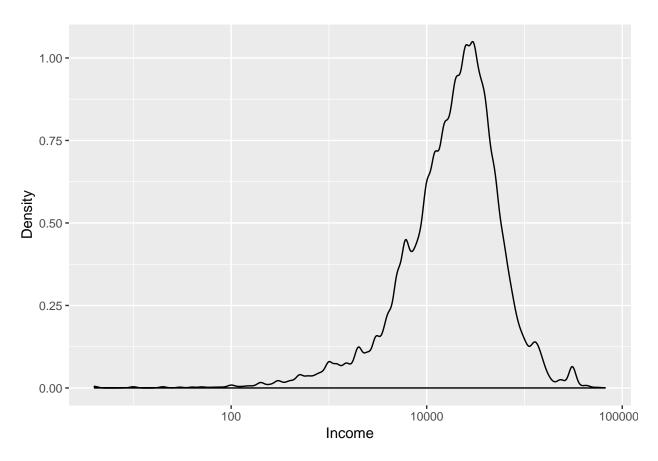
# Standard deviation of income in population
pop_sd
```

```
## [1] 38306.17
```

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- $\bullet\,$ The distribution has a long tail.
- $\bullet~$ Let's plot the distribution in \log scale



- Let's investigate how close the sample mean constucted from the random sample is to the true population mean.
- Step 1: Draw random samples from this population and calculate \bar{Y} for each sample. Set the sample size N.
- Step 2: Repeat 2000 times. You now have 2000 sample means.

```
# Set the seed for the random number. This is needed to maintaine the reproducibility of the results.
set.seed(123)

# draw random sample of 100 observations from the variable pop
test <- sample(x = pop, size = 100)

# Use loop to repeat 2000 times.
Nsamples = 2000
result1 <- numeric(Nsamples)

for (i in 1:Nsamples ){
    test <- sample(x = pop, size = 100)
    result1[i] <- mean(test)
}

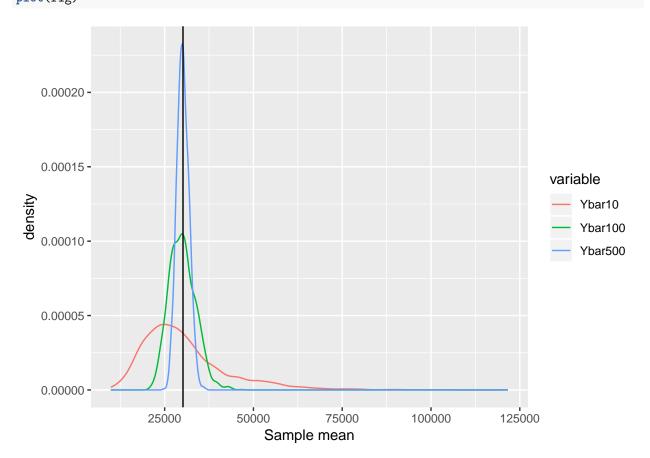
# Simple approach
result1 <- replicate(expr = mean(sample(x = pop, size = 10)), n = Nsamples)
result2 <- replicate(expr = mean(sample(x = pop, size = 100)), n = Nsamples)
result3 <- replicate(expr = mean(sample(x = pop, size = 500)), n = Nsamples)</pre>
```

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```
# Create dataframe
result_data <- data.frame( Ybar10 = result1,</pre>
                              Ybar100 = result2,
                              Ybar500 = result3)
```

• Step 3: See the distribution of those 2000 sample means.

```
# Use reshape library
# install.packages("reshape")
library("reshape")
# Use "melt" to change the format of result_data
data_for_plot <- melt(data = result_data, variable.name = "Variable" )</pre>
## Using as id variables
# Use "ggplot2" to create the figure.
# The variable `fig` contains the information about the figure
fig <-
  ggplot(data = data_for_plot) +
 xlab("Sample mean") +
  geom_line(aes(x = value, colour = variable ), stat = "density" ) +
  geom_vline(xintercept=pop_mean ,colour="black")
# Display the figure
plot(fig)
```



- Observation 1: Regardless of the sample size, the average of the sample means is close to the population mean. **Unbiasdeness**
- Observation 2: As the sample size gets larger, the distribution is concentrated around the population mean. Consistency (law of large numbers)

7.2 Hypothesis Testing

7.2.1 Central limit theorem

• Cental limit theorem: Consider the i.i.d. sample of Y_1, \dots, Y_N drawn from the random variable Y with mean μ and variance σ^2 . The following Z converges in distribution to the normal distribution.

$$Z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sigma} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

In other words,

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} P\left(Z \le z\right) = \Phi(z)$$

- The central limit theorem implies that if N is large **enough**, we can **approximate** the distribution of \bar{Y} by the standard normal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2/N regardless of the underlying distribution of Y.
- Let's examine this property through simulation!!
- Use the same example as before. Remember that the underlying income distribution is clearly NOT normal.
 - Population mean $\mu=30165.4673315$ and standard deviation $\sigma=38306.1712336$. Use these numbers.

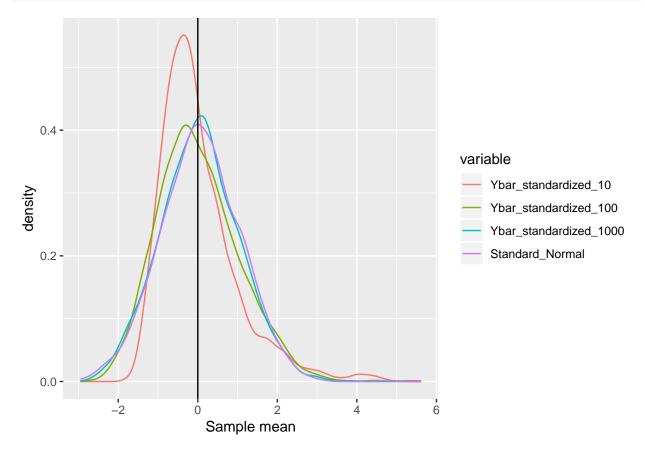
```
# Set the seed for the random number
set.seed(124)
# define function for simulation
f_simu_CLT = function(Nsamples, samplesize, pop, pop_mean, pop_sd ){
  output = numeric(Nsamples)
  for (i in 1:Nsamples ){
    test <- sample(x = pop, size = samplesize)</pre>
    output[i] <- ( mean(test) - pop_mean ) / (pop_sd / sqrt(samplesize))</pre>
  return(output)
}
# Comment: You can do better without using forloop. Let me know if you come with a good idea.
# Run simulation
Nsamples = 2000
result CLT1 <- f simu CLT(Nsamples, 10, pop, pop mean, pop sd)
result_CLT2 <- f_simu_CLT(Nsamples, 100, pop, pop_mean, pop_sd )</pre>
result_CLT3 <- f_simu_CLT(Nsamples, 1000, pop, pop_mean, pop_sd )
```

• Now take a look at the distribution.

```
# Use "melt" to change the format of result_data
data_for_plot <- melt(data = result_CLT_data, variable.name = "Variable" )</pre>
```

```
## Using as id variables
```

```
# Use "ggplot2" to create the figure.
fig <-
    ggplot(data = data_for_plot) +
    xlab("Sample mean") +
    geom_line(aes(x = value, colour = variable), stat = "density") +
    geom_vline(xintercept=0, colour="black")</pre>
```



• As the sample size grows, the distribution of Z converges to the standard normal distribution.

7.2.2 Hypothesis testing

To be added.