# Chapter 6: Distribution of Sampling Statistics

ST2334 Probability and Statistics<sup>1</sup> (Academic Year 2014/15, Semester 1)

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### Outline

- Introduction
- 2 The Sample Mean
- 3 The Central Limit Theorem
- The Sample Variance
- 5 Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population

### Introduction I

### **Learning Outcomes**

central limit theorem to approximate the distribution of a sum/an average of i.i.d. r.v.'s ♦ Normal approximation to the binomial distribution with continuity correction ♦ Mean of the sample variance ♦ Some sampling distributions from a normal population

### Introduction II

### Learning Outcomes (continued)

- Concept & Terminology: 

  ♦ underlying distribution
- ◆ parametric/nonparametric inference problem ◆ statistic/sampling statistic
- ♦ sampling distribution of a statistic ♦ sample
- sum/mean/variance/standard deviation ◆ population mean/variance
- ♦ empirical method ♦ sampling distribution of the sample
- sum/mean/variance ◆ central limit theorem ◆ normal approximation to the binomial distribution with continuity correction ◆ joint sampling distribution of the sample mean & the sample variance from a normal population
- ♦ t-statistic constructed from a normal population

### Introduction III

### Mandatory Reading



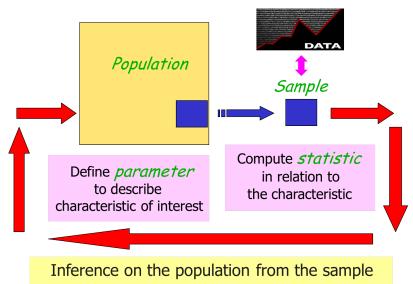
Section 6.1 – Section 6.5

The science of statistics deals with drawing conclusions from observed data

- Recall (in Ch.0) the set—up of a statistical problem:
  - population: a large collection of items (each is associated with some values/measurements)
  - sample/data: only a subset of the population (i.e., part of all measurements) is available



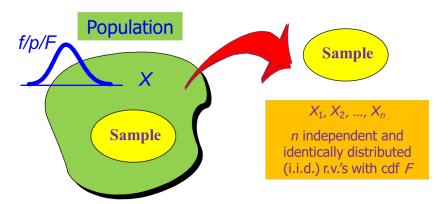
### Introduction IV



### Set-up of Statistical Problems Via r.v.'s

### Idea

- ▶ population  $\Leftrightarrow$  r.v. X with unknown cdf F (& density f/p)
- ▶ sample/data  $\Leftrightarrow$  i.i.d. r.v.'s,  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ , with cdf F (& density f/p)
- ▶ Refer to the distribution of *X* or the cdf *F* as the underlying distribution



### Parametric Inference Problems I

- In practice, we often select a particular parametric family of probability distributions parametrized by some parameters  $\theta$  as the underlying distribution F of the population of interest, e.g.,
  - Lifetime of a light bulb 
     an exponential r.v.
  - annual revenue of Singapore Pools : a normal r.v.
  - # of calls in an hour at a pizza delivery shop: a Poisson r.v.
- **Choosing with care appropriate values for**  $\theta$  allows us to model/deal with most random phenomena or population of interest
- It <u>suffices to select values for  $\theta$ </u> in the particularly selected family, *i.e.*,
  - $\bullet$   $\theta = \lambda \in (0, \infty)$  in the exponential case
  - ②  $\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2) \in \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty)$  in the normal case
  - θ = λ ∈ (0,∞) in the Poisson case

### Parametric Inference Problems II

#### Definition

A <u>parametric inference problem</u> has a set—up in which the underlying distribution of the population of interest is assumed to be from a particular parametric family of probability distributions which is parametrized by some parameters  $\theta$ 

- When there is NOT any assumption made on the form of the cdf F, such a problem is called a <u>nonparametric inference problem</u>
- Note: This module ONLY looks at parametric inference problems

### Sampling Statistics

Pecall (in Example 4 (Ch. 0)): In understanding p, the unknown proportion of the Singaporean population who have a ac (parameter of interest θ = p), we compute & study the proportion of people who have a ac among a group of students (a sample)

#### Definition

A sampling statistic (or simply statistic) summarizes relevant information from a sample in helping us to understand the population or the underlying distribution

