

Minicourse 3:

Limiting Distributions in Combinatorics

Michael Drmota

Institute of Discrete Mathematics and Geometry

Vienna University of Technology

A 1040 Wien, Austria

michael.drmota@tuwien.ac.at

www.dmg.tuwien.ac.at/drmota/

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Standard Reference

Philippe Flajolet and Robert Sedgewick,
Analytic Combinatorics,
Cambridge University Press, to appear 2008.
(<http://algo.inria.fr/flajolet/Publications/books.html>)

+ special reference for last part:

M. Drmota, B. Gittenberger and T. Klausner,
Extended admissible functions and Gaussian limiting distributions,
Math. Comput. 74 (2005), 1953–1966.

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

Coin tossing

- $\mathbb{P}\{ct = \text{head}\} = \mathbb{P}\{ct = \text{tail}\} = \frac{1}{2}$.
- random variable $\xi = \mathbb{I}_{\{ct=\text{tail}\}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if tail} \\ 0 & \text{if head} \end{cases}$
- n independent runs: $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n$, $\mathbb{P}\{\xi_j = 1\} = \mathbb{P}\{\xi_j = 0\} = \frac{1}{2}$.
- $X_n = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \dots + \xi_n$... the number of tails within n runs

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{\binom{n}{k}}{2^n}$$

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

Counting generating function

$a_n = 2^n$... total number of possible n -runs

$a_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k}$... the number of n -runs with k tails

$A_n(u) = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{n,k} u^k = \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{n}{k} u^k = (1 + u)^n$... counting gen. func.

$A_n(1) = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{n,k} = a_n = (1 + 1)^n = 2^n$

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

Probability generating function

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} u^{X_n} &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} \cdot u^k \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{2^n} \binom{n}{k} \cdot u^k \\ &= \frac{(1+u)^n}{2^n} = \frac{A_n(u)}{A_n(1)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{a_{n,k}}{a_n} \implies \boxed{\mathbb{E} u^{X_n} = \frac{A_n(u)}{A_n(1)}}$$

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

Powers of probability generating functions

$$\mathbb{E} u^{\xi} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}u = \frac{1+u}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \mathbb{E} u^{X_n} &= \mathbb{E} u^{\xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n} \\ &= \mathbb{E} (u^{\xi_1} \dots u^{\xi_n}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} (u^{\xi_1}) \dots \mathbb{E} (u^{\xi_n}) \quad \xi_j \text{ independent !!!} \\ &= \left(\frac{1+u}{2} \right)^n \end{aligned}$$

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

General fact

$X_n = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \cdots + \xi_n$, where the r.v.'s ξ_j are **iid***

$$\implies \mathbb{E} u^{X_n} = \left(\mathbb{E} u^{\xi_1} \right)^n$$

* **Notation.** “iid” ... independently and identically distributed

Sums of independent random variables and powers of generating functions

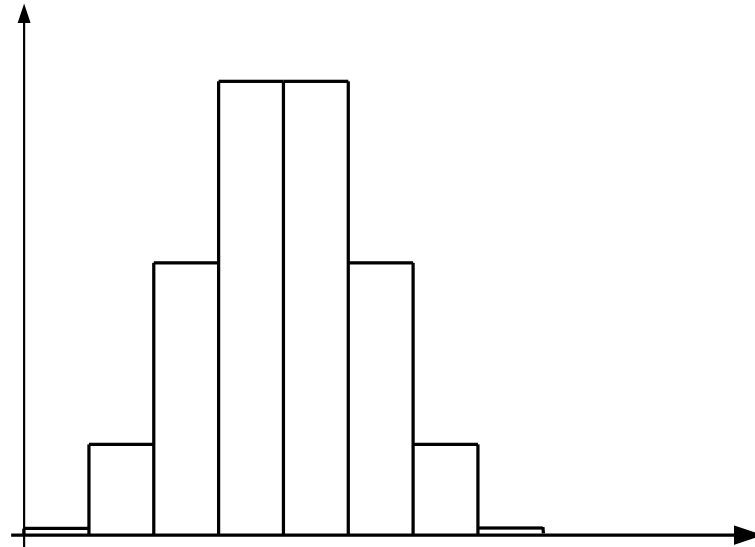
Relation to moment generating function $m_Z(v) = \mathbb{E} e^{vZ}$

$\mathbb{E}(Z^r)$... r -th moment of Z

$$\implies \sum_{r \geq 0} \mathbb{E}(Z^r) \frac{v^r}{r!} = \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{r \geq 0} \frac{Z^r v^r}{r!} \right) = \mathbb{E} e^{vZ} = \mathbb{E} u^Z \quad \text{with } \boxed{u = e^v}.$$

