

The central limit theorem

Theorem Let Y_1, \dots, Y_n be independent and identically distributed random variables with $E[Y_i] = \mu$ and $V(Y_i) = \sigma^2 < \infty$.

Then

$$\Pr\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{Y} - \mu)}{\sigma} \leq a\right) \rightarrow P(N(0,1) \leq a)$$

where a is a real number

A proof of the central limit theorem

Theorem Let Y_n and Y be random variables with moment generating functions $m_n(t)$ and $m(t)$, respectively. If

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m_n(t) = m(t), \text{ for all real } t$$

then the distribution function of Y_n converges to the distribution function of Y , as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

CLT Let Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n be independent and identically distributed r.v.s with $E[Y_i] = \mu$ and $V(Y_i) = \sigma^2 < \infty$. Then

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{Y} - \mu)}{\sigma} \xrightarrow{d} N(0,1)$$

Proof Let $Z_i = \frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sigma}$. Then $\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{Y} - \mu)}{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i$

$$E[e^{t(\bar{Y}-\mu)}] = E\left[e^{\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i}\right] = \prod_{i=1}^n E\left[e^{\frac{t Z_i}{\sqrt{n}}}\right] = e^{n \log M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)}$$

$$= e^{\frac{\log M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)}{M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)-1}} \cdot \frac{M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)-1}{\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^2} \cdot \frac{t^2}{e^{t^2/2}} \rightarrow e^{t^2/2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log x}{x-1} = 1 \quad \text{so} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)}{M\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}\right)-1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{M(x)-1}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{M'(x)}{2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{M''(x)}{2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$

The normal approximation to the binomial distribution

Let Y be the number of successes in n trials.

$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ if the i -th trial results in success

Let $X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{-th trial results in success} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \quad E[Y] = np \quad V(Y) = np(1-p)$$

By the CLT,

$$P\left(\frac{Y - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}} \leq a\right) \rightarrow P(N(0,1) \leq a)$$

Continuity correction

7.30 Shear strength measurements for spot welds have been found to have standard deviation 10 psi. If 100 test welds were to be measured, what is the probability that the sample mean will be 1 psi of the true population mean

$$n=100 \quad \sigma = 10$$

$$P(|\bar{Y} - \mu| \leq 1) = 1 - 2P(\bar{Y} - \mu \geq 1) = 1 - 2P(N(0,1) \geq 1)$$

$$= 1 - 2(0.1587) = 0.6826$$

7.31 Refer to Exer. 7.30. If the standard deviation of shear strength measurements for spot welds is 10 psi, how many test welds should be sampled if we want the sample mean to be within 1 psi of true mean with probability approximately 0.99.

$$0.99 = P(|\bar{Y} - \mu| \leq 1)$$

$$0.005 = P(\bar{Y} - \mu \geq 1) = P(N(0,1) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{10^2}{n}}}) = P(N(0,1) \geq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{10})$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}}{10} = 2.576 \quad n = (25.76)^2 = 663.57$$

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7.51 The manager of a supermarket wants to obtain information about the proportion of customer who dislike a new policy on cashing checks. How many customers should he sample if he wants the sample fraction to be within 0.15 of the true fraction with probability 0.98.

$Y = \text{no. of customers who dislike a new policy}$

$Y \sim \text{Binomial } (n, p=)$

$$0.98 = P(|\frac{Y}{n} - p| \leq 0.15)$$

$$0.01 = P(\frac{Y}{n} - p \geq 0.15) = P(N(0, 1) \geq \frac{0.15}{\sqrt{p(1-p)}})$$

$$2.326 = \frac{0.15 \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{p(1-p)}} \quad n = \frac{(2.326)^2 p(1-p)}{0.15^2} = \frac{(2.326)^2 (0.5)^2}{0.15^2}$$

$$= 60.11$$

$$n = 61$$