

- HW 7 Posted, due Thursday
Nov. 7th (in-class)
- Handout 3 - Solution Posted

Happy Halloween



STAT 305: Chapter 5

Part IV

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Chapter 5 1. Joint Distributions and Independence

Working with Multiple Random Variables

Joint Distributions

We often need to consider two random variables together - for instance, we may consider

- the length and weight of a squirrel,
- the loudness and clarity of a speaker,
- the blood concentration of Protein A, B, and C and so on.

This means that we need a way to describe the probability of two variables *jointly*. We call the way the probability is simultaneously assigned the "joint distribution".

Joint distribution of discrete random variables

For several discrete random variable, the device typically used to specify probabilities is a *joint probability function*. The two-variable version of this is defined.

A **joint probability function (joint pmf)** for discrete random variables X and Y is a nonnegative function $f(x, y)$, giving the probability that (simultaneously) X takes the values x and Y takes the values y . That is,

$$f(x, y) = P[X = x \text{ and } Y = y]$$

Properties of a valid joint pmf:

- $f(x, y) \in [0, 1]$ for all x, y
- $\sum_{x,y} f(x, y) = 1$

$$f(x, y) \geq 0 \quad \sum_{x,y} f(x, y)$$

Joint distribution of discrete random variables

So we have probability functions for X , probability functions for Y and now a probability function for X and Y together - that's a lot of f 's floating around though! In order to be clear which function we refer to when we refer to " f ", we also add some subscripts

Suppose X and Y are two discrete random variables.

- we may need to identify the *joint probability function* using $f_{XY}(x, y)$,
- we may need to identify the probability function of X by itself (aka the *marginal probability function* for X) using $f_X(x)$,
- we may need to identify the probability function of Y by itself (aka the *marginal probability function* for Y) using $f_Y(y)$

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

Joint pmf

For the discrete case, it is useful to give $f(x, y)$ in a **table**.

Two bolt torques, cont'd

Recall the example of measure the bolt torques on the face plates of a heavy equipment component to the nearest integer. With

$X =$ the next torque recorded for bolt 3

$Y =$ the next torque recorded for bolt 4

Joint Distributions

Joint pmf

Discrete RVs

the joint probability function, $f(x, y)$, is

$x \rightarrow$

$y \backslash x$	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	2/34	1/34
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	0	0	0
18	0	0	1/34	1/34	0	0	1/34	1/34	1/34	0
17	0	0	0	0	2/34	1/34	1/34	2/34	0	0
16	0	0	0	1/34	2/34	2/34	0	0	2/34	0
15	1/34	1/34	0	0	3/34	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	2/34	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	0	0	0

$$P(x=12, y=15) = \frac{1}{34}$$

$$P(x=19, y=16) = \frac{2}{34}$$

Joint Distributions

Calculate:

- $P[X = 14 \text{ and } Y = 19]$

Discrete RVs

- $P[X = 18 \text{ and } Y = 17]$

Joint Distributions

By summing up certain values of $f(x, y)$, probabilities associated with X and Y with patterns of interest can be obtained.

Discrete RVs

Consider: $P(X \geq Y) = P(X=13 \& Y=13) + P(X=14, Y=13)$

$$+ \dots + P(X=20 \& Y=20)$$

$$= \frac{2}{36} + \frac{4}{36} + \dots + \frac{4}{36} = \frac{17}{36}$$

$x \rightarrow$

$y \downarrow$

$y \backslash x$	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20										x
19									x	x
18									x	x
17								x	x	x
16						x	x	x	x	x
15					x	x	x	x	x	x
14				x	x	x	x	x	x	x
13			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

$f(13,13)$ $f(14,13)$

Joint Distributions

$P(\dots)$ the torque recorded for the 3rd & 4th bolt are 0 or 1 Lb from each other")

Discrete RVs

$$P(|X - Y| \leq 1) = P(X=12 \& Y=13) + P(X=13 \& Y=12) + \dots + P(X=20 \& Y=19) = \frac{2}{34} + \frac{3}{34} + \dots + \frac{1}{34} = \frac{18}{34}$$

y \ x	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20									X	X
19								X	X	X
18							X	X	X	
17						X	X	X		
16					X	X	X			
15				X	X	X				
14			X	X	X					
13		X	X	X						