A central limit theorem

Binomial coefficients

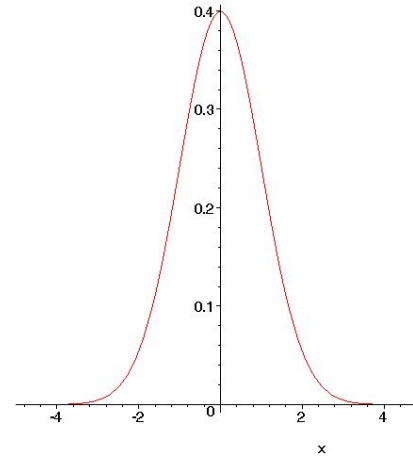


$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{2^n}{\sqrt{\pi n/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(k - \frac{n}{2})^2}{n/2}\right) + O(2^n/n)$$

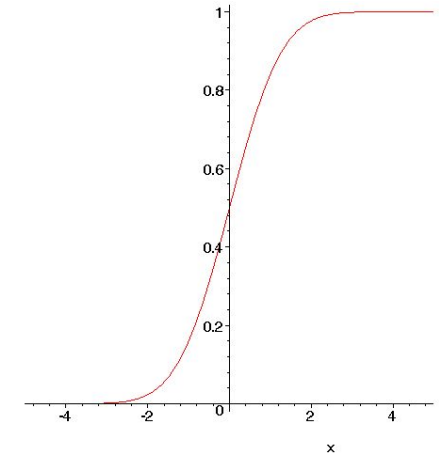
A central limit theorem

Standard normal distribution

density: $f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2}$.



normal distribution function: $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2} dt$



A central limit theorem

Normally distributed random variable

Definition

A random variable Z has **standard normal distribution** $N(0, 1)$ if

$$\mathbb{P}\{Z \leq x\} = \Phi(x).$$

A random variable Z is **normally distributed** (or **Gaussian**) with mean μ and variance σ^2 if its distribution function is given by

$$\mathbb{P}\{Z \leq x\} = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right),$$

Notation. $\mathcal{L}(Z) = N(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

A central limit theorem

Moment generating function of $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$:

$$m_Z(v) = \mathbb{E} e^{vZ} = e^{\mu v - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 v^2}.$$

Characteristic function of $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$:

$$\varphi_Z(t) = \mathbb{E} e^{itZ} = e^{i\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}.$$

Standard normal distribution: $\mu = 0, \sigma^2 = 1$

$$\mathbb{E} e^{vZ} = e^{\frac{1}{2}v^2}, \quad \mathbb{E} e^{itZ} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2}$$

A central limit theorem

Definition We say, that a sequence of random variables X_n satisfies a **central limit theorem** with (scaling) mean μ_n and (scaling) variance σ_n^2 if

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n \leq \mu_n + x \cdot \sigma_n\} = \Phi(x) + o(1)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Example. X_n = number of tails in n runs of coin tossing:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\{X_n \leq n/2 + x \cdot \sqrt{n/4}\} &= \sum_{k \leq n/2 + x \cdot \sqrt{n/4}} \frac{1}{2^n} \binom{n}{k} \\ &\sim \sum_{k \leq n/2 + x \cdot \sqrt{n/4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi n/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(k - \frac{n}{2})^2}{n/2}\right) \sim \Phi(x). \end{aligned}$$

X_n satisfies a central limit theorem with mean $\frac{n}{2}$ and variance $\frac{n}{4}$.

Central Limit Theorem

Definition *Weak convergence:*

$$\boxed{X_n \xrightarrow{d} X} \quad :\Leftrightarrow \quad \boxed{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\{X_n \leq x\} = \mathbb{P}\{X \leq x\}}$$

*for all points of continuity
of $F_X(x) = \mathbb{P}\{X \leq x\}$*

Reformulation:

X_n satisfies a **central limit theorem** with (scaling) mean μ_n and (scaling) variance σ_n^2 is the same as

$$\boxed{\frac{X_n - \mu_n}{\sigma_n} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)}.$$

A central limit theorem

Weak convergence via moment generating functions

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} e^{vX_n} = \mathbb{E} e^{vX} \quad (v \in \mathbb{R}) \quad \implies \quad X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$$

Moreover, we have convergence of all moments: $\mathbb{E}(X_n^r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(X^r)$.

Recall: $\mathbb{E} e^{vX_n} = \mathbb{E}((e^v)^{X_n}) = \mathbb{E} u^{X_n}$ for $u = e^v$.

A central limit theorem

Weak convergence via characteristic functions (Levy's Criterion)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} e^{itX_n} = \mathbb{E} e^{itX} \quad (t \in \mathbb{R}) \quad \iff \quad X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$$

Moreover, if for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\psi(t) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} e^{itX_n}$$

exists and $\psi(t)$ is continuous at $t = 0$ then $\psi(t)$ is the characteristic function of a random variable X for which we have $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$.

