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Approximating the Binomial Distribution by the Normal Distribution – Error and Accuracy

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A large, faint watermark of the Uppsala University seal is visible in the bottom right corner of the page. It features a sunburst and the Latin text "ALERE FLAMMAM VERITATIS".

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Abstract

Different rules of thumb are used when approximating the binomial distribution by the normal distribution. In this paper an examination is made regarding the size of the approximations errors. The exact probabilities of the binomial distribution is derived and then compared to the approximated value of the normal distribution. In addition a regression model is done. The result is that the different rules indeed gives rise to errors of different sizes. Furthermore, the regression model can be used in order to get guidance of the maximum size of the error.

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Thank you Professor Sven Erick Alm!

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1 Introduction

Neither is any extensive examination found, regarding the rules of thumb used when approximating the binomial distribution by the normal distribution, nor of the accuracy and the error which they result in. The scope of this paper is the most common approximation of a Binomial distributed random variable by the normal distribution. We let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$, with expectation $E(X) = np$ and variance $V(X) = np(1 - p)$, be approximated by Y , where $Y \sim N(np, np(1 - p))$. We denote, $X \approx Y$.

The rules of thumb, is a set of different guidelines, minimum values or limits, here denoted L for $np(1 - p)$, in order to get a good approximation, that is, $np(1 - p) \geq L$. There are various kinds of rules found in the literature and any extensive examination of the error and accuracy has not been found. Reasonable approaches when comparing the errors are, the maximum error and the relative error, which both are investigated.

The main focus lies on two related topics. First, there is a shorter section, where the origin of the rules, where they come from and who is the originator, is discussed. Next comes an empirical part, where the error affected by the different rules of thumb is studied. The result is both plotted and tabled. An analysis of regression is also made, which might be useful as a guideline when estimating the error in situations not covered here. In addition to the main topics, a section dealing with the preliminaries, notation and definitions of probability theory and mathematical statistics is found. Each of the sections will be more explanatory themselves regarding their topics. I presume the reader to be familiar with some basic concepts of mathematical statistics and probability theory, otherwise the theoretical part would range way to far. Therefor, also proofs and theorems are just referred to. Finally there is a summarizing section, where the results of the empirical part are discussed.

2 Theory and methodology

First of all, the reader is assumed to be familiar with basic concepts in mathematical statistics and probability theory. Furthermore there are, as stated above, some theory that instead of being explicitly explained, only is referred to. Regarding the former, I suggest the reader to view for instance [1] or [4] and concerning the latter the reader may want to read [7].

2.1 Characteristics of the distributions

As the approximation of a binomial distributed random variable by a normal distributed random variable is the main subject, a brief theoretical introduction about them is made. We start with a *binomial distributed random*

variable, X and denote,

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p), \text{ where } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } p \in [0, 1].$$

The parameters p and n are the probability of an outcome and the number of trials. The expected value and variance of X are,

$$E(X) = np \text{ and } V(X) = np(1 - p),$$

respectively. In addition, X has got the probability function

$$p_X(k) = P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}, \text{ where } 0 \leq k \leq n,$$

and the cumulative probability function, or distribution function,

$$F_X(k) = P(X \leq k) = \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} p^i (1 - p)^{n-i}. \quad (1)$$

The variable X is approximated by a normal distributed random variable, call it Y , we write,

$$Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2), \text{ where } \mu \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } \sigma^2 < \infty.$$

The parameters μ and σ^2 are the mean value and variance, $E(Y)$ and $V(Y)$, respectively. The density function of Y is

$$f_Y(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}$$

and the distribution function is defined by,

$$F_Y(k) = P(Y \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(t-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2} dt. \quad (2)$$

2.2 Approximation

Thanks to De Moivre, among others, we know by the central limit theorem that a sum of random variables converges to the normal distribution. A binomial distributed random variable X may be considered as a sum of Bernoulli distributed random variables. That is, let Z be a Bernoulli distributed random variable,

$$Z \sim \text{Be}(p) \text{ where } p \in [0, 1],$$

with probability distribution,

$$p_Z = P(Z = k) = \begin{cases} p & \text{for } k = 1 \\ 1 - p & \text{for } k = 0 \end{cases}.$$

Consider the sum of n independent identically distributed Z_i 's, i.e.

