

Equivalently, if $\text{Var}(Y) = \sigma^2$, then
 $P(|Y - \mu| \geq t\sigma) \leq \frac{1}{t^2}$, for any $t > 0$.

Proof: Let $X = (Y - \mu)^2$.
 $P(|Y - \mu| \geq \alpha) = P(X \geq \alpha^2)$
 $\leq \frac{E[X]}{\alpha^2}$ (Markov, since $X \geq 0$)
 $= \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\alpha^2}$

Ex: Average daily expense is $\mu = 1500$. Suppose
 $\sigma = 200$. Let Y be daily expense.
 $P(Y \geq 2500) = P(Y - 1500 \geq 1000)$
 $\leq P(|Y - 1500| \geq 1000)$ (either $Y \geq 2500$ or $Y \leq 500$)
 $\leq \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{1000^2} = \frac{200^2}{1000^2} = \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{25}$

Cantelli's Inequality (one-sided Chebyshev):
 If $\alpha > 0$, then $P(Y - \mu \geq \alpha) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\text{Var}(Y) + \alpha^2}$

Chernoff bounds:

Theorem: Suppose $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$, and $\mu = E[X] = np$. For any $0 < \delta < 1$,
 $P(X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu) \leq e^{-\frac{1}{3}\delta^2\mu}$
 $P(X \leq (1 - \delta)\mu) \leq e^{-\frac{1}{2}\delta^2\mu}$

Law of Large Numbers

Consider i.i.d random variables X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots , where $E[X_i] = \mu < \infty$ and $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma^2 < \infty$.

Define sample mean $M_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$.

$$E[M_n] = \mu \text{ and}$$

$$\text{Var}(M_n) = \sigma^2/n \text{ (from linearity).}$$

As n increases, M_n is more likely to be close to μ .

Theorem (Weak Law of Large Numbers):

For any $\epsilon > 0$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$P(|M_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0.$$

Proof: By Chebyshev's inequality

$$P(|M_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(M_n)}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2} \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Strong Law of Large Numbers:

$$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M_n = \mu\right) = 1.$$

Strong \rightarrow Weak, but Weak \nrightarrow Strong.

In some sense, these laws are a consequence of the Central Limit Theorem, which says distribution of $M_n \rightarrow N(\mu, \sigma^2/n)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.