Central Limit Theorem

Theorem

ξ_1, ξ_2, \dots iid, $\mathbb{E} \xi_i^2 < \infty$, $X_n = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \dots + \xi_n$

$$\implies \boxed{\frac{X_n - \mathbb{E} X_n}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V} X_n}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)}$$

Remark. $\iff \mathbb{P}\{X_n \leq \mathbb{E} X_n + x\sqrt{\mathbb{V} X_n}\} = \Phi(x) + o(1)$.

Proof

$$\mu = \mathbb{E} \xi_i, \sigma^2 = \mathbb{V} \xi_i = \mathbb{E} (\xi_i^2) - (\mathbb{E} \xi_i)^2 \implies \mathbb{E} X_n = n\mu, \mathbb{V} X_n = n\sigma^2.$$

Central Limit Theorem

$$\varphi_{\xi_i}(t) = \mathbb{E} e^{it\xi_i} = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2} (1+o(1)) \quad (t \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\varphi_{X_n}(t) = \varphi_{\xi_i}(t)^n$$

$$Z_n := (X_n - \mu n) / \sqrt{\sigma^2 n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \boxed{\varphi_{Z_n}(t)} &= \mathbb{E} e^{itZ_n} \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot \mathbb{E} \left(e^{(it/(\sqrt{n}\sigma))(\xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n)} \right) \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot \boxed{\left(\mathbb{E} e^{(it/(\sqrt{n}\sigma)\xi_1)} \right)^n} \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot e^{it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma - \frac{1}{2}t^2} (1+o(1)) \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2} (1+o(1)) \rightarrow \boxed{e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

+ Levy's criterion.

A central limit theorem

Quasi-Power Theorem (Hwang)

Let X_n be a sequence of random variables with the property that

$$\mathbb{E} u^{X_n} = A(u) \cdot B(u)^{\lambda_n} \cdot \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{\phi_n}\right) \right)$$

holds uniformly in a complex neighborhood of $u = 1$, $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ and $\phi_n \rightarrow \infty$, and $A(u)$ and $B(u)$ are analytic functions in a neighborhood of $u = 1$ with $A(1) = B(1) = 1$. Set

$$\mu = B'(1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^2 = B''(1) + B'(1) - B'(1)^2.$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X_n = \mu \lambda_n + O(1 + \lambda_n/\phi_n), \quad \mathbb{V} X_n = \sigma^2 \lambda_n + O(1 + \lambda_n/\phi_n),$$

$$\frac{X_n - \mathbb{E} X_n}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V} X_n}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \quad (\sigma^2 \neq 0).$$

Bivariate generating functions

Bivariate counting generating function

$$A(x, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} \binom{n}{k} u^k x^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} (1 + u)^n x^n = \frac{1}{1 - x(1 + u)}.$$

Observation: this is a **rational function!**

Bivariate generating functions

Rational functions

$P(x, u), Q(x, u)$ polynomials:

$$A(x, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} a_{n, k} u^k x^n = \frac{P(x, u)}{Q(x, u)}$$

Assumption: factorization of denominator

$$Q(x, u) = \prod_{j=1}^r \left(1 - \frac{x}{\rho_j(u)} \right)$$

with

$$\boxed{|\rho_1(u)| < \max_{2 \leq j \leq r} |\rho_j(u)|} \quad \text{for } |u - 1| < \varepsilon.$$

Bivariate generating functions

Central limit theorem for rational functions

Suppose that $A(x, u) = \sum a_{n,k} u^k x^n$ with $a_{n,k} \geq 0$ is **rational** and satisfies the assumptions from above.

Let X_n be a sequence of random variables with

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{a_{n,k}}{a_n}$$

with $a_n = \sum_k a_{n,k}$.

Then X_n satisfies a **central limit theorem** with

$$\mu_n = -n \frac{\rho_1'(1)}{\rho_1(1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_n^2 = n \left(-\frac{\rho_1''(1)}{\rho_1(1)} - \frac{\rho_1'(1)}{\rho_1(1)} + \frac{\rho_1'(1)^2}{\rho_1(1)^2} \right).$$

Bivariate generating functions

Proof

Partial fraction decomposition:

$$A(x, u) = \frac{C_1(u)}{1 - x/\rho_1(u)} + \dots + \frac{C_r(u)}{1 - x/\rho_r(u)}$$

$$\implies A_n(u) = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{n,k} u^k = C_1(u) \rho_1(u)^{-n} + \dots + C_r(u) \rho_r(u)^{-n} \sim C_1(u) \rho_1(u)^{-n}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} u^{X_n} = \frac{A_n(u)}{A_n(1)} \sim \frac{C_1(u)}{C_1(1)} \left(\frac{\rho_1(1)}{\rho_1(u)} \right)^n$$

\implies central limit theorem.

Bivariate generating functions

Integer compositions

$3 = 1 + 1 + 1 = 2 + 1 = 1 + 2 = 3 \dots$ 4 compositions of 3.

