Stat 88: Prob. & Math. Statistics in Data Science



xkcd.com/2118

Lecture 28: 4/1/2024

The law of averages, distribution of a sample sum

7.3, 8.1, 8.2



Suppose X is sun of drows of tickets from a box. SD of sum WITHOUT REPL = SD of SUM W/Repl & JPC

Accuracy of samples (depend on the SD of the sample mean/sum)

• Simple random samples of the same size of 625 people are taken in Berkeley (population: 121,485) and Los Angeles (population: 4 million). True or false, and explain your choice: The results from the Los Angeles poll will be substantially more accurate than those for Berkeley.

Fpc in case of Berkeley: 0.9974285

Fpc in case of LA: 0.999922

Example adapted from Statistics, by FPP

• A survey organization wants to take an SRS in order to estimate the percentage of people who watched the 2022 Oscars. To keep costs down, they want to take as small a sample as possible, but their client will only tolerate a random error of 1 percentage point or so in the estimate. Should they use a sample size of 100, 2500, or 10000? The population is very large and the fpc is about 1.

What n to use? Note that the number of people who have watched the Oscars in the sample is a rv with the HG(N, G, n) distiribution.

Purfered that we are sampling to replacement

$$X = \# \oplus people in sample that watched
X ~ Bin (n,p) (fpc ~ 1)
Percent of peoplem sample approximately
that watched oscare = X
 $E(X) = np$ $Var(X) = np(n-p)$
 $SD(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)} \leq 0.01$
 $f(x) = x(1-x), oscel = \sum_{n} \sum_{n=1}^{n} \sum$$$

2500 En

Example (adapted from *Statistics*, by Freedman, Pisani, and Purves)

- Note that the number of people who have watched the Oscars in the sample is a rv with the HG(N, G, n) distribution, but we are told that N is very large & $fpc \approx 1$, so we can approximate the prob. using the Bin(n, p) distribution, where p is the percentage of people who watched the Oscars (which is what we are trying to estimate).

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$$SD\left(\frac{S_n}{n}\right) = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{\sqrt{pq}}{\sqrt{n}} \le \frac{0.5}{\sqrt{n}} \le 0.01 \Rightarrow n \ge 2500$$

Exercise 7.4.11 Exercise

Each Data 8 student is asked to draw a random sample and estimate a parameter using a method that has chance 95% of resulting in a good estimate.

Suppose there are 1300 students in Data 8. Let *X* be the number of students who get a good estimate. Assume that all the students' samples are independent of each other.

- a) Find the distribution of *X*
- b) Find *E*(*X*) and *SD*(*X*).

• c) Find the chance that more than 1250 students get a good estimate.

Law of Averages

- Essentially a statement that you are already familiar with: If you toss a fair coin many times, roughly half the tosses will land heads.
- We are going to consider sample sums and sample means of iid random variables $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ where the mean of each X_k is μ and the variance of each X_k is σ^2 .
- Recall the **sample sum** $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$, with $E(S_n) = n\mu$, $Var(S_n) = n\sigma^2$, $SD(S_n) = \sqrt{n\sigma}$
- We see here, as we take more and more draws, the variability of the sum keeps increasing, which means the values get more and more dispersed around the mean $(n\mu)$.

Coin tosses

- Consider a fair coin, toss it 100 times & 400 times, count the number of H Expect in first case, roughly 50 H, and in second, roughly 200 H.
- So do you think chance of 50 H in 100 tosses and 200 H in 400 tosses should be the same?



Example: Coin toss

- $SD(S_{100}) =$
- $SD(S_{400}) =$

• P(200 H in 400 tosses)

• P(50 H in 100 tosses)



number of tosses







number of tosses



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number of tosses



Law of Averages for a fair coin

- Notice that as the number of tosses of a fair coin increases, the *observed error* (number of heads half the number of tosses) increases. This is governed by the standard error.
- The *percentage* of heads observed comes very close to 50%
- Law of averages: The long run proportion of heads is very close to 50%.