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

$$P(X = 17)$$

$x \rightarrow$

$$P_X(x=17)$$

$y \backslash x$	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20							X			
19							X			
18							X			
17							X			
16							X			
15							X			
14							X			
13							X			

$$P(X=17) = P(X=17 \& Y=13) + P(X=17 \& Y=14) + \dots + P(X=17, Y=20)$$

$$= \frac{2}{34} + \frac{1}{34} + \dots + \frac{1}{34} = \frac{4}{34}$$

Marginal Distribution

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

Marginal distributions

In a bivariate problem, one can add down columns in the (two-way) table of $f(x, y)$ to get values for the probability function of X , $f_X(x)$ and across rows in the same table to get values for the probability distribution of Y , $f_Y(y)$.

The individual probability functions for discrete random variables X and Y with joint probability function $f(x, y)$ are called **marginal probability functions**. They are obtained by summing $f(x, y)$ values over all possible values of the other variable.

Joint Distributions

Connecting Joint and Marginal Distributions

Discrete RVs

In continuous joint
dist. \circ

$$P_X(x) = \int P_{X,Y}(x,y) dy$$

Use: Joint to Marginal for Discrete RVs

Let X and Y be discrete random variables with joint probability function Then the marginal probability function for X can be found by:

$$f_X(x) = \sum_y f_{XY}(x, y)$$

a function of x

and the marginal probability function for Y can be found by:

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_x f_{XY}(x, y)$$

a function of y

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

Example: [Torques, cont'd]

Find the marginal probability functions for X and Y from the following joint pmf.

$y \backslash x$	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	$f_Y(y)$
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	2/34	1/34	5/34
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	0	0	0	2/34
18	0	0	1/34	1/34	0	0	1/34	1/34	1/34	0	5/34
17	0	0	0	0	2/34	1/34	1/34	2/34	0	0	6/34
16	0	0	0	1/34	2/34	2/34	0	0	2/34	0	7/34
15	1/34	1/34	0	0	3/34	0	0	0	0	0	5/34
14	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	2/34	0	0	3/34
13	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	0	0	0	1/34

$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{34}, \frac{1}{34}, \frac{1}{34}, \frac{2}{34}, \frac{9}{34}, \frac{3}{34}, \frac{4}{34}, \frac{7}{34}, \frac{5}{34}, \frac{1}{34}$

marginal dist. of X and/or Y :

So,

X	$P_X(x) = \sum_{Y=13}^{20} P(X,Y)$
11	$\frac{1}{34}$
12	$\frac{1}{34}$
13	$\frac{1}{34}$
14	$\frac{2}{34}$
15	$\frac{9}{34}$
16	$\frac{3}{34}$
17	$\frac{4}{34}$
18	$\frac{7}{34}$
19	$\frac{5}{34}$
20	$\frac{1}{34}$

Y	$P_Y(y) = \sum_{X=11}^{20} P(X,Y)$
13	$\frac{1}{34}$
14	$\frac{3}{34}$
15	$\frac{5}{34}$
16	$\frac{7}{34}$
17	$\frac{6}{34}$
18	$\frac{5}{34}$
19	$\frac{2}{34}$
20	$\frac{5}{34}$

$$E X = \sum_{X=11}^{20} X \cdot P_X(X) = 11 \left(\frac{1}{34} \right) + 12 \left(\frac{1}{34} \right) \\ + \dots + 20 \left(\frac{1}{34} \right) = \dots$$

Joint Distributions

Getting marginal probability functions from joint probability functions begs the question whether the process can be reversed.

Discrete RVs

Can we find joint probability functions from marginal probability functions?

No! → we need more information (later!)

$y \backslash x$	1	2	3	$P_Y(y)$
1	0.4	0	0	0.4
2	0	0.4	0	0.4
3	0	0	0.2	0.2
$P_X(x)$	0.4	0.4	0.2	1

$y \backslash x$	1	2	3	$P_Y(y)$
1	0.16	0.16	0.08	0.4
2	0.16	0.16	0.08	0.4
3	0.08	0.08	0.04	0.2
$P_X(x)$	0.4	0.4	0.2	1

Note: $P(X=1, Y=1) = 0.4 \neq P(X=1, Y=1) = 0.16$

Conditional Distribution

Conditional Distribution of Discrete Random Variables

When working with several random variables, it is often useful to think about what is expected of one of the variables, given the values assumed by all others.