$$X = \sum_{i=0}^n Z_i$$

and note that $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$. For instance one can realize that the probability of the sum being equal to k , $P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$. Hence, we know that when $n \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of X will be normal and for large n approximately normal. How large n should be in order to get a good approximation also depends, to some extent, on p . Because of this, it seems reasonable to define the following approximations. Again, let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ and $Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$. The most common approximation, $X \approx Y$, is the one where $\mu = np$ and $\sigma^2 = np(1 - p)$, this is also the one used here. Regarding the distribution function we get

$$F_X(k) \approx \Phi \left(\frac{k - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right), \quad (3)$$

where $F_X(k)$ is defined in (1) and Φ is the standard normal distribution function. We extend the expression above and get that,

$$F_X(b) - F_X(a) = P(a < X \leq b) \approx \Phi \left(\frac{b - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right) - \Phi \left(\frac{a - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right). \quad (4)$$

2.3 Continuity correction

We proceed with the use of continuity correction, which is recommended by [1], suggested by [4] and advised by [9], in order to decrease the error, the approximation (3) will then be replaced by

$$F_X(k) \approx \Phi \left(\frac{k + 0.5 - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right) \quad (5)$$

and hence (4) is written as

$$F_X(b) - F_X(a) = P(a < X \leq b) \approx \Phi \left(\frac{b + 0.5 - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right) - \Phi \left(\frac{a + 0.5 - np}{\sqrt{np(1 - p)}} \right). \quad (6)$$

This gives, for a single probability, with the use of continuity correction, the approximation,

$$p_X(k) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1) \approx \Phi\left(\frac{k+0.5-np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{(k-1)+0.5-np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}\right) \quad (7)$$

and further we note that it can be written

$$F_X(k) - F_X(k-1) \approx \int_{k-0.5}^{k+0.5} f_Y(t) dt. \quad (8)$$

2.4 Error

There are two common ways of measuring an error, the absolute error and the relative error. In addition another usual measure of how close, so to speak, two distributions are to each other, is the *supremum norm*

$$\sup_A |P(X \in A) - P(Y \in A)|.$$

However, from a practical point of view, we will study the absolute error and relative error of the distribution function. Let a denote the exact value and \bar{a} the approximated value. The *absolute error* is the difference between them, the real value and the one approximated. The following notation is used,

$$\varepsilon_{abs} = |a - \bar{a}|.$$

Therefor, the *absolute error of the distribution function*, denoted $\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}(k)$, for any fixed p and n , where $k \in \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq k \leq n$, without use of continuity correction, is

$$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}(k) = \left| F_X(k) - \Phi\left(\frac{k-np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}\right) \right|. \quad (9)$$

Regarding the relative error, in the same way as before, let a be the exact value and \bar{a} the approximated value. Then the *relative error* is defined as

$$\varepsilon_{rel} = \left| \frac{a - \bar{a}}{a} \right|.$$

This gives the *relative error of the distribution function*, denoted $\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}(k)$, for any fixed p and n , where $k \in \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq k \leq n$, without use of continuity correction, is

$$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}(k) = \frac{\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}(k)}{F_X(k)},$$

or equivalently, inserting $\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}(k)$ from (9),

$$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}(k) = \frac{\left| F_X(k) - \Phi\left(\frac{k - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}\right) \right|}{F_X(k)}.$$

2.5 Method

The examination is done in the statistical software R. The software provides predefined functions for deriving the distribution function and probability function of the normal and binomial distributions. The examination is split into two parts, where the first part deals with the absolute error of the approximation of the distribution function and the second part concerns the relative error. The conditions under which the calculations are made, are those found as guidelines in [4]. The calculations will be made with the help of a two-step algorithm. At the end of each section a linear model is fitted to the error. Finally, an overview, where a table and a plot of how the value of npq , where $q = 1 - p$, affects the maximum approximation error for different probabilities are presented.

2.5.1 Algorithm

The two step algorithm below is used. The values of npq mentioned in the literature are, in all cases said to be equal or larger than some limit, here denoted L . The worst case scenario, as to speak, is the case where they are equal, that is, $npq = L$. Therefor equalities are chosen as limits. We know that $n \in \mathbb{N}$, which means that p must be semi-fixed if the equality should hold, this means that the values of p are adjusted, but still remain close to the ones initially chosen. The way of doing this is a two-step algorithm. First a reasonable set of different initial probabilities, \tilde{p}_i 's are chosen, whereafter the corresponding \tilde{n}_i values, which in turn will be rounded to n_i , are derived. These are used to adjust \tilde{p}_i to p_i so that the equality will hold.

1. (a) Chose a set $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ of different initial probabilities, $\tilde{p}_i \in [0, 0.5]$, where $i \in \mathbb{N} : 0 < i < |\tilde{\mathbf{P}}|$.
 (b) Derive the corresponding $\tilde{n}_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$ so that $\tilde{n}_i \tilde{p}_i (1 - \tilde{p}_i) = L$,
 (c) continue by deriving $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$, in order to get a integer,

$$n_i(p_i) := \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \tilde{p}_i (1 - \tilde{p}_i) \geq L\}. \quad (10)$$

Now we got a set of $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$, denote it \mathbf{N} .

