

8. Central Limit Theorem (CLT)

A pedestrian approach,

Universal features of sums of i.i.v.

(8.1) Gaussian iid r.v.

$$X_1, \dots, X_n \text{ iid r.v. } p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-x^2/2\sigma^2}, \quad \text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$$

$$\langle X \rangle = 0$$

$$\hat{p}(k) = \langle e^{ikX} \rangle = e^{-\sigma^2 k^2/2}$$

$$(a) Y = X_1 + \dots + X_n, \quad p_Y(y) = ?$$

$$\hat{p}_Y(k) = \langle e^{ikY} \rangle = \langle e^{ik(X_1 + \dots + X_n)} \rangle = \langle e^{ikX} \rangle^n =$$

$$= [\hat{p}(k)]^n = e^{-n\sigma^2 k^2/2} \div p_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n}\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{y^2}{2n\sigma^2}\right) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_Y^2 = n\sigma^2 \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \infty$$

$$(b) \text{ Arithmetic mean } Y_A = \frac{Y}{n} = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}$$

$$\hat{p}_{Y_A}(k) = \langle e^{ikY_A} \rangle = \langle e^{ik\frac{Y}{n}} \rangle = \langle e^{i\frac{k}{n}Y} \rangle =$$

$$= \langle e^{i\frac{k}{n}X} \rangle^n = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{\sigma^2}{n}k^2} \div p_{Y_A}(y) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2/n}} \exp\left(-\frac{ny^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_{Y_A}^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

$$(c) \text{ suitably scaled sum } Z = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{Y}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\hat{p}_Z(k) = \langle e^{ikZ} \rangle = \langle e^{ik\frac{Y}{\sqrt{n}}} \rangle = \langle e^{i\frac{k}{\sqrt{n}}Y} \rangle = \langle e^{i\frac{k}{\sqrt{n}}X} \rangle^n =$$

$$= \left(e^{-\frac{\sigma^2 k^2}{2n}}\right)^n = e^{-\sigma^2 k^2/2} = \hat{p}_X(k)$$

Conclusion. $X_1, \dots, X_n$ iid Gaussian r.v.

$\langle X \rangle = 0$, $\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$, then

$$Z = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{\sqrt{n}} \Rightarrow p_Z(x) \text{ Gaussian, } \langle Z \rangle = 0, \text{Var}[Z] = \sigma^2$$

(8.2) $X_1, \dots, X_n$ iid r.v. wn-Gaussian

$$\langle X \rangle = 0, \text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$$

$$Z = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{\sqrt{n}}, \quad p_Z(z) = ?$$

$$\hat{p}_X(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} p(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(1 + ikx + \frac{1}{2!} (ikx)^2 + \frac{(ikx)^3}{3} + \dots \right) p(x) dx$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\sigma^2 k^2}{2} + O(k^3) \quad (\text{main contribution from small } k!)$$

$$\hat{p}_Z(k) = \langle e^{\frac{ik}{\sqrt{n}}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)} \rangle = \langle e^{i \frac{k}{\sqrt{n}} X} \rangle^n$$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{\sigma^2 k^2}{2n} + O\left(\frac{k^3}{n^{3/2}}\right) \right)^n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\frac{\sigma^2 k^2}{2}} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 \pm \frac{x}{n} \right)^n = e^{\pm x}$$

$$\Rightarrow p_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Central Limit Theorem. (Lévy-Lindeberg)

If $X_1, \dots, X_n$ iid r.v. $p_X(x)$, $\langle X \rangle = 0$, $\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$

then, properly normalized sum $Z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)$

$$\checkmark p_Z(z) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \text{ same } \sigma^2.$$

Remark 1. Two important conditions: 1) the summands X_i are iid
2) the variance is finite

Remark 2. No smoothness of $p(x)$ are required.

