

# 课程信息

- **《随机过程》**：64学时，4学分，60230014（课号）
- **授课教师**：陈斌，信息大楼1608, cb17@tsinghua.org.cn
- **助教**：高英华、黄钰钧
- **成绩比例**：期中20%，期末50%，平时（作业+Project）30%
- **教材**：《随机过程及其应用》陆大金
- **其他参考书**：
  1. 李贤平，《概率论基础》，高等教育出版社
  2. 林元烈，《应用随机过程》，高等教育出版社
  3. R.Gallager, Stochastic Processes: Theory for Applications, Cambridge University Press
  4. S. Shwartz and S. Ben-David, Understanding Machine Learning: From Theory to Algorithms, Cambridge University Press

# Project要求

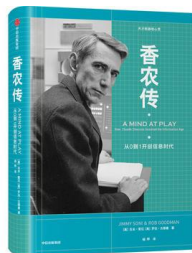
- **组队人数**：3人以内，默认姓氏排序，除非特别说明贡献
- **Topic (2选1)**：
  - 参考Maryland大学课程中与课程相关的主题：  
<http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/fall2020/cmsc828W/>
  - 自选随机过程相关的主题；
- **Reference数量不少于10篇**；
- **Tutorial Presentation: (40%)**：
  - **内容**：  
Motivation+ Theory+ Emperical Results（复现）+Conclusion+Thinking；
  - **Q&A环节表现**：任课老师和同学提问；
- **Technical Report (姓名+学号) : (60%)**：  
English Writing in ICML Style (Latex模板在网络学堂)  
including Necessary Parts of An Academic Conference Paper.
- **Deadline: 10.31**，网络学堂提交，过期不能提交！

# “应用”数学的基本素养与价值

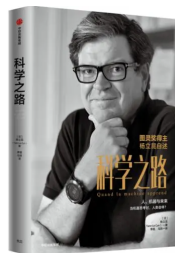
- **Mathematical Abstraction/ Theoretical Formulation**: 学会用数学的语言表达;
- **Analog/Transfer Learning**: 迁移/类比的能力;
- **Empirical Observation/ Induction**: 发现现象/归纳能力;
- **Deductive Inference/Logical Implication**: 演绎/逻辑推理;
- “牛逼”的“三个代表”:



(a) Newton, 1643-1727  
2001



Shannon, 1916-



(c) Lecun, 1960-

# 第一章概率基础

陈斌

Tsinghua Shenzhen International Graduate School (SIGS)



# Outline

- 1 基本定义
- 2 常用分布
- 3 数字特征
- 4 随机向量
- 5 母函数
- 6 特征函数
- 7 概率不等式及其应用

## 基本定义

一个试验（或观察），若其结果预先无法确定，称之为**随机试验**。随机试验的可能结果成为**样本点**，记为  $\omega$ ，样本点的全体构成**样本空间**，记为  $\Omega$ 。我们即将在  $\Omega$  的某些子集上定义概率，但事先要对子集进行如下限制。

定义：样本空间  $\Omega$  的**某些子集**构成**事件域**  $\mathcal{F}$ ，若  $\mathcal{F}$  满足

- ①  $\phi \in \mathcal{F}$ ;
- ②  $A \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \bar{A} = \Omega \setminus A \in \mathcal{F}$ ;
- ③  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}, n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathcal{F}$ .

则称  $\mathcal{F}$  为  **$\sigma$ 域**， $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  为**可测空间**。

定义：设 $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$ 为可测空间，若定义在 $\mathcal{F}$ 上的**集函数** $P$ 满足：

- ①  $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}, P(A) \geq 0$ ; (非负性)
- ②  $P(\Omega) = 1$ ; (规一性)
- ③ 设  $A_1, A_2, \dots, \in \mathcal{F}$  两两不相交, i.e.,  $A_i A_j \triangleq A_i \cap A_j = \phi$ ,  
 $\forall i \neq j$ , 则  $P(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$ . (可列可加性)

则称 **$P$ 为概率**,  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ 为**概率空间**。

性质：

- ① **不可能事件概率为0**:  $P(\phi) = 0$
- ② **有限可加性**:  $A_i A_j = \phi, \forall i \neq j \Rightarrow P(\bigcup_{n=1}^n A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$ ,  
 $P(\bar{A}) = 1 - P(A)$ ,
- ③ 若  $B \subseteq A$ , 则  $P(A - B) = P(A) - P(B), P(B) \leq P(A)$  (**单调性**);
- ④  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(AB)$ ;  
 $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$  (**Union Bound**);
- ⑤ **全概率公式** 设  $A_1, A_2, \dots$ , 为 $\Omega$ 的划分, 即  $A_i$ 两两不相交  
 且  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \Omega$ , 则  $P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)P(B|A_i)$ .