$a_n =$ number of compositions of n , $A(x) = \sum a_n x^n$:

$$A(x) = 1 + A(x)(x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots) = 1 + A(x)\frac{x}{1-x}.$$

$$\implies A(x) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x}{1-x}} = \frac{1-x}{1-2x}$$

$$\implies \boxed{a_n = 2^{n-1}}$$

Bivariate generating functions

Integer compositions

$a_{n,k}$ = number of integer composition of n with k summands

$$A(x, u) = \sum a_{n,k} u^k x^n:$$

$$A(x, u) = 1 + uA(x, u)(x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots) = 1 + A(x, u) \frac{xu}{1-x}.$$

$$\implies A(x, u) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{xu}{1-x}} = \frac{1-x}{1-x(1+u)}$$

\implies **central limit theorem** with $\mu_n = \frac{n}{2}$ and $\sigma^2 = \frac{n}{4}$.

Bivariate generating functions

Systems of linear equations

Suppose, that several generating functions

$$A_1(x, u) = \sum_{n,k} a_{1;n,k} u^k x^n, \dots, A_r(x, u) = \sum_{n,k} a_{r;n,k} u^k x^n$$

satisfy a **linear system of equations**.

Then all generating functions $A_j(x, u)$ are rational and a **central limit theorem** for corresponding random variables is **expected**.

Bivariate generating functions

Meromorphic functions

The function $A(x, u)$ is meromorphic in x when u is considered as a parameter and there exists a dominant root $\rho_1(u)$ such that (locally)

$$A(x, u) = \frac{C(x, u)}{1 - \frac{x}{\rho_1(u)}}$$

$$\implies A_n(u) \sim C(\rho_1(u), u) \cdot \rho_1(u)^{-n}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} u^{X_n} \sim \frac{C(\rho_1(u), u)}{C(\rho_1(1), 1)} \left(\frac{\rho_1(1)}{\rho_1(u)} \right)^n$$

\implies central limit theorem.

Bivariate generating functions

Number of cycles in permutations

$p_{n,k}$ = number of permutations of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ with k cycles

$$\hat{P}(x, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} p_{n,k} \cdot u^k \cdot \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^{u \cdot \log \frac{1}{1-x}} = \frac{1}{(1-x)^u}$$

Remark: $p_{n,k} = (-1)^{n-k} s_{n,k}$, where $s_{n,k}$ are the **Stirling number of the first kind**.

Excursion: Singularity Analysis

Lemma 1 *Suppose that*

$$y(x) = (1 - x/x_0)^{-\alpha}.$$

Then

$$y_n = (-1)^n \binom{-\alpha}{n} x_0^{-n} = \frac{n^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x_0^{-n} + \mathcal{O}(n^{\alpha-2}) x_0^{-n}.$$

Remark: This asymptotic expansion is uniform in α if α varies in a compact region of the complex plane.

Excursion: Singularity Analysis

Lemma 2 (Flajolet and Odlyzko) *Let*

$$y(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} y_n x^n$$

be analytic in a region

$$\Delta = \{x : |x| < x_0 + \eta, |\arg(x - x_0)| > \delta\},$$

$$x_0 > 0, \eta > 0, 0 < \delta < \pi/2.$$

Suppose that for some real α

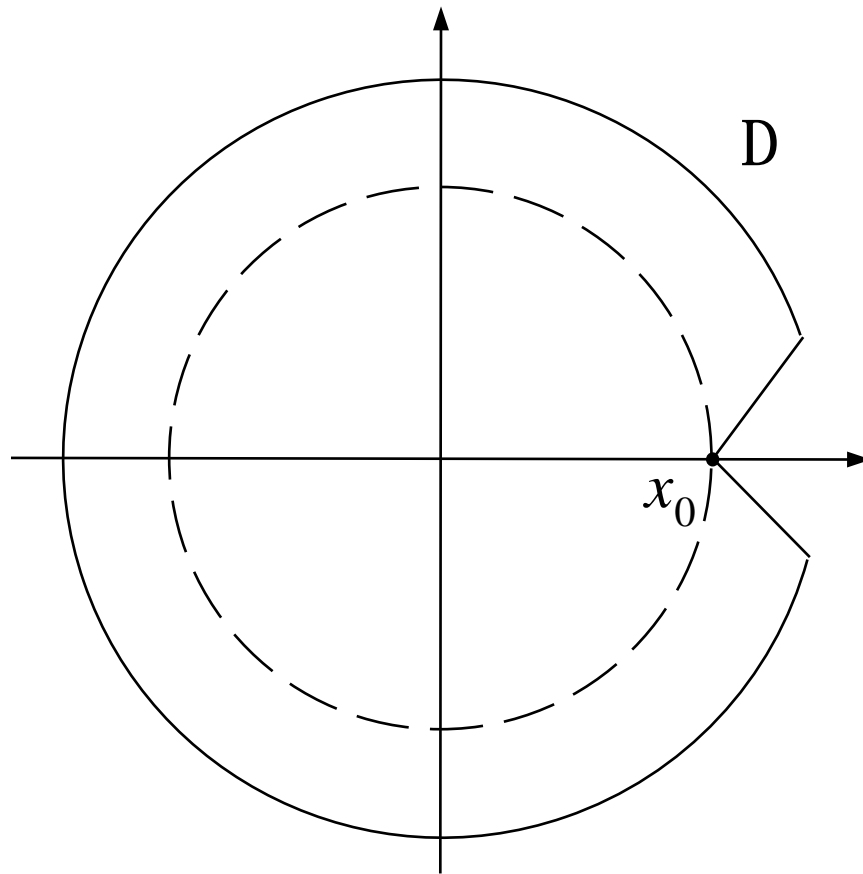
$$y(x) = \mathcal{O}\left((1 - x/x_0)^{-\alpha}\right) \quad (x \in \Delta).$$