Example. Discrete-time random walk

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{2} \delta(x-1) + \frac{1}{2} \delta(x+1)$$

Remark 3. Alternative form $\langle X \rangle = \mu \neq 0$

$$Z_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{n}} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n X_j - n\mu \right] \Rightarrow p_{Z_1}(z) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-x^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \quad \text{standard normal PDF}$$

properly normalized (scaled) AND centered

OR (integral form) $\Pr\{Z_1 \leq x\} \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^x g(x) dx$

OR (integral form) $\Pr\{Z_1 \leq x\} \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^x g(x) dx$

(8.3) $X_1, \dots, X_n$ independent, but not identically distributed
(Lindeberg-Feller form of CLT)

$X_1, \dots, X_n$ i.i.v. $\langle X_i \rangle = 0$, $\text{Var}[X_i] = \sigma_i^2$

Take $B_n^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j^2 = \text{Var}\left[\sum_{j=1}^n X_j\right]$

Compose $Y = \frac{1}{B_n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

If for $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{B_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{|x| > \varepsilon B_n} x^2 p(x) dx = 0$ necessary and sufficient

$$\Rightarrow p_Y(y) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-y^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

Example. Consider Laplace $\sim e^{-|x|}$, or $\sim 1/x^4$, $x \rightarrow \infty$

Meaning. The "wild" values of r.v. compared with B_n are insignificant and can be truncated without affecting the general behavior of the sums.

Physical consequence CLT: Gaussian probability naturally appears if evolution of the system or result of experiment are determined by the sum of random factors.

(8.4) $\text{Var}[X]$ is infinite?

Example. Cauchy distribution

$X_1, \dots, X_n$ iid r.v. $p_X(x) = \frac{b}{\pi(x^2 + b^2)} \div \hat{p}_X(k) = e^{-b|k|}$

(a) sum $Y = X_1 + \dots + X_n$

$$\hat{p}_Y(k) = \langle e^{-b|k|} \rangle^n = e^{-bn|k|} \div p_Y(k) = \frac{bn}{\pi(x^2 + b^2 n^2)}$$

Cauchy with $b \rightarrow bn$

(b) as in CLT $Z = \frac{Y}{\sqrt{n}}$

$$\hat{p}_Z(k) = \langle e^{i \frac{k}{\sqrt{n}} Y} \rangle = \langle e^{i \frac{k}{\sqrt{n}} X} \rangle^n = e^{-b\sqrt{n}|k|} \div$$

$$\div p_Z(z) = \frac{b\sqrt{n}}{\pi(x^2 + b^2 n)} : \text{Cauchy at any } n \text{ with } b \rightarrow b\sqrt{n} \text{ no Gaussian at } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\div p_Z(z) = \frac{b\sqrt{n}}{\pi(x^2 + b^2n)} : \text{Cauchy at any } n \text{ with } b \rightarrow b\sqrt{n} \text{ no Gaussian at } n \rightarrow \infty$$

BUT:

(c) properly normalized sum $Y_A = \frac{Y}{n}$ (arithmetic mean)

$$\hat{p}_{Y_A}(k) = \langle e^{i\frac{k}{n}Y} \rangle = \langle e^{i\frac{k}{n}X} \rangle^n = \left(e^{-\frac{b}{n}|k|} \right)^n = e^{-b|k|} \quad \text{Cauchy } b \rightarrow b$$

Gaussian X_i , $\text{Var}[X_i] = \sigma^2$

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

$p_Y(y) = \text{Gaussian}$, $\text{Var}[Y] = \sigma^2$

Cauchy X_i , characterized by $b > 0$

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

$p_Y(y) = \text{Cauchy}$, same b

CLT $\Rightarrow$ Generalized CLT

9. Stable (α -stable) probability laws and Generalized CLT

(9.1) Definition of stable r.v.

