

COMPSCI 514: Algorithms for Data Science

Cameron Musco

University of Massachusetts Amherst. Fall 2022.

Lecture 5

- Problem Set 1 is due this Friday at 11:59pm.
- Quiz question on class pacing:
 - Way too fast: 5.
 - A bit too fast: 45.
 - Just right: 53.
 - A bit too slow: 2.
 - Way too slow: 0.

Last Class:

- 2-universal and pairwise independent hash functions.
- Chebyshev's inequality and the **law of large numbers**.
- The union bound.
- Application to hashing for load balancing.

X, X^{\sim}

Last Time

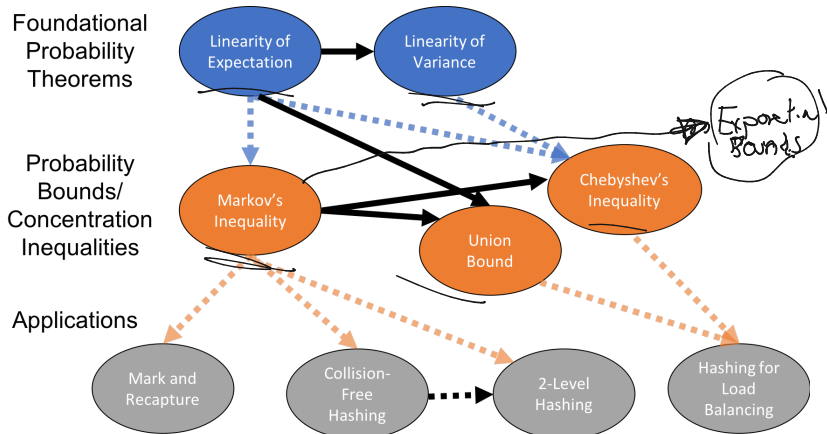
Last Class:

- 2-universal and pairwise independent hash functions.
- Chebyshev's inequality and the **law of large numbers**.
- The union bound.
- Application to hashing for load balancing.

This Time:

- Exponential concentration bounds and the **central limit theorem**.

Concept Map



Quiz Questions

$$X = \sum X_i$$

$$X_1, \dots, X_5 \quad \mathbb{E} \sum X_i = \sum \mathbb{E} X_i = 5 \cdot 0.02 = 0.1$$

My (not very popular) photo hosting service receives ²⁰⁰⁰ download requests per day. Each download request is completed successfully with probability 0.98. Give an upper bound on the probability that my service fails to complete at least one request successfully. Hint: do not assume independence of the request completions.

Answer:

Check

$$\underline{1 - 0.98^5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(X \geq 1) &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{1} \\ &\leq 0.1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}$$

A_i request : fails

$$\Pr(A_1 \text{ or } A_2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } A_5) \leq \sum_{i=1}^5 \Pr(A_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2000 \cdot 0.02 = 4 &= 5 \cdot 0.02 = 0.1 \end{aligned}$$

Quiz Questions

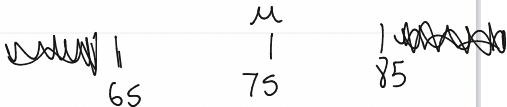
$$\Pr(X \leq 65) \leq \Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}X| \geq 10) \leq .12$$

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}X| \geq 10) \leq .12$$

The expected temperature on Saturday is $\mu = 75$ degrees. The variance of the temperature is $\sigma^2 = 12$ degrees. Give an upper bound on the probability that the temperature ~~does not lie between~~ ~~65~~ and ~~85~~ degrees.

