

# Weak convergence and the Central Limit Theorem

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- Definition: If  $F_n$  are a sequence of distribution functions we say  $F_n$  converges in distribution to  $F$  ( $F_n \rightarrow F$ )

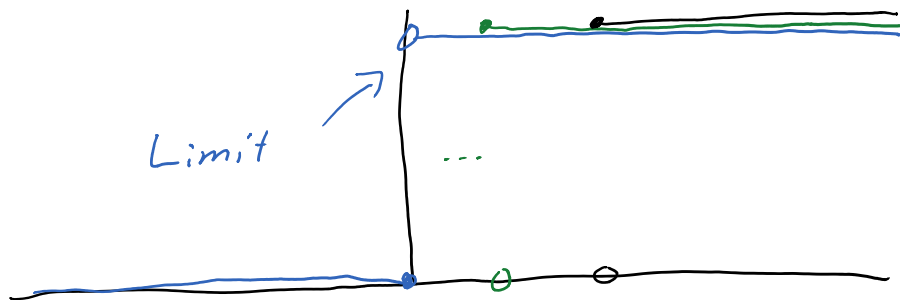
if  $F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$  for all  $x$  where  $F(x)$  is continuous.

We say  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$  if the CDF converge.

E.g.: If  $X_n = 2^{-n}$  then  $F_n(x) = I(x < 2^{-n})$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) = I(x \leq 0)$$

— not a dF since not right cts  
but equal to  $I(x < 0)$ , the CDF of  $X=0$ .



Ex: Law of small numbers

If  $X_n \sim \text{Bin}(n, \lambda/n)$  then

$$X_n \xrightarrow{d} \text{Pois}(\lambda)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Pf: } \mathbb{P}[X_n = k] &= \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-k} \\
 &= \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot \dots \cdot (n-k+1)}{n^n} \cdot \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{-k} \\
 &\rightarrow 1 \cdot \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \cdot 1 = \mathbb{P}[\text{Pois}(\lambda) = k]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \mathbb{P}[X_n \leq x] = \sum_{k \leq x} \mathbb{P}[X_n = k] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}[\text{Pois}(\lambda) \leq x]$$

Ex: If  $Y_n \sim \text{Geom}(\lambda/n)$  then  
 $\frac{1}{n} Y_n \xrightarrow{d} \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Pf: } \mathbb{P}[Y_n > k] &= (1 - \lambda/n)^k \\
 \therefore \mathbb{P}\left[\frac{1}{n} Y_n > x\right] &= (1 - \lambda/n)^{\lfloor nx \rfloor} \\
 &\rightarrow e^{-\lambda x} = \mathbb{P}[\text{Exp}(\lambda) > x]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$$

Lemma:

If  $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$  then  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ .

Pf: Let  $x$  be a continuity point of  $X$ .  
 Exists  $\varepsilon_n \searrow 0$  such that  $\mathbb{P}[|X_n - X| > \varepsilon_n] \rightarrow 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_n(x) = \mathbb{P}[X_n \leq x] &\leq \mathbb{P}[X \leq x + \varepsilon_n] + \mathbb{P}[|X_n - X| > \varepsilon_n] \\
 &= F(x + \varepsilon_n) \rightarrow F(x) \quad \rightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_n(x) &\geq \mathbb{P}[X \leq x - \varepsilon_n] - \mathbb{P}[|X_n - X| > \varepsilon_n] \\
 &\rightarrow F(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Definition:

- We say  $X_n$  converges weakly to  $X$

$$X_n \xrightarrow{w} X$$

if for all  $g$  continuous & bounded

$$\mathbb{E} g(X_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{E} g(X).$$

Depends only on the distribution.

Lemma: Convergences are the same

$$X_n \xrightarrow{w} X \quad \text{iff} \quad X_n \xrightarrow{d} X.$$

Proof: • Suppose  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ .

$$\text{Write } G_n(u) = \sup \{ y : F_n(y) < u \}$$

$$G(u) = \sup \{ y : F(y) < u \}$$

$$G_n(u) \rightarrow G(u) \quad \text{pointwise}$$

and  $U \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ .

$$G_n(U) \stackrel{d}{=} X_n \quad \text{and} \quad G_n(U) \xrightarrow{a.s.} G(U) \stackrel{d}{=} X.$$

If  $f$  is cts & bounded,

$$f(G_n(U)) \xrightarrow{a.s.} f(G(U))$$

So by DCT,

$$\mathbb{E} f(X_n) = \mathbb{E} f(G_n(U)) \rightarrow \mathbb{E} f(G(U)) = \mathbb{E} f(X).$$

• Suppose  $X_n \xrightarrow{w} X$ .