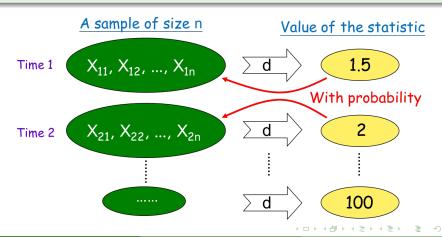
#### Definition

In *parametric inference problems*, a *sampling statistic (or simply statistic)* summarizes relevant information to infer/guess the true but unknown value of the parameter  $\theta$  of the underlying distribution

### Sampling Statistics is a r.v.

#### Statistic as a r.v.

A statistic, defined by  $d(X_1, ..., X_n)$ , is a *r.v.* with possible values governed by the data/sample (*i.e.*,  $X_1, ..., X_n$ ) through some *known/pre-determined* function d of n i.i.d. r.v.'s



### Sampling Distribution I

#### Definition

The probability distribution of a statistic is called the sampling distribution

### In practice, we observe

- n known values,  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ , as n data points from a sample wherein  $X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \ldots, X_n = x_n$  are n i.i.d. realizations from the underlying distribution
- Note: ONLY 1 single value  $d(x_1,...,x_n)$  called the observed value as a realization/draw from the sampling distribution of a statistic

# Sampling Distribution II

Suppose that we obtain 1.5 as the value of a statistic:

How to interpret this number?
Is this number a good guess of the unknown value of the parameter?
Close to it?

Address these questions by understanding the sampling distribution!

# The Sample Mean $\overline{X}$ I

<u>Recall</u> (in Example 19 (Ch.4)): We define the sample mean  $\overline{X}$  there. Here is an <u>alternative definition</u>

#### Definition

- A population of interest whose members or values can be regarded as being the values of a r.v. X with cdf F
- 2 The mean  $E(X) = \mu$  & variance  $Var(X) = \sigma^2$  are called the *population mean* & the *population variance*, respectively
- 3 Let  $X_1, ..., X_n$  be a sample from the population, i.e., n i.i.d. r.v.'s having cdf F
- The sample mean is defined by

$$\overline{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$
 (1)

# The Sample Mean $\overline{X}$ II

- $ightharpoonup \overline{X}$  is 1 of the most commonly used statistics as it
  - is defined as a function d of n i.i.d. r.v.'s from (1): d is the average function

### Mean & Variance of The Sample Mean $\overline{X}$

The sample mean  $\overline{X}$  is a r.v. with mean & variance

$$E(\overline{X}) = \mu$$
 &  $Var(\overline{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$ 

- ▶ Shown in Examples 19 & 26 (Ch.4)
- $ightharpoonup \overline{X}$  always has a "centre" at the population mean  $\mu$  for all sample size n
- ▶ The *spread* of  $\overline{X} \downarrow$  as the sample size  $n \uparrow$



# Sampling Distribution of $\overline{X}$

The <u>true sampling distribution of  $\overline{X}$ </u> is obtainable through <u>vigorous prob computations</u> that are rather tedious

This module would not consider it

### **Empirical Method**

In principle, the sampling distribution of  $\overline{X}$  (or, of any statistic) can be obtained by the *empirical method* (depicted at the next page):

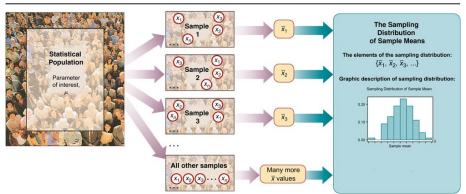
- Collect ALL possible samples of size n from the population X
- ② Compute a value  $\overline{x}$  from each sample in ①
- 3 Construct a *relative frequency histogram* of all  $\overline{x}$  values in 2
- An approximate sampling distribution of X: Collect a large # of samples of size n in 1, followed by 2 & 3

### The Empirical Method

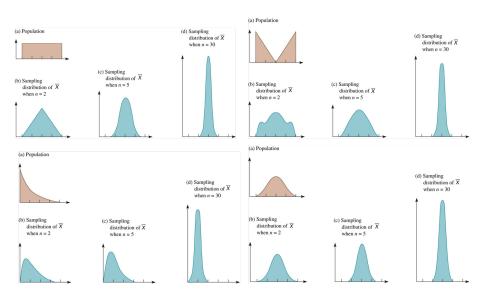
Statistical population being studied Repeated sampling is needed to form the sampling distribution

All possible samples of size n One value of the sample statistic ( $\overline{x}$  in this case) corresponding to the parameter of interest ( $\mu$  in this case) is obtained from each sample

Then all of these values of the sample statistic,  $\bar{x}$ , are used to form the sampling distribution

