

Concepts of Experiments at Future Colliders II

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Recapitulation of the previous lecture

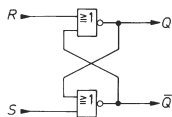
Flip-flop as storage element

Derived Basic Functions

$$x_1 \text{ NOR } x_2 := \overline{x_1 + x_2} = \bar{x}_1 \cdot \bar{x}_2.$$

$$x_1 \text{ NAND } x_2 := \overline{x_1 \cdot x_2} = \bar{x}_1 + \bar{x}_2.$$

Flip-Flop



$$Q = \overline{\bar{Q} + R}.$$

$$\bar{Q} = \overline{S + Q}.$$

S	R	Q	\bar{Q}
0	0	Q_{-1}	\bar{Q}_{-1}
0	1	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	1	(0)	(0)

(bisheriger Zustand)
(Zurücksetzen: 0|1)
(Setzen: 1|0)

Setting $S = R = 1$ results in $Q = \overline{\bar{Q} + 1} = \bar{1} = 0$ and $\bar{Q} = \overline{1 + Q} = \bar{1} = 0$.

Subsequently setting $R = 0$ and $S = 0$ simultaneously leaves the output state undefined.

$$Q = \overline{\bar{Q} + 0} = \bar{\bar{Q}} \text{ can be 0 or 1.}$$

$$\bar{Q} = \overline{Q + 0} = \bar{Q} \text{ can be 0 or 1.}$$

$\Rightarrow R = S = 1$ is generally prohibited.

Fundamentals of statistical treatment of experimental data

Recapitulation of the previous lecture

Introductory example: beam energy measurement

Example: Measurement of the energy of a monoenergetic particle beam.

Notations

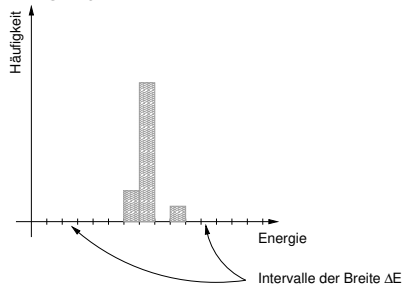
E_S : actual beam energy.

N : number of measurements of beam energy.

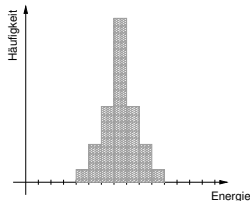
E_k : result of the k -th measurement of beam energy.

Frequency Distributions

N small



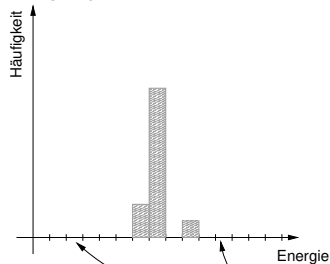
N large



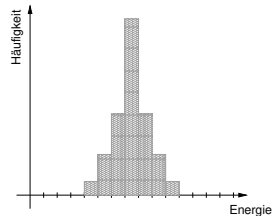
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Introductory example: beam energy measurement

N small



N large



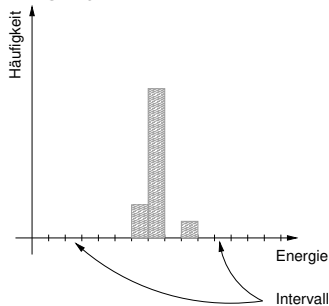
Intervalle der Breite ΔE

- When N is large, repeating the N measurements yields (nearly) the same frequency distribution.
- In the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$, the frequency distribution converges to the probability distribution for the outcome of the measurement.

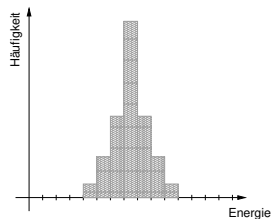
Recapitulation of the previous lecture

Introductory example: beam energy measurement

N small



N large



- The probability of measuring E_k when the beam energy is E_S depends on the value of E_S and the measurement method. If one knows the probability function $p(E_k; E_S)$, one can determine E_S from the measurement of the frequency distribution.
- In practice, $p(E_k; E_S)$ is only partially known, and one tries to infer $p(E_k; E_S)$ from the measured frequency distribution, which provides an estimate of E_S . In statistics, methods are employed to infer the underlying probability distributions from frequency distributions.