Would like to take  $f(x) = \mathbb{I}(x \geq y)$  and say

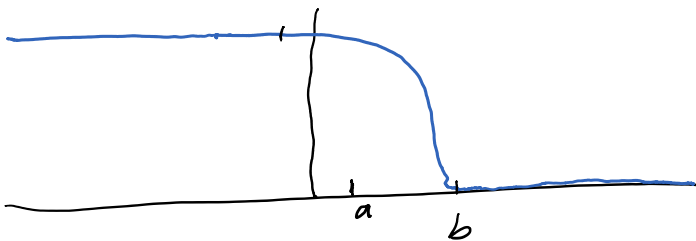
$$\mathbb{E} f(X_n) = \mathbb{P}[X_n \leq y] \rightarrow \mathbb{E} f(X) = \mathbb{P}[X \leq y]$$

but the indicator is not cts. So approximate.

Claim: For any  $a < b$  we can find

$h = h_{a,b} \in C^\infty$  decreasing with

$$h(x) = 0 \quad x \leq a, \quad h(x) = 1 \quad \text{for } x \geq b.$$



Let  $y$  be a continuity point of  $F_X$ .

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ , choose  $\delta$  such that

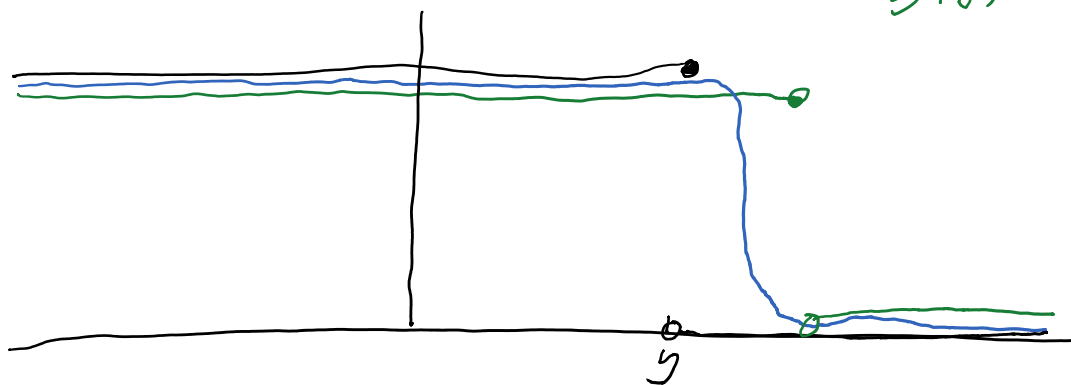
$$F(y + \delta) - F(y - \delta) < \varepsilon.$$

Then  $g(x) = h_{y, y+\delta}$

—



$$I(x \leq y) \leq g(x) \leq I(x \leq y + \delta)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \limsup F_{X_n}(y) &\leq \limsup \mathbb{E}(g(X_n)) \\ &= \mathbb{E} g(X) \\ &\leq F_X(y + \delta) \leq F_X(y) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

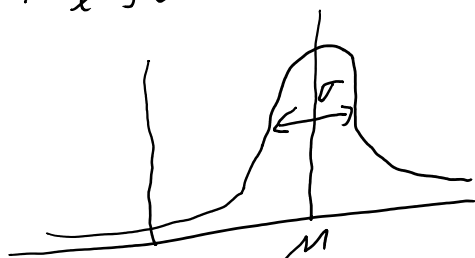
$$\text{So } \limsup F_{X_n}(y) \leq F_X(y)$$

Similarly  $\liminf F_{X_n}(y) \geq F_X(y)$  so

$$F_{X_n}(y) \rightarrow F_X(y) \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{d} X.$$

### Normal/Gaussian Distribution

$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  mean  $\mu$  variance  $\sigma^2$ :  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$



Standard Normal  $N(0, 1)$

If  $X \sim N(0, 1)$

then  $\mu + \sigma X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

- If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  independent  $N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$

- If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  independent  $N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$   
then  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim N\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2\right)$

