

Notes 3: Sequences and limit theorems

IID sequence

The random variables Y_1, Y_2, \dots are *independent and identically distributed* or **IID** if they are *all independent* and have *the same pdf*. Independence means that

$$\mathbb{P}(Y_{i_1} = k_{i_1}, \dots, Y_{i_n} = k_{i_n}) = \mathbb{P}(Y_{i_1} = k_{i_1}) \dots \mathbb{P}(Y_{i_n} = k_{i_n})$$

for all subsets of variables and all values k_{i_1}, \dots, k_{i_n} . In particular they all have the *same mean μ* and *variance σ^2* . IID variables arise in sampling problems, where successive independent measurements are made on a random system. For example, Y_n could be the value of the n th roll of a die, or the n th toss of a coin.

$Y_1 \sim U[0, 1]$
 $Y_2 \sim U[0, 1]$
 \vdots
 $Y_n \sim U[0, 1]$

$E[Y_1] = E[Y_2] = \frac{1}{2} = \mu$
 $VAR[Y_1] = VAR[Y_2] = \frac{1}{12} = \sigma^2$

Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n are IID \rightarrow same pdf independent

\Downarrow
 IID

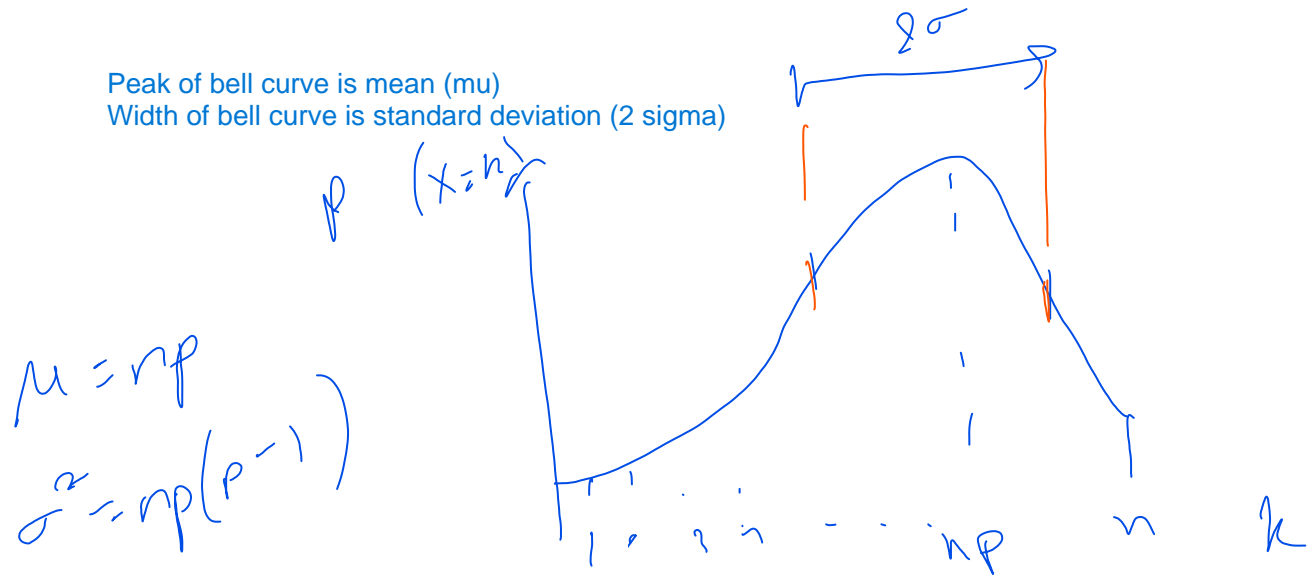
$P(Y_1 \leq \frac{1}{2}, Y_2 \leq \frac{3}{4}) = P(Y_1 \leq \frac{1}{2}) P(Y_2 \leq \frac{3}{4})$
 $= (\frac{1}{2}) (\frac{3}{4})$

Random binary string

Let Y_1, \dots be IID Bernoulli r.v.'s, with

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1) = p, \quad \mathbb{P}(Y = 0) = 1 - p$$

The sequence (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n) is a **random binary n -string**, or random **bit-string**. The sum $\sum_i Y_i$ is the number of 1's in the string, and its pdf is binomial with parameters (n, p) .