Then

$$y_n = \mathcal{O}\left(x_0^{-n} n^{\alpha-1}\right).$$

Excursion: Singularity Analysis

Δ -region



Bivariate generating functions

Number of cycles in permutations (continued)

$$\hat{P}(x, u) = e^{u \log \frac{1}{1-x}} = \frac{1}{(1-x)^u}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies p_n(u) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} p_{n,k} u^k \\ &\sim n! \frac{n^{u-1}}{\Gamma(u)} \\ &= n! \frac{e^{(u-1) \log n}}{\Gamma(u)} \end{aligned}$$

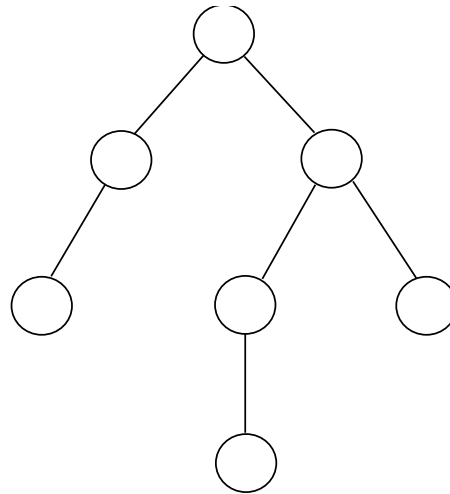
$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{E} u^{X_n} \sim \frac{1}{\Gamma(u)} (e^{u-1})^{\log n}}$$

\implies central limit theorem with $\mu_n = \log n$ and $\sigma_n^2 = \log n$.

Generalization: Exp-Log-Schemes: $F(x, u) = e^{h(u) \log \frac{1}{1-x} + R(x, u)}$.

Bivariate generating functions

Catalan trees g_n = number of Catalan trees of size n .



$$G(x) = x(1 + G(x) + G(x)^2 + \dots) = \frac{x}{1 - G(x)}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x}}{2} \implies g_n = \frac{1}{n} \binom{2n - 2}{n - 1}.$$

(Catalan numbers)

Bivariate generating functions

Catalan trees with singularity analysis

$$G(x) = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1 - 4x}$$

$$\implies g_n \sim -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{4^n n^{-3/2}}{\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2})} = \frac{4^{n-1}}{\sqrt{\pi} \cdot n^{3/2}}$$

Bivariate generating functions

Number of leaves of Catalan trees

$g_{n,k}$ = number of Catalan trees of size n with k leaves.

$$G(x, u) = xu + x(G(x, u) + G(x, u)^2 + \dots) = xu + \frac{xG(x, u)}{1 - G(x, u)}$$

$$\implies G(x, u) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + (u - 1)x - \sqrt{1 - 2(u + 1)x + (u - 1)^2 x^2} \right)$$

$$\implies G(x, u) = g(x, u) - h(x, u) \sqrt{1 - \frac{x}{\rho(u)}}$$

for certain analytic function $g(x, u)$, $h(x, u)$, and $\rho(u)$.

Bivariate generating functions

Application of singularity analysis

Considering u as a parameter we get

$$G_n(u) = \sum_{k \geq 0} g_{n,k} u^k \sim \frac{h(\rho(u), u) \cdot \rho(u)^{-n} \cdot n^{-3/2}}{2\sqrt{\pi}}$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{E} u^{X_n} = \frac{G_n(u)}{G_n(1)} \sim \frac{h(\rho(u), u)}{h(\rho(1), 1)} \left(\frac{\rho(1)}{\rho(u)} \right)^n}$$

\implies central limit theorem with $\mu_n = \frac{n}{2}$ and $\sigma_n^2 = \frac{n}{8}$