2. Chose a set \mathbf{P} so that for every $p_i \in \mathbf{P}$,

$$n_i p_i (1 - p_i) = L.$$

The result is that we always keep the limit L fixed. Let us take a look at an example. Let $L = 10$, use continuity correction and the initial $\tilde{\mathbf{P}} = 0.1(0.1)0.5$,

Exemplifying table of algorithm values					
i	1	2	3	4	5
\tilde{p}_i	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
\tilde{n}_i	111.11	62.50	47.62	41.67	40.00
n_i	112	63	48	42	40
p_i	0.099	0.198	0.296	0.391	0.500

Different rules of thumb are suggested by [4]. Using approximation (3) the authors say that $np(1 - p) \geq 10$ gives reasonable approximations and in addition, using (5), it may even be sufficient using $np(1 - p) \geq 3$. The investigation takes place under three different conditions,

- $np(1 - p) = 10$ without continuity correction, suggested in [4],
- $np(1 - p) = 10$ with continuity correction, suggested in [2],
- $np(1 - p) = 3$ with continuity correction, suggested in [4].

The investigation of the rules is made only for $p_i \in [0, 0.5]$ due to symmetry. As we see, $np(1 - p)$ simply gets the same values for $p \in [0, 0.5]$ as for $p \in [0.5, 1]$. So, for every p , $n_i(p_i)$ is derived, this in turn, means that we get $n_i(p_i) + 1$ approximations. For every $n_i(p_i)$, and of course p_i as well, we define *the maximum absolute error of the approximation of the distribution function*,

$$M_{F_{abs}} = \max\{\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}(k) : 0 \leq k \leq n_i(p_i)\}, \quad (11)$$

and in addition *the maximum relative error*

$$M_{F_{rel}} = \max\{\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}(k) : 0 \leq k \leq n_i(p_i)\}. \quad (12)$$

The results are both tabled and plotted.

2.5.2 Regression

Beforehand, some plots were made which indicated that the maximum absolute error could be a linear function of p . Regarding the relative maximum error, a quadratic or cubic function of p seemed plausible. Because of that, a regression is made. The model assumed to explain the absolute error is

$$M_\varepsilon = \alpha + \beta p + \epsilon_l, \quad (13)$$

where M_ε is the maximum error, α is the intercept, β the slope and ϵ_l the error of the linear model. For the relative error, the two additional regression models are,

$$M_\varepsilon = \alpha + \beta p + \gamma p^2 + \epsilon_l \quad (14)$$

and

$$M_\varepsilon = \alpha + \beta p + \gamma p^2 + \delta p^3 + \epsilon_l. \quad (15)$$

3 Background

In the first basic courses in mathematical statistics, the approximations (3) and (5) are taught. Students have learned some kind of rules of thumb they should use when applying the approximations, myself included, for example the rules suggested by Blom [4],

$$\begin{aligned} np(1-p) &\geq 10, \\ np(1-p) &\geq 3 \text{ with continuity correction.} \end{aligned}$$

Any motivation why the limit L is set to be $L = 10$ and $L = 3$ respectively is not found in the book. On the other hand, in 1989 Blom claims that the approximation "gives decent accuracy if npq is approximately larger than 10" with continuity correction [2]. Further, it is interesting, that Blom changes the suggestion between the first edition of [3] from 1970, where it says, similarly as above, that it "gives decent accuracy if $np(1-p)$ is approximately larger than 10" *with* continuity correction, and in the second edition from 1984 the same should yield, but now instead *without* use of continuity correction, the conclusion is that there has been some fuzziness regarding the rules. Neither have I, nor my advisor Sven Erick Alm, found any examination of the accuracy of these rules anywhere else. With Blom [4] as starting-point, I begun backtracking, hoping that I could find the source of the rules of thumb. It is worth mentioning that among authors, slightly different rules have been used. For instance Alm himself and Britton, present a schema with rules for approximating distributions, in which $np(1-p) > 5$ with continuity correction is suggested [1]. Even between countries, or from an international point of view, so to speak, differences are found. Schader and Schmid [10] says that "by far the most popular are"

$$np(1-p) > 9$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} np &> 5 \text{ for } 0 < p \leq 0.5, \\ n(1-p) &> 5 \text{ for } 0.5 < p < 1, \end{aligned}$$

which I am not familiar with and I have not found in any Swedish literature. In the mid-twentieth century, more precise 1952, Hald [9] wrote,

An exhaustive examination on the accuracy of the approximation formulas has not yet been made, and we can therefore only give rough rules for the applicability of the formulas.