Law of Large Numbers

Let Y_1, Y_2, \dots be any collection of IID r.v.'s (independent and identically distributed random variables) with common mean μ and variance σ^2 . The sample mean of the first n variables is

$$\bar{Y}_n = \frac{1}{n}(Y_1 + \dots + Y_n)$$

The LNN (Law of Large Numbers) says that \bar{Y}_n converges to the true mean μ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Note that $\bar{Y}_n = \frac{1}{n}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_n)$ is the long-run average value of a sequence of measurements. For each possible value y_k define

$$n(k) = \#\{i : Y_i = y_k\}$$

so then

$$Y_1 + \cdots + Y_n = \sum_k y_k n(k)$$

The LLN is equivalent to the statement that the relative frequency of occurrence of each value converges to its probability:

$$\frac{n(k)}{n} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(Y = y_k) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

and therefore

$$\frac{1}{n}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_n) = \sum_k y_k \frac{n(k)}{n} \rightarrow \sum_k y_k \mathbb{P}(Y = y_k) = \mathbb{E}[Y]$$

Real issue is what ‘convergence’ means. Given any $\epsilon > 0$, $\delta > 0$, there is $N < \infty$ such that for all $n \geq N$, \bar{Y}_n will with probability at least $1 - \delta$ lie inside the interval $\mu \pm \epsilon$. Or more succinctly, for every $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P} \left(\left| \frac{1}{n}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_n) - \mu \right| > \epsilon \right) = 0$$

Markov's Inequality

Many useful results in probability are proved using inequalities. The relevant one for the LLN is called Markov's inequality and is easily stated. For any random variable X and for any numbers $a > 0$ and $k > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq a) \leq \frac{1}{a^k} \mathbb{E}[|X|^k]$$

The proof is easy:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[|X|^k] &= \sum_i |x_i|^k P(X = x_i) \\ &\geq \sum_{i: |x_i| \geq a} |x_i|^k P(X = x_i) \\ &\geq a^k \sum_{i: |x_i| \geq a} P(X = x_i) \\ &= a^k P(|X| \geq a) \end{aligned}$$

An important special case of Markov's inequality is called *Chebyshev's inequality*. take $X = Y - \mathbb{E}Y$ and $k = 2$ to get

$$P(|Y - \mathbb{E}Y| \geq a) \leq \frac{1}{a^2} \text{Var}(Y)$$

The LLN follows easily from this. Take

$$X = \frac{1}{n}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_n)$$

then $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mu$ and $\text{VAR}[X] = \sigma^2/n$, hence

$$P(|X - \mu| \geq \epsilon) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2} \rightarrow 0$$

Example 1 *Toss an unbiased coin 1000 times. The running average \bar{Y}_n converges to 0.5. Use Markov's inequality to lower bound*

$$P(0.4 < \bar{Y}_n < 0.6) \quad \text{for } n = 1000$$

Central Limit Theorem

Theorem 1 Let Y_1, Y_2, \dots be IID with finite mean $\mathbb{E}Y_i = \mu$ and finite variance $\text{VAR}[Y_i] = \sigma^2$. Define

$$Z_n = \frac{Y_1 + \dots + Y_n - n\mu}{\sigma\sqrt{n}}$$

Then for all $a < b$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$P(a < Z_n \leq b) \rightarrow P(a < Z \leq b) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

The integrand on the right side is the pdf of the standard normal. So another way to state the CLT is

$$Z_n \rightarrow Z \sim N(0, 1) \quad (\text{convergence in distribution})$$

Even more informally, we can say that for n large,

$$\bar{Y}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i = \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} Z + \dots$$

or even

$$\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i = n\mu + \sigma\sqrt{n}Z + \dots$$

where \dots goes to zero faster than the leading order terms as $n \rightarrow \infty$. This is the most useful way to think about the meaning of the CLT, and will guide you in its application.