For discrete random variables X and Y with joint probability function $f(x, y)$, the **conditional probability function of X given $Y = y$** is a function of x

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{f(x, y)}{\sum_x f(x, y)}$$

Handwritten notes: "joint dist. of x, y " with an arrow pointing to the numerator; "marginal of y " with an arrow pointing to the denominator.

and the **conditional probability function of Y given $X = x$** is a function of y

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_X(x)} = \frac{f(x, y)}{\sum_y f(x, y)}$$

Handwritten note: "marginal of x " with an arrow pointing to the denominator.

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

Conditional Distribution

Example: [Torque, cont'd]

y\x	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	2/34	1/34
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2/34	0	0	0
18	0	0	1/34	1/34	0	0	1/34	1/34	1/34	0
17	0	0	0	0	2/34	1/34	1/34	2/34	0	0
16	0	0	0	1/34	2/34	2/34	0	0	2/34	0
15	1/34	1/34	0	0	3/34	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	2/34	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	1/34	0	0	0	0	0

Find the following probabilities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet f_{Y|X}(20|18) &= \frac{P(x,y)}{P_X(x)} = \frac{P(x=18, y=20)}{P_X(18)} \\
 &= \frac{2/34}{7/34} = 2/7
 \end{aligned}$$

$P_X(18) = 7/34$

Joint Distributions

Discrete RVs

Conditional Distribution

Example: [Torque, cont'd]

$$f_{Y|X}(y|15) = \frac{P(X=15, Y=y)}{P_X(15)} = \frac{P(X=15, Y=J)}{9/34}$$

$$f_{Y|X}(y|20)$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|18)$$

Y	$P_{Y X}(Y 15)$
13	$\frac{P(X=15, Y=13)}{9/34} = \frac{1/34}{9/34} = 1/9$
14	$\frac{P(X=15, Y=14)}{9/34} = \frac{1/34}{9/34} = 1/9$
15	$\frac{2/34}{9/34} = 2/9$
16	\dots
17	\dots
18	\dots
19	\dots
20	$\frac{P(X=15, Y=20)}{9/34} = 0$
	$\frac{9}{34}$

x	$P_{X Y}(X Y=18) = \frac{P(X, Y=18)}{P_Y(18)}$
11	0
12	0
13	$\frac{1}{5}$
14	$\frac{1}{5}$
15	0
16	0
17	$\frac{1}{5}$
18	$\frac{1}{5}$
19	$\frac{1}{5}$
20	0

Note: Conditional distributions are **Valid** dist.

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=11}^{20} x \cdot P_{X|Y}(x|Y=15)$$

$$= 11(0) + 12(0) + 13\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 14\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 15(0) + 16(0) + 17\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 18\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 19\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 20(0) = \dots$$

Independence

Joint Distributions

Let's start with an example. Look at the following joint probability distribution and the associated marginal probabilities.

Discrete RVs

$y \backslash x$	1	2	3	$f_Y(y)$
3	0.08	0.08	0.04	0.20
2	0.16	0.16	0.08	0.40
1	0.16	0.16	0.08	0.40
$f_X(x)$	0.40	0.40	0.20	1.00

Conditional Distribution

Independence

What do you notice?

$$\textcircled{1} \quad P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad P_{Y|X}(y|3) = \frac{P(X=3, Y)}{P_X(3)} = \frac{P(X=3, Y=3)}{0.2}$$

Y	$P_{Y X}(Y X=3) = \frac{P(X=3, Y)}{P_X(3)} = \frac{P(X=3, Y)}{0.2}$
1	$\frac{0.08}{0.2} = 0.4 = P_Y(Y=1)$
2	$\frac{0.08}{0.2} = 0.4 = P_Y(Y=2)$
3	$\frac{0.04}{0.2} = 0.2 = P_Y(Y=3)$

$P_{Y|X}(Y|X=3) = P_Y(Y)$. Actually this is true for all values of X , i.e. knowing what value X takes, doesn't matter in the questions about Y .

$\Rightarrow X$ and Y are independent.