Let $X, X_1, \dots, X_n$ iid, $X_j \stackrel{d}{=} X$

X stable if $\exists b_n > 0, a_n$

$$\left| S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \stackrel{d}{=} a_n + b_n X \right| \quad (1)$$

X strictly stable if $a_n = 0$

Example 1 Gaussian $p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4\sigma^2}} \div \hat{p}_X(k) = e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$

Note: $\text{Var}\{X\} = 2\sigma^2$

lhs(1) $\Rightarrow \langle e^{ikS_n} \rangle = \langle e^{ikX} \rangle^n = e^{-n\sigma^2 k^2}$

rhs(1) $\Rightarrow \langle e^{ik(a_n + b_n X)} \rangle = e^{ika_n} \langle e^{ikb_n X} \rangle = e^{ika_n} \hat{p}_X(b_n k) = \int \Rightarrow$
 $= e^{ika_n - b_n^2 \sigma^2 k^2}$

$\Rightarrow a_n = 0, b_n = \sqrt{n} \Rightarrow$ strictly stable

Example 2. Cauchy $p_X(x) = \frac{b}{\pi(x^2 + b^2)} \div \hat{p}_X(k) = e^{-b|k|}$

lhs(1) $\dots i k S_n \dots -n b |k| \dots$

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\pi(x^2 + b^2)} \quad p_X(x)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{lhs (1)} &\Rightarrow \langle e^{ikS_n} \rangle = e^{-nb|k|} \\ \text{rhs (1)} &\Rightarrow e^{ika_n - bb_n|k|} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow a_n = 0, b_n = b \text{ strictly stable}$$

Example 3. Laplace $p_X(x) = \frac{1}{2b} e^{-\frac{|x|}{b}} \div \hat{p}_X(k) = \frac{1}{1+b^2k^2}$

$$\text{lhs (1)} \Rightarrow \langle e^{ikS_n} \rangle = \frac{1}{(1+b^2k^2)^n}$$

$$\text{rhs (1)} \Rightarrow \langle e^{ik(a_n + b_n X)} \rangle = e^{ika_n} \hat{p}_X(b_n k) = \frac{e^{ika_n}}{1+b_n^2 b^2 k^2}$$

non-stable

Theorem (Feller vol. II) $\boxed{b_n = n^{1/\alpha}}$ α index of stability, Lévy index

Gaussian $\alpha = 2$

Cauchy $\alpha = 1$

(9.2) Symmetric stable laws. Characteristic function.

$$\ell_\alpha(x) = \ell_\alpha(-x)$$

strictly stable: symmetric, $a_n = 0$

$$\text{CF: } \hat{p}(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} p(x) dx, \quad p(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikx} \hat{p}(k) dk$$

$$\hat{p}^*(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikx} p(x) dx = \hat{p}(-k) \text{ general property of CF}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } p(x) = p(-x) &\Rightarrow \hat{p}(-k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikx} p(-x) dx = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x' = -x \\ dx' = -dx \end{array} \right\} = \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx'} p(x') dx' = \hat{p}(k) \text{ symmetric CF} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{From Eq (1), } b_n = n^{1/\alpha}, a_n = 0.$$

$$\langle e^{ik(X_1 + \dots + X_n)} \rangle = \langle e^{ik n^{1/\alpha} X} \rangle$$

$$[\hat{\ell}_\alpha(k)]^n = \hat{\ell}_\alpha(k n^{1/\alpha})$$

$$\text{Guess } \hat{\ell}_\alpha(k) = e^{-ak^\alpha}, \quad a > 0, \alpha > 0 \quad ? \quad \hat{p}^*(k) \neq \hat{p}(-k) \quad \text{NO}$$

$$\text{Take } \boxed{\hat{\ell}_\alpha(k) = e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha}} \quad (2) \quad \sigma > 0$$

Take $\hat{\ell}_\alpha(k) = e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha}$

a) normalization $\hat{\ell}_\alpha(0) = 1 \Rightarrow \alpha > 0$

b) 1st moment $\langle X \rangle = \frac{1}{i} \frac{d\hat{\ell}_\alpha(k)}{dk} \Big|_{k=0}$

2nd moment $\langle X^2 \rangle = - \frac{d^2 \hat{\ell}_\alpha(k)}{dk^2} \Big|_{k=0}$

Take 1st derivative $\frac{d}{dk} e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} = -\alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-1} e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} \text{sgn } k$
 $\uparrow \frac{d|k|}{dk} = \text{sgn } k$