Example 2 As noted, the standard normal $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ has mean 0 and variance 1, and pdf

$$f_Z(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}$$

The general normal $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ has mean μ and variance σ^2 , and its pdf is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

The pdf $f_X(x)$ is used to compute expected values by

$$\mathbb{E}[X^k] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k f_X(x) dx$$

We note that every normal can be written as a translated and rescaled version of the standard normal: if $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then

$$X = \mu + \sigma Z$$

meaning that $(X - \mu)/\sigma$ is a standard normal. This is very useful for calculations, for example: supposing $X \sim N(2, 9)$, what is the probability for X to be greater than 8? We have

$$X = 2 + 3Z \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(X > 8) = \mathbb{P}(Z > 2) = 0.023$$

(the number 0.023 is obtained from z-tables).

Tables of the Normal Distribution



Probability Content from $-\infty$ to Z

| Z | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.08 | 0.09 |
|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 0.0 | 0.5000 | 0.5040 | 0.5080 | 0.5120 | 0.5160 | 0.5199 | 0.5239 | 0.5279 | 0.5319 | 0.5359 |
| 0.1 | 0.5398 | 0.5438 | 0.5478 | 0.5517 | 0.5557 | 0.5596 | 0.5636 | 0.5675 | 0.5714 | 0.5753 |
| 0.2 | 0.5793 | 0.5832 | 0.5871 | 0.5910 | 0.5948 | 0.5987 | 0.6026 | 0.6064 | 0.6103 | 0.6141 |
| 0.3 | 0.6179 | 0.6217 | 0.6255 | 0.6293 | 0.6331 | 0.6368 | 0.6406 | 0.6443 | 0.6480 | 0.6517 |
| 0.4 | 0.6554 | 0.6591 | 0.6628 | 0.6664 | 0.6700 | 0.6736 | 0.6772 | 0.6808 | 0.6844 | 0.6879 |
| 0.5 | 0.6915 | 0.6950 | 0.6985 | 0.7019 | 0.7054 | 0.7088 | 0.7123 | 0.7157 | 0.7190 | 0.7224 |
| 0.6 | 0.7257 | 0.7291 | 0.7324 | 0.7357 | 0.7389 | 0.7422 | 0.7454 | 0.7486 | 0.7517 | 0.7549 |
| 0.7 | 0.7580 | 0.7611 | 0.7642 | 0.7673 | 0.7704 | 0.7734 | 0.7764 | 0.7794 | 0.7823 | 0.7852 |
| 0.8 | 0.7881 | 0.7910 | 0.7939 | 0.7967 | 0.7995 | 0.8023 | 0.8051 | 0.8078 | 0.8106 | 0.8133 |
| 0.9 | 0.8159 | 0.8186 | 0.8212 | 0.8238 | 0.8264 | 0.8289 | 0.8315 | 0.8340 | 0.8365 | 0.8389 |
| 1.0 | 0.8413 | 0.8438 | 0.8461 | 0.8485 | 0.8508 | 0.8531 | 0.8554 | 0.8577 | 0.8599 | 0.8621 |
| 1.1 | 0.8643 | 0.8665 | 0.8686 | 0.8708 | 0.8729 | 0.8749 | 0.8770 | 0.8790 | 0.8810 | 0.8830 |
| 1.2 | 0.8849 | 0.8869 | 0.8888 | 0.8907 | 0.8925 | 0.8944 | 0.8962 | 0.8980 | 0.8997 | 0.9015 |
| 1.3 | 0.9032 | 0.9049 | 0.9066 | 0.9082 | 0.9099 | 0.9115 | 0.9131 | 0.9147 | 0.9162 | 0.9177 |
| 1.4 | 0.9192 | 0.9207 | 0.9222 | 0.9236 | 0.9251 | 0.9265 | 0.9279 | 0.9292 | 0.9306 | 0.9319 |
| 1.5 | 0.9332 | 0.9345 | 0.9357 | 0.9370 | 0.9382 | 0.9394 | 0.9406 | 0.9418 | 0.9429 | 0.9441 |
| 1.6 | 0.9452 | 0.9463 | 0.9474 | 0.9484 | 0.9495 | 0.9505 | 0.9515 | 0.9525 | 0.9535 | 0.9545 |
| 1.7 | 0.9554 | 0.9564 | 0.9573 | 0.9582 | 0.9591 | 0.9599 | 0.9608 | 0.9616 | 0.9625 | 0.9633 |
| 1.8 | 0.9641 | 0.9649 | 0.9656 | 0.9664 | 0.9671 | 0.9678 | 0.9686 | 0.9693 | 0.9699 | 0.9706 |
| 1.9 | 0.9713 | 0.9719 | 0.9726 | 0.9732 | 0.9738 | 0.9744 | 0.9750 | 0.9756 | 0.9761 | 0.9767 |
| 2.0 | 0.9772 | 0.9778 | 0.9783 | 0.9788 | 0.9793 | 0.9798 | 0.9803 | 0.9808 | 0.9812 | 0.9817 |
| 2.1 | 0.9821 | 0.9826 | 0.9830 | 0.9834 | 0.9838 | 0.9842 | 0.9846 | 0.9850 | 0.9854 | 0.9857 |
| 2.2 | 0.9861 | 0.9864 | 0.9868 | 0.9871 | 0.9875 | 0.9878 | 0.9881 | 0.9884 | 0.9887 | 0.9890 |
| 2.3 | 0.9893 | 0.9896 | 0.9898 | 0.9901 | 0.9904 | 0.9906 | 0.9909 | 0.9911 | 0.9913 | 0.9916 |
| 2.4 | 0.9918 | 0.9920 | 0.9922 | 0.9925 | 0.9927 | 0.9929 | 0.9931 | 0.9932 | 0.9934 | 0.9936 |
| 2.5 | 0.9938 | 0.9940 | 0.9941 | 0.9943 | 0.9945 | 0.9946 | 0.9948 | 0.9949 | 0.9951 | 0.9952 |
| 2.6 | 0.9953 | 0.9955 | 0.9956 | 0.9957 | 0.9959 | 0.9960 | 0.9961 | 0.9962 | 0.9963 | 0.9964 |
| 2.7 | 0.9965 | 0.9966 | 0.9967 | 0.9968 | 0.9969 | 0.9970 | 0.9971 | 0.9972 | 0.9973 | 0.9974 |
| 2.8 | 0.9974 | 0.9975 | 0.9976 | 0.9977 | 0.9977 | 0.9978 | 0.9979 | 0.9979 | 0.9980 | 0.9981 |
| 2.9 | 0.9981 | 0.9982 | 0.9982 | 0.9983 | 0.9983 | 0.9984 | 0.9984 | 0.9985 | 0.9985 | 0.9986 |
| 3.0 | 0.9987 | 0.9987 | 0.9987 | 0.9988 | 0.9988 | 0.9989 | 0.9989 | 0.9989 | 0.9990 | 0.9990 |