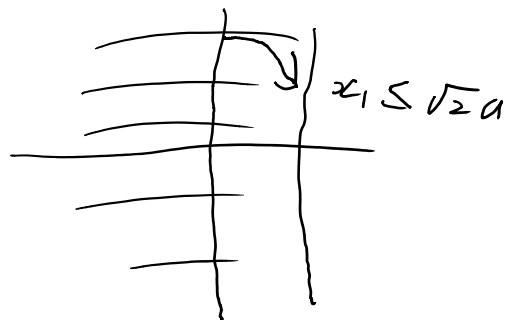
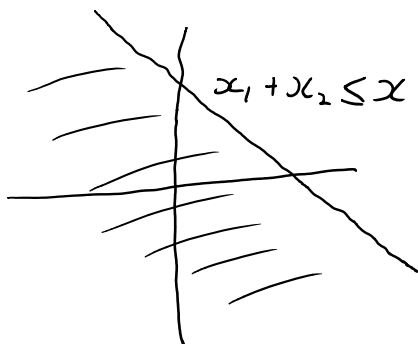
- (check for the case  $X_1, X_2 \sim N(0, 1)$ )

i) Convolution formula for densities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_1+X_2}(x) &= \int f_{X_1, X_2}(y, x-y) dy \\ &= \int f_{X_1}(y) \cdot f_{X_2}(x-y) dy \end{aligned}$$

ii) Joint density  $f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}{2}}$

rotationally invariant



$$P[X_1 + X_2 \leq x] = P[X \leq \sqrt{2} \cdot a]$$

CDF of  $N(0, 2)$ .

$$\text{So } X_1 + X_2 \stackrel{d}{=} N(0, 2)$$

## Central Limit Theorem

If  $X_1, \dots$  IID  $E X_i = \mu, \text{Var } X_i = \sigma^2$

then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \stackrel{d}{\rightarrow} N(n\mu, n\sigma^2)$$

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - n\mu}{\sigma \sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

Replacing  $Y_i = \frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma}$  (standardized) same as

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \quad \text{so assume } \mu=0, \sigma^2=1.$$

If  $X_i$  were standard Gaussian then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim N(0, n) \quad + \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \stackrel{d}{=} N(0, 1)$$

Nothing to prove in this case!

Two proof methods:

a) Characteristic Functions 'aka Fourier Transform'

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t) = \varphi_X(t) &:= \mathbb{E} e^{itX} = \mathbb{E} \cos(tX) + i \mathbb{E} \sin(tX) \\ &= \int e^{itx} f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

Some facts

- $\varphi_{\sum X_i}(t) = \prod \varphi_{X_i}(t)$  if  $X_i$  independent
- $\varphi_{aX+b} = \varphi(at) e^{itb}$
- $\left. \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \varphi(t) \right|_{t=0} = \mathbb{E} (iX)^n e^{itX} \Big|_{t=0} = i^n \mathbb{E} X^n$
- Taylor Series: If  $\mathbb{E} X^k < \infty$  then
 
$$\varphi(t) = 1 + it \mathbb{E} X + \frac{(it)^2}{2!} \mathbb{E} X^2 + \dots + \frac{(it)^k}{k!} \mathbb{E} X^k + o(t^k)$$

$$\varphi(t) = 1 + it\mathbb{E}X + \frac{(it)^2}{2}\mathbb{E}X^2 + \dots + \frac{(it)^k}{k!}\mathbb{E}X^k + o(t^k)$$

as  $t \rightarrow 0$

• Inversion Formula

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-R}^R \frac{e^{-ita} - e^{-itb}}{i\lambda} \varphi_x(t) dt$$

$$= \mathbb{P}[X \in (a, b)] + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{P}[X=a] + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{P}[X=b]$$

so  $\varphi$  uniquely determines  $X$ .

• If  $\varphi_{X_n}(t) \rightarrow \varphi_X(t)$  pointwise then  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ .

• For  $N(0, 1)$ ,  $\varphi(t) = e^{-t^2/2}$ .

So  $Z_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{Z_n}(t) &= \varphi(t/\sqrt{n})^n \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{(it/\sqrt{n})^2}{2} \cdot 1 + o(t/\sqrt{n})^2\right)^n \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{t^2(1+o(1))}{2n}\right)^n \rightarrow e^{-t^2/2} \end{aligned}$$

b) Lindeberg's Proof:

Show that for all  $f \in C_b^\infty$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}f(W) \quad Z \sim N(0, 1).$$

Let  $W_i$  IID  $N(0, 1)$ .

$$\mathbb{E} f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n W_i\right) = \mathbb{E} f(W).$$

