

## Four Key Probability Distributions

### 1. Normal Distribution (assuming $\sigma$ is a known *population parameter*)

- CLT  $\rightarrow$  Sampling Distribution for  $\bar{X}$  is approximately  $N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$
- $z_s = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$  has a  $N(0,1)$  distribution

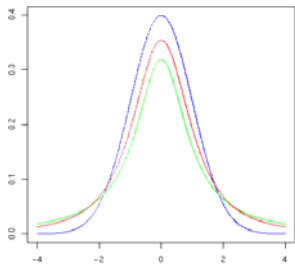
### 2. Student's T Distribution (assuming $\sigma$ is unknown)

- we estimate  $\sigma$  with  $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}}$
- $t_s = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{s/\sqrt{n}}$  has a Student's T distribution with  $n-1$  degrees of freedom

- Standard Deviation (of the mean) vs. Standard Error (of the mean)

$$SD_{\bar{x}} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$SE_{\bar{x}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$



Normal Distribution in blue

T Distribution df = 5 in green

T Distribution df = 10 in red

### 3. Chi-Square Distribution ( $\chi^2$ )

- Variances follow a scaled Chi-Square Distribution

$$\circ z_i = \frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sigma} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0,1) \quad \rightarrow \quad z_i^2 = \left(\frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right)^2 \sim \chi_1^2$$

$$\circ z_1^2 + z_2^2 \sim \chi_2^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \sum_{i=1}^n z_i^2 \sim \chi_n^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(Y_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_n^2$$

$$\circ \text{Estimating } \mu \text{ with } \hat{\mu} = \bar{Y} \quad \rightarrow \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$$

$$S^2 = \frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{n-1} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$$

### 4. F Distribution

- A ratio of two scaled Chi-square random variables

$$\circ \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad S_1^2 = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \chi_{n_1-1}^2}{n_1-1} \quad S_2^2 = \frac{\sigma_2^2 \chi_{n_2-1}^2}{n_2-1}$$

$$\circ \frac{S_1^2}{S_2^2} = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \chi_{n_1-1}^2 / n_1 - 1}{\sigma_2^2 \chi_{n_2-1}^2 / n_2 - 1} = \frac{\chi_{n_1-1}^2 / n_1 - 1}{\chi_{n_2-1}^2 / n_2 - 1} = F_{n_1-1, n_2-1} \quad * \text{ under } H_0 : \sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2$$

- If T is Student's T random variable with  $m$  df, then  $T^2 \sim F_{1,m}$