Far Right Tail Probabilities

| Z | $P\{Z \text{ to } \infty\}$ | Z | $P\{Z \text{ to } \infty\}$ | Z | $P\{Z \text{ to } \infty\}$ | Z | $P\{Z \text{ to } \infty\}$ |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 2.0 | 0.02275 | 3.0 | 0.001350 | 4.0 | 0.00003167 | 5.0 | 2.867 E-7 |
| 2.1 | 0.01786 | 3.1 | 0.0009676 | 4.1 | 0.00002066 | 5.5 | 1.899 E-8 |
| 2.2 | 0.01390 | 3.2 | 0.0006871 | 4.2 | 0.00001335 | 6.0 | 9.866 E-10 |
| 2.3 | 0.01072 | 3.3 | 0.0004834 | 4.3 | 0.00000854 | 6.5 | 4.016 E-11 |
| 2.4 | 0.00820 | 3.4 | 0.0003369 | 4.4 | 0.000005413 | 7.0 | 1.280 E-12 |
| 2.5 | 0.00621 | 3.5 | 0.0002326 | 4.5 | 0.000003398 | 7.5 | 3.191 E-14 |
| 2.6 | 0.004661 | 3.6 | 0.0001591 | 4.6 | 0.000002112 | 8.0 | 6.221 E-16 |
| 2.7 | 0.003467 | 3.7 | 0.0001078 | 4.7 | 0.000001300 | 8.5 | 9.480 E-18 |
| 2.8 | 0.002555 | 3.8 | 0.00007235 | 4.8 | 7.933 E-7 | 9.0 | 1.129 E-19 |
| 2.9 | 0.001866 | 3.9 | 0.00004810 | 4.9 | 4.792 E-7 | 9.5 | 1.049 E-21 |