With these words in mind, the conclusion is that there probably does not exist any earlier work made about the accuracy of the approximation. However, Hald himself made an examination in the same work for $npq > 9$. Further he also points out that in cases where the binomial distribution is very skew, $p < \frac{1}{n+1}$ and $p > \frac{n}{n+1}$, the approximation cannot be applied. Some articles have been found that briefly discuss the accuracy and error of the distributions. Mainly, the focus of the articles lies on some more advanced method of approximating than (3) or (5). An update of [2] has been made by Enger, Englund, Grandell and Holst in 2005, [4]. The writers have been contacted and Enger was said to be the one that assigned the rules. Hearing this made me believe that the source could be found. However, Enger could not recall from where he had got it [6]. That is how far I could get. Nevertheless, the examination remains as interesting as beforehand.

Discussing rules for approximating, one can not avoid at least mentioning the Berry-Esseen theorem. The theorem gives a conservative estimate, in the sense that it gives the largest possible size of the error. It is based upon the rate of convergence of the approximation to the normal distribution. The Berry-Esseen theorem will not be further examined here, but there are several interesting articles due to that the theorem is improved every now and then, most recently in May 2010 [11].

4 The approximation error of the distribution function

The errors of the approximations, $M_{F_{abs}}$ and $M_{F_{rel}}$, defined in (11), and (12) respectively, are plotted and tabled. The cases that are examined are those mentioned earlier, suggested by [4].

4.1 Absolute error

We examine the absolute maximum errors of the approximation of the distribution function, $M_{F_{abs}}$ defined in (11), here in the first part. In addition to

that a regression is made, defined in (13), to see if we might find any linear trend.

Case 1: $npq = 10$, without continuity correction

First, the case where $L = 10 = npq$, without continuity correction. $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$, the set of different initial probabilities is chosen to be $\tilde{p}_i = 0.01(0.01)0.50$. This means that we use 50 equidistant \tilde{p}_i . The smallest probability is $p_1 = 0.0100$ and it has the largest error $M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0831$. $M_{F_{abs}}$ decreases the closer to 0.5 we get, which is natural since the binomial distribution tends to be skew. The points make a pattern which is a bit curvy, but still the points are close to the straight line in Figure 1. Another remark made, is that the distance between the probabilities decreases the closer to 0.5 we get. The fact that there are several \tilde{n}_i rounded to the same value of n_i , which in turn gives equal values on p_i , makes several $M_{F_{abs}}$ the same, and plotted in the same spot. So they are all there, but not visible due to that reason. Next we try to fit a linear model for $M_{F_{abs}}$. The result is

$$M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0836 - 0.0417p + \epsilon_l.$$

The regression line is the straight line in Figure 1. The slope of the line shows that the size of $M_{F_{abs}}$ changes moderately. Note that the sum of the errors of the regression line, $\sum |\epsilon_l|$, is relatively small, the result should be somewhat precise estimates of $M_{F_{abs}}$ for probabilities which are not taken in consideration here.

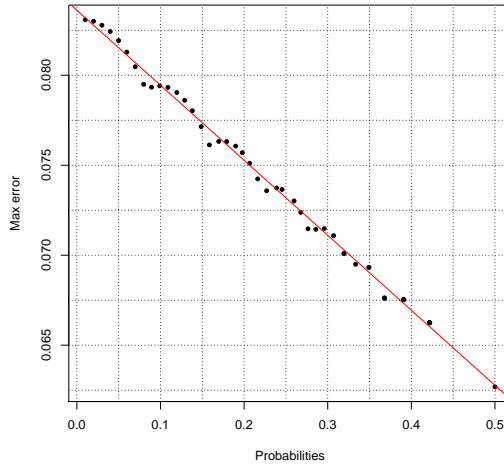


Figure 1: Maximum absolute error for $npq = 10$ without continuity correction. The straight line is the regression line, $M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0836 - 0.0417p$.

Case 2: $npq = 10$, with continuity correction

Under these circumstances $M_{F_{abs}}$ decreases and is about four times smaller than without continuity correction. The regression line,

$$M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0209 - 0.0416p + \epsilon_l, \quad (16)$$

also has got a four times smaller intercept than in the first case. What is interesting is that, the slope is approximately the same in both cases, this in turn, means that for every $\tilde{p}_i = 0.01(0.01)0.50$, it holds that $M_{F_{abs}}$ also is four times smaller. This can be seen in Figure 2.