Take 2nd derivative $\frac{d^2}{dk^2} e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} = -\alpha(\alpha-1) \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-2} \text{sgn } k e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} \text{sgn } k =$
 $-\alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-1} (-\alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-1} \text{sgn } k) e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} \text{sgn } k =$
 $-\alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-1} e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} \underbrace{2\delta(k)}_{\frac{d}{dk} \text{sgn } k} \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \langle X^2 \rangle = \left\{ \alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^{\alpha-2} [\alpha-1 - \alpha \sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha + 2|k|\delta(k)] e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} \right\}_{k=0} =$
 $= 0 \text{ if } \alpha > 2$

BUT $\langle X^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 p(x) dx > 0$

Conclusion $\boxed{\hat{\ell}_\alpha(k) = e^{-\sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha}, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 2}$

(9.3) Symmetric stable laws. PDFs and moments

a) PDF via elementary functions for $\alpha=1$ (Cauchy)
and $\alpha=2$ (Gauss)

b) PDF in general case via special functions
Fox H functions

c) $\langle X^2 \rangle = \infty, \quad 0 < \alpha < 2$

$\langle X^2 \rangle = 2\sigma^2, \quad \alpha=2 \text{ Gauss} \quad \hat{\ell}_2(k) = e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$

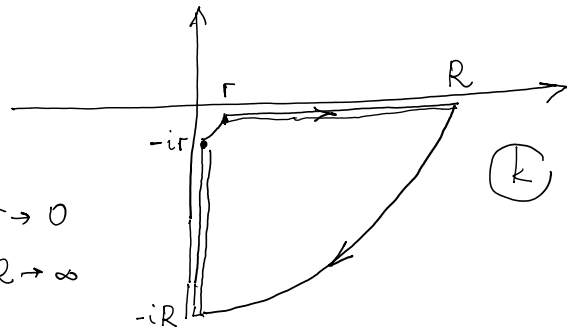
$\langle X \rangle = 0$

d) PDF asymptotics at $x \rightarrow \infty$, $0 < \alpha < 2$

$$l_\alpha(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikx - \sigma^\alpha |k|^\alpha} dk = \frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{Re} \int_0^\infty e^{-ikx - \sigma^\alpha k^\alpha} dk \quad (*)$$

Consider $x > 0$

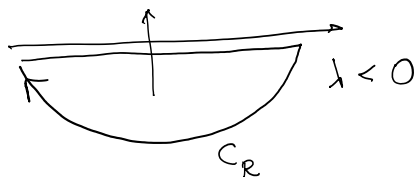
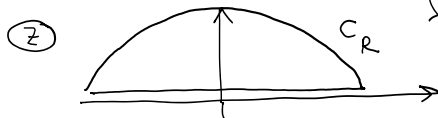
$$\int_0^\infty + \int_{C_R} + \int_{-i\infty}^{-i0} + \int_{C_r} = 0, \quad \begin{matrix} r \rightarrow 0 \\ R \rightarrow \infty \end{matrix}$$



(k) Complex plane

Jordan's lemma $\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{C_R} = 0$

Disgression. Jordan's lemma $\lambda > 0$



$$\int_{C_R} e^{i\lambda z} f(z) dz \rightarrow 0 \text{ if } f(z) \rightarrow 0, |z| \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\int_{C_r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \int_{C_r} e^{-ikx - \sigma^\alpha k^\alpha} dk = \int_{k=re^{i\theta}, -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta < 0, \left\{ \begin{matrix} dk = ire^{i\theta} d\theta \end{matrix} \right.} =$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} ir \int_{-\pi/2}^0 d\theta e^{i\theta} e^{ixre^{i\theta} - \sigma^\alpha r^\alpha e^{i\alpha\theta}} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty e^{-ikx - \sigma^\alpha k^\alpha} dk &= - \int_{-i\infty}^{-i0} e^{-ikx - \sigma^\alpha k^\alpha} dk = \{ik = \alpha\} = \\ &= - \frac{1}{i} \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-x\alpha - \sigma^\alpha \alpha^\alpha} \underbrace{e^{-i\pi\alpha/2}}_{-i} d\alpha \rightarrow \{ \alpha x = y \} \rightarrow (*) \end{aligned}$$