定义：设 $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ 为概率空间， $\xi(\omega)$ 为定义在 $\Omega$ 上的**单值实函数**： $\xi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ 。若 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\{\omega: \xi(\omega) \leq x\} \in \mathcal{F}$ ，则称 $\xi(\omega)$ 为**随机变量**。

$F(x) \triangleq P\{\xi(\omega) \leq x\}$ 称为随机变量 $\xi$ 的**分布函数**。

性质（证明略）：

- ①  $0 \leq F(x) \leq 1$ ,  $F(x)$ 单调不减;
- ②  $F(-\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = 0$ ,  $F(+\infty) = 1$ ;
- ③  $F(x)$ 右连续，且至多有可数个间断点。

**离散型随机变量**：状态的数目可数

**连续型随机变量**：存在概率密度函数 $f(x)$ 使得 $F'(x) = f(x)$

状态  $\triangleq$  随机变量的取值  $\begin{cases} \text{离散} \\ \text{连续} \end{cases}$



## 常用分布（离散型）

检验概率分布： $p_i \geq 0, \sum p_i = 1$ .

- 贝努力分布：

$$P\{\xi = 1\} = p, \quad P\{\xi = 0\} = 1 - p, \quad 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

- 二项分布：**n次中恰好有i次成功**

$$P\{\xi = i\} = \binom{n}{i} p^i (1-p)^{n-i}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n, \\ n \geq 1, \quad 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

- 泊松分布：

$$\lambda > 0, \quad P\{\xi = i\} = \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} e^{-\lambda}, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- 几何分布：**第i次首次成功**

$$0 < p < 1, \quad P\{\xi = i\} = (1-p)^{i-1} p, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

## 常用分布 (连续性)

检验概率分布:  $f(x) \geq 0, \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) dx = 1.$

- 指数分布:

$$\lambda > 0, \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & x < 0. \end{cases}$$

- 均匀分布:

$$a < b, \quad U(a, b), \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & a \leq x \leq b, \\ 0, & \text{其它}. \end{cases}$$

- 正态分布:

$$N(\mu, \sigma^2), \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}, \quad N(0, 1).$$

均值? 方差?

## 数字特征

定义：**数学期望**（均值）

$$\text{若 } \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |x| dF(x) < +\infty, \quad \mu_{\xi} \triangleq E\xi \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x dF(x).$$

注：针对离散型和连续型，统一用 $dF(x)$ 来表示，若分开写 $E\xi$ 就分别是 $\sum_n x_n \cdot p_n$ 和 $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f(x) dx$ .

定义：**方差**（二阶矩）

$$\text{若 } \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 dF(x) < +\infty,$$

$$\sigma_{\xi}^2 \triangleq D\xi \triangleq E[\xi - E\xi]^2 = E\xi^2 - E^2\xi.$$

定义： $r$ 阶绝对矩  $E|\xi|^r \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |x|^r dF(x).$

性质：1). 线性； 2).  $g(x)$ 函数，则  $E g(\xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) dF(x)$ .  
几个例子：

- 贝努力分布：

$$P\{\xi = 1\} = p, P\{\xi = 0\} = 1 - p, \mu = p, \sigma^2 = p(1 - p);$$

- 二项分布：

$$P\{\xi = i\} = \binom{n}{i} p^i (1 - p)^{n-i}, \mu = np, \sigma^2 = np(1 - p);$$

- 泊松分布：

$$\lambda > 0, P\{\xi = i\} = \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} e^{-\lambda}, \mu = \lambda, \sigma^2 = \lambda;$$

注：二项分布为  $n$  个独立贝努力分布之和。

$$I_{\{\text{expression}\}} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{当表达式expression成立时,} \\ 0, & \text{否则.} \end{cases}$$

- 指数分布:

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \cdot I_{\{x \geq 0\}}, \quad F(x) = (1 - e^{-\lambda x}) I_{\{x \geq 0\}}.$$
$$\mu = 1/\lambda, \quad \sigma^2 = 1/\lambda^2.$$

- 正态分布:

$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , 高斯分布由均值和方差唯一确定。

- 其它分布:

$\Gamma$ 分布、 $\chi^2$ 分布、Rayleigh分布、Rice分布等。

## 随机向量 复随机变量

定义：设  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  为  $n$  维随机变量（随机向量）。

分布函数  $F(x_1, \dots, x_n) \triangleq P\{\xi_1 \leq x_1, \dots, \xi_n \leq x_n\}$ ,

若  $\frac{\partial^n F(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\partial x_1 \dots \partial x_n}$  存在,

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} f(t_1, \dots, t_n) dt_1 \dots dt_n.$$

定义：  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$ , 协方差矩阵  $C \triangleq [C_{ij}]_{n \times n}$ , 其中

$C_{ij} \triangleq C(\xi_i, \xi_j) \triangleq E(\xi_i - E\xi_i)(\xi_j - E\xi_j)$  称为  $\xi_i$  与  $\xi_j$  的协方差

$C$  对称, 对角线  $c_{ii} = C(\xi_i, \xi_i) = D\xi_i = \sigma_{\xi_i}^2$ .

二维随机变量  $(\eta, \zeta)$ :

$$C(\eta, \zeta) \triangleq E(\eta - E\eta)(\zeta - E\zeta) = E\eta\zeta - E\eta E\zeta.$$

若  $C(\eta, \zeta) = 0$ , 称  $\eta$  与  $\zeta$  **不相关**  $\iff E\eta\zeta = E\eta \cdot E\zeta$ .