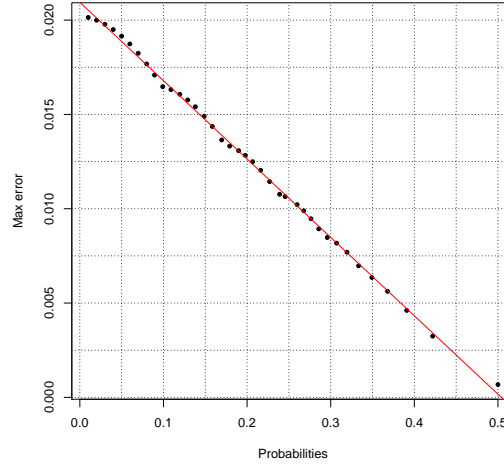


Figure 2: Maximum absolute error for $npq = 10$ with continuity correction. The straight line is the regression line, $M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0209 - 0.0416p + \epsilon_l$.

Case 3: $npq = 3$, with continuity correction

Finally we take a look at the last case, regarding the absolute error, where $L = 3 = npq$ and continuity correction is used. The plot is seen in Figure 3. $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ is the same as above. In this case the regression line is

$$M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0373 - 0.0720p + \epsilon_l.$$

The largest error, $M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0355$ appears at $p_1 = 0.0100$ and is about twice the size compared to the largest $M_{F_{abs}}$ for $L = 10$. The slope of the line is more aggressive here, which in turn results in errors, one order of magnitude less than in the Case 1 for probabilities close to 0.5. Also here the sum of

discrepancy from the regression line is relatively small which should result in fairly good estimations of $M_{F_{abs}}$.

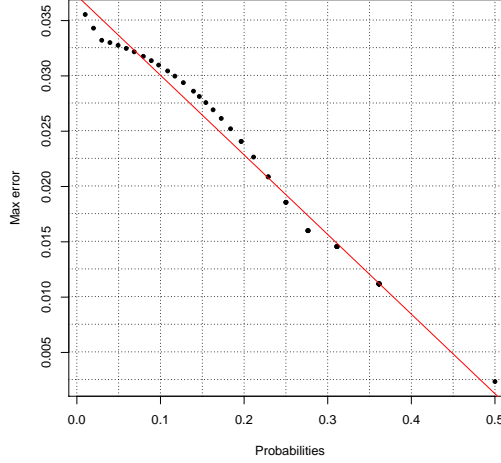


Figure 3: Maximum absolute error for $npq = 3$, *with* continuity correction. The straight line is the regression line, $M_{F_{abs}} = 0.0373 - 0.0720p$.

4.2 Relative Error

Here, the maximum relative error of the approximation of the distribution function, $M_{F_{rel}}$, defined in (12) is examined. The regression models (14) and (15) are both tested.

Case 1: $npq = 10$, without continuity correction

In the first case we perform the calculations under, $L = 10 = npq$ without continuity correction. The result is shown in Figure 4. As we see $M_{F_{rel}}$ increases very rapidly. The smallest value of $M_{F_{rel}}$, 16.97317 is at p_1 . The largest 138.61756 at p_{50} . As we see in Table 4, it is $k = 0$ that gives the largest error. For other values of k the error is much smaller. Furthermore we note that $M_{F_{rel}}$ is very large. If we look at a specific example where $p = 0.2269$, which means that $n = 57$, then $X \sim \text{Bin}(57, 0.2269)$. Let X be approximated, according to (3), by $Y \sim N(12.933, 3.162078)$. We get that $P(X \leq 1) = 7.55 \cdot 10^{-6}$ and $P(Y \leq 1) = 8.04 \cdot 10^{-5}$. Under these circumstances we get,

$$M_{F_{rel}} = \frac{|P(X \leq 1) - P(Y \leq 1)|}{P(X \leq 1)} = 9.64.$$

The result is shown in Table 4. So the relative error is, as we also can see, large, for small k and small probabilities. The regression curves, defined in (14) and (15) are,

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 14.66 + 69.86p + 416.14p^2 + \epsilon_l$$

and

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 21.53 - 92.26p + 1246.60p^2 - 1136.07p^3 + \epsilon_l$$

respectively. We note that there are not any larger differences in accuracy depending on the choice of model. Naturally, the discrepancy of the second model is lower.