We interpolate between  $\sum X_i$  and  $\sum W_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathbb{E} f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) - f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n W_i\right) \right| \\ &= \left| \mathbb{E} \sum_{j=1}^n \Delta_j \right| \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_j &= f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_j + W_{j+1} + \dots + W_n)\right) \\ &\quad - f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(X_1 + \dots + X_{j-1} + W_j + \dots + W_n)\right) \\ &= f\left(U_j + \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}}\right) - f\left(U_j + \frac{W_j}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$


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Taylor Series If  $f$  is in  $C^k$  then

$$f(x+z) = f(x) + z f'(x) + \frac{z^2}{2} f''(x) + \dots + \frac{z^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} f^{(k-1)}(x) + R^{(k)}(x, z)$$

$$\text{where } |R^{(k)}(x, z)| \leq \frac{z^k}{k!} \|f^{(k)}\|_{\infty}$$


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Now by Taylor Series,

$$f(U+z) = f(U) + z f'(U) + \frac{z^2}{2} f''(U) + R_U(z)$$

where

$$|R_U(z)| < \min\left\{\|f''\|_{\infty} z^2, \|f'''\|_{\infty} \frac{z^3}{6}\right\}$$

$$|\mathbb{E} \Delta_j| = \left| \mathbb{E} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} (X_j - W_j) f'(U_j) \right|$$

$$+ \mathbb{E} \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{X_j^2}{2} - \frac{W_j^2}{2} \right) \cdot f''(U_j) + \mathbb{E} \left| R_{U_j} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) - R_{U_j} \left( \frac{W_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right|$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E} \left| R_{U_j} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right| + \mathbb{E} \left| R_{U_j} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right|.$$

If  $\mathbb{E}|X_j|^3 < \infty$  then

$$\mathbb{E} \left| R_{U_j} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{6} \|f'''\|_{\infty} \mathbb{E}|X_j|^3 n^{-3/2}$$

$$\text{then } \left| \mathbb{E} \sum_{j=1}^n \Delta_j \right| \leq C \cdot n^{-1/2} \mathbb{E}|X_j|^3 \rightarrow 0.$$

If  $\mathbb{E}|X_j|^2 = 1$  but  $\mathbb{E}|X_j|^3 = \infty$  we need to be more careful.

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

$$\mathbb{E} \left| R_{U_j} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{6} \|f'''\|_{\infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^3 \mathbb{I} \left( \left| \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right| \leq \varepsilon \right) \right]$$

$$+ \|f''\|_{\infty} \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^2 \mathbb{I} \left( \left| \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right| > \varepsilon \right)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{6} \|f'''\|_{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon}{n} \mathbb{E}(X_j^2)$$

$$+ \|f''\|_{\infty} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \cdot \mathbb{E}(X_j^2 \mathbb{I}(X_j > \varepsilon \sqrt{n}))$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{n} (C\varepsilon + C \mathbb{E}(X_j^2 \mathbb{I}(X_j > \varepsilon \sqrt{n})))$$

Enough to show that

$$\mathbb{E}(X_j^2 \mathbb{I}(X_j > \varepsilon \sqrt{n})) \rightarrow 0$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X_i^2 I(X_i > \varepsilon \sqrt{n})] \rightarrow 0$$

by DCT.

So altogether

$$\mathbb{E} \left( f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) - f(u) \right) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{so } \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \xrightarrow{w} N(0, 1).$$


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Triangular arrays:

Suppose that  $\{X_{n,1}, \dots, X_{n,m_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$  are sequences of independent variables, mean 0.

If Lindeberg condition holds

$$a) \sum_{i=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{E} X_{n,i}^2 \rightarrow \sigma^2$$

$$b) \forall \varepsilon > 0 \sum_{i=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{E} [X_{n,i}^2 I(X_{n,i} > \varepsilon)] \rightarrow 0$$

Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m_n} X_{n,i} \rightarrow N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Example: If  $X_{n,i} \sim \text{Ber}(1/n)$  then  $\mathbb{E} X_{n,i}^2 = \frac{1}{n}$   
 so  $\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} X_{n,i}^2 \rightarrow 1$ . But

$$\mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{n,i}^2 I(X_{n,i} > \frac{1}{2}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} X_{n,i}^2 = 1. \quad \text{b) fails}$$

In this case

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_{n,i} \xrightarrow{d} \text{Pois}(1).$$


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# Rate of Convergence to Normal

## Berry-Essen Theorem

If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  independent,  $\mathbb{E}X_i = 0$ ,  
 $\mathbb{E}X_i^2 = \sigma_i^2$ ,  $\mathbb{E}|X_i|^3 = \rho_i$

$$S_n = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2\right)^{1/2}}, \quad F_n(x) = \mathbb{P}[S_n \leq x]$$

$\Phi$  CDF of  $N(0,1)$  then

$$\sup_x |F_n(x) - \Phi(x)| \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \rho_i}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\text{If IID, } \leq \frac{\rho}{\sigma^{3/2} \sqrt{n}}$$

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## Large Deviations $S_n = \sum X_i$ $X_i$ IID

What about  $\mathbb{P}[S_n \geq n(\mu + a)]$ ?