Joint Distributions

Discrete random variables X and Y are **independent** if their joint distribution function $f(x, y)$ is the product of their respective marginal probability functions. This is,

Discrete RVs

independence means that ✓

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x) f_Y(y) \quad \forall \text{ for all } x, y.$$

Conditional Distribution

If this does not hold, then X and Y are **dependent**

Independence

Alternatively, discrete random variables X and Y are independent if for all x and y ,

If X and Y are not only independent but also have the same marginal distribution, then they are **independent and identically distributed (iid)**.

$$P_{Y|X}(y|x) = P_Y(y) \quad \& \quad P_{X|Y}(x|y) = P_X(x)$$

Chapter 5.5: Functions of Random Variables

Results and Theorems

Functions of RVs

Functions of Random Variables

A random variable can be thought of as a function whose input is an outcome and whose output is a real number. When we take a function of the value the random variable takes, the resulting value is still depends on the outcome of a random experiment - in other words: functions of random variables are random variables.

This means that a function of a random variable will have probabilities attached to the value it takes, based on the value taken by the random variable. It also means functions of random variables will have:

- probability functions (if discrete) or probability density functions (if continuous)
- cumulative probability functions (if discrete) or cumulative density functions (if continuous)
- expected values and variances ...

Functions of RVs

Linear Combinations

Linear combinations

For engineering purposes, it often suffices to know the mean and variance for a function of several random variables, $U = g(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ (as opposed to knowing the whole distribution of U). When g is **linear**, there are explicit functions.

Proposition: If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are n **independent** random variables and a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are $n + 1$ constants, then consider

$$U = a_0 + a_1X_1 + a_2X_2 + \dots + a_nX_n$$

U is itself a random variable as it is a linear combination of n independent random variables

Recall: X is a C.V

$\Rightarrow ax + b$
is a C.V

generalize
the idea

Functions of RVs

Linear Combinations

Linear combinations [cont'd]

Recall: $E(ax + b) = aEX + b$ & $V(ax + b) = a^2V(x)$

U, as a random variable has mean

$$\rightarrow \text{ 'EU} = a_0 + a_1EX_1 + a_2EX_2 + \dots + a_nEX_n$$

and variance

$$\rightarrow \text{ 'VarU} = \underline{a_1^2} \text{VarX}_1 + \underline{a_2^2} \text{VarX}_2 + \dots + \underline{a_n^2} \text{VarX}_n$$

These hold true when X_1, \dots, X_n are

iid

Note: In general $\text{var}(X_1 + X_2) \neq \text{var}(X_1) + \text{var}(X_2)$
(just in iid form it's true)

Functions of RVs

Linear Combinations

Example:

Say we have two independent random variables X and Y with $EX = 3.3$, $Var X = 1.91$, $EY = 25$, and $Var Y = 65$. Find the mean and variance for

- $U = 3 + 2X - 3Y$

$$EU = E(3 + 2X - 3Y) = 3 + 2EX - 3E(Y)$$

$$= 3 + 2(3.3) - 3(25) = -65.4$$

$$V(U) = V(3 + 2X - 3Y)$$

$$= V(3) + 2^2 V(X) + (-3)^2 V(Y)$$

$$= 0 + 4(1.91) + 9(65) = 592.64$$

- $V = -4X + 3Y$

$\rightarrow EV = E(-4X + 3Y) = -4EX + 3EY$

indep.

$$= -4(3.3) + 3(25)$$

$$= 61.8$$

$$\& V(V) = Var(-4X + 3Y) = Var(-4X) + V(3Y)$$

$$= (-4)^2 Var(X) + 3^2 Var(Y)$$

$$= 16(1.91) + 9(65) = 615.56$$

Functions of
RVs

Example:

Say $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 10, p = 0.5)$ and
 $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda = 3)$. Calculate the mean and variance
of $Z = 5 + 2X - 7Y$.

Linear
Combinations

X, Y are independent.