Answer:

Check



$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}X| \geq t) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(X)}{t^2}$$

$$\Pr(X \geq 85) \quad \Pr(|X - 75| \geq 10) \leq \frac{12}{10^2} = .12$$

$$= \Pr(X - \mathbb{E}X \geq 10)$$

$$\leq \Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}X| \geq 10)$$

Flipping Coins

$H_i = 1$ if coin i is heads, 0 otherwise

We flip $n = 100$ independent coins, each are heads with probability $1/2$ and tails with probability $1/2$. Let H be the number of heads.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[H] &= 50 & \text{and } \text{Var}[H] &= \sum_{i=1}^{100} \text{Var}(H_i) \\ & & & \quad \quad \quad p(1-p) \\ & & & \quad \quad \quad .5 \cdot .5 = .25 \\ & & & = \sum_{i=1}^{100} .25 = \underline{25} \end{aligned}$$

Flipping Coins

We flip $n = 100$ independent coins, each are heads with probability $1/2$ and tails with probability $1/2$. Let \mathbf{H} be the number of heads.

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{H}] = \frac{n}{2} = 50 \text{ and } \text{Var}[\mathbf{H}] = \frac{n}{4} = 25$$

Flipping Coins

We flip $n = 100$ independent coins, each are heads with probability $1/2$ and tails with probability $1/2$. Let H be the number of heads.

$\text{Bin}(n, P)$
 $n=100$ $P=.5$

$$\mathbb{E}[H] = \frac{n}{2} = 50 \text{ and } \text{Var}[H] = \frac{n}{4} = 25$$

Markov's:
 $\frac{\mathbb{E}[H]}{60} = \frac{50}{60} = 5/6$

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .833$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .714$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .625$$

$5/8$

Chebyshev's:

$\frac{\sqrt{\text{Var}[H]}}{10}$

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0278$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

H has a simple Binomial distribution, so can compute these probabilities exactly.

Tighter Concentration Bounds

To be fair... Markov and Chebyshev's inequalities apply much more generally than to Binomial random variables like coin flips.

Can we obtain tighter concentration bounds that still apply to very general distributions?

Tighter Concentration Bounds

To be fair... Markov and Chebyshev's inequalities apply much more generally than to Binomial random variables like coin flips.

Can we obtain tighter concentration bounds that still apply to very general distributions?

- Markov's: $\Pr(\underline{X} \geq t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t}$. First Moment.

Tighter Concentration Bounds

To be fair... Markov and Chebyshev's inequalities apply much more generally than to Binomial random variables like coin flips.

Can we obtain tighter concentration bounds that still apply to very general distributions?

- Markov's: $\Pr(X \geq t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t}$. First Moment.
- Chebyshev's: $\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^2 \geq t^2) \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{t^2}$. Second Moment.

Tighter Concentration Bounds

To be fair.... Markov and Chebyshev's inequalities apply much more generally than to Binomial random variables like coin flips.

Can we obtain tighter concentration bounds that still apply to very general distributions?

- Markov's: $\Pr(X \geq t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t}$. **First Moment.**
- Chebyshev's: $\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^2 \geq t^2) \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{t^2}$. **Second Moment.**
- What if we just apply Markov's inequality to even higher moments?

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left(\underbrace{(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4}_{\geq t^4} \geq t^4\right)$$

||

$$\Pr\left(\underbrace{|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^3}_{\geq t^3} \geq t^3\right)$$

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left(\underbrace{(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4 \geq t^4}\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

Markov's applied to $(X - \mathbb{E}X)^4$

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left(\underbrace{(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4}_{\geq t^4} \geq t^4\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

Application to Coin Flips: Recall: $n = 100$ independent fair coins, H is the number of heads.

- Bound the fourth moment:

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left((X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4 \geq t^4\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

Application to Coin Flips: Recall: $n = 100$ independent fair coins, H is the number of heads.

- Bound the fourth moment:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\underline{H} - \underline{\mathbb{E}[H]}\right)^4\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{100} H_i - \underline{50}\right)^4\right]$$

where $H_i = 1$ if coin flip i is heads and 0 otherwise.

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left((X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4 \geq t^4\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

$$\frac{1}{2^4} = \frac{1}{16}$$

Application to Coin Flips: Recall: $n = 100$ independent fair coins, H is the number of heads.