Probability distributions

- A physical measurement is a **random process**.
- A measured quantity x , which represents the outcome of a random process, is called a **random variable** or **random quantity**.
- Any function of x is also a random variable.
- If the random variable can only take discrete values, there is a probability for the occurrence of each of these values, which is the **probability function**.
- For random variables with continuous range of values, the **probability density** $p(x)$ replaces the probability function. Let Ω be a measurable set of possible values of x , whose measure is greater than zero. Then

$$\int_{\Omega} p(x) dx$$

is the probability of observing a value $x \in \Omega$.

Axiomatic Definition of Probability

The mathematical field of probability theory is based on [Kolmogorov's Axioms](#).

Kolmogorov's Axioms

Let Σ denote a set of events.

1. For every event $A \in \Sigma$, the probability of the occurrence of A is a real number $p(A) \in [0, 1]$.
2. The certain event $S \in \Sigma$ has probability $p(S) = 1$.
3. The probability of the union of countably many incompatible events is equal to the sum of the probabilities of the individual events. Here, events A_k are [incompatible](#) if they are pairwise disjoint, i.e., $A_k \cap A_\ell = \emptyset$ for all $k \neq \ell$.

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Characteristics of probability distributions

Remark. In this section, we consider probability densities. Probability functions of discrete variables are also covered if one considers the δ -distribution as a probability density.

Nomenclature. D : Range of values of a random variable $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$.
 $p(x)$: Probability density of x .
(D is the domain of p .)

Definitions

The **expectation value** of x , $E(x)$ (also $\langle x \rangle$), is defined as

$$E(x) := \int_D x \cdot p(x) dx.$$

The **covariance matrix** $cov(x_k, x_l)$ is defined as

$$cov(x_k, x_l) := \langle (x_k - \langle x_k \rangle) \cdot (x_l - \langle x_l \rangle) \rangle.$$

The diagonal element $cov(x_k, x_k)$ is called the **variance of x_k** , $Var(x_k)$, and $\sqrt{Var(x_k)}$ is the **standard deviation** $\sigma(x_k)$.

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Expectation value of a function of a random variable

- A function $f(x)$ is also a random variable.

$$\langle f \rangle = \int_D f(x)p(x)dx.$$

- If $f(x) = f(x - \langle x \rangle + \langle x \rangle)$ is significantly different from 0 only for small values of $|x - \langle x \rangle|$, one can approximate $f(x)$ by

$$f(\langle x \rangle) + \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (x - \langle x \rangle)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f \rangle &\approx \left\langle f(\langle x \rangle) + \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (x - \langle x \rangle) \right\rangle \\ &= \langle f(x) \rangle + \left\langle \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (x - \langle x \rangle) \right\rangle \\ &= f(\langle x \rangle) + \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (\langle x \rangle - \langle x \rangle) = f(\langle x \rangle). \end{aligned}$$

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Variance of a function of a random variable

Special Case: $f(x) \in |\mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(f) &= \langle (f - \langle f \rangle)^2 \rangle = \langle [f - f(\langle x \rangle)] \rangle \\ &\approx \left\langle \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \left. \frac{df}{dx_k} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (x_k - \langle x_k \rangle) \right]^2 \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \left[\sum_{k,\ell=1}^n \left. \frac{df}{dx_k} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \left. \frac{df}{dx_\ell} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot (x_k - \langle x_k \rangle) \cdot (x_\ell - \langle x_\ell \rangle) \right] \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{k,\ell=1}^n \left. \frac{df}{dx_k} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \left. \frac{df}{dx_\ell} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot \langle (x_k - \langle x_k \rangle) \cdot (x_\ell - \langle x_\ell \rangle) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k,\ell=1}^n \left. \frac{df}{dx_k} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \left. \frac{df}{dx_\ell} \right|_{\langle x \rangle} \cdot \text{cov}(x_k, x_\ell), \end{aligned}$$

which is the well-known **error propagation formula**.