Example 3 A fair die is rolled 1000 times. Use the CLT to estimate the probability that the number of 6's is greater than 180. Define for all $1 \leq i \leq 1000$

$$Y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{th roll is a 6} \\ 0 & \text{if the } i\text{th roll is not 6} \end{cases}$$

Let $X = Y_1 + Y_2 + \cdots + Y_{1000}$, then X is equal to the number of 6's rolled. Now $\mathbb{E}[Y] = 1/6$ and $\text{VAR}[Y] = 5/36$, so the CLT gives

$$X \simeq \frac{1000}{6} + \sqrt{1000} \sqrt{5/36} Z$$

Therefore

$$\mathbb{P}(X > 180) \simeq \mathbb{P}\left(Z > \frac{180 - 1000/6}{\sqrt{5000/36}}\right) = \mathbb{P}(Z > 1.13) = 0.13$$

What is the accuracy of the CLT? The Berry-Esseen Theorem gives the general bound

$$\left| P(Z_n < a) - P(Z < a) \right| \leq \frac{C\rho}{\sigma^3\sqrt{n}}$$

where C is a constant (not more than 0.48), and $\rho = \mathbb{E}|Y_i - \mu|^3$.

Central Limit Theorem: sketch of proof

The main idea of the proof is to consider the moment generating function of Z_n , that is

$$M_n(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tZ_n}], \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

and show that for every number t it converges to the moment generating function of the standard normal, which is

$$M(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tZ}] = e^{t^2/2}$$

(this result for the standard normal follows from a simple calculation using Gaussian integrals). Once this convergence has been shown for every t , it follows that all the moments of Z_n converge to the corresponding moments of Z , and this gives the result. The proof of convergence follows a calculation which we sketch below. First, for each $i = 1, \dots, n$ we define

$$X_i = \frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sigma}$$

It follows that $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$ and $\text{VAR}[X_i] = 1$, and

$$Z_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

Also, since the $\{X_i\}$ are independent we can compute

$$M_n(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tn^{-1/2} \sum_i X_i}] = \left(\mathbb{E}[e^{tn^{-1/2} X}] \right)^n$$

Now we just observe that for large n , using the Taylor series for the exponential

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{tn^{-1/2} X}] = 1 + \mathbb{E}[tn^{-1/2} X] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}[t^2 n^{-1} X^2] + \dots = 1 + 0 + \frac{t^2}{2n} + \dots$$

The remainder terms go to zero faster than n^{-1} as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so we can ignore these to compute

$$M_n(t) = \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{2n} \right)^n \rightarrow e^{t^2/2} = M(t)$$

Simple Random Walk

The simple random walk starts at zero, and at each step moves one unit either forwards (up) or backwards (down). We write X_n for the position of the random walk after n steps. So the possible values of X_n are

$$\text{Ran}(X) = \{-n, -n+2, \dots, n-2, n\}$$

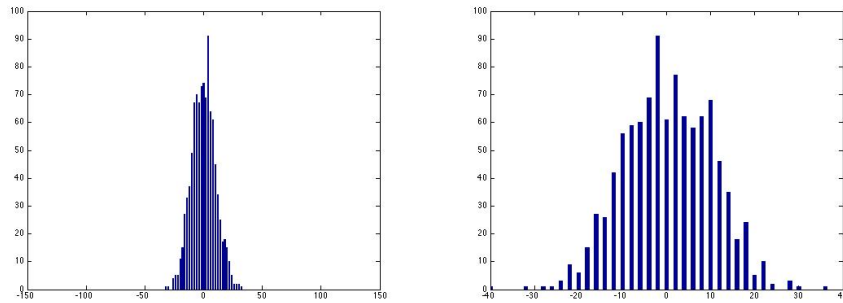
The pdf of X_n is the list of probabilities