- Bound the fourth moment:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[(H - \mathbb{E}[H])^4\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{100} H_i - 50\right)^4\right] = \sum_{i,j,k,l} c_{ijkl} \mathbb{E}[H_i H_j H_k H_l] + C$$

$$+ \sum \mathbb{E}[H_i H_j H_k H_l]$$

where $H_i = 1$ if coin flip i is heads and 0 otherwise. Then apply some messy calculations...

$$(H_1 + H_2 + H_3 - 50)^4$$
$$H_1^4 + \underline{H_1^3 H_2} + \dots + H_1^3 \cdot -50$$

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left((X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4 \geq t^4\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

Application to Coin Flips: Recall: $n = 100$ independent fair coins, H is the number of heads.

- Bound the fourth moment:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[(H - \mathbb{E}[H])^4\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{100} H_i - 50\right)^4\right] = \sum_{i,j,k,\ell} c_{ijkl} \mathbb{E}[H_i H_j H_k H_\ell] = 1862.5$$

where $H_i = 1$ if coin flip i is heads and 0 otherwise. Then apply some messy calculations...

A Fourth Moment Bound

Consider any random variable X :

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr\left((X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4 \geq t^4\right) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4\right]}{t^4}.$$

Application to Coin Flips: Recall: $n = 100$ independent fair coins, H is the number of heads.

- Bound the fourth moment:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[(H - \mathbb{E}[H])^4\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{100} H_i - 50\right)^4\right] = \sum_{i,j,k,\ell} c_{ijkl} \mathbb{E}[H_i H_j H_k H_\ell] = 1862.5$$

where $H_i = 1$ if coin flip i is heads and 0 otherwise. Then apply some messy calculations...

- Apply Fourth Moment Bound: $\Pr(|H - \mathbb{E}[H]| \geq t) \leq \frac{1862.5}{t^4}$.

$$\Pr(H - \mathbb{E}[H] > 4) \leq \frac{25}{4^4}$$

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$P_4(H=51)$

4th Moment:

$$\frac{1862.5}{10^4}$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

$$\frac{25}{12}$$

$$\frac{1862.5}{1^4}$$

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

4th Moment:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

Can we just keep applying Markov's inequality to higher and higher moments and getting tighter bounds?

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

4th Moment:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

$$\frac{1767.5}{4^4}$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

Can we just keep applying Markov's inequality to higher and higher moments and getting tighter bounds?

- Yes! To a point.

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

4th Moment:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

Can we just keep applying Markov's inequality to higher and higher moments and getting tighter bounds?

- Yes! To a point.
- In fact – don't need to just apply Markov's to $|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^k$ for some k . Can apply to any monotonic function $f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|)$.

monotonically increasing for non-negative inputs

$$\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t) = \Pr(f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|) \geq f(t)) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|)]}{f(t)}$$

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

4th Moment:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

Can we just keep applying Markov's inequality to higher and higher moments and getting tighter bounds?

- Yes! To a point.
- In fact – don't need to just apply Markov's to $|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^k$ for some k . Can apply to any monotonic function $f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|)$.
- **Why monotonic?**

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Tighter Bounds

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$$

4.5

4th Moment:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .186$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0116$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .0023$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$$

Can we just keep applying Markov's inequality to higher and higher moments and getting tighter bounds?

- Yes! To a point.
- In fact – don't need to just apply Markov's to $|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^k$ for some k . Can apply to any monotonic function $f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|)$.
- **Why monotonic?** $\Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| > t) = \Pr(f(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|) > f(t))$.

H: total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$\underline{M_t(X)} = e^{t \cdot (X - \mathbb{E}[X])}$$

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$M_t(\mathbf{X}) = \underbrace{e^{t \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])}}_{=} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^k}{k!}$$

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$M_t(\mathbf{X}) = e^{t \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^k}{k!}$$

- $M_t(\mathbf{X})$ is monotonic for any $t > 0$.

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$M_t(\mathbf{X}) = e^{t \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^k}{k!}$$

- $M_t(\mathbf{X})$ is monotonic for any $t > 0$.
- Weighted sum of all moments, with t controlling how slowly the weights fall off (larger t = slower falloff).

