

# Mathematics 231

Lecture 18  
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## Announcements

- Reading
  - Today M&M 5.1 311-331
  - Next M&M 5.2 335-346

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## Topics

- Bayes Rule
- Binomial Distribution
- Sampling Distribution of a Proportion

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## Bayes' Rule

- The first steps in solving a nasty probability problem:
  - Define your events
  - Write down all the information you know
  - Write down what you're looking for
- Potential problem: You want  $P(B|A)$ , but you have  $P(A|B)$ .
- Potential solution: Bayes' Rule

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A|B)P(B)}{P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)}$$

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## Bayes' Rule

- Consider a test for smoking administered to high school students
- $P(T+ | \text{Smoker}) = 0.209$ ;  $P(T- | \text{Nonsmoker}) = 0.967$
- $P(\text{Smoker}) = 0.15$
- What is  $P(\text{Smoker} | T+)$ ?
- Answer: 0.037

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## Binomial Distribution

- Let B be a dichotomous (Bernoulli) random variable with  
 $P(B=1) = p$   
 $P(B=0) = 1 - p$   
e.g., heads/tails, male/female, success/failure
- Consider a fixed number, **n**, of **independent** observations with constant probability of “success” (**p**) for each trial.
- Let X denote the total number of successes observed in n trials.

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## Binomial Distribution

- Then X has a binomial distribution, denoted  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ ,

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{(n-x)}$$

$n$  = number of trials

$x$  = number of successes

$p$  = probability of success

$$\binom{n}{x} = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!}$$

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## Binomial Mean and SD

- If  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ , then the mean and SD of X are,

$$\mu_X = np$$

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$$

- Example: If  $X \sim \text{Bin}(10, 0.5)$  then,

$$\text{Mean} = 10 \cdot 0.5 = 5$$

$$\text{SD} = (10 \cdot 0.5 \cdot 0.5)^{0.5} = 1.6$$

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## Sample Proportion

- Let  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ .

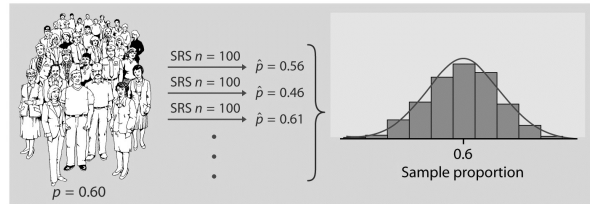
Consider the sample proportion,  $\hat{p} = \frac{x}{n}$

The mean and SD of the sample proportion are,

$$\mu_{\hat{p}} = p$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

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## Sampling Distribution for a Proportion

- When  $n$  is large ( $np \geq 10$  and  $n(1-p) \geq 10$ ) then

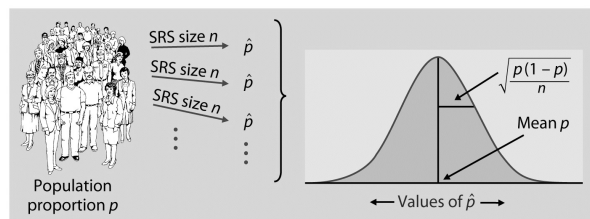
the sampling distribution of  $\hat{p} = \frac{x}{n}$

is approximately normal with

$$\mu_{\hat{p}} = p$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

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## ESP Experiment

- 5 cards with symbols; identify symbols with ESP
- Conducted 60,000 trials
- If no ESP,  $P(\text{guess correctly}) = 1/5$
- Expected number correct =  $60000/5 = 12,000$
- Actual result: 12,489  
(sample proportion=0.20815)
- Is this result likely to have occurred by chance alone?

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## ESP Experiment

- When  $n$  is large (**check assumptions**),

the sampling distribution of  $\hat{p} = \frac{x}{n}$

is approximately normal with

$$\mu_{\hat{p}} = p = 0.2$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.2(1-0.2)}{60000}} = .00163$$

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## ESP Experiment

- If there is no ESP are we likely to obtain a sample proportion of 0.20815?
- Standardize:
- Let  $Z = (0.20815 - 0.2) / 0.001623 = 4.99$
- $P(Z > 4.99) = 0.0000003$

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