Examples of important probability distributions

The binomial distribution

- The **binomial distribution** gives the probability of observing n_k events out of a total of N events when ν_k events are expected:

$$p(n_k; \nu_k) = \binom{N}{n_k} \left(\frac{\nu_k}{N}\right)^{n_k} \left(1 - \frac{\nu_k}{N}\right)^{N-n_k}.$$

- With $p := \frac{\nu_k}{N}$, one obtains from

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{d}{dp} 1 = \frac{d}{dp} \sum_{n_k=0}^N \binom{N}{n_k} p^{n_k} (1-p)^{N-n_k} \\ &= \sum_{n_k=0}^N \binom{N}{n_k} [n_k p^{n_k-1} (1-p)^{N-n_k} - (N-n_k) p^{n_k} (1-p)^{N-n_k-1}] \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \langle n_k \rangle - \frac{1}{1-p} \langle N - n_k \rangle = \left(\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{1-p}\right) \langle n_k \rangle + \frac{N}{1-p} \\ &= \frac{1}{p(1-p)} \langle n_k \rangle + \frac{N}{1-p} \Leftrightarrow \langle n_k \rangle = N \cdot p = N \cdot \frac{\nu_k}{N} = \nu_k. \end{aligned}$$

- Using the same calculation trick, one obtains $\text{Var}(n_k) = \nu_k(1 - \frac{\nu_k}{N})$.

Transition to the Poisson distribution

If $\nu \gtrsim 10$, $\nu \ll N$ and N are large, one can approximate it by the **Poisson distribution**. The approximation is a result of the Stirling formula:

$$n! \approx \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \sqrt{2\pi n} \text{ für } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(n_k; \nu_k) &= \frac{N!}{n_k!(N-n_k)!} p^{n_k} (1-p)^{N-n_k} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{n_k!} p^{n_k} \left(\frac{N}{e}\right)^N \sqrt{2\pi N} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{N-n_k}{e}\right)^{N-n_k} \sqrt{2\pi(N-n_k)}} (1-p)^{N-n_k} \\ &= \frac{1}{n_k} p^{n_k} e^{-n_k} \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{N}{N-n_k}}}_{\rightarrow 1 \text{ f. } N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N^N}{(N-n_k)^{N-n_k}} (1-p)^{N-n_k} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{n_k!} e^{-n_k} p^{n_k} N^{n_k} N^{N-n_k} (1-p)^{N-n_k} \frac{1}{(N-n_k)^{N-n_k}} \\ &= \frac{\nu_k}{n_k!} e^{-n_k} \frac{(N-\nu_k)^{N-n_k}}{(N-n_k)^{N-n_k}} \approx \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k!} e^{-\nu_k} \text{ (Poisson distribution)}. \end{aligned}$$

Properties of the Poisson distribution

Poisson distribution

$$p(n_k; \nu_k) = \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k!} e^{-\nu_k}.$$

Normalization

$$\sum_{n_k=0}^{\infty} p(n_k; \nu_k) = e^{-\nu_k} \sum_{n_k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k!} = e^{-\nu_k} \cdot e^{\nu_k} = 1.$$

Expectation value: ν_k , resulting from $0 = \frac{d}{d\nu_k} \sum_{n_k=0}^{\infty} p(n_k; \nu_k)$.

Variance: ν_k , resulting from $0 = \frac{d^2}{d\nu_k^2} \sum_{n_k=0}^{\infty} p(n_k; \nu_k)$.

Poisson distribution for $\nu_k \rightarrow \infty$

When ν_k becomes large, the probability of the occurrence of small values of n_k is small. Then n_k can be considered large, and for $n_k!$ in the Poisson distribution, Stirling's approximation can be used:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k!} e^{-\nu_k} &\approx \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k^{n_k}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n_k}} e^{n_k - \nu_k} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \nu_k}} \exp\left(\ln \frac{\nu_k^{n_k}}{n_k^{n_k}}\right) \exp(n_k - \nu_k) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \nu_k}} \exp\left(n_k \ln \frac{\nu_k}{\nu_k + n_k - \nu_k}\right) \exp(n_k - \nu_k) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \nu_k}} \exp\left(n_k \ln \frac{1}{1 - \frac{n_k - \nu_k}{\nu_k}}\right) \exp(n_k - \nu_k) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \nu_k}} \exp\left[\underbrace{n_k \cdot \left(-\frac{n_k - \nu_k}{\nu_k} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(n_k - \nu_k)^2}{\nu_k^2}\right)}_{\approx -(n_k - \nu_k) - \frac{(n_k - \nu_k)^2}{2\nu_k}}\right] \exp(n_k - \nu_k) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \nu_k}} e^{-\frac{(n_k - \nu_k)^2}{2\nu_k}}. \end{aligned}$$

Normal distribution of a one-dimensional random variable $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$p(x; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}.$$

- $\langle x \rangle = \mu$, $\text{Var}(x) = \sigma^2$.
- The Poisson distribution approaches a normal distribution in the limit $\nu_k \rightarrow \infty$ with the expected value ν_k and the variance ν_k .