若  $\eta, \zeta$  独立, 则  $\eta$  与  $\zeta$  不相关。反之不然

$$R(\eta, \zeta) \triangleq E\eta\zeta \quad \text{相关函数}$$

$$r \triangleq \frac{C(\eta, \zeta)}{\sigma_\eta \cdot \sigma_\zeta} \quad \text{相关系数 (标准化的协方差)}$$

定义:  $\xi \triangleq \eta + j\zeta$ ,  $j = \sqrt{-1}$  称为  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  上的 **复随机变量**。

$$E\xi \triangleq E\eta + jE\zeta, \quad D\xi \triangleq E|\xi - E\xi|^2 = E(\xi - E\xi)(\overline{\xi - E\xi}).$$

实质上,  $\xi$  是  $\eta$  与  $\zeta$  组成的二维随机变量。  $D\xi = D\eta + D\zeta$ , 证明?

## 母函数

定义:  $\xi$ ,  $P\{\xi = k\} = p_k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , **整值随机变量**

称  $G(s) \triangleq E s^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k s^k$  为  $\xi$  的**母函数**。

性质:

- $G(s)$  在  $|s| \leq 1$  时, 一致收敛且绝对收敛
- $p_k = G^{(k)}(0)/k!$  反演公式或逆转公式
- $G(s)$  与  $F(x)$  一一对应
- $\eta = a\xi + b$  ( $a > 0, b \geq 0$ )  $\implies G_\eta(s) = s^b G(s^a)$ .
- **可用来求数字特征:**

$$E\xi = G'(1), E\xi(\xi-1) = G''(1), D\xi = G''(1) + G'(1) - [G'(1)]^2.$$



- 独立随机变量之和:

$\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  相互独立,  $G_1(s), \dots, G_n(s)$ ,  $\eta = \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n$ .  
则  $G_\eta(s) = G_1(s) \cdots G_n(s)$ . 乘积

- 随机个 i.i.d. 随机变量之和

$\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  独立同分布,  $G(s)$ , 整值随机变量  $\nu$ ,  $H(s)$ ,  
与  $\xi_i$  独立,  $\eta = \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_\nu$ , 则  $G_\eta(s) = H[G(s)]$ . 复合

母函数主要用来处理离散型随机变量。

- 求数字特征;
- 求独立随机变量之和;
- 与分布一一对应, 且分析性质更好, 可用来处理分布。

例: 二项分布 (独立贝努力分布之和)

泊松分布 (独立泊松分布之和仍为泊松分布)

## 特征函数

定义:  $\Phi(t) \triangleq E e^{jt\xi} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{jtx} dF(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{jtx} f(x) dx.$

直观:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-jtx} \Phi(t) dt$

$\Phi(t)$  与  $f(x)$  是一对 Fourier 变换。  $\begin{matrix} \Phi(t) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ f(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \end{matrix}$  1-1 对应

性质:

- $\Phi(0) = 1, |\Phi(t)| \leq 1, \Phi(-t) = \overline{\Phi(t)}.$
- $\Phi(t)$  在  $(-\infty, +\infty)$  一致连续.
- $\eta = a\xi + b \Rightarrow \Phi_\eta(t) = e^{jbt} \Phi_\xi(at).$
- $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  独立,  $\eta = \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n, \Phi_\eta(t) = \Phi_1(t) \cdots \Phi_n(t).$

证:  $E e^{jt\eta} = E e^{jt(\xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n)} \stackrel{\text{独立}}{=} E e^{jt\xi_1} \dots E e^{jt\xi_n}.$

- 若  $\xi$  的  $n$  阶绝对矩存在, 则  $\forall k \leq n, \Phi^k(0) = j^k E\xi^k$ .

$$\text{证: } \Phi^{(k)}(0) = \int (jx)^k e^{jtx} dF \Big|_{t=0} = j^k \int x^k dF$$

- 例:  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  正态分布  $\Phi(t) = \exp[jt\mu - \frac{t^2\sigma^2}{2}]$ .

- 非负定性:**

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{C}$  (复数域),

$$\text{则 } \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_k \Phi(t_k - t_i) \bar{\lambda}_i \geq 0.$$

证:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{左边} &= \sum_k \sum_i \int e^{j(t_k - t_i)x} dF \lambda_k \bar{\lambda}_i = \int \sum_k \lambda_k e^{jt_k x} \sum_i \bar{\lambda}_i e^{-jt_i x} dF \\ &= \int \left| \sum_k \lambda_k e^{jt_k x} \right|^2 dF \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Phi(t)$  非负定  $\Rightarrow$  其Fourier变换为非负实值函数。

Bochner-Khintchine 定理, Herglotz定理

## 多维随机变量的特征函数

随机向量  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$ , 分布  $F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , 密度  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,

### 特征函数

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n) &\triangleq E e^{j(t_1 \xi_1 + \dots + t_n \xi_n)} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp[jt_1 x_1 + \dots + jt_n x_n] dF(x_1, \dots, x_n).\end{aligned}$$