Let

$$R(\theta) = \mathbb{E} e^{\theta X_i}$$

• Assume  $R(\theta) < \infty$  for  $0 < \theta < \theta_+$

$$s(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \mathbb{P}[S_n \geq nt]$$

Existence Let  $s_{t,n} = \log \mathbb{P}[S_n \geq nt]$



$$\mathbb{P}[S_{n+m} \geq nt] \geq \mathbb{P}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \geq nt\right] \cdot \mathbb{P}\left[\sum_{i=n+1}^{n+m} X_i \geq mt\right]$$

$\Rightarrow S_{t, n+m} \geq S_{t, n} + S_{t, m}$  Super additive

Claim: If a sequence  $a_n$  is super additive then  $\lim_n \frac{a_n}{n} = \sup_m \frac{a_m}{m}$

Proof:  $\limsup \frac{a_n}{n} \leq \sup \frac{a_m}{m}$

Choose  $m$  such that  $a_m \geq \sup \frac{a_m}{m} - \epsilon$ .

By superadditivity,  $a_{km} \geq k a_m$ .

Let  $k_n = \lfloor n/m \rfloor$  and  $j_n = n - m k_n$  so  $0 \leq j_n < m$  and  $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim \frac{a_n}{n} &= \liminf \frac{k_n a_m + a_{j_n}}{k_n m + j_n} \\ &= \frac{a_m}{m} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $s(t) = \sup \frac{1}{n} \log \mathbb{P}[S_n \geq nt]$ .

Bound using Markov's Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[S_n \geq nt] &= \mathbb{P}[e^{\theta S_n} \geq e^{\theta nt}] \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E} e^{\theta \sum_{i=1}^n X_i}}{e^{\theta nt}} = \frac{(\mathbb{E} e^{\theta X_i})^n}{(e^{\theta t})^n} = \left(\frac{R(\theta)}{e^{\theta t}}\right)^n \end{aligned}$$

If  $K(\theta) = \log R(\theta)$  then

$$s(t) \leq K(\theta) - \theta t \quad \forall \theta$$

$$\leq \inf_{\theta} K(\theta) - \theta t.$$

Cramer's Theorem  $s(t) = \inf_{\theta} K(\theta) - \theta t.$

Proof: Let  $F_{\theta}(x) = \frac{1}{R(\theta)} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{\theta y} dy$   
a distribution function.

$$\frac{d^2 K}{d\theta^2} = \frac{d}{d\theta} \frac{R'(\theta)}{R(\theta)} = \frac{R''(\theta)}{R(\theta)} - \left( \frac{R'(\theta)}{R(\theta)} \right)^2$$

$$= \int x^2 dF_{\theta}(x) - \left( \int x dF_{\theta}(x) \right)^2$$
$$= \text{Var } X^{(\theta)} \geq 0 \quad \text{where } X^{(\theta)} \sim F_{\theta}.$$

So  $K$  is strictly convex.

Set  $\theta_t$  such that  $K'(\theta_t) = \frac{R'(\theta_t)}{R(\theta_t)} = t.$

Let  $F_{\theta}^n$  be CDF of  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^{(\theta)}$  where  
 $X_i^{(\theta)} \sim F_{\theta}$  are independent.

Then

Lem: If  $t > \mu$  then  $s(t) < 0$ .

Proof: 
$$\frac{d}{d\theta} K(\theta) \Big|_{\theta=0} = \frac{R'(0)}{R(0)} = \frac{d}{d\theta} \mathbb{E} e^{\theta X} \Big|_{\theta=0}$$

$$= \mathbb{E} X = \mu.$$

So 
$$\frac{d}{d\theta} K(\theta) - \theta t \Big|_{\theta=0} = \mu - t < 0.$$

Bernoulli: Case

$$\mathbb{P} [ \text{Bin}(n, p) > np + x ] \leq \exp \left( - \frac{x^2}{2np(1-p)} \right)$$

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