Note: $X \sim \text{Binomial}(10, 0.5) \rightarrow E X = 10(0.5) = 5$

$$\rightarrow V(X) = 10(0.5)(1-0.5) = 2.5$$

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda=3) \rightarrow E Y = \text{Var } Y = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} E Z &= E(5 + 2X - 7Y) = E(5) + E(2X) + E(-7Y) \\ &= 5 + 2E X - 7E Y \\ &= 5 + 2(5) - 7(3) = -6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}(Z) = \text{Var}(5 + 2X - 7Y) =$$

$$= \underbrace{\text{Var}(5)} + \text{Var}(2X) + \text{Var}(-7Y)$$

$$= 0 + 4\text{Var}(X) + 49\text{Var}(Y)$$

$$= 4(2.5) + 49(3) = \underbrace{157}$$

Functions of RVs

A particularly important use of functions of random variables concerns n iid random variables where each $a_i = \frac{1}{n}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then we can define the random variable \bar{X} as follows

Linear Combinations

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n}X_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{n}X_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

Sample Mean

Note that \bar{X} is a random variable

✓ We can then find the mean and variance of this random variable.

Functions of RVs

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n}X_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{n}X_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

Linear Combinations

as they relate to the population parameters $\mu = EX_i$ and

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}X_i.$$

For **independent** variables X_1, \dots, X_n with common mean μ and variance σ^2 ,

Sample Mean

$$E(\bar{X}) : E\left(\frac{1}{n}x_1 + \frac{1}{n}x_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n}x_n\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} E(x_1) + \dots + \frac{1}{n} E x_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N & \\ & = \frac{1}{n} \underbrace{\mu + \frac{1}{n} \mu + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \mu}_{n \text{ times}} = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \mu = \mu \end{aligned}$$

$$V(\bar{X}) : \text{var}\left(\frac{1}{n}x_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{n}x_n\right)$$

$$\text{indep.} = \text{var}\left(\frac{1}{n}x_1\right) + \dots + \text{var}\left(\frac{1}{n}x_n\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \text{var}(x_1) + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} \text{var}(x_n)$$

Functions of RVs

Linear Combinations

Sample Mean

$$= \underbrace{\frac{1}{n^2} \sigma^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} \sigma^2}_{n \text{ times}} = n \cdot \left(\frac{1}{n^2} \sigma^2 \right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

What is the point?

It does not matter if we are working with discrete or continuous random variables, as long as we have an independent and identically distributed (iid) sample of size n with the same mean μ and the same variance σ^2 , the random variable \bar{X} has

$$\mathbf{E}(\bar{X}) : \mu$$

and

$$\mathbf{V}(\bar{X}) : \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

The point is that the variance of a sample mean of size n is the population variance divided by the sample size n which makes it smaller

i.e. as the sample size increases, the variability of the sample mean decreases.

Functions of
RVs

Linear
Combinations

Sample Mean

Example:[Seed lengths]

One botanist measured the length of 10 seeds from the same plant. The seed lengths measurements are X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{10} . Suppose it is known that the seed lengths are iid with mean $\mu = 5$ mm and variance $\sigma^2 = 2$ mm.

Calculate the mean and variance of the average of 10 seed measurements.

Central Limit Theorem

The Most Important Result in Statistics

Functions of
RVs

Linear
Combinations

Sample Mean

CLT

Central limit theorem

One of the most frequently used statistics in engineering applications is the sample mean. We can relate the mean and variance of the probability distribution of the sample mean to those of a single observation when an iid model is appropriate.

In the case of the sample mean, if the sample size (n) is large enough, we can also approximate the *shape* of the *probability distribution function* of the sample mean!

Functions of
RVs

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Combinations

Sample Mean

CLT

Central limit theorem

If X_1, \dots, X_n are **independent** and **identically** distributed (iid) random variable (with mean μ and variance σ^2), then for large n , the variable \bar{X} is approximately normally distributed. That is,

$$\bar{X} \sim \text{Normal} \left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \right)$$

This is one of the **most important** results in statistics.

Functions of
RVs

Example: [Tool serial numbers]

Consider selecting the last digit of randomly selected serial numbers of pneumatic tools. Let

Linear
Combinations

W_1 = the last digit of the serial number
observed next Monday at 9am

W_2 = the last digit of the serial number
observed the following Monday at 9am

Sample Mean

CLT

A plausible model for the pair of random variables W_1, W_2 is that they are independent, each with the marginal probability function

$$f(w) = \begin{cases} .1 & w = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 9 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