Bivariate generating functions

Cayley trees

$T_{n,k}$ = number of Cayley trees of size n with k leaves

$$T(x, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} T_{n,k} u^k \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\implies \boxed{T(x, u) = x e^{T(x, u)} + x(u - 1)}$$

$$\implies \text{?????}$$

Functional equations

Catalan trees: $G(x, u) = xu + xG(x, u)/(1 - G(x, u))$

Cayley trees: $T(x, u) = xe^{T(x, u)} + x(u - 1)$

Recursive structure leads to functional equation for gen. func.:

$$A(x, u) = \Phi(x, u, A(x, u))$$

Functional equations

Linear functional equation: $\Phi(x, u, a) = \Phi_0(x, u) + a\Phi_1(x, u)$

$$\implies A(x, u) = \frac{\Phi_0(x, u)}{1 - \Phi_1(x, u)}$$

Usually techniques similar to those used for rational resp. meromorphic functions work and prove a **central limit theorem**.

Functional equations

Non-linear functional equations: $\Phi_{aa}(x, u, a) \neq 0$.

Suppose that $A(x, u) = \Phi(x, u, A(x, u))$, where $\Phi(x, u, a)$ has a power series expansion at $(0, 0, 0)$ with non-negative coefficients and $\Phi_{aa}(x, u, a) \neq 0$.

Let $x_0 > 0$, $a_0 > 0$ (inside the region of convergence) satisfy the system of equations:

$$a_0 = \Phi(x_0, 1, a_0), \quad 1 = \Phi_a(x_0, 1, a_0).$$

Then there exists analytic function $g(x, u)$, $h(x, u)$, and $\rho(u)$ such that locally

$$A(x, u) = g(x, u) - h(x, u) \sqrt{1 - \frac{x}{\rho(u)}}.$$

Functional equations

Idea of the Proof.

Set $F(x, u, a) = \Phi(x, u, a) - a$. Then we have

$$F(x_0, 1, a_0) = 0$$

$$F_a(x_0, 1, a_0) = 0$$

$$F_x(x_0, 1, a_0) \neq 0$$

$$F_{aa}(x_0, 1, a_0) \neq 0.$$

Weierstrass preparation theorem implies that there exist analytic functions $H(x, u, a)$, $p(x, u)$, $q(x, u)$ with $H(x_0, 1, a_0) \neq 0$, $p(x_0, 1) = q(x_0, 1) = 0$ and

$$F(x, u, a) = H(x, u, a) \left((a - a_0)^2 + p(x, u)(a - a_0) + q(x, u) \right).$$

Functional equations

$$F(x, u, a) = 0 \iff (a - a_0)^2 + p(x, u)(a - a_0) + q(x, u) = 0.$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} A(x, u) &= a_0 - \frac{p(x, u)}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{p(x, u)^2}{4} - q(x, u)} \\ &= \boxed{g(x, u) - h(x, u) \sqrt{1 - \frac{x}{\rho(u)}}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we write

$$\frac{p(x, u)^2}{4} - q(x, u) = K(x, u)(x - \rho(u))$$

which is again granted by the Weierstrass preparation theorem and we set

$$g(x, u) = a_0 - \frac{p(x, u)}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad h(x, u) = \sqrt{-K(x, u)\rho(u)}.$$

Functional equations

A central limit theorem for functional equations

Suppose that $A(x, u) = \Phi(x, u, A(x, u))$, where $\Phi(x, u, a)$ has a power series expansion at $(0, 0, 0)$ with non-negative coefficients and $\Phi_{aa}(x, u, a) \neq 0$ (+ *minor* technical conditions). Set

$$\mu = \frac{x_0 \Phi_x(x_0, 1, a_0)}{\Phi(x_0, 1, a_0)} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^2 = \text{"long formula"}.$$

Then the random variable X_n defined by $\mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = a_{n,k}/a_n$ satisfies a **central limit theorem** with

$$\mu_n = n\mu \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_n^2 = n\sigma^2.$$

Functional equations

Number of leaves in Cayley trees ($T(x) = xe^{T(x)}$)

$$T(x, u) = xe^{T(x, u)} + x(u - 1)$$

$$x_0 = \frac{1}{e}, \quad t_0 = T(x_0) = 1.$$

\implies central limit theorem with $\mu_n = \frac{1}{e}n$ and $\sigma^2 = \frac{e-2}{e^2}n$.

Functional equations

Systems of functional equations

Suppose, that several generating functions

$$A_1(x, u) = \sum_{n,k} a_{1;n,k} u^k x^n, \dots, A_r(x, u) = \sum_{n,k} a_{r;n,k} u^k x^n$$

satisfy a **system of non-linear equations**.

Then (under *suitable conditions*) all generating functions $A_j(x, u)$ (usually) have a squareroot singularity and a **central limit theorem** for corresponding random variables is **expected**.