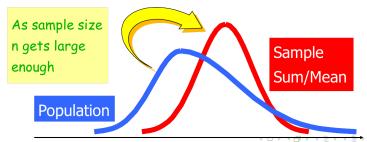


# **Example 1**: Sampling Distributions of $\overline{X}$



#### Central Limit Theorem I

- ▶ The <u>central limit theorem (CLT)</u> is one of the <u>most remarkable results</u> in <u>probability theory</u>
- Loosely put, it states that the sum/average of a large # of indept r.v.'s has a distribution that is approximately normal
- It *not only* provides a simple method for computing approximate probs for sums of indept r.v.'s, but it *also* helps explain the remarkable fact that the empirical frequencies of so many natural populations exhibit bell—shaped (*i.e.*, normal) curves



### Central Limit Theorem II

### Central Limit Theorem (CLT)

Let  $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$  be a sequence of i.i.d. r.v.'s having mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then for  $n \ge 30$ , the distribution of the *sample sum* 

$$X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

is approximately normal with mean  $n\mu$  & variance  $n\sigma^2$ . Write

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} N(n\mu, n\sigma^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i - n\mu \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} N(0,1) \implies P\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i - n\mu}{\sqrt{n\sigma^2}} < x\right) \approx \Phi(x)$$

i.e., prob of a sum of i.i.d. r.v.'s can be approximated by a standard normal prob when n is large



# Approximate Sampling Distribution of $\overline{X}$

### Approximate Sampling Distribution of $\overline{X}$

Let  $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$  be a sequence of i.i.d. r.v.'s having mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then for  $n \ge 30$ , the distribution of

$$\overline{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

is approximately normal with mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2/n$ . Write

$$\overline{X} \stackrel{\cdot}{\sim} N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$

Translation of approximate normality through linear transformation: For  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,  $Y = a + bX \sim N(a + b\mu, b^2\sigma^2)$  for fixed constants a & b



# Example 2: Central Limit Theorem

If a fair die is rolled 30 times, find the approximate prob that the sum obtained is between 100 & 110

**Solution:** Let  $X_i$  be the # obtained at the *i*th roll of the fair die, for

i = 1, 2, ..., 30. We have  $\mu = E(X_i) = 7/2$ ,  $E(X_i^2) = 91/6$ , & therefore  $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X_i) = 35/12$ . The required prob is

$$P(100 \le X_1 + \cdots + X_{30} \le 110)$$

Apply CLT based on  $X_1 + \cdots + X_{30} \stackrel{.}{\sim} N(n\mu, n\sigma^2) = N(30 \times \frac{7}{2}, 30 \times \frac{35}{12})$ :

$$P(100 \le X_1 + \dots + X_{30} \le 110)$$

$$\approx P\left(\frac{100 - 30 \times (7/2)}{\sqrt{30 \times (35/12)}} \le Z \le \frac{110 - 30 \times (7/2)}{\sqrt{30 \times (35/12)}}\right)$$

$$= P(-.53 \le Z \le .53)$$

$$= .4038$$

# Example 3: Central Limit Theorem I

The # of students who enrol in a psychology class is a Poisson r.v. with mean 100. The professor in charge of the course decided that if the number of enrollment is  $\geq$  120, he will teach the course in 2 separate sessions, whereas if the enrollment is under 120 he will teach all the students in a single session. What is the prob that the professor will have to teach 2 sessions?

Solution: Let X be the enrollment in the psychology class. Given that  $\overline{X \sim Poi(100)}$  with E(X) = 100 = Var(X). The required prob,

$$P(X \ge 120) = e^{-100} \sum_{i=120}^{\infty} \frac{100^{i}}{i!},$$

is not readily available by hand

*Remark*: Using a simple spreadsheet in computer, this prob is computed to be 1 - .9718 = .0282



### Example 3: Central Limit Theorem II

Alternatively, realize that

$$X=X_1+\cdots+X_{100}$$

where  $X_i$  are i.i.d. Poi(1) r.v.'s with  $\mu = \sigma^2 = 1$ , & apply CLT to conclude that

$$X \stackrel{.}{\sim} N(n\mu = 100, n\sigma^2 = 100) \implies \frac{X - 100}{\sqrt{100}} \stackrel{.}{\sim} N(0, 1)$$