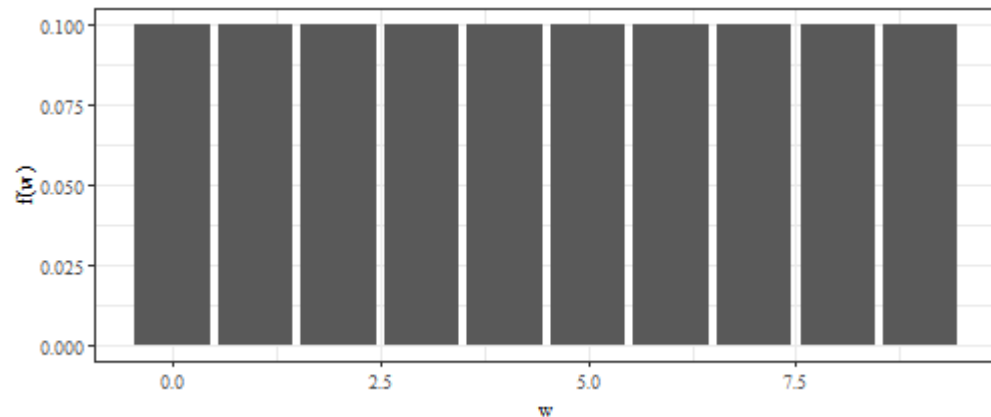
Functions of
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CLT

Example: [Tool serial numbers]



With $EW = 4.5$ and $\text{Var}W = 8.25$.

Using such a distribution, it is possible to see that $\bar{W} = \frac{1}{2}(W_1 + W_2)$ has probability distribution

\bar{w}	$f(\bar{w})$	\bar{w}	$f(\bar{w})$	\bar{w}	$f(\bar{w})$	\bar{w}	$f(\bar{w})$	\bar{w}	$f(\bar{w})$
0.00	0.01	2.00	0.05	4.00	0.09	6.00	0.07	8	0.03
0.50	0.02	2.50	0.06	4.50	0.10	6.50	0.06	8.5	0.02
1.00	0.03	3.00	0.07	5.00	0.09	7.00	0.05	9	0.01
1.50	0.04	3.50	0.08	5.50	0.08	7.50	0.04		

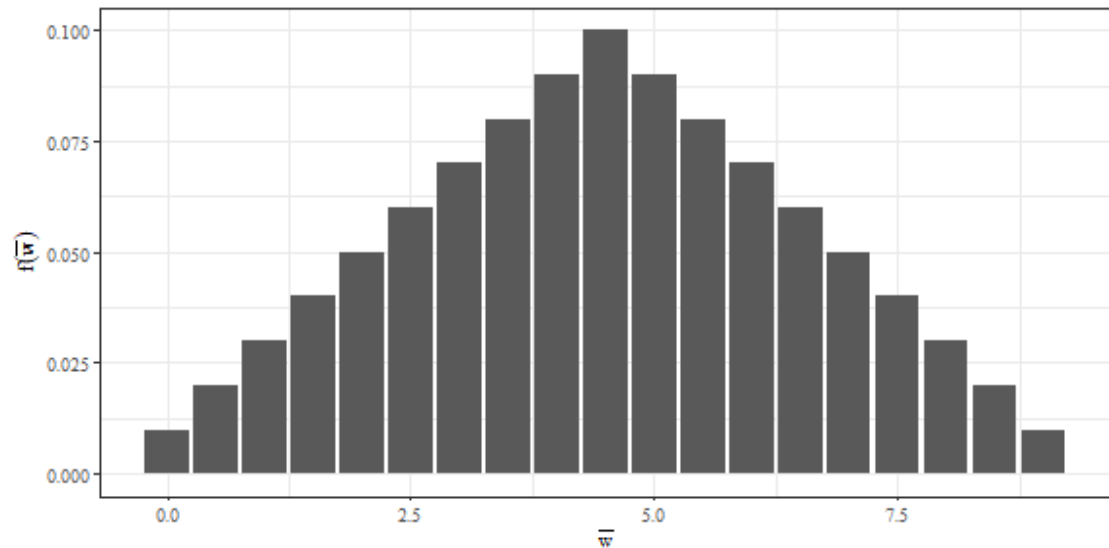
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CLT

Example: [Tool serial numbers]



Comparing the two distributions, it is clear that even for a completely flat/uniform distribution of W and a small sample size of $n = 2$, the probability distribution of \bar{W} looks more bell-shaped than the underlying distribution.

