

## The Central Limit Theorem

### Definition

In probability theory, the central limit theorem (CLT) establishes that, **in many situations**, when independent random variables are summed up, **their properly normalized sum** (mean) tends toward **a normal distribution even if the original variables themselves are not normally distributed**.

In mathematical denotation, if  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are  $n$  random samples drawn from a population with overall mean  $\mu$  and finite variance  $\sigma^2$ , and if  $\bar{X}_n$  is the sample mean, then the limiting form of the distribution,  $Z = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} \left( \frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma} \right)$