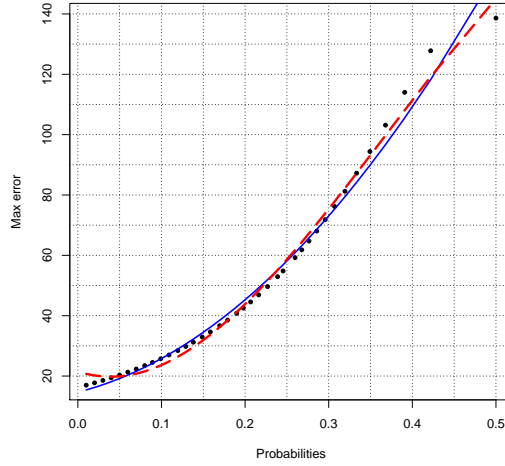


Figure 4: Maximum relative error for $npq = 10$ *without* continuity correction. The solid line is the regression curve, $M_{F_{rel}} = 14.66 + 69.86p + 416.14p^2$ and the dashed line, $M_{F_{rel}} = 21.53 - 92.26p + 1246.60p^2 - 1136.07p^3$.

Case 2: $npq = 10$, with continuity correction

We continue by looking at the same case as above, but here continuity correction is used. This gives somewhat remarkable results, $M_{F_{rel}}$ is actually about two times larger than without continuity correction. Let us study the same numeric example as above, except that we use continuity correction. We got $p = 0.2269$ which again means that $n = 57$, then $X \sim \text{Bin}(57, 0.2269)$. We let X be approximated, according to (5), by $Y \sim N(12.933, 3.162078)$. It results in, $P(X \leq 1) = 7.55 \cdot 10^{-6}$ and $P(Y \leq 1 + 0.5) = 0.000150$. Under

these circumstances we get,

$$M_{F_{rel}} = \frac{|P(X \leq 1) - P(Y \leq 1 + 0.5)|}{P(X \leq 1)} = 18.84,$$

which fits the values in Table 5. $M_{F_{abs}}$ gets dramatically worse when we use continuity correction than without. Hence, also $M_{F_{rel}}$ becomes worse. In Figure 5 one can judge that the results gets worse as we get closer to probabilities near 0.5. The regression curves, defined in (14) and (15) are,

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 34.9 - 69.8p + 1597.1p^2 + \epsilon_l$$

and

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 37.4 - 127.3p + 1891.8p^2 - 403.2p^3 + \epsilon_l,$$

respectively. Looking at Figure 5, we see that the difference between the two models is insignificant.

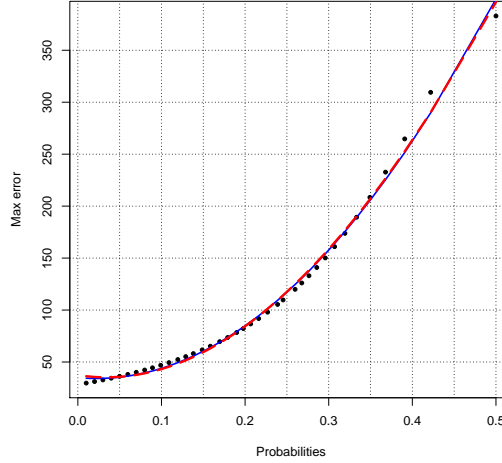


Figure 5: Maximum relative error for $npq = 10$ with continuity correction. The solid line is the regression curve, $M_{F_{rel}} = 34.9 - 69.8p + 1597.1p^2$ and the dashed line, $M_{F_{rel}} = 37.4 - 127.3p + 1891.8p^2 - 403.2p^3$.

Case 3: $npq = 3$ with continuity correction

Here, in the last case $npq = 3$ and continuity correction is used, see Figure 6. This gives the curves of regression, defined in (14) and (15),

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 0.473 + 2.204p + 2.123p^2 + \epsilon_l$$

and

$$M_{F_{rel}} = 0.514 + 1.155p + 7.858p^2 - 7.885p^3 + \epsilon_l,$$

respectively. As we see $M_{F_{rel}}$ actually get the smallest value here, where $npq = 3$ and continuity correction is used. As well as in the two other cases regarding the relative error the difference between the quadratic and cubic regression model is minimal.

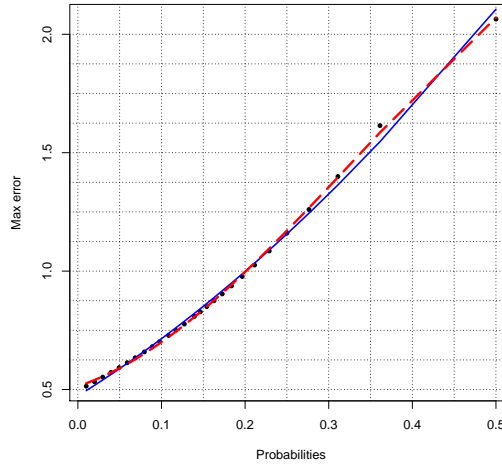


Figure 6: Maximum relative error for $npq = 3$ with continuity correction. The solid line is the regression curve, $M_{F_{rel}} = 0.473 + 2.204p + 2.123p^2$ and the dashed line, $M_{F_{rel}} = 0.514 + 1.155p + 7.858p^2 - 7.885p^3$.

