

MATH 425

11/21/2022

The central limit theorem says that if a random variable is a sum of a large number of independent random variables with the same distribution, then it is approximately normally distributed.

Example (binomial) A standard cubic die is cast 80 times. What is the probability that 6 comes up at least 20 times? ^{many}

Solution: Approximately normal:

$X = \# \text{ times}$

6 comes up

binomial: $n = 80$

$p = 1/6$

$$E(X) = 80/6$$

$$\frac{X - 80/6}{10/3} \sim Z$$

$$\sigma(X) = \frac{\sqrt{80 \cdot 5}}{6} = \frac{20}{6} = \frac{10}{3}$$

$$P\left(Z > \frac{20 - 80/6}{10/3}\right) = P(Z > 2) = 1 - P(Z < 2) = 1 - 0.9772 = \underline{\underline{0.0228}}$$

we should have used 19.5

Example (Negative binomial) The probability of a batter getting a hit in one at bat is 0.3. What is the probability that they will score at most 6 hits in 20 at bats?

we should have
used 19.5

use normal approximation.
to negative binomial

Solution: $P(N_{6,0.3} \geq 20)$

$$E(N_{6,0.3}) = \frac{6}{0.3} \quad \sigma(N_{6,0.3}) = \frac{\sqrt{6 \cdot 0.7}}{0.3}$$

(You could also use the binomial distribution

$$= P(X_{20,0.3} \leq 6))$$

$$P\left(Z \geq \frac{20 - 6/0.3}{\sqrt{4.2/0.3}}\right) = \underline{\underline{1/2}}$$

The Poisson distribution also becomes approximately normal when $\lambda > 0$. $E(Y_\lambda) = \lambda$, $\sigma(Y_\lambda) = \sqrt{\lambda}$.

$$\frac{Y_\lambda - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \approx Z$$

Example: A customer support center gets about 100 phone calls per hour. What is the probability it will get more than 110 phone calls in a given hour?

Solution: $\lambda = 100$, $\sqrt{\lambda} = 10$

$$P\left(Z > \frac{110.5 - 100}{10}\right) = P(Z > 1.05) = 1 - 0.8531 = \underline{\underline{0.1469}}.$$

Statistical tests Scenario: Suppose we know the distribution of some random variable X in the general population. (normal is most common). Can we "prove" that an individual is not a member of the general population. We measure the value x . If $P(X < x) \geq 0.95$ then we conclude that the individual is not in the general population. Otherwise, we say nothing.

	$X \geq x$	$X < x$
G (general population)	5%	95%
<u>not</u> general population	?	?

What is the probability of me as a scientist being wrong on this search?

wrong: probability 5%

Example:

The IQ-test has distribution $Z_{100, 15}$. Suppose a subject is called "gifted" if their IQ test has percentile $\geq 95\%$. What score would they have to get to be labelled as "gifted"?

Solution:

$$Z = \frac{Z_{100, 15} - 100}{15}$$

$$P(Z < z) \approx 0.95 \quad z \approx 1.65$$

$$\frac{Z_{100, 15} - 100}{15} = 1.65$$

$$Z_{100, 15} > 100 + 15 \cdot 1.65 \approx \underline{\underline{124.75}}$$

(HW) ① The yield of a typical investment fund in a certain year is normally distributed with expectation 8% and standard deviation 2%. A hedge fund yielded 12% that year. Can we conclude with 95% certainty that the hedge fund has some non-standard ability?

② There are on average of 240 crimes in a certain city per year. What is the probability there will be at least 250 crimes in a given year?

use the
0.5
correction!

③ What is the probability that 6 comes up at most 35 times when we cast a standard cubic die 200 times?