Normal distribution of a d -dimensional random variable $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$p(x; \mu, \Sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2}} \frac{1}{\det(\Sigma)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^t \Sigma (x - \mu)\right).$$

$\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

- $\langle x \rangle = \mu$.
- $\text{cov}(x_k, x_l) = \Sigma_{k,l}$.

$w_n :=$ Probability of observing a value $x \in [\mu - n\sigma, \mu + n\sigma]$.

n	w_n
1	0.6827
2	0.9545
3	0.9973
4	$1 - 6.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
5	$1 - 5.7 \cdot 10^{-7}$

w_n	n
0.900	1.645
0.950	1.960
0.990	2.576
0.999	3.290

(t_n) is a sequence of random variables and T is also a random variable. We say t_n **converges stochastically to T** if for every $p \in [0, 1[$ and $\epsilon > 0$, there exists an N such that the probability P that $|t_n - T| > \epsilon$ is less than p for all $n > N$:

$$P(|t_n - T| > \epsilon) < p \quad (n > N).$$

In other words: The probability of observing a value t_n different from T vanishes as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

The law of large numbers

(x_n) is a sequence of independent random variables, each following the same distribution function. μ denotes the expected value of x_n . Then the arithmetic mean

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

converges stochastically to μ .

The central limit theorem

(x_n) is a sequence of identically distributed random variables with mean μ and standard deviation σ . Then as $N \rightarrow \infty$, the standardized random variable

$$Z_N := \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N x_n - N\mu}{\sigma\sqrt{N}}$$

converges pointwise to a normal distribution with mean 0 and standard deviation 1.

Point estimation

Let α be a parameter of a probability distribution. The goal of **point estimation** is to find the best estimate (the best measurement in the terminology of physicists) of α .

x : Random variable corresponding to the experimental measurements.
 $p(x; \alpha)$: Probability density for the measurement of x as a function of the parameter α .

x and α can be multidimensional.

Definition. A **point estimator** \mathcal{E}_α is a function of x used to estimate the value of the parameter α . Let $\hat{\alpha}$ denote this estimate. Thus, $\hat{\alpha} = \mathcal{E}_\alpha(x)$.

Goal is to find a function \mathcal{E}_α such that $\hat{\alpha}$ is as close as possible to the true value of α .

Since $\hat{\alpha}$ is a function of random variables, $\hat{\alpha}$ itself is a random variable.

$$p(\hat{\alpha}) = \int_D \mathcal{E}_\alpha(x) p(x; \alpha) dx,$$

where α denotes the true value of the parameter.

Consistency

n : Number of measurements used for the point estimation.

$\hat{\alpha}_n$: Corresponding estimate.

α_0 : True value of α .

\mathcal{E}_α is called a **consistent point estimator** if $\hat{\alpha}_n$ converges stochastically to α_0 . This means that the probability of estimating a value different from α_0 goes to 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Unbiasedness