Functions of RVs

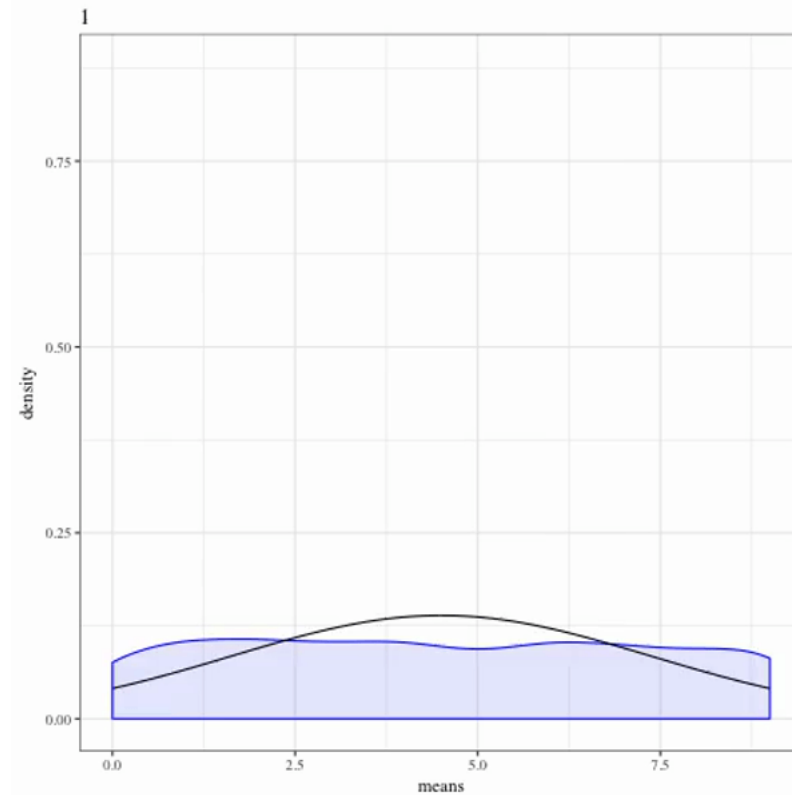
Now consider larger and larger sample sizes,
 $n = 1, \dots, 40$:

Watch how CLT works [here](#)

Linear Combinations

Sample Mean

CLT



Functions of
RVs

Example: [Stamp sale time]

Imagine you are a stamp salesperson (on eBay). Consider the time required to complete a stamp sale as S , and let

Linear
Combinations

\bar{S} = the sample mean time required to
complete the next 100 sales

Sample Mean

Each individual sale time should have an $Exp(\alpha = 16.5s)$ distribution. We want to consider approximating $P[\bar{S} > 17]$.

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Functions of
RVs

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Sample Mean

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Example: [Cars]

Suppose a bunch of cars pass through certain stretch of road. Whenever a car comes, you look at your watch and record the time. Let X_i be the time (in minutes) between when the i^{th} car comes and the $(i + 1)^{th}$ car comes for $i = 1, \dots, 44$. Suppose you know the average time between cars is 1 minute.

Find the probability that the average time gap between cars for the next 44 cars exceeds 1.05 minutes.

Functions of
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Example: [Baby food jars, cont'd]

The process of filling food containers appears to have an inherent standard deviation of measured fill weights on the order of $1.6g$. Suppose we want to calibrate the filling machine by setting an adjustment knob and filling a run of n jars. Their sample mean net contents will serve as an indication of the process mean fill level corresponding to that knob setting.

You want to choose a sample size, n , large enough that there is an 80% chance the sample mean is within $.3g$ of the actual process mean.

Functions of
RVs

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Example: [Printing mistakes]

Suppose the number of printing mistakes on a page follows some unknown distribution with a mean of 4 and a variance of 9. Assume that number of printing mistakes on a printed page are iid.

- What is the approximate probability distribution of the average number of printing mistakes on 50 pages?
- Can you find the probability that the number of printing mistakes on a single page is less than 3.8?

Functions of RVs

Example: [Printing mistakes]

- Can you find the probability that the average number of printing mistakes on 10 pages is less than 3.8?

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- Can you find the probability that the average number of printing mistakes on 50 pages is less than 3.8?

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