

Chi-squared and t-distributions

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The Chi-squared Distribution

Let

$$Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, 1)$$

Then,

$$Y = Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 + \dots + Z_n^2 \sim \chi_n^2$$

Expectation

First,

$$\text{Var}(Z) = E(Z^2) - E(Z)^2 = E(Z^2) - 0 = 1 \implies E(Z^2) = 1$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= E\left(\sum_i^n Z_i^2\right) \\ &= \sum_i^n E(Z_i^2) \\ &= \sum_i^n 1 \\ &= n \end{aligned}$$

Variance

$$Var(Y) = \sum_i Var(Z_i^2) \dots Independence$$

$$\begin{aligned} Var(Z_i^2) &= E(Z^4) - E(z^2)^2 \\ &= E(Z^4) - 1^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty x^{z-1} e^{-x} dx; \quad \Gamma(z+1) = z\Gamma(z)$$

$$\Gamma(s)\Gamma(1-s) = \frac{\pi}{\sin \pi s} \implies \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(1-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{\sin \frac{\pi}{2}} \implies \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \pi \implies \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z^4) &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty z^4 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right) dz \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty z^4 \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right) dz \quad |_{u-sub \ u=z^2/2} \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot 2\sqrt{2} \int_0^\infty u^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-u} du \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty u^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-u} du \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}_{\text{recursiveness of } \Gamma()} \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi} \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies Var(Y) &= \sum_i Var(Z_i^2) \\ &= \sum_i (E(Z^4) - 1) \\ &= \sum_i (3 - 1) \\ &= \sum_i 2 \\ &= 2n \dots \square \end{aligned}$$