The **bias of an estimate** $\hat{\alpha}$ is defined as

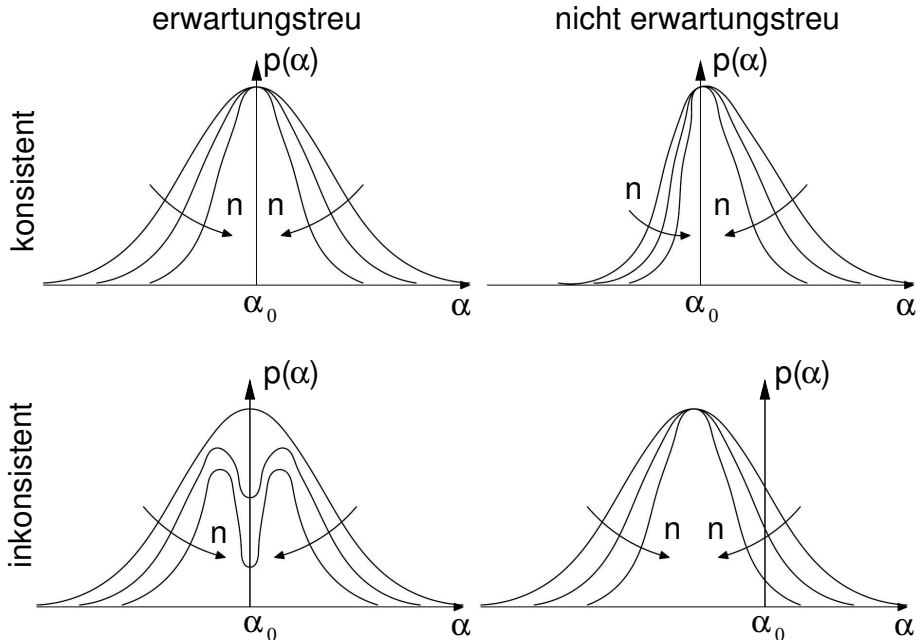
$$b_n(\hat{\alpha}) := E(\hat{\alpha}_n - \alpha_0) = E(\hat{\alpha}_n) - \alpha_0.$$

The point estimator is **unbiased** if

$$b_n(\hat{\alpha}) = 0, \text{ or } E(\hat{\alpha}_n) = \alpha_0$$

for all n .

Illustration of Consistency and Unbiasedness



Efficiency

Let V_{min} be the minimum possible variance among all point estimators of a real-valued parameter. The **efficiency** of a particular point estimator is given by the ratio $\frac{V_{min}}{Var(\hat{\alpha})}$, where $Var(\hat{\alpha})$ is the variance of $\hat{\alpha}$ for that point estimator.

Sufficiency

Any function of data x is called a **statistic**. A **sufficient statistic for α** is a function of the data that contains all the information about α .

Point estimators used in high energy physics

Maximum likelihood method

$p(x; \alpha)$: Probability of obtaining the measured values x given a parameter α .

- Substituting the measured values x into the function $p(x; \alpha)$ yields a statistic of x , which is called the **likelihood** or the **likelihood function** $L(x; \alpha)$.
- The term likelihood is used to indicate the relationship with the probability density $p(x; \alpha)$ while making it clear that **L is not a probability function**.

Let $f(x_k; \alpha)$ be the probability density for the outcome of a single measurement x_k . With n independent measurements $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, we have

$$L(x_1, \dots, x_n; \alpha) = \prod_{k=1}^n f(x_k; \alpha).$$

In the **method of maximum likelihood**, the estimate for α is taken as the value of α that maximizes $L(x; \alpha)$.

$n \rightarrow \infty$

- The point estimator is consistent.
- The point estimator is efficient.
- $\hat{\alpha}$ is normally distributed.
- Due to consistency, the point estimator is asymptotically unbiased.

Finite n

To determine the behavior of the point estimator with limited data size n , experimental practice uses ensembles of randomly generated simulated data to which the point estimator is applied.

n measurements x_1, \dots, x_n .

$E(x_k; \alpha)$: Expectation value of x_k given α (theoretical prediction for the value of x_k).

$V = (\text{cov}(x_k, x_\ell))$: Covariance matrix. In general, V is also a function of α .

$$Q^2 := \sum_{k, \ell=1}^n [x_k - E(x_k; \alpha)] V_{k\ell}^{-1}(\alpha) [x_\ell - E(x_\ell; \alpha)].$$

In the [method of least squares](#), the estimate for α is chosen as the value for which Q^2 is minimized.

Remark. If $V_{k\ell}(\alpha)$ is unbounded, we may obtain nonsensical results for α . For example, if $V_{k\ell}(\alpha) \rightarrow \infty$ as $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_{\text{non-sense}}$ and $x_k - E(x_k; \alpha)$ remains bounded, the minimization yields $\alpha_{\text{non-sense}}$. In practice, Q^2 is often minimized iteratively. One starts with an estimate for V and varies V during the minimization of Q^2 . Then, V is recalculated for the obtained estimate of α , and the minimization is repeated with V fixed until $\hat{\alpha}$ no longer changes significantly.