性质：与一维情形类似

- $\Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  在  $\mathbb{R}^n$  中一致连续,
- $$|\Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n)| \leq 1, \quad \Phi(-t_1, \dots, -t_n) = \overline{\Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n)}.$$

- $\eta_i = \sigma_i \xi_i + a_i$ , 其中  $\sigma_i, a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  为常数,  $\eta$  为  $n$ -维随机向量, 则  $\Phi_\eta(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \exp(j \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i) \Phi_\xi(\sigma_1 t_1, \dots, \sigma_n t_n)$ .
- $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$ ,  $\eta = a_1 \xi_1 + \dots + a_n \xi_n$ ,  $\eta$  为 1-维随机变量, 则  $\Phi_\eta(t) = \Phi_\xi(a_1 t_1, \dots, a_n t_n)$ .
- $E \xi_1^{k_1} \dots \xi_n^{k_n} = j^{-\sum_{i=1}^n k_i} \cdot \frac{\partial^{k_1+\dots+k_n} \Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n)}{\partial t_1^{k_1} \dots \partial t_n^{k_n}} \Big|_{t_1=\dots=t_n=0}$ .
- $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$ ,  $k < n$ ,  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k)$ , 边际分布的特征函数  $\Phi_k(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \Phi(t_1, \dots, t_k, 0, \dots, 0)$ .
- $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \sim \Phi$ ,  $\xi_i \sim \Phi_i(t_i)$ .  
则  $\xi_i$  两两独立  $\Leftrightarrow \Phi(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \Phi_1(t_1) \dots \Phi_n(t_n)$ .
- **独立与相关**:  $E\xi\eta = E\xi \cdot E\eta \Leftrightarrow$  不相关.  
 $E e^{jt_1\xi + jt_2\eta} = E e^{jt_1\xi} \cdot E e^{jt_2\eta} \Leftrightarrow$  独立.  
 $F(x_1, x_2) = F_\xi(x_1) \cdot F_\eta(x_2) \Leftrightarrow f(x_1, x_2) = f_\xi(x_1) \cdot f_\eta(x_2)$ .
- **一般**: 独立  $\Rightarrow$  不相关;  
**特殊**: 两个高斯随机变量  $\xi, \eta$ , 则  $\xi, \eta$  独立  $\Leftrightarrow \xi, \eta$  不相关;

# 离散分布的特征函数?

**例:** 求泊松分布的特征函数, 并计算期望和方差.

证:

$$\text{因为: } \Phi(t) = Ee^{jt\xi} = \sum_k e^{jtk} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_k \frac{(\lambda e^{jt})^k}{k!} = e^{\lambda(e^{jt}-1)}$$

$$\text{则 } E\xi = \frac{1}{j} \Phi'(0) = \lambda$$

$$E\xi^2 = -\Phi''(0) = \lambda^2 + \lambda$$

$$D\xi = E\xi^2 - E^2\xi = \lambda$$

**特征函数更具有通用性, 且可以用来求解数字特征!**

# 概率不等式及其应用

## Empirical Average

- Let us look at 1D case.
- You have random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N$
- Assume independently identically distributed i.i.d.
- This implies

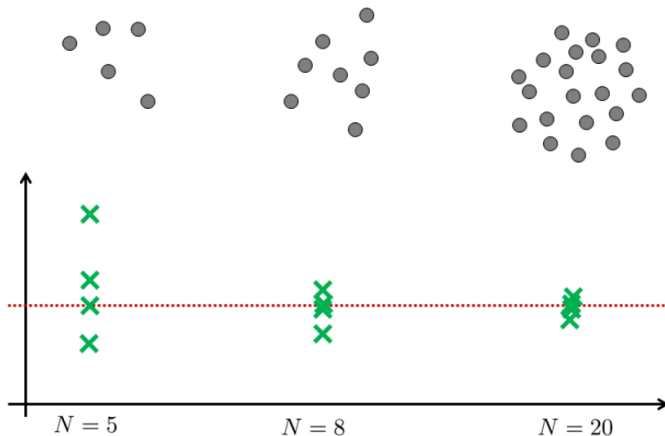
$$\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \mathbb{E}[X_2] = \dots = \mathbb{E}[X_N] = \mu$$

- You compute the **empirical average**

$$\nu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$$

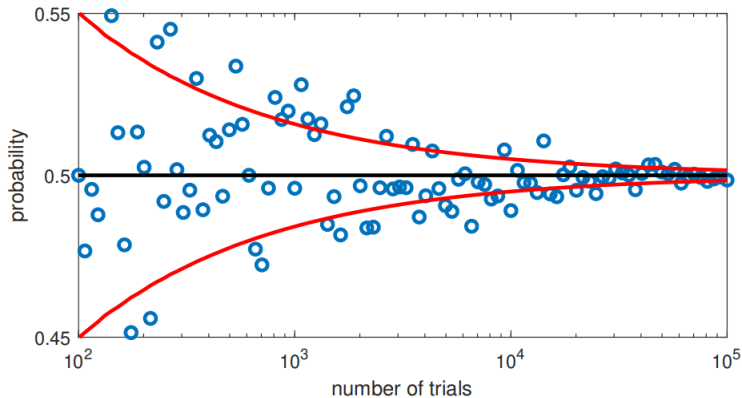
- How close is  $\nu$  to  $\mu$ ?

