

MATH 262

Section 4.5

Day 34

1. Let random variable X have one of the following distributions. For what distribution of iid random variables Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n is it the case that $X = Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_n$?

(a) $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

(b) $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha = n, \beta)$

(c) $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda = n)$

(d) $X \sim \text{NegBin}(r = n, p)$

2. Customers at a popular restaurant are waiting to be served. Waiting times are independent and exponentially distributed with mean $1/\lambda = 10$ minutes.

(a) What is the probability that the average wait time of the 50 customers is less than 12 minutes?

(b) Use a normal distribution to approximate the probability that the average wait time of 50 customers is less than 12 minutes. What limit theorem justifies this?

3. Suppose you flip a fair coin *lots* of times. What does the Law of Large Numbers say about the numbers of heads and tails you will observe?
4. Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be iid random variables with an $\text{Exp}(\lambda = 2)$ distribution. Let $\mu = E(X_i)$.
- (a) What is the distribution of T_n ? What is the value of μ ?
- (b) In R or *Mathematica*, write a function that computes $P\left(\left|\frac{T_n}{n} - \mu\right| \geq \epsilon\right)$ for any given parameter values n and ϵ .
- (c) Make a plot of $P\left(\left|\frac{T_n}{n} - \mu\right| \geq 0.01\right)$ for values of n between 1 and 10,000. What limit theorem does this plot illustrate?
- (d) What is the smallest n such that $P\left(\left|\frac{T_n}{n} - \mu\right| \geq 0.01\right) < 0.01$?
5. Suppose that a fair coin is tossed 1000 times. If the first 100 tosses all result in heads, what proportion of heads would you expect on the remaining 900 tosses? Interpret the statement “The law of large numbers swamps, but it does not compensate.”