Then,

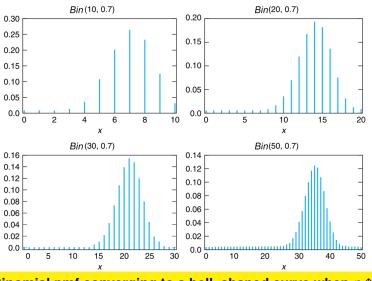
$$P(X \ge 120) = P\left(\frac{X - 100}{\sqrt{100}} \ge \frac{120 - 100}{\sqrt{100}}\right)$$

$$\approx P\left(Z \ge \frac{20}{\sqrt{100}}\right)$$

$$= P(Z \ge 2)$$

$$= .0228$$

### The Normal Approximation to the Binomial Distribution I



Binomial pmf converging to a bell–shaped curve when  $n \uparrow$ 

### The Normal Approximation to the Binomial Distribution II

- Normal approximation to the binomial distribution
  - ▶ 1 extremely important application of CLT: A Bin(n, p) r.v. is a sum of n i.i.d. Ber(p) r.v.'s when the underlying distribution is a Bernoulli r.v.
  - such an approximation by CLT is generally quite good for values of n satisfying npq ≥ 10, & it will be further improved if we incorporate continuity correction (cc)

# Normal Approximation to Binomial Probabilities With Continuity Correction

If 
$$S_n \sim Bin(n, p)$$
 with  $q = 1 - p$ , then, for  $k = 0, 1, ..., n$ ,

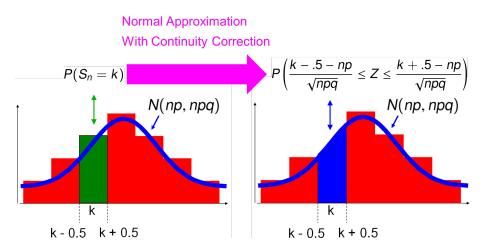
$$P(S_n = k) = P(k - .5 \le S_n \le k + .5)$$

$$\approx P\left(\frac{k - .5 - np}{\sqrt{npq}} \le Z \le \frac{k + .5 - np}{\sqrt{npq}}\right)$$

$$P(S_n \ge k) = P(S_n \ge k - .5) \& P(S_n \le k) = P(S_n \le k + .5)$$



### The Normal Approximation to the Binomial Distribution III



# Example 4: Normal Approximation

Let X be a binomial r.v. with parameters 60 & .3

**●** 
$$P(12 \le X \le 26) \approx P\left(\frac{11.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}} \le Z \le \frac{26.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}}\right)$$
  
  $\approx P(-1.83 \le Z \le 2.39) = .9916 - (1 - .9664) = .9580$ 

② 
$$P(12 < X \le 26) = P(13 \le X \le 26)$$
  
≈  $P\left(\frac{12.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}} \le Z \le \frac{26.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}}\right) \approx P(-1.55 \le Z \le 2.39)$   
= .9916 - (1 - .9394) = .9310

③ 
$$P(12 \le X < 26) = P(12 \le X \le 25)$$
  
≈  $P\left(\frac{11.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}} \le Z \le \frac{25.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}}\right) \approx P(-1.83 \le Z \le 2.11)$   
= .9826 - (1 - .9664) = .9490

**1** 
$$P(12 < X < 26) = P(13 ≤ X ≤ 25)$$
  
≈  $P\left(\frac{12.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}} ≤ Z ≤ \frac{25.5 - 18}{\sqrt{12.6}}\right)$  ≈  $P(-1.55 ≤ Z ≤ 2.11)$   
= .9826 -  $(1 - .9394)$  = .9220

# **Example** 5: Normal Approximation

Let X be the # of times that a fair coin, flipped 40 times, lands heads. Suppose that we are interested in seeing heads half of the time. Compute the prob exactly & approximate it

Solution: Exact answer:  $P(X = 20) = {40 \choose 20} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{40} = .1254$ Normal approximation:

$$P(X = 20) = P(19.5 \le X \le 20.5)$$

$$= P\left(\frac{19.5 - 20}{\sqrt{10}} \le \frac{X - 20}{\sqrt{10}} \le \frac{20.5 - 20}{\sqrt{10}}\right)$$

$$\approx P(-0.16 \le Z \le 0.16) = .1272$$

# Example 6: Normal Approximation

The ideal size of a first–year class at a particular college is 150 students. The college, knowing from the past experience that on the average only 30% of those accepted for admission to this class will actually attend, uses a policy of approving the applications of 450 students. Compute the prob that > 150 students attend this class

Solution: Let X denote the # of students that attend among the 450 students. Then,  $X \sim Bin(450, .3)$  with mean & variance

$$E(X) = 450 \times .3 = 135$$
 &  $Var(X) = 450(.3)(.7) = 9.721^2$ 

Applying normal approximation with cc, the prob that > 150 students attend this class is

$$P(X > 150) = P(X \ge 150.5) \approx P\left(Z \ge \frac{150.5 - 135}{9.721}\right)$$
  
=  $P(Z \ge 1.59) = .0559$ 

# Example 7: Normal Approximation I

Refer to the previous example, if this college desires that the prob of > 150 students will attend this college should be at most .01. What is the largest # of students should this college admit?