5 Summary and conclusions

The three different rules of thumbs that are focused on turned out to give approximation errors of different sizes. Regarding the absolute errors, the largest difference is found between the case where $L = 10$ without continuity correction and $L = 10$ with continuity correction. The largest error decreases from ~ 0.08 to about ~ 0.02 , which is approximately four times smaller, a relatively large difference. Letting $L = 3$ and using continuity correction we end up with the largest error ~ 0.035 , closer to the latter case, but still between them. When using this common and simple way of approximating, depending on the problem, different levels of tolerance usually are accepted. A common level in many cases may be 0.01. If we look deeper, we see that the probabilities for getting such a small $M_{F_{abs}}$ differs from between the rules of thumb. Using $npq = 10$ without continuity correction does not even reach to the 0.01 level of accepted accuracy. Comparing this to the other

two cases which in contrast reach the 0.01 level for probabilities ~ 0.25 in the same case as above but in addition *with* continuity correction, and for probabilities ~ 0.35 in the case where $npq = 3$. Further, it would be interesting to investigate how the relationship between k and n affects the error. In addition, another interesting part would be some tables indicating how large n should be in order to get sufficiently small errors, for different probabilities.

Concerning the relative errors I would say that the applicability may be somewhat uncertain, due to the fact that $M_{F_{rel}}$ is very large for small values of k but rapidly decrease. This fact, I may say, make the plots look a bit extreme and there are other values of k that give much better approximations. Judging by Tables 4, 5 and 6 indeed this seems to be the case. We know that the approximation is motivated by the central limit theorem, however, what we also know, is that it does not hold the same accuracy for small probabilities, that is, the tails of the distributions. This is also the direct reason why the accuracy gets worse when using continuity correction, it puts extra mass on the already too large approximated value. In a similar way we get the explanation why the relative error increases when the value of npq changes from 10 to 3, (as one maybe would expect the opposite), the mean value of the normal distribution, np , gets closer to 0 which in turn gives additional mass. The conclusion is, one should remember that due to the fluctuations depending on k , of the relative errors, what we also can see in Tables 4, 5 and 6, that the regression model also provides conservative estimates of the errors. As a natural alternative, and most likely better, Poisson approximation is recommended for small probabilities. Like in the previous case concerning the absolute errors, some more exhaustive examination of the relative error would be interesting. How large should n be to get acceptable levels of the error, for instance 10% or 5% and so on.

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Tables

Regarding the plotted probabilities, that is the set \mathbf{P} , only the maximum error is plotted. One can not tell from which k the error comes from, neither can one tell if the error is of similar size for other values of k . To get a more detailed picture this section contains tables both for the absolute errors and the relative errors. It would have been possible to table all the errors for all values of k , but due to the fact that the cardinality of \mathbf{N} at times, that is for small probabilities, is relatively large, it would have taken too much place. This made me table only the 10 values of k which resulted in the largest errors. The columns in the tables, that contains the values of k is in descending order. What this means is that the first value of k in each column is the maximum error that is plotted. On the side of every column of k , there is a column where the corresponding error is written. These two sub columns, got a common header which tells the value of p in the specific case.