# As $N$ grows ...





# As N grows ...



**Empirical Average:**  $\nu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$

- $\nu$  is a random variable
- $\nu$  has CDF and PDF
- $\nu$  has mean:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\nu] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n \right] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{E}[X_n] \\ &= \frac{1}{N} N \mu = \mu\end{aligned}$$

- Note that " $\mathbb{E}[\nu] = \mu$ " is not the same as " $\nu = \mu$ ".
- What is the probability  $\nu$  deviates from  $\mu$ ?

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] = ?$$

- The **Bad event**:  $\mathcal{B} = \{|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon\}$  :  $\nu$  deviates from  $\mu$  by at least  $\epsilon$
- $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}]$  = probability that this bad event happens.
- Want  $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{B}]$  small. So upper bound it by  $\delta$

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] \leq \delta$$

- With probability no greater than  $\delta$ , **bad event** happens.
- Rearrange the equation:

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| \leq \epsilon] > 1 - \delta$$

- With probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the **Bad** event will not happen.

# Markov Inequality

## Theorem (Markov Inequality)

For any  $X > 0$  and  $\epsilon > 0$

$$\mathbb{P}[X \geq \epsilon] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{\epsilon}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon \mathbb{P}[X \geq \epsilon] &= \epsilon \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} p(x) dx \\ &= \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \epsilon p(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} x p(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_0^{\infty} x p(x) dx = \mathbb{E}[X]\end{aligned}$$



# Chebyshev Inequality

## Theorem (Chebyshev Inequality)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_n] = \mu$  and  $\text{Var}[X_n] = \sigma^2$ .  
Define

$$\nu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$$

Then,

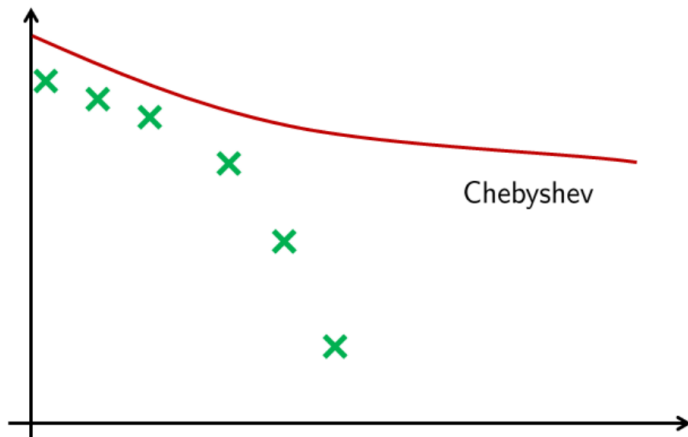
$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2}$$

Proof.

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu|^2 > \epsilon^2] \leq \underbrace{\frac{\mathbb{E}[|\nu - \mu|^2]}{\epsilon^2}}_{\text{Markov}} = \underbrace{\frac{\text{Var}[\nu]}{\epsilon^2}}_{\mathbb{E}[(\nu - \mu)^2] = \text{var}[\nu]} = \underbrace{\frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2}}_{\text{var}[\nu] = \frac{\sigma^2}{N}}$$



# How Good is Chebyshev Inequality?



# Hoeffding Inequality

Let us revisit the Bad event:

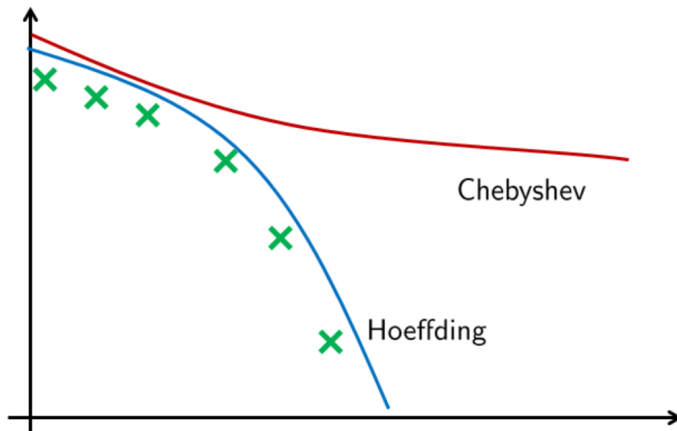
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| \geq \epsilon] &= \mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon \quad \text{or} \quad \nu - \mu \leq -\epsilon] \\
 &\leq \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon]}_{\leq A} + \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \leq -\epsilon]}_{\leq A}, \quad \text{Union bound} \\
 &\leq 2A, \quad (\text{What is } A ? \text{ To be discussed.})
 \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (Hoeffding Inequality)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  be random variables with  $0 \leq X_n \leq 1$ , then

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] \leq 2 \underbrace{e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}}_{=A}$$