$$\mathbb{P}(X = n - 2k), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

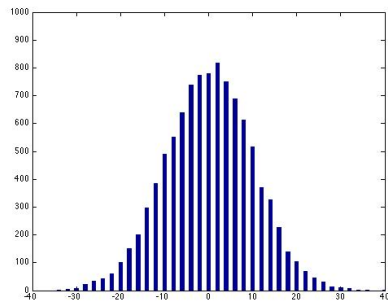
These can be calculated using the binomial distribution as

$$\mathbb{P}(X = n - 2k) = \mathbb{P}(k \text{ down}, n - k \text{ up}) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{-n}$$

But first let's do an experiment. Repeat the random walk many times and compute the long-run fraction of occurrences of each possible value of X_n . This is called the empirical pdf of X_n . Here $n = 100$ steps and sample 1000 times.



Note that the re-scaled pdf has a definite shape. Here is a longer run, where $n = 100$ and we sample 10,000 times.



The pdf looks like a normal curve. We can explain this observation using the CLT. The value $X_n = n - 2k$ is achieved by k down steps and $n - k$ up steps. So we can write

$$X_n = S_1 + S_2 + \cdots + S_n$$

where

$$S_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k^{th} \text{ step goes up} \\ -1 & \text{if } k^{th} \text{ step goes down} \end{cases}$$

Each step S_k is an independent random variable with a very simple pmf:

$$\mathbb{P}(S_k = 1) = \mathbb{P}(S_k = -1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

Easily calculate that

$$\mathbb{E}[S_k] = 0, \quad \text{VAR}[S_k] = 1$$

Therefore since $X_n = S_1 + \cdots + S_n$ we get

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n] = 0, \quad \text{VAR}[X_n] = n$$

Note that the S_k are IID, so we can apply the CLT. In this case

$$Z_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i = n^{-1/2} X_n$$

and therefore the CLT says

$$Z_n \rightarrow Z, \quad X_n \simeq n^{1/2} Z$$

So for large n , the position X_n is a rescaled standard normal. This explains the graphs shown above.

χ^2 distribution (Chi-Square)

Normal random variables are important because combinations of them arise in many statistical tests. Suppose that Z_1, \dots, Z_m are IID standard normal random variables, and suppose that

$$X = Z_1^2 + \dots + Z_m^2$$

Then the random variable X is said to have a *chi-square χ^2 distribution with m degrees of freedom*. We indicate this by

$$X \sim \chi^2(m), \quad m = df = \text{degrees of freedom}$$

Properties of chi-square: it is a sum of independent r.v.'s, so

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X] &= m \mathbb{E}[Z^2] = m \\ \text{VAR}[X] &= m \text{VAR}[Z^2] = 2m \\ M_X(t) &= (M_{Z^2}(t))^m = (1 - 2t)^{-m/2} \quad \text{for } t < 1/2\end{aligned}$$

It is also clear that a sum of independent chi-squares is again chi-square:

$$X \sim \chi^2(m), Y \sim \chi^2(n) \Rightarrow X + Y \sim \chi^2(m + n)$$

Use tables (or calculator) to compute probabilities for chi-square variables.

