

Sampling Distributions (Page 331-343, Chapter 13)

TODAY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO...

- Describe a binomial experiment (the binomial setting)
- Describe binomial distributions and its parameters
- Calculate binomial probabilities
- Calculate and interpret the binomial mean and standard deviation
- Calculate the Normal approximation to binomial distributions

Like the Normal Distribution, the binomial distribution has a pattern that allows us to make inferences about populations that we know follow this distribution.

RECALL

- A **random variable** is a rule that assigns one (and only one) numerical value to each simple event of an experiment.

Consider tossing a fair coin 3 times. What is the sample space (possible outcomes)?

$$S = \{TTT, HTT, THT, TTH, THH, HTH, HHT, HHH\}$$

Define the random variable X to be the number of heads obtained.

$X = \text{no. of heads}$	0	1	2	3
Outcomes	TTT	HTT, THT, TTH	THH, HTH, HHT	HHH

- The **probability distribution** of a random variable gives the values of the random variable and their probabilities. Note that $P(\text{heads}) = 0.5$ and $P(\text{tails}) = 0.5$ so each outcome is equally likely...

$X = \text{no. of heads}$	0	1	2	3
Probability	$1/8$	$3/8$	$3/8$	$1/8$

- $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B)$ when events A and B are disjoint.
- $P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \times P(B)$ when events A and B are independent.

THE BINOMIAL EXPERIMENT

A **binomial experiment** occurs when all of the following criteria are met. The experiment of tossing a coin three times meets the binomial criteria.

1. There are a **fixed number of observations** denoted by n .

- How many observations were in the previous coin tossing experiment? $n=3$

2. The n observations are all **independent**, i.e., knowing the result of one observation does not change the probabilities we assign to other observations.

- Is tossing a coin independent of other coin tosses? *Yes*

3. The various combinations of possible outcomes are disjoint.

- Is one combination disjoint of another? *Yes* Ask: Can you obtain HHH and HTH for the same set of three coin tosses?

4. Each observation has ONLY **two possible outcomes**.

- What are the possible outcomes of tossing a coin? How many? H, T *2 possible outcomes*

When counting a particular outcome, such as the number of heads, the outcome we are counting is called a "**success**" while the other outcome is called a "**failure**."

5. The probability of **success**, call it p , is the same for each observation. The probability of **failure**, for each observation, is $1-p$.

- Is the probability of tossing heads the same each time you toss the coin?

THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

The parameter p is called the **binomial (or population) proportion**. We say that the random variable X has a binomial distribution with parameters n and p .

Yes $P(\text{heads})$ can be regarded as the same each time you toss the same coin.

In very many repetitions of binomial experiments...

- the average count of successes, i.e., the mean of a binomial random variable, is $\mu = np$, and
- the variance is $\sigma^2 = np(1-p)$ and standard deviation is $\sigma = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$.

BINOMIAL PROBABILITIES

Define the random variable X to be the number of heads obtained when tossing a coin three times. What is the probability of getting **two** heads?

With heads being the outcome of interest, the "success", define $P(\text{heads})$ to be 0.51.

$$p = 0.51$$

$$1-p = 0.49$$

Always toss starting with heads up to guarantee $P(\text{heads})$ is the same for each toss.

X = no. of heads	0	1	2	3
Probability			0.3822	

Using the probability formula for independent events...

$P(X = 2)$ is

$$P(\text{heads}) \times P(\text{heads}) \times P(\text{tails}) = 0.51 \times 0.51 \times 0.49 = 0.1274$$

OR

$$P(\text{tails}) \times P(\text{heads}) \times P(\text{heads}) = 0.49 \times 0.51 \times 0.51 = 0.1274$$

OR

$$P(\text{heads}) \times P(\text{tails}) \times P(\text{heads}) = 0.51 \times 0.49 \times 0.51 = 0.1274$$

NOTICE...

$$P(X = 2) =$$

$$[(0.51)^2 \times (0.49)^1] + [(0.51)^2 \times (0.49)^1] + [(0.51)^2 \times (0.49)^1] =$$

$$0.1274 + 0.1274 + 0.1274$$

NOTICE ALSO...

$$3 \times [(0.51)^2 \times (0.49)^1] = 0.3822$$

"3" is the number of ways of arranging two heads!

What happens when n is large?