Non-normal limit theorems

Example 1

$a_{n,k}$ = number of words “ $aa \cdots abb \cdots b$ ” of length n with k letters b .
= 1 for $0 \leq k \leq n$.

$$A(x, u) = \frac{1}{1-x} \cdot \frac{1}{1-xu}$$

and

$$\boxed{\frac{X_n}{n+1} \xrightarrow{d} U}$$

(U ... uniform distribution on $[0, 1]$)

Non-normal limit theorems

Why is there NO central limit theorem?

$A(x, u)$ is a rational function BUT there is **no single root** $\rho_1(u)$ that dominates for u in a neighbourhood of 1.

Furthermore, for $u = 1$ there is a double pole, for $u \neq 1$ two single poles.

Non-normal limit theorems

Example 2

$f_{n,k}$ = number of forests with n nodes of k Cayley trees

X_n = number of trees in a random forest with n nodes.

$$F(x, u) = e^{uT(x)} = \sum_{k \geq 0} u^k \frac{T(x)^k}{k!}$$

Discrete limit distribution:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{e^{-1}}{(k-1)!}.$$

Non-normal limit theorems

Expected value (Ex 2)

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial u} F(x, u) \right|_{u=1} = T(x) e^{T(x)}$$

$$T(x) = x e^{T(x)}, \quad T(x) = 1 - \sqrt{2} \sqrt{1 - ex} + \dots, \quad [x^n] e^{T(x)} = (n + 1)^n$$

$$\implies T(x) e^{T(x)} = e - 2e\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1 - ex} + \dots$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X_n \sim \frac{2en!e^n n^{-3/2} (2\pi)^{-1/2}}{(n + 1)^n} = 2.$$

Non-normal limit theorems

Limiting probabilities (Ex 2)

Similarly

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{n! [x^n] \frac{T(x)^k}{k!}}{n^{n-1}}.$$

$$\frac{T(x)^k}{k!} = \frac{1}{k!} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{(k-1)!} \sqrt{1-ex} + \dots$$

$$\implies \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{e^{-1}}{(k-1)!} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Non-normal limit theorems

Example 3

$r_{n,k}$ = number of mappings on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ with k cyclic points; $r_n = n^n$.

X_n = number of cyclic points in random mappings on $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

$$R(x, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} r_{n,k} u^k \frac{x^n}{n!} = \frac{1}{1 - uT(x)}.$$

Rayleigh limiting distribution

$$\frac{X_n}{\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{R}$$

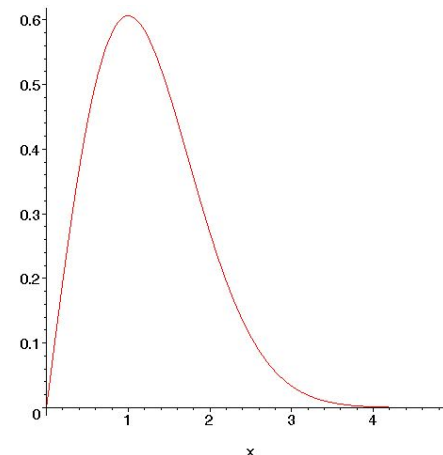
Non-normal limit theorems

Rayleigh distribution

density: $f(x) = xe^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$, $x \geq 0$.

distribution function $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$, $x \geq 0$.

moments: $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{R}^r) = 2^{r/2}\Gamma\left(\frac{r}{2} + 1\right)$.



Method of moments

Theorem

Z_n and Z random variables such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(Z_n^r) = \mathbb{E}(Z^r)$$

for all r and the moments $\mathbb{E}(Z^r)$ uniquely define the distribution of Z (for example the moment generating function $\mathbb{E}e^{vZ}$ exists around $v = 0$) then

$$Z_n \xrightarrow{d} Z.$$

Method of moments

Moments and generating functions

$$A_n(u) = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{n,k} u^k, \quad \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{a_{n,k}}{A_n(1)}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E}\left(X_n(X_n - 1) \cdots (X_n - r + 1)\right) = \frac{1}{A_n(1)} \left. \frac{\partial^r A_n(u)}{\partial u^r} \right|_{u=1}.$$

Remark:

$$\left. \frac{\partial^r}{\partial u^r} A(x, u) \right|_{u=1} = \sum_{n \geq 1} A_n(1) \cdot \mathbb{E}\left(X_n(X_n - 1) \cdots (X_n - r + 1)\right) \cdot x^n.$$

