

Lecture 4:  
Poisson Approximation to Binomial  
Distribution;  
Measures of Center and Variability for  
Data (Sample);

Chapter 2

# No Lab this week, but...

- Questions in Lab# 2 are related to this week's topics...
- Hw#2 is due by 5pm, next Monday

# Poisson Approximation for the Binomial Distribution

- For **Binomial Distribution with large  $n$** , calculating the mass function is pretty nasty

- Good news:

when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\pi \rightarrow 0$ ,  $n\pi \rightarrow$  a constant  $\lambda$

Binomial( $n, \pi$ )  $\rightarrow$  Poisson( $\lambda$ ), i.e.:

$$\frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} \pi^x (1-\pi)^{n-x} \rightarrow \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}$$

- So for those nasty “large” Binomials ( $n \geq 100$ ) and for small  $\pi$  (usually  $\leq 0.01$ ), we can use a Poisson with  $\lambda = n\pi$  ( $\leq 20$ ) to approximate it!

# Example

Suppose 1 in 5000 light bulbs are defective. Let  $X$  denote the number of defective light bulbs in a group of size 10000. What is the chance that at least 3 of them is defective?

Check the appropriateness for Poisson approximation:

$n \geq 100$ ? Yes.     $\pi \leq 0.01$ ? Yes.     $n\pi \leq 20$ ? Yes.

- For  $\lambda = n\pi = 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(proportion with } x \geq 3) &= 1 - \text{(proportion with } x < 3) \\ &= 1 - [p(0) + p(1) + p(2)] = \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Density (for Continuous) and Mass (for Discrete) functions

- tell you the “chance/proportion/probability” that a variable takes a certain value
    - Need to know the distribution expression
  - both used to rigorously describe populations or processes
    - How to know which distribution is applicable?
- See Chapter 2
- Numerical measures for both samples and populations
  - **Bring Your Calculator from now on...**

## 2.1

# Measures of Center (Data)

- The sample mean – arithmetic average
- From a sample of  $n$  observations,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , the mean is given by:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i$$

# Examples

- Scores for 10 students are:

80 85 81 87 78 82 80 83 85 86

- So,  $\sum x_i = 80 + 85 + \dots + 86 = 827$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{10} \sum x_i = 82.7$$

# Means: not resistant to outliers...

- Scores for 11 students are:

80 85 81 87 78 82 80 83 85 86 **2**

- So,  $\sum x_i = 80 + 85 + \dots + 86 + 2 = 829$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{11} \sum x_i = 75.4$$

- What does this say about the mean?

# Measures of Center (Data)

- The sample median – midpoint
- From a sample of  $n$  observations,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , the median is given by

1. Order the observations from smallest to largest

$$2. \tilde{x} = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)\text{th value on the ordered list,} & \text{when } n \text{ is odd} \\ \text{average of } \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\text{th and } \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)\text{th value on the ordered list,} & \text{when } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

- Intuitively, it is the middle observation (in an ordered list)

# Examples

- Scores for 10 students are:

80 85 81 87 78 82 80 83 85 86

Step 1: Reordered observations:

78 80 80 81 82 83 85 85 86  
87

Step 2:  $n=10$ , an even number. so take the average of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> observation (in the sorted list)

$$\tilde{x} = \frac{(82 + 83)}{2} = 82.5$$

# Median: a more resistant measure of center

- Scores for 11 students are:

80 85 81 87 78 82 80 83 85 86 **2**

- Reordered,

2 78 80 80 81 82 83 85 85 86 87

$$\frac{n+1}{2} = 6th \text{ position, } \tilde{x} = 82$$

- What does this say about the median?

# Trimmed Means (page 62)

- Rank the observations from smallest to largest, then trim off a percentage from both ends of the data before taking the mean

- So for our example with 11 students:

2 78 80 80 81 82 83 85 85 86 87

- We could trim off say  $1/11$  or 9% from each end (just one value)

78 80 80 81 82 83 85 85 86

- Trimmed mean is 82.222

# Review

Up to Now:

- Measure of center of Data (Sample)
  - Sample mean
  - Sample median
  - Trimmed means

*Later,*

- Measure of variability for Data (Sample)
  - Sample variance
  - Standard deviation

And: Measure of Center for Distributions

- Population Mean/ Expected Value;
- Population Median, for continuous distributions.
- *how to measure **variability for distributions** (Population)*
- ***graphically display** both the center and variability of Data (Sample);*

## 2.2

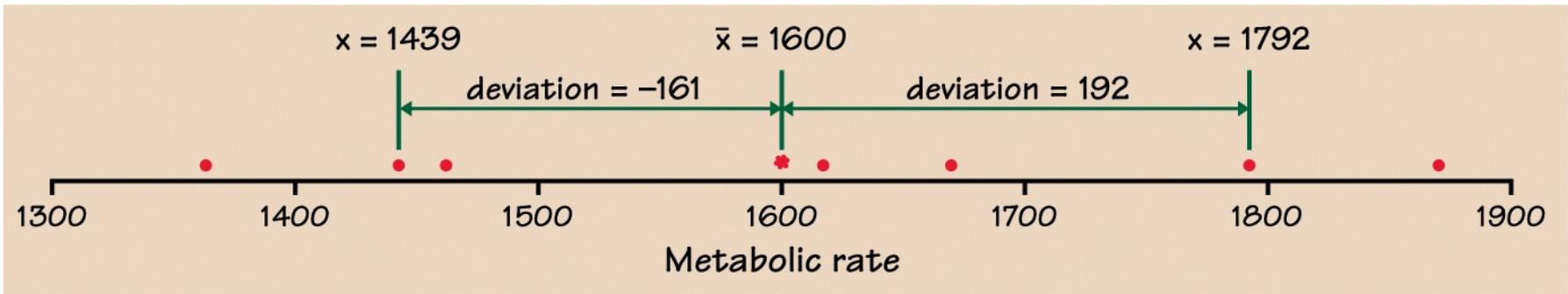
# Standard Deviation for Data

- Deviation :  $x_i - \bar{x}$
- Variance :  $s^2$

$$s^2 = \frac{(x_1 - \bar{x})^2 + (x_2 - \bar{x})^2 + \dots + (x_n - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

- Standard Deviation :  $s$

$$s = \sqrt{s^2} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$



DATA: 1792 1666 1362 1614 1460 1867 1439  
 Mean = 1600

- Find the deviations from the mean:

$$\text{Deviation}_1 = 1792 - 1600 = 192$$

$$\text{Deviation}_2 = 1666 - 1600 = 66$$

...

$$\text{Deviation}_7 = 1439 - 1600 = -161$$

- Square the deviations.
- Add them up and divide the sum by  $n-1 = 6$ , this gives you  $s^2$ .  $n-1$ : degrees of freedom.
- Take square root: Standard Deviation =  $s = 189.24$

# Measures of Variability (Data)

- The sample variance,  $s^2$ 
  - From a sample of  $n$  observations,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , the sample variance is given by

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1} = \frac{S_{xx}}{n - 1}, \text{ where } S_{xx} = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

- Why divide by  $n - 1$ ? From the degrees of freedom
- The sample standard deviation,  $s$ 
  - Just take the square root of the variance

$$s = \sqrt{s^2}$$

# Example

- Scores for 10 students are:

80 85 81 87 78 82 80 83 85 86

- Calculations on board...

Mean = 82.7,

- OR just plug into calculator  $s=2.983287$

# After Class ...

- Start Hw#2 now
- Review sections 2.1 and 2.2, especially Pg 63 – 68, 74 – 77
- Read section 2.3, self-reading Pg95