

WMS5 § 3.7 Hypergeometric Probability Distribution

Used to describe the Variability of

the Proportion / Count in a random sample drawn, without replacement, from a finite population/universe of N binary elements (0's and 1's); sampling fraction is sizable.

	Choose	Do not choose	Total
"1" elements	y	$N1 - y$	$N1^*$
"0" elements	$n - y$	$N0 - (n - y)$	$N0$
	n	$N - n$	N (universe)

(* WMS5 use "r" where we use "N1")

What it is

- The $n+1$ probabilities $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_y, \dots, p_n$ of observing

0 "positive"
 1 "positive"
 2 "positives"
 .
 .
 y "positives"
 .
 .
 n "positives"

in n draws without replacement from the N items

NB If $N1 < n$, then the range of y will be less than the full 0 to n , since some of the $n+1$ possibilities are not possible. e.g., ...

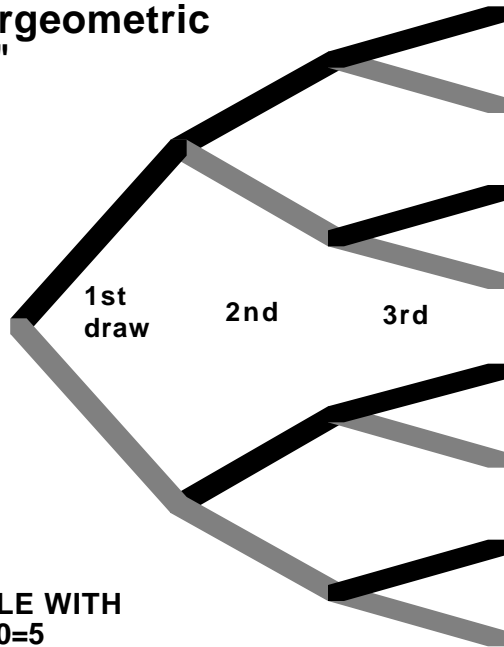
	Choose	Do not choose	Total
"1" elements	y	$11 - y$	11^*
"0" elements	$29 - y$	$20 + y$	49
	29	31	60 (universe)

- Apart from sample size (n), the probabilities p_0 to p_n depend on the 2 parameters $N1$ and $N0$ (or equivalently $N1$ and N)

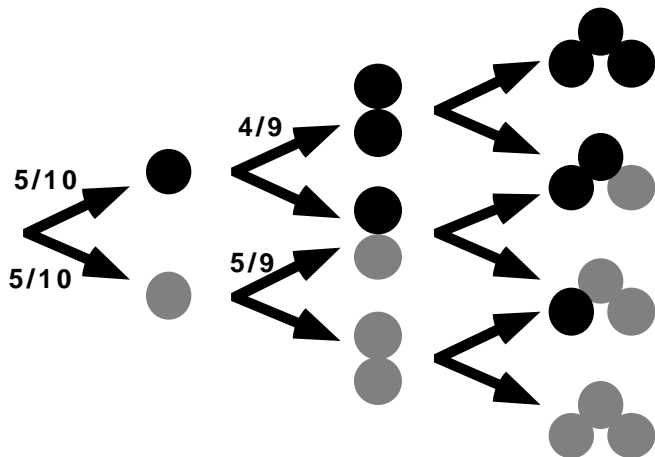
How it arises

- Sample surveys of small universes (eg MP's) or with large sampling fractions (even if N large)
- Quality Control Sampling from finite lots
- Psychophysics (tea tasting, water divining, ...)
- To evaluate if discrimination in assigning/choosing people (from a pool) for tasks/positions etc..
- Statistical comparison of proportions in small samples (see example of Tamoxifen in preventing recur. of Br Ca)
- Lotteries (6/49, Keno, ...)
- To estimate size of wildlife populations (Capture-recapture method)

Hypergeometric "Tree"



EXAMPLE WITH
N1=5, N0=5



(Note that the successive outcomes of draws 1-3 are dependent, so must be careful. Can still multiply and add. Can always turn problem around to make it a tree (see labour dispute example)

Calculations are simplified by fact that all sequences of y +'s & $(n-y)$ -'s have same probability p_i , in lieu of adding, can multiply this prob. by #, i.e. ${}^n C_y$, of such sequences

See "Hypergeometric P's, E and V" on web page

Calculating Hypergeometric probabilities

- Formula (or 1st principles)

$$\text{Prob}(y \text{ out of } n) = \frac{[N1 \text{ choose } y] \times [N0 \text{ choose } (n-y)]}{N \text{ choose } n}$$

- Calculator / Spreadsheet (see elsewhere on web page)
- Approximations to Hypergeometric
 - Binomial Distribution (n a small fraction of N)
 - Gaussian Distribution ($y \gg 0$ and $y \ll n$)

E(Y)	Var(Y)	SD(Y)
$n \times \frac{N1}{N}$	$n \times \frac{N1}{N} \times \frac{N0}{N} \times \frac{N-n}{N-1}$	$\sqrt{\text{VAR}}$

Worked Examples

- **Tea Tasting (small examples, last page of notes on Ch2_1_2_6)**
- **Tamoxifen**
- **6/49 (earlier in Ch 3 notes)**
- **Keno**
- **Banco [loto-québec .. several]**
- **Labour Dispute (wms5 e.g. 2.10, p39 + spreadsheet)**
- **Rhino Politics and small sample sizes (last page of excerpts from notes from 607)**
- **Example of assessing food sensitivity (3rd last page)**

Good exercises from text

- **3.75 (jury selection: 6 from pool of $N_1=8$ African Americans and $N_0=12$ white)**
- **3.80 (assume that Y has the value 1, i.e. that $Y=1$ of the $n=3$ animals had been tagged previously). Maximize $P(Y=1)$ by trying various "what if" values of N .**
- **Exercise 3.71 and 3.77 have a "quality control" flavour. Can you think of a closer-to-quality-control example?**