The number of ways of arranging k successes among n observations is given by the **binomial coefficient**, denoted $\binom{n}{x}$ and pronounced "n choose x,"

$$\binom{n}{x} = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!}$$

for $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$.

$\binom{n}{x}$ is NOT a fraction!

$\binom{n}{x}$ can also be written ${}_nC_x$, and this is how the binomial coefficient is represented on your calculator!

Example 1

On average, a basketball player makes 80% of her free throw shots. Consider the player taking 5 free throw shots and assume that outcome of each shot is independent of the outcome of any of the other shots.

a. Examine the four conditions for a binomial experiment.

- The experiment consists of $n = \underline{5}$ trials (free throw attempts).
- The player will either make (success) or miss (failure) each shot.
- The probability of making a shot on each attempt is approximately $p = \underline{0.8}$.
- The outcome of each shot is independent of the outcome of any of the other shots.

b. Define the binomial random variable.

Let X be the number of free throw shots made out of 5 shots.

c. Specify (in words) the distribution of X .

X has a binomial distribution with parameters $n=5$ and $p=0.8$

d. Write the formula for the probability distribution function of X .

$$p(x) = P(X=x) = {}_nC_x (0.8)^x (0.2)^{5-x} \text{ for } x=0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$

e. Write the probability distribution in tabular form.

PDF of X	
x	p(x)
0	0.00032
1	0.00640
2	0.05120
3	0.20480
4	0.40960
5	0.32768
Total	1.0000

$$\leftarrow p(0) = P(X=0) = 1 \cdot (0.80)^0 \cdot (0.10)^5$$

$$\leftarrow p(1) = P(X=1) = 5 \cdot (0.80)^1 \cdot (0.10)^4$$

$$\leftarrow p(2) = P(X=2) = 10 \cdot (0.80)^2 \cdot (0.10)^3$$

$$\leftarrow p(3) = P(X=3) = 10 \cdot (0.80)^3 \cdot (0.10)^2$$

$$\leftarrow p(4) = P(X=4) = 5 \cdot (0.80)^4 \cdot (0.10)^1$$

$$\leftarrow p(5) = P(X=5) = 1 \cdot (0.80)^5 \cdot (0.10)^0$$

f. Find the mean and the standard deviation of X. Interpret these numbers.

$$\mu = np = (5)(0.8) = 4 \quad \sigma = \sqrt{np(1-p)} = \sqrt{(5)(0.8)(0.2)} = 0.894$$

In repeated sets of 5 free throw shots, the player will make on average 4 out of the 5 shots. Typically, the number of shots made will vary from the mean of 4 by 0.894 shots.

Example 2

A player wins a certain game of chance about 32% of the time. Suppose the player plays the game 6 times. Find the probability that the player wins the game exactly twice. Begin by defining the random variable X and specifying the distribution of X.

1. Let X denote the number of wins in 6 plays of the game.
2. X has a binomial distribution with parameters $n=6$ and $p=0.32$.
3. $P(X=2) = {}^6C_2 \cdot (0.32)^2 (0.68)^4 = \boxed{0.3284}$

Example 3

A fair four-sided die is tossed 8 times. Find the probability of observing no more than 1 four. Begin by defining the random variable X and specifying the distribution of X.

1. Let X denote the number of 4s observed in 8 tosses.
2. X has a binomial distribution with parameters $n=8$ and $p=0.25$.
3. $P(X \leq 1) = P(X=0) \text{ OR } P(X=1)$

$$= {}^8C_0 \cdot (0.25)^0 (0.75)^8 + {}^8C_1 \cdot (0.25)^1 (0.75)^7$$

$$= (1)(1)(0.75)^8 + (8)(0.25)(0.75)^7 = 0.3671$$

20% chance
of answering
each question
correctly

Example 4

A poorly prepared student is guessing at a 10-question multiple choice exam. Each question has 5 selections. Find the probability of observing at least 8 correct answers. Begin by defining the random variable X and specifying the distribution of X .

1. Let X denote the number of correct answers on the exam.
2. X has a binomial distribution with parameters $n=10$ and $p=0.2$.
3. $P(X \geq 8) = P(X=8) + P(X=9) + P(X=10)$

$$= {}_{10}C_8 (0.2)^8 (0.8)^2 + {}_{10}C_9 (0.2)^9 (0.8)^1 + {}_{10}C_{10} (0.2)^{10} (0.8)^0$$

Example 5

Approximately 10% of the world's population is left-handed. Consider 25 randomly selected people. Define the random variable X to be the number of lefties in the sample.