# Chebyshev Inequality v.s. Hoeffding Inequality





# Outline of Proof

Let us check **one side**:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] &= \mathbb{P}\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n - \mu \geq \epsilon\right] = \mathbb{P}\left[\sum_{n=1}^N (X_n - \mu) \geq \epsilon N\right] \\&= \mathbb{P}\left[e^{s \sum_{n=1}^N (X_n - \mu)} \geq e^{s\epsilon N}\right], \quad \forall s > 0 \\&\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[e^{s \sum_{n=1}^N (X_n - \mu)}\right]}{e^{s\epsilon N}}, \quad \text{Markov Inequality} \\&= \left(\frac{\mathbb{E}\left[e^{s(X_n - \mu)}\right]}{e^{s\epsilon}}\right)^N, \quad \text{Independence}\end{aligned}$$

So now we have

$$\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] \leq \left(\frac{\mathbb{E}\left[e^{s(X_n - \mu)}\right]}{e^{s\epsilon}}\right)^N$$

# Outline of Proof

## Lemma (Hoeffding Lemma)

If  $a \leq X_n \leq b$ , then

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{s(X_n - \mu)} \right] \leq e^{\frac{s^2(b-a)^2}{8}}$$

(Proof Omitted, see [3. Appendix B])

This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] &= \left( \frac{\mathbb{E} [e^{s(X_n - \mu)}]}{e^{s\epsilon}} \right)^N \leq \left( \frac{e^{\frac{s^2}{8}}}{e^{s\epsilon}} \right)^N \\ &= e^{\frac{s^2 N}{8} - s\epsilon N}, \quad \forall s > 0. \end{aligned}$$

# Outline of Proof

Finally, we arrive at:

$$\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] \leq e^{\frac{s^2 N}{8} - s\epsilon N}$$

Since holds for **all**  $s > 0$ , in particular it holds for the minimizer:

$$\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] \leq e^{\frac{s_{\min}^2 N}{8} - s_{\min} \epsilon N} = \min_{s>0} \left\{ e^{\frac{s^2 N}{8} - s\epsilon N} \right\}$$

Minimizing the exponent gives:

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left\{ \frac{s^2 N}{8} - s\epsilon N \right\} = \frac{sN}{4} - \epsilon N = 0. \text{ So } s = 4\epsilon, \text{ we have}$$

$$\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \geq \epsilon] \leq e^{\frac{(4\epsilon)^2 N}{8} - (4\epsilon^2 N)} = e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

**Q(课后作业): What about another side  $\mathbb{P}[\nu - \mu \leq -\epsilon]$  ?**

$$\text{Chebyshev: } \mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| \geq \epsilon] \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2}.$$

$$\text{Hoeffding: } \mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| \geq \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

Both are in the form of

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| \geq \epsilon] \leq \delta$$

Equivalent to: For probability **at least**  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$\mu - \epsilon \leq \nu \leq \mu + \epsilon$$

**Error bar / Confidence interval** of  $\nu$

$$\delta = \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2} \Rightarrow \epsilon = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}}, \quad \delta = 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N} \Rightarrow \epsilon = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}}$$

**Chebyshev:** For probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$\mu - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}} \leq \nu \leq \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}}$$

**Hoeffding:** For probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$\mu - \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}} \leq \nu \leq \mu + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}}$$

**Example:**

- **Alex:** I have data  $X_1, \dots, X_N$ . I want to estimate  $\mu$ . How many data points  $N$  do I need?
- **Bob:** How much  $\delta$  can you tolerate?
- **Alex:** Alright. I only have limited number of data points. How good my estimate is? ( $\epsilon$ )
- **Bob:** How many data points  $N$  do you have?

# Numerical Result

**Chebyshev:** For probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$\mu - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}} \leq \nu \leq \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}}$$

**Hoeffding:** For probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$\mu - \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}} \leq \nu \leq \mu + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}}$$

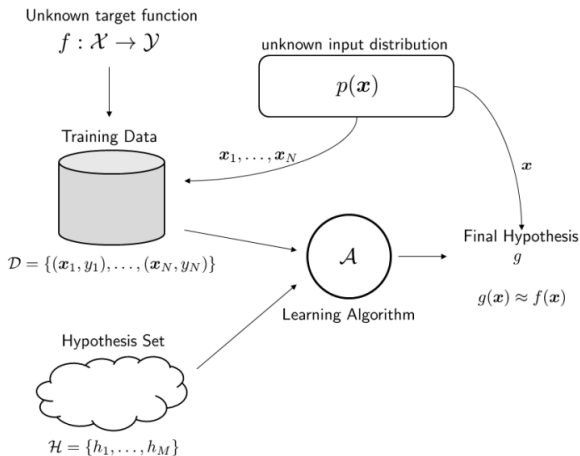
Let  $\delta = 0.01, N = 10000, \sigma = 1$ .

$$\epsilon = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\delta N}} = 0.1, \quad \epsilon = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2}{\delta}} = 0.016$$

Let  $\delta = 0.01, \epsilon = 0.01, \sigma = 1$

$$N \geq \frac{\sigma^2}{\epsilon^2 \delta} = 1,000,000. \quad N \geq \frac{\log \frac{2}{\delta}}{2\epsilon^2} \approx 26,500$$

# 应用：机器学习的泛化



# In-Sample Error

- Let  $\mathbf{x}_n$  be a training sample
- $h$  : Your hypothesis
- $f$  : The unknown target function: **Oracle**
- If  $h(\mathbf{x}_n) = f(\mathbf{x}_n)$ , then say training sample  $\mathbf{x}_n$  is **correctly classified**.