The multinomial distribution is the joint pdf for the frequencies of different results in a sequence of random trials. For example, suppose that a die is rolled ten times, and the following outcomes recorded:

| Outcome | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Probability | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 |
| Observed frequency | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 |

What is the probability of this result? The answer is

$$\frac{10!}{2! 1! 0! 3! 1! 3!} (1/6)^{10} = 8.34 \times 10^{-4}$$

Here is the general result: suppose X takes values x_1, \dots, x_m with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_m . Suppose X is measured N times, and let R_1, \dots, R_m be the numbers of times each value is measured, so $R_1 + \dots + R_m = N$. Then the probability to get the frequencies n_1, \dots, n_m is

$$\mathbb{P}(R_1 = n_1, \dots, R_m = n_m) = \frac{N!}{n_1! \dots n_m!} p_1^{n_1} \dots p_m^{n_m}$$

Goodness of fit distribution

The expected frequency for the i th value is $\mathbb{E}[R_i] = N p_i$. The goodness-of-fit random variable is defined as

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(R_i - N p_i)^2}{N p_i} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\text{Observed}_i - \text{Expected}_i)^2}{\text{Expected}_i}$$

The main result is that D has a χ^2 distribution with $m - 1$ degrees of freedom. That is,

$$D \sim \chi^2(m - 1)$$

(The precise statement says that this holds true in the limit where $N \rightarrow \infty$.)

Pearson's Goodness of fit Test

Suppose we have the sequence of observed frequencies n_1, \dots, n_m from N measurements, and we want to test the hypothesis that the measurements arise from the multinomial distribution with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_m . We use D to design a statistical test based on the observed data.

Null hypothesis H_0 : R_1, \dots, R_m are multinomial p_1, \dots, p_m

Alternative hypothesis H_1 : R_1, \dots, R_m are not multinomial p_1, \dots, p_m .

We compute the test statistic using the observed data and the null hypothesis parameters:

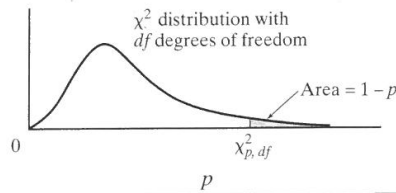
$$d = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\text{Observed}_i - \text{Expected}_i)^2}{\text{Expected}_i} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(n_i - N p_i)^2}{N p_i}$$

If H_0 is true then we know that d comes from a χ^2 distribution. So we can calculate the probability of finding a value as extreme as d , and use this to decide whether or not to reject the null hypothesis. The result is: we reject H_0 at significance level α if

$$d > \chi_{1-\alpha, m-1}^2$$

where the critical value $\chi_{1-\alpha, m-1}^2$ can be found from the chi-square tables. For example if $\alpha = 0.05$ (typical value) and $m = 10$ the value is