Method of moments

Example 3 (continued)

$$R(x, u) = \frac{1}{1 - uT(x)}$$
$$T(x) = 1 - \sqrt{2}\sqrt{1 - ex} + \dots$$

$$\implies \left. \frac{\partial^r}{\partial u^r} R(x, u) \right|_{u=1} = \frac{r! T(x)^r}{(1 - T(x))^{r+1}} \sim \frac{r!}{2^{\frac{r+1}{2}} (1 - ex)^{\frac{r+1}{2}}}$$

$$\implies \frac{n!}{n^n} \cdot \mathbb{E}\left(X_n(X_n - 1) \cdots (X_n - r + 1)\right) \sim \frac{r!}{2^{\frac{r+1}{2}}} \frac{n^{\frac{r-1}{2}} e^n}{\Gamma\left(\frac{r+1}{2}\right)}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E}\left(X_n(X_n - 1) \cdots (X_n - r + 1)\right) \sim n^{r/2} 2^{r/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{r}{2} + 1\right)$$

$$\implies \frac{X_n}{\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{R}.$$

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

Hayman admissible functions

$$f(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} f_n z^n$$

$$a(z) := \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \quad b(z) := z a'(z).$$

If $f(z)$ is **Hayman-admissible** and r_n is defined by $a(r_n) = n$ then

$$f_n \sim \frac{f(r_n) r_n^{-n}}{\sqrt{2\pi b(r_n)}}.$$

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

A recursively defined class of admissible functions

- $P(z)$ polynomial $\implies \boxed{e^{P(z)}}$ is admissible (if it has only non-negative coefficients).
- $f(z)$ admissible $\implies \boxed{e^{f(z)}}$ is admissible
- $P(z)$ non-negative polynomial, $f(z), g(z)$ admissible
 $\implies \boxed{P(z)f(z)}, \boxed{P(f(z))}, \boxed{f(z)g(z)}$ admissible.

Examples: $f(z) = e^{z + \frac{z^2}{2}}, f(z) = e^{e^z - 1}, \dots$

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

Recursively defined **EXTENDED** admissible functions

RULE 1

- $P(z, u)$ polynomial $\implies \boxed{f(z, u) = e^{P(z, u)}}$ is e-admissible (if it has only non-negative coefficients and positive coefficients at least in a cone)
- $f(z)$ admissible, $g(u)$ analytic for $|u| < 1 + \varepsilon$, $g(1) > 0$, $g'(1) + g''(1) - g'(1)^2/g(1) > 0 \implies \boxed{e^{f(z)g(u)}}$ is e-admissible.

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

RULE 2

Suppose that $f(z, u)$ and $g(z, u)$ are e-admissible, $h(z)$ is admissible and $P(z, u)$ is a polynomial with non-negative coefficients. \implies

- $f(z, u)g(z, u)$ is e-admissible
- $h(z)f(z, u)$ is e-admissible
- $P(z, u)f(z, u)$ is e-admissible
- $e^{f(z, u)}$ is e-admissible
- $e^{P(z, u)h(z)}$ is e-admissible if P depends at least on u .
- $e^{P(z, u)+h(z)}$ is e-admissible if P depends on u and if h is entire
- $P(z, u) + f(z, u)$ is e-admissible

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

Theorem

$$f(z, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} f_{n, k} u^k z^n \quad \text{e-admissible,} \quad \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k\} = \frac{f_{nk}}{f_n}.$$

$$\implies \boxed{\frac{X_n - \bar{a}(r_n, 1)}{\sqrt{|B(r_n, 1)|/b(r_n, 1)}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)},$$

where $a(z, u) = z f_z(z, u)/f(z, u)$, $\boxed{a(r_n, 1) = n}$, $\bar{a}(z, u) = u f_u(z, u)/f(z, u)$,
 $b(z, u) = z a_z(z, u)$, $c(z, u) = u a_u(z, u) = z \bar{a}_z(z, u)$, $\bar{b}(z, u) = u \bar{a}_u(z, u)$,
and

$$|B(z, u)| = \det \begin{pmatrix} b(z, u) & c(z, u) \\ c(z, u) & \bar{b}(z, u) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

Example 1: Stirling numbers of the second kind

$$S(z, u) = \sum_{n, k \geq 0} S_{n, k} \cdot u^k \cdot \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^{u(e^z - 1)}$$

$[e^z - 1 \text{ admissible} \implies S(z, u) \text{ e-admissible}]$

Stirling numbers of the second kind satisfy a **central limit theorem** with $\mu_n = n / \log n$ and $\sigma_n^2 = n / (\log n)^2$.

Admissible functions and centr. limit ths.

Example 2: Permutations with bounded cycle length

$p_{\ell;n,k}$ = number of permutation of $\{1, \dots, n\}$ with k cycles $\leq \ell$.

$$P_{\ell}(z, u) = \sum_{n,k \geq 0} p_{\ell,n,k} \cdot u^k \cdot \frac{z^n}{n!} = e^{u \left(z + \frac{z^2}{2} + \dots + \frac{z^{\ell}}{\ell} \right)}.$$

We get a **central limit theorem** with $\mu_n = \frac{n}{\ell}$ and $\sigma_n^2 = \frac{n^{1-\frac{1}{\ell}}}{\ell^2(\ell-1)}$.
($\ell \geq 2$)

Thanks for your attention!