## Definition (In-sample Error / Training Error)

Consider a training set  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\}$ , and a target function  $f$ . The in-sample error (or the training error) of a hypothesis function  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  is the empirical average of  $\{h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n)\}$  :

$$E_{\text{in}}(h) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n))$$

where  $\mathbb{I}(\cdot) = 1$  if the statement inside is true, and  $= 0$  otherwise.



# Out-Sample Error

- Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a testing sample drawn from  $p(\mathbf{x})$
- If  $h(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})$ , then say testing sample  $\mathbf{x}$  is correctly classified.
- Since  $\mathbf{x} \sim p(\mathbf{x})$ , you need to compute the probability of error, called the out-sample error

## Definition (Out-sample Error / Testing Error)

Consider an input space  $\mathcal{X}$  containing elements  $\mathbf{x}$  drawn from a distribution  $p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$ , and a target function  $f$ . The out-sample error (or the testing error) of a hypothesis function  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  is

$$E_{\text{out}}(h) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{P}[h(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x})]$$

where  $\mathbb{P}[\cdot]$  measures the probability of the statement based on the distribution  $p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$ .

# In-sample VS Out-sample

## In-Sample Error:

$$E_{\text{in}}(h) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n))$$

## Out-Sample Error:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{out}}(h) &= \mathbb{P}[h(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x})] \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n))}_{=1} \mathbb{P}\{h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n)\} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) = f(\mathbf{x}_n))}_{=0} (1 - \mathbb{P}\{h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n)\}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n))}_{\text{贝努力分布!}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# A Mathematical Tool

Beside in-sample and out-sample error, we also need a mathematical tool.

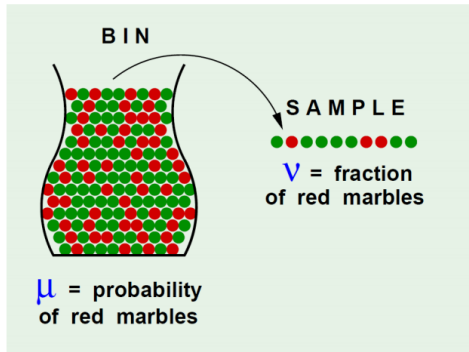
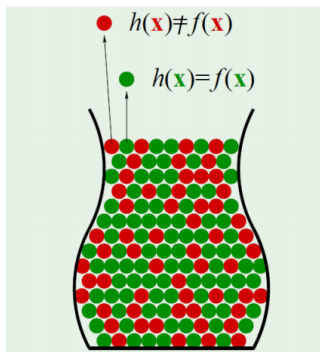
## Theorem (Hoeffding Inequality)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  be random variables with  $0 \leq X_n \leq 1$ , then

$$\mathbb{P}[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- We will use Hoeffding inequality to analyze the generalization error
- Hoeffding requires  $0 \leq X_n \leq 1$
- $\nu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$  is the empirical average
- Probability of how close  $\nu$  compared to  $\mu$
- $\epsilon$  = tolerance level
- $N$  = number of samples

# Applying Hoeffding's Inequality to Our Problem



- $X_n = \mathbb{I}(h(x_n) \neq f(x_n))$ : one sample training error = either 0 or 1
- $\nu = E_{\text{in}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$ : training error
- $\mu = E_{\text{out}}$ : testing error

- Therefore, the inequality can be stated as

$$\mathbb{P}[|E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- $N$  = number of training samples
- $\epsilon$  = tolerance level
- Hoeffding is **applicable because**  $\mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x}))$  **is either 1 or 0.**
- If you want to be more explicit, then

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{x}_n \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{I}(h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n)) - E_{\text{out}}(h) \right| > \epsilon \right] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- The probability is evaluated **with respect to  $\mathbf{x}_n$  drawn from the dataset  $\mathcal{D}$**

# Interpreting the Bound

- Let us look at the bound again:

$$\mathbb{P} [|E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

## Message 1:

- You can bound  $E_{\text{out}}(h)$  using  $E_{\text{in}}(h)$ .
- $E_{\text{in}}(h)$  : You know.  $E_{\text{out}}(h)$  : You don't know, but you want to know.
- They are close if  $N$  is large.