$$\chi_{0.95, 9}^2 = 16.919$$

Table A.3 Upper and Lower Percentiles of χ^2 Distributions

| df | 0.010 | 0.025 | 0.050 | 0.10 | 0.90 | 0.95 | 0.975 | 0.99 |
|----|----------|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 0.000157 | 0.000982 | 0.00393 | 0.0158 | 2.706 | 3.841 | 5.024 | 6.635 |
| 2 | 0.0201 | 0.0506 | 0.103 | 0.211 | 4.605 | 5.991 | 7.378 | 9.210 |
| 3 | 0.115 | 0.216 | 0.352 | 0.584 | 6.251 | 7.815 | 9.348 | 11.345 |
| 4 | 0.297 | 0.484 | 0.711 | 1.064 | 7.779 | 9.488 | 11.143 | 13.277 |
| 5 | 0.554 | 0.831 | 1.145 | 1.610 | 9.236 | 11.070 | 12.832 | 15.086 |
| 6 | 0.872 | 1.237 | 1.635 | 2.204 | 10.645 | 12.592 | 14.449 | 16.812 |
| 7 | 1.239 | 1.690 | 2.167 | 2.833 | 12.017 | 14.067 | 16.013 | 18.475 |
| 8 | 1.646 | 2.180 | 2.733 | 3.490 | 13.362 | 15.507 | 17.535 | 20.090 |
| 9 | 2.088 | 2.700 | 3.325 | 4.168 | 14.684 | 16.919 | 19.023 | 21.666 |
| 10 | 2.558 | 3.247 | 3.940 | 4.865 | 15.987 | 18.307 | 20.483 | 23.209 |
| 11 | 3.053 | 3.816 | 4.575 | 5.578 | 17.275 | 19.675 | 21.920 | 24.725 |
| 12 | 3.571 | 4.404 | 5.226 | 6.304 | 18.549 | 21.026 | 23.336 | 26.217 |
| 13 | 4.107 | 5.009 | 5.892 | 7.042 | 19.812 | 22.362 | 24.736 | 27.688 |
| 14 | 4.660 | 5.629 | 6.571 | 7.790 | 21.064 | 23.685 | 26.119 | 29.141 |
| 15 | 5.229 | 6.262 | 7.261 | 8.547 | 22.307 | 24.996 | 27.488 | 30.578 |
| 16 | 5.812 | 6.908 | 7.962 | 9.312 | 23.542 | 26.296 | 28.845 | 32.000 |
| 17 | 6.408 | 7.564 | 8.672 | 10.085 | 24.769 | 27.587 | 30.191 | 33.409 |
| 18 | 7.015 | 8.231 | 9.390 | 10.865 | 25.989 | 28.869 | 31.526 | 34.805 |
| 19 | 7.633 | 8.907 | 10.117 | 11.651 | 27.204 | 30.144 | 32.852 | 36.191 |
| 20 | 8.260 | 9.591 | 10.851 | 12.443 | 28.412 | 31.410 | 34.170 | 37.566 |
| 21 | 8.897 | 10.283 | 11.591 | 13.240 | 29.615 | 32.671 | 35.479 | 38.932 |
| 22 | 9.542 | 10.982 | 12.338 | 14.041 | 30.813 | 33.924 | 36.781 | 40.289 |
| 23 | 10.196 | 11.688 | 13.091 | 14.848 | 32.007 | 35.172 | 38.076 | 41.638 |
| 24 | 10.856 | 12.401 | 13.848 | 15.659 | 33.196 | 36.415 | 39.364 | 42.980 |
| 25 | 11.524 | 13.120 | 14.611 | 16.473 | 34.382 | 37.652 | 40.646 | 44.314 |
| 26 | 12.198 | 13.844 | 15.379 | 17.292 | 35.563 | 38.885 | 41.923 | 45.642 |
| 27 | 12.879 | 14.573 | 16.151 | 18.114 | 36.741 | 40.113 | 43.194 | 46.963 |
| 28 | 13.565 | 15.308 | 16.928 | 18.939 | 37.916 | 41.337 | 44.461 | 48.278 |
| 29 | 14.256 | 16.047 | 17.708 | 19.768 | 39.087 | 42.557 | 45.722 | 49.588 |
| 30 | 14.953 | 16.791 | 18.493 | 20.599 | 40.256 | 43.773 | 46.979 | 50.892 |
| 31 | 15.655 | 17.539 | 19.281 | 21.434 | 41.422 | 44.985 | 48.232 | 52.191 |
| 32 | 16.362 | 18.291 | 20.072 | 22.271 | 42.585 | 46.194 | 49.480 | 53.486 |
| 33 | 17.073 | 19.047 | 20.867 | 23.110 | 43.745 | 47.400 | 50.725 | 54.776 |
| 34 | 17.789 | 19.806 | 21.664 | 23.952 | 44.903 | 48.602 | 51.966 | 56.061 |

Example 4 A die is rolled 30 times and the frequency of each outcome is recorded in the following table. Test at significance level $\alpha = 0.05$ to decide if the die is fair. So the null hypothesis H_0 is that each outcome has probability $1/6$.

| <i>Outcome</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>6</i> |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Probability under H_0</i> | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 |
| <i>Observed frequency</i> | 4 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| <i>Expected frequency under H_0</i> | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |

The test statistic is

$$d = \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{(\text{Observed}_i - \text{Expected}_i)^2}{\text{Expected}_i} = 10$$

We have $\alpha = 0.05$ and $df = m - 1 = 5$ so the critical value is

$$\chi^2_{1-\alpha, df} = \chi^2_{0.95, 5} = 11.07$$

Since $d < \chi^2_{1-\alpha, df}$ we do not reject H_0 , and so we accept that the die may be fair; that is we do not reject the null hypothesis.