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$M_t(\mathbf{X}) = \underbrace{e^{t \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])}}_{\text{Taylor expansion}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^k}{k!}$$

- $M_t(\mathbf{X})$ is monotonic for any $t > 0$.
- Weighted sum of all moments, with t controlling how slowly the weights fall off (larger t = slower falloff).
- Choosing t appropriately lets one prove a number of very powerful **exponential concentration bounds** (exponential tail bounds).

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:



$$M_t(X) = e^{t(X - \mathbb{E}[X])} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (X - \mathbb{E}[X])^k}{k!}$$



- $M_t(X)$ is monotonic for any $t > 0$.
- Weighted sum of all moments, with t controlling how slowly the weights fall off (larger t = slower falloff).
- Choosing t appropriately lets one prove a number of very powerful **exponential concentration bounds** (exponential tail bounds).
- Chernoff bound, Bernstein inequalities Hoeffding's inequality, Azuma's inequality, Berry-Esseen theorem, etc.

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $t > 0$:

$$M_t(\mathbf{X}) = e^{t \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k (\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^k}{k!}$$

- $M_t(\mathbf{X})$ is monotonic for any $t > 0$.
- Weighted sum of all moments, with t controlling how slowly the weights fall off (larger t = slower falloff).
- Choosing t appropriately lets one prove a number of very powerful **exponential concentration bounds** (exponential tail bounds).
- Chernoff bound, Bernstein inequalities, Hoeffding's inequality, Azuma's inequality, Berry-Esseen theorem, etc.
- We will not cover the proofs in this class.

Bernstein Inequality

$$\{0, 1\} \in [-1, 1] \quad m=1$$

Bernstein Inequality: Consider independent random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-M, M]$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $t \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq t \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2 + \frac{4}{3}Mt} \right).$$

Bernstein Inequality

Bernstein Inequality: Consider **independent** random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-M, M]$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $t \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq t \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(- \frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2 + \frac{4}{3}Mt} \right).$$

$e^{-\dots} \approx 1$

Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

Bernstein Inequality

Bernstein Inequality: Consider **independent** random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-1,1]$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $s \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{s^2}{4} \right).$$

Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

Bernstein Inequality

Bernstein Inequality: Consider **independent** random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-1,1]$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $s \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{s^2}{4} \right).$$

Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

Compare to Chebyshev's: $\Pr \left(\underbrace{\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right|}_{\geq s\sigma} \right) \leq \underbrace{\frac{1}{s^2}}_{\leq \frac{1}{s^2}}$.

$$\frac{\sqrt{1/(s^2)}}{s^2/4} = \frac{1}{s^2}$$

Bernstein Inequality

Bernstein Inequality: Consider **independent** random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-1,1]$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $s \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{s^2}{4} \right).$$

Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

Compare to Chebyshev's: $\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq \frac{1}{s^2}$.

- An exponentially stronger dependence on s !

Comparison to Chebyshev's

Consider again bounding the number of heads H in $n = 100$ independent coin flips.

Chebyshev's:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq \underline{.25}$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq \underline{.04}$$

Bernstein:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq \underline{.21}$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .005$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq \underline{4^{-5}}$$

In Reality:

$$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$$

$$\Pr(H \geq 80) < \underline{10^{-9}}$$

H : total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.

Comparison to Chebyshev's

Consider again bounding the number of heads H in $n = 100$ independent coin flips.

Chebyshev's:	Bernstein:	In Reality:
$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .25$	$\Pr(H \geq 60) \leq .21$	$\Pr(H \geq 60) = 0.0284$
$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .0625$	$\Pr(H \geq 70) \leq .005$	$\Pr(H \geq 70) = .000039$
$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq .04$	$\Pr(H \geq 80) \leq 4^{-5}$	$\Pr(H \geq 80) < 10^{-9}$

Getting much closer to the true probability.

H : total number heads in 100 random coin flips. $\mathbb{E}[H] = 50$.