## Message 2 :

- The right hand side is independent of  $h$  and  $p(\mathbf{x})$
- So it is a universal upper bound
- Works for any  $\mathcal{A}$ , any  $\mathcal{H}$ , any  $f$ , and any  $p(\mathbf{x})$

# Probably Approximately Correct (PAC)

- **Probably:** Quantify error using probability:

$$\mathbb{P}[|E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| \leq \epsilon] \geq 1 - \delta$$

- **Approximately Correct:** In-sample error is an approximation of the out-sample error:

$$\mathbb{P}[|E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| \leq \epsilon] \geq 1 - \delta$$

- If you can find an algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  such that for any  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$ , there exists an  $N$  which can make the above inequality holds, then we say that the target function is **PAC-learnable**.

# One Hypothesis versus the Final Hypothesis

- In this equation

$$\mathbb{P} [|E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

the hypothesis  $h$  is **fixed**.

- This  $h$  is chosen **before** we look at the dataset.
- If  $h$  is chosen **after** we look at the dataset, then Hoeffding is **invalid**.
- We have to choose a  $h$  from  $\mathcal{H}$  **during the learning process**.
- The  $h$  we choose **depends on**  $\mathcal{D}$ , i.e., This  $h$  is the **final hypothesis**  $g$ .
- When you need to choose  $g$  from  $h_1, \dots, h_M$ , you need to **repeat Hoeffding**  $M$  **times**.



# The Factor “M”

You can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |E_{\text{in}}(g) - E_{\text{out}}(g)| > \epsilon &\implies |E_{\text{in}}(h_1) - E_{\text{out}}(h_1)| > \epsilon \\
 &\text{or} \quad |E_{\text{in}}(h_2) - E_{\text{out}}(h_2)| > \epsilon \\
 &\dots \\
 &\text{or} \quad |E_{\text{in}}(h_M) - E_{\text{out}}(h_M)| > \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

- To have  $g$ , you need to consider  $h_1, \dots, h_M$
- You don't know which  $h_m$  to pick; So it is a "OR"
- So there is a sequence of "OR"

# The Factor “M”

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}\{|E_{\text{in}}(g) - E_{\text{out}}(g)| > \epsilon\} &\stackrel{(a)}{\leq} && \mathbb{P}\{|E_{\text{in}}(h_1) - E_{\text{out}}(h_1)| > \epsilon \\
 &\text{or} && |E_{\text{in}}(h_2) - E_{\text{out}}(h_2)| > \epsilon \\
 &\dots && \\
 &\text{or} && |E_{\text{in}}(h_M) - E_{\text{out}}(h_M)| > \epsilon\} \\
 &\stackrel{(b)}{\leq} && \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbb{P}\{|E_{\text{in}}(h_m) - E_{\text{out}}(h_m)| > \epsilon\}
 \end{aligned}$$

- We need two identities

- (a) If-statement.  $\mathbb{P}[A] \leq \mathbb{P}[B]$  if  $A \subseteq B$
- (b) Union Bound.  $\mathbb{P}[A \text{ or } B] \leq \mathbb{P}[A] + \mathbb{P}[B]$

# The Factor “M”

- Change this equation

$$\mathbb{P} \{ |E_{\text{in}}(h) - E_{\text{out}}(h)| > \epsilon \} \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- to this equation

$$\mathbb{P} \{ |E_{\text{in}}(g) - E_{\text{out}}(g)| > \epsilon \} \leq 2Me^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- So what?  $M$  is a constant.
- **Bad news:**  $M$  can be large, or even  $\infty$ , e.g., A linear regression has  $M = \infty$ .
- **Good news:** It is possible to bound  $M$  in machine learning.

# Learning Goal

- The ultimate goal of learning is to make

$$E_{\text{out}}(g) \approx 0$$

- To achieve this we need

$$E_{\text{out}}(g) \underbrace{\approx}_{\text{Hoeffding Inequality}} E_{\text{in}}(g) \underbrace{\approx}_{\text{Training Error}} 0$$

- Hoeffding inequality holds when  **$N$  is large**;
- Training error is small when you train well;

# Rewriting the Hoeffding Inequality

- Recall the Hoeffding Inequality

$$\mathbb{P} \{ |E_{\text{in}}(g) - E_{\text{out}}(g)| > \epsilon \} \leq 2Me^{-2\epsilon^2 N}$$

- This is the same as

$$\mathbb{P} \{ |E_{\text{in}}(g) - E_{\text{out}}(g)| \leq \epsilon \} > 1 - \delta$$

- Equivalently, we can say: with probability  $1 - \delta$ ,

$$E_{\text{in}}(g) - \epsilon \leq E_{\text{out}}(g) \leq E_{\text{in}}(g) + \epsilon$$

# Generalization Bound

- Move around the terms, then we have

$$2Me^{-2\epsilon^2 N} = \delta \Rightarrow \epsilon = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2M}{\delta}}$$

- Plug this result into the previous bound:

$$E_{\text{in}}(g) - \epsilon \leq E_{\text{out}}(g) \leq E_{\text{in}}(g) + \epsilon$$

- This gives us

$$E_{\text{in}}(g) - \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2M}{\delta}} \leq E_{\text{out}}(g) \leq E_{\text{in}}(g) + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2N} \log \frac{2M}{\delta}}$$

- This is called the **generalization bound**.
- Many unsolved problems in Deep Learning Generalization.  
(**Interesting Project Topic!**)