**Solution:** Let X denote the # of students that attend. Let n be the # of students to be admitted. Then,  $X \sim Bin(n, .3)$  with mean & variance

$$E(X) = .3n$$
 &  $Var(X) = .3n \times .7 = .21n$ 

Applying normal approximation with cc yields the prob that > 150 students will attend the college,

$$P(X > 150) = P(X \ge 150.5)$$

$$\approx P\left(Z \ge \frac{150.5 - .3n}{\sqrt{.21n}}\right)$$

# Example 7: Normal Approximation II

To have this probability to be at most .01, set it to be less than or equal to .01. This yields

$$P\left(Z \ge \frac{150.5 - .3n}{\sqrt{.21n}}\right) \le P(Z \ge 2.33) = .01$$

Accordingly

$$\frac{150.5 - .3n}{\sqrt{.21n}}$$
 ≥ 2.33  $\Rightarrow$   $n \le 428.32$ 

Hence, the largest # of students this college should admit is 428

### The Sample Variance I

#### Definition

Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$  be i.i.d. r.v.'s having mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ , &  $\overline{X} = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i/n$  be the *sample mean*. The *sample variance* is a statistic defined by

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

 $S = +\sqrt{S^2}$  is called the *sample standard deviation* 

Mean of the Sample Variance Equals the Population Variance  $\sigma^2$ 

The expected value/mean of the sample variance  $S^2$  always equals  $\sigma^2$ :

$$E(S^2) = \sigma^2$$

Serves as an <u>appropriate statistic</u> in <u>estimating</u> the unknown value of the variance of <u>ANY population</u>



### The Sample Variance II

▶ Start with the following important algebraic identity of S<sup>2</sup>:

$$(n-1)S^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \mu + \mu - \overline{X})^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \mu)^{2} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\overline{X} - \mu)^{2} - 2(\overline{X} - \mu) \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \mu)^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \mu)^{2} + n(\overline{X} - \mu)^{2} - 2(\overline{X} - \mu)n(\overline{X} - \mu)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \mu)^{2} - n(\overline{X} - \mu)^{2}$$

Taking expectation of both sides yields

$$(n-1)E(S^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n E[(X_i - \mu)^2] - nE[(\overline{X} - \mu)^2]$$
$$= n\sigma^2 - nVar(\overline{X}) = (n-1)\sigma^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad E(S^2) = \sigma^2$$

# Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population I

Let's look at a special case in which the underlying distribution is normal

### Sampling Distribution of $\overline{X}$ From a Normal Population

Let  $X_1, ..., X_n$  be a sample from a *normal population* with mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then,

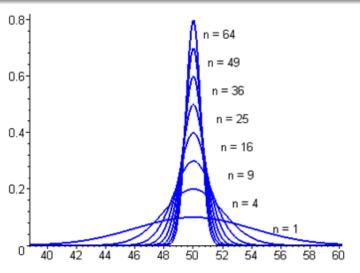
$$\overline{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$
 or  $\frac{\overline{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim N(0, 1)$  (2)

- Valid for all sample sizes n = 1, 2, 3, ...
- Due to "linear transformation" result at Page 29 (Ch.5): For  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,  $Y = a + bX \sim N(a + b\mu, b^2\sigma^2)$  for fixed constants a & b



### Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population II

Sampling distribution of sample means from  $N(50, 4^2)$ :



# Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population III

# Joint Sampling Distribution of $\overline{X}$ & $S^2$ From a Normal Population

For a sample  $X_1, ..., X_n$  from a *normal population* with mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ , the *joint sampling distribution of*  $(\overline{X}, S^2)$  is described as follows:

- $\bigcirc$   $\overline{X}$  &  $S^2$  are indept r.v.'s
- $\mathbf{2} \quad \overline{X}$  has a distribution given in (2)

