The fabulous limit laws
The law of large numbers in continuous spaces, computation à la Monte Carlo

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$$X \sim p(x)$$

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$$X \sim p(x)$$
 $E(X) := \mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx$

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$$X \sim p(x) \qquad E(X) := \mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx$$
$$Var(X) := \sigma^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 \cdot p(x) dx$$

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Expectation and variance in continuous settings

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Chebyshev's inequality

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$$\mathbf{P}\{|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{\mu}| > \tau\} \le \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau^2}$$

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Additivity

* Expectation: E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)

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Additivity

- * Expectation: E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)
- * Variance (if summands are independent): Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)



The Results

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Random sample $X, X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots$

$$X, X_1, \ldots, X_n, \ldots$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$

$$X, X_1, \ldots, X_n, \ldots$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$

$$Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

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$$S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$$

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$$S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$$

$$E(S_n) = n\mu$$

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$$X, X_1, \ldots, X_n, \ldots$$

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$$Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

$$S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$$
 $E(S_n) = n\mu$ $Var(S_n) = n\sigma^2$

$$E(S_n) = n\mu$$

$$Var(S_n) = n\sigma^2$$

$$\mathbf{P}\left\{ \left| \frac{S_n}{n} - \mu \right| > \epsilon \right\} \le \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2} \to 0 \qquad (n \to \infty)$$

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The sample mean S_n/n is concentrated at its expected value μ .

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Applications

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$$E(X) = \mu$$

$$Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

$$S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$$
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$$E(S_n) = n\mu$$

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The weak law of large numbers

$$\mathbf{P}\left\{ \left| \frac{S_n}{n} - \mu \right| > \epsilon \right\} \le \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2} \to 0 \qquad (n \to \infty)$$

The sample mean S_n/n is concentrated at its expected value μ .

Applications

- * Estimation of population parameters, polls
- * Testing sera and vaccines, drug approval
- * Statistical estimates of a mean
- * Quality testing, time to failure
- * Actuarial models, risk assessment
- Theory of fair games
- Monte Carlo methods
- * Stock portfolio selection, the horse race