- n is finite, independent, two outcomes, $p(\text{leftie})$ is same for all selections
- a. Specify (in words) the distribution of X .

X has a binomial distribution with parameters $n=25$ and $p=0.10$

- b. Find the probability of observing no more than 4 lefties in the sample.

$$P(X \leq 4) = P(X=0) \text{ or } P(X=1) \text{ or } P(X=2) \text{ or } P(X=3) \text{ or } P(X=4)$$
$$= {}_{25}C_0 (0.1)^0 (0.9)^{25} + {}_{25}C_1 (0.1)^1 (0.9)^{24} + {}_{25}C_2 (0.1)^2 (0.9)^{23} +$$

- c. Find the probability of observing at least 5 lefties in the sample.

$$P(X \geq 5) = 1 - P(X \leq 4) = 1 - 0.902$$
$$= \boxed{0.098}$$

$$+ {}_{25}C_3 (0.1)^3 (0.9)^{22} +$$
$$+ {}_{25}C_4 (0.1)^4 (0.9)^{21}$$

b. $\boxed{= 0.902}$

- d. Find the probability of observing between 2 and 5 lefties in the sample.

$$P(2 \leq X \leq 5) = P(X=2) \text{ or } P(X=3) \text{ or } P(X=4) \text{ or } P(X=5)$$
$$= 0.2659 + 0.2265 + 0.1384 + 0.0646$$
$$= \boxed{0.6954}$$

- e. Find the mean and standard deviation of X .

$$\mu = np = 25 \cdot (0.1) = 2.5$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{25 \cdot 0.1 \cdot 0.9}$$
$$= \boxed{1.5}$$

$$P(X=0) = 0.0718$$

$$P(X=3) = 0.2265$$

$$P(X=1) = 0.1994$$

$$P(X=4) = 0.1384$$

$$P(X=2) = 0.2659$$

$$P(X=5) = {}_{25}C_5 (0.1)^5 (0.9)^{20} = 0.0646$$

NORMAL APPROXIMATION TO BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTIONS

Suppose that a count X has the binomial distribution with n observations and success probability p .

When n is large, the distribution of X is approximately Normal with mean $\mu = np$ and standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$. That is X has the distribution $N(np, \sqrt{np(1-p)})$.

This is nice, since we really do not want to explicitly calculate binomial probabilities when $n > 100$!

How large should n be? For binomial distributions, use the Normal approximation when n is so large that ...

$$\begin{aligned} np &\geq 10 \\ \text{and} \\ n(1-p) &\geq 10 \end{aligned}$$

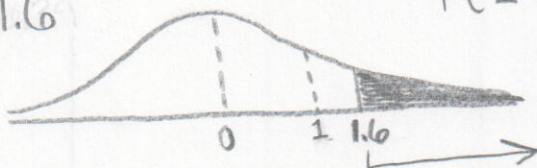
Example 6

If 2% of people have red hair, what is the probability that more than 15 in a random sample of 500 people have red hair?

✓ $np = 10$ ✓ $n(1-p) = 490$ Use Normal approximation

$\mu = np = 10$ $\sigma = \sqrt{np(1-p)} = 3.13$

$z = \frac{15 - 10}{3.13} = 1.6$



$P(Z < 1.6) = 0.9452$

$P(Z > 1.6) = 1 - 0.9452 = 0.0548$

$P(X > 15) = \boxed{0.0548}$

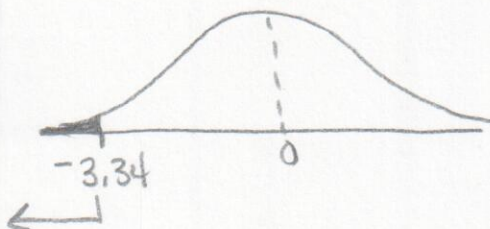
Example 7

If 34% of professors at a university are women, what is the probability that fewer than 60 in a random sample of 250 professors are women?

✓ $np = 85$ ✓ $n(1-p) = 165$ Use Normal approximation

$\mu = np = 85$ $\sigma = \sqrt{np(1-p)} = 7.49$

$z = \frac{60 - 85}{7.49} = -3.34$



$P(Z < -3.34) = 0.0004$

$P(X < 60) = \boxed{0.0004}$