- ▶ A brief discussion of **①**:
  - ▶  $S^2$  is a function of all n deviations from  $\overline{X}$ ,  $X_i \overline{X}$ , which are all normally distributed r.v.'s
  - ▶  $Cov(X_i \overline{X}, \overline{X}) = 0$  from Examples 25 (Ch.2)
    - $\Rightarrow$  indep of  $X_i \overline{X} \& \overline{X}$  (: normality of the 2 r.v.'s)



# Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population IV

- A streamline proof of 6:
  - Note that

$$W = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \mu)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \sim \chi_n^2$$

& that W can be re-expressed as

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2}\sum_{i=1}^n[(X_i-\overline{X})+(\overline{X}-\mu)]^2=\frac{(n-1)}{\sigma^2}S^2+\left(\frac{\overline{X}-\mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right)^2=U+V$$

by expanding the square in the LHS & using the fact that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \overline{X}) = 0$ 

- ▶ U & V are indept (:  $S^2 \& \overline{X}$  are indept)
- ►  $W \sim \chi_n^2 \& V \sim \chi_1^2 \implies U \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$



# Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population V

### A *t*-Statistic Constructed by $\overline{X}$ & $S^2$ From a Normal Population

Let  $\overline{X}$  &  $S^2$  be the sample mean & the sample variance of a sample from a normal population with mean  $\mu$  & variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then,

$$\frac{\overline{X} - \mu}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} \sim t_{n-1} \tag{3}$$

Follows from definition of a *t*-distribution by expressing the ratio as

$$\frac{\overline{X} - \mu}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} = \frac{\left(\frac{\overline{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right)}{\sqrt{S^2/\sigma^2}} = \frac{\left(\frac{\overline{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right)}{\sqrt{[(n-1)S^2/\sigma^2]/(n-1)}}$$

where the r.v. at the numerator is N(0,1) & the r.v. at the denominator is  $\sqrt{\chi^2_{n-1}/(n-1)}$ , & also the 2 r.v.'s are indept



# Example 8: Sampling Distributions From a Normal Population I

Suppose that the first monthly salary (in S\$) of a undergraduate in a university is known to be approximately N(2000, 900). For a selected group of 15 students, what are the probs that

- the average first monthly salary is greater than S\$2010?
- the standard deviation of their first monthly salaries is greater than S\$10?

Solution: Let  $X_1, ..., X_{15}$  denote the first monthly salaries of the group of 15 students. Then,  $X_1, ..., X_{15}$  are i.i.d. N(2000, 900) r.v.'s

The required prob is given by

$$P(\overline{X} > 2010) = P(Z > \frac{2010 - 2000}{\sqrt{900/15}}) \approx P(Z > 1.29) = .0985$$

where 
$$\overline{X} = \frac{1}{15} \sum_{i=1}^{15} X_i \sim N(2000, 900/15)$$
 by (2)

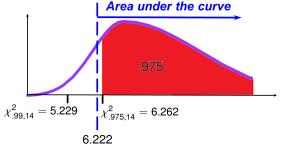
# Example 8: Sampling Distributions From a Normal

### Population II

The required prob is given by

$$P(S > 20) = P(S^2 > 400) = P\left(\chi_{14}^2 > \frac{(15-1)(400)}{900}\right)$$
$$= P(\chi_{14}^2 > 6.222) \in (.975, .99)$$

where 
$$\frac{(n-1)}{\sigma^2}S^2 = \frac{(15-1)}{900}S^2 \sim \chi_{14}^2$$



# Example 9: t Statistic From a Normal Population

Consider the last example by assuming that the first monthly salary (in S\$) of a undergraduate in a university is approximately  $N(2000,\sigma^2)$  with an unknown  $\sigma^2 > 0$ . For a selected group of 15 students with sample standard deviation of their first monthly salaries as 35, what is the prob that their average first monthly salary is greater than S\$2010?

Solution: Let  $X_1, ..., X_{15}$  denote the first monthly salaries of the group of 15 students. Then,

- **1**  $X_1, \ldots, X_{15}$  are i.i.d.  $N(2000, \sigma^2)$  r.v.'s, and
- $(\overline{X} 2000) / \sqrt{S^2/15} \sim t_{15-1}$

The required prob is given by

$$P(\overline{X} > 2010) = P(t_{14} > \frac{2010 - 2000}{\sqrt{35^2/15}}) \approx P(t_{14} > 1.11) > .10$$

as  $t_{.10.14} = 1.345$  from the *t*-table