$$l_\alpha(x) = \frac{1}{\pi x} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ -i \int_0^\infty \exp \left[-y - \frac{\sigma^\alpha y^\alpha}{x^\alpha} \right] e^{-i\pi\alpha/2} dy \right\} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi x} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ -i \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \left[1 - \frac{\sigma^\alpha y^\alpha}{x^\alpha} e^{-i\pi\alpha/2} + O\left(\frac{y^{2\alpha}}{x^{2\alpha}}\right) \right] dy \right\} \cong$$

$$\cong \frac{\sigma^\alpha}{\pi x} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ i e^{-i\pi\alpha/2} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^\alpha dy \right\} \quad x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\approx \frac{\sigma^\alpha}{\pi x^{1+\alpha}} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \underbrace{i e^{-i t \alpha / 2}}_{\cos - i \sin} \underbrace{\int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^\alpha dy}_{\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \right\}, \quad x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\boxed{l_\alpha(x) \approx \frac{C(\alpha)}{|x|^{1+\alpha}}, \quad C(\alpha) = \frac{\sigma^\alpha}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi\alpha}{2}\right) \Gamma(1+\alpha)} \quad 0 < \alpha < 2$$

Remark 1 Power-law asymptotics with strict inequality $\alpha < 2$
 at $\alpha = 2$ $\hat{l}_2(k) = e^{-\sigma^2 k^2} \Rightarrow l_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4\sigma^2}\right)$

Remark 2 Second moment = ∞

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{A_1, A_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{A_1}^{A_2} x^2 l_\alpha(x) dx &= \int_0^{A_1} x^2 l_\alpha(x) dx + \int_0^{A_2} x^2 l_\alpha(x) dx \sim \\ &\sim \int_0^{A_1} x^2 x^{-\alpha-1} dx + \int_0^{A_2} x^2 x^{-\alpha-1} dx \sim A_1^{2-\alpha} + A_2^{2-\alpha} \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

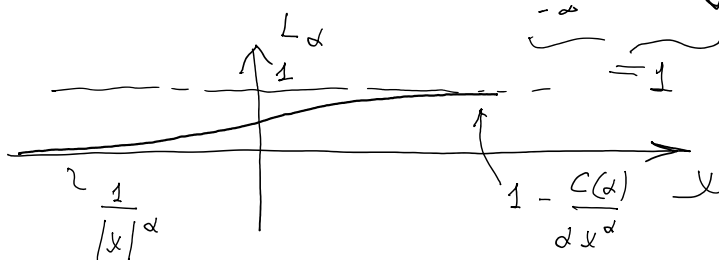
$A_1, A_2 \rightarrow \infty$

Remark 3. q-th moment

$$\begin{aligned} \langle |x|^q \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty |x|^q l_\alpha(x) dx \sim \int |x|^q |x|^{-\alpha-1} dx \sim \\ &\sim \int_0^A x^{q-1-\alpha} dx \sim \begin{cases} A^{q-\alpha} \rightarrow \text{finite}, & q < \alpha \\ \rightarrow \text{infinite}, & q > \alpha \\ \ln A, & q = \alpha \end{cases} \\ \langle |x|^q \rangle &= \begin{cases} C(q, \alpha), & q < \alpha \\ \infty, & q \geq \alpha \end{cases} \quad q > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 4. Asymptotics of cumulative probability

$$L_\alpha(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x l_\alpha(y) dy \sim \begin{cases} \frac{C(\alpha)}{\alpha |x|^\alpha}, & x \rightarrow -\infty \\ \int_{-\infty}^x l_\alpha(y) dy - \int_x^\infty l_\alpha(y) dy \sim 1 - \frac{C(\alpha)}{\alpha x^\alpha} \end{cases}$$



Remark 5.