$p=0.01$	0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899	
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$
10	0.0831	10	0.0828	10	0.0824	10	0.0819	10	0.0813	10	0.0805	10	0.0795	11	0.0793	11	0.0794	11	0.0786
9	0.0808	9	0.0795	9	0.0788	9	0.0776	9	0.0772	10	0.0771	10	0.0758	10	0.0741	12	0.0743	12	0.0743
11	0.0738	11	0.0749	11	0.0759	9	0.0748	9	0.0689	12	0.0698	12	0.0723	10	0.0734	10	0.0724	10	0.0706
8	0.0672	8	0.065	12	0.0621	12	0.0638	12	0.0654	12	0.067	12	0.0685	9	0.0623	9	0.0597	13	0.0631
12	0.0569	12	0.0587	8	0.0605	8	0.0581	8	0.0557	8	0.0532	13	0.0555	13	0.0575	9	0.0573	9	0.0549
7	0.0465	7	0.0442	13	0.0435	13	0.0455	13	0.0475	13	0.0496	8	0.0457	8	0.0483	14	0.0422	14	0.0443
13	0.0377	13	0.0396	13	0.0416	7	0.0396	7	0.0373	7	0.0335	7	0.0328	14	0.0356	8	0.0382	8	0.0359
6	0.0253	6	0.0235	14	0.0243	14	0.026	14	0.0278	14	0.0297	14	0.0317	7	0.0285	7	0.0264	15	0.0296
14	0.021	14	0.0226	6	0.0217	6	0.0184	6	0.0168	15	0.017	15	0.0186	15	0.0202	15	0.0237	7	0.0204
15	0.0092	15	0.0103	15	0.0115	15	0.0141	15	0.0155	6	0.0152	6	0.0138	6	0.0125	16	0.0118	16	0.0147
0.1979	0.2066	0.2163	0.2269	0.2389	0.2454	0.2598	0.2678	0.2764	0.2857	0.2959	0.307	0.3194	0.3333	0.3492	0.3679	0.3909	0.4219	0.5	
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$
12	0.0757	12	0.0751	12	0.0742	13	0.0736	13	0.0737	13	0.0737	13	0.0734	13	0.0715	14	0.0711	14	0.0701
13	0.0717	13	0.0725	12	0.0712	12	0.0701	14	0.0698	14	0.0698	14	0.0705	14	0.0702	13	0.0685	15	0.0688
11	0.07	11	0.0681	11	0.066	14	0.0653	14	0.0672	12	0.0672	12	0.0654	12	0.0633	15	0.0666	13	0.0662
14	0.0597	14	0.0615	14	0.0634	11	0.0602	11	0.0584	15	0.0559	15	0.0568	15	0.0526	12	0.0607	16	0.06
10	0.0561	10	0.0536	10	0.0508	15	0.0511	15	0.0541	15	0.0541	15	0.0516	16	0.0514	16	0.0578	16	0.0571
15	0.0438	15	0.046	15	0.0484	10	0.0476	10	0.044	10	0.042	16	0.0442	16	0.0464	16	0.0488	11	0.0459
9	0.0384	9	0.036	9	0.0333	16	0.0353	16	0.0384	16	0.0402	10	0.0376	10	0.0352	17	0.0364	17	0.0394
16	0.0281	16	0.0301	16	0.0325	9	0.0304	9	0.0273	9	0.0256	17	0.0292	17	0.0314	10	0.0326	10	0.0298
8	0.0217	8	0.0199	17	0.0213	17	0.024	17	0.024	17	0.0256	9	0.022	9	0.0202	18	0.0229	18	0.0258
17	0.0156	17	0.0172	8	0.0179	8	0.0159	8	0.0138	18	0.0142	18	0.017	18	0.0187	9	0.0182	9	0.0163

Table 1: Table of the 10 largest errors, $\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$ and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 10$ without continuity correction.

$p = 0.01$		0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899
k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}
11	0.0201	11	0.0198	11	0.0195	11	0.0192	11	0.0187	11	0.0182	11	0.0177	11	0.0171	12	0.0165	12	0.0163
10	0.02	10	0.0193	10	0.0185	10	0.0176	10	0.0167	10	0.0165	11	0.0164	11	0.0157	11	0.0148	11	0.0148
12	0.0149	12	0.0153	12	0.0156	12	0.0159	12	0.0162	12	0.0162	13	0.0162	13	0.0125	13	0.0125	13	0.0125
9	0.0141	9	0.0129	9	0.0118	9	0.0106	6	0.0102	13	0.0107	13	0.0112	13	0.0117	10	0.0116	10	0.0104
5	0.0114	5	0.0111	5	0.0107	6	0.0104	5	0.0098	13	0.0101	6	0.01	6	0.0098	6	0.0093	6	0.0089
6	0.0104	6	0.0105	6	0.0105	5	0.0103	13	0.0095	5	0.0089	5	0.0084	7	0.0082	7	0.0083	7	0.0084
4	0.0091	4	0.0086	13	0.0082	13	0.0089	9	0.0083	9	0.0083	7	0.0077	7	0.008	5	0.0075	5	0.0071
16	0.0076	13	0.0075	4	0.0081	4	0.0076	4	0.0071	7	0.0074	9	0.0071	17	0.0066	17	0.0064	17	0.0062
17	0.0071	16	0.0073	16	0.0071	17	0.007	7	0.007	17	0.0068	17	0.0067	9	0.006	18	0.0058	17	0.006
13	0.0068	17	0.0071	17	0.007	16	0.0069	17	0.0069	4	0.0066	4	0.0061	18	0.0058	14	0.0055	18	0.0058
0.1979	0.2066	0.2163	0.2269	0.2389	0.2454	0.2598	0.2678	0.2764	0.2857	0.2959	0.307	0.3194	0.3333	0.3492	0.3679	0.3909	0.4219	0.5	
k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}	k	εF_{abs}
13	0.0128	13	0.0125	13	0.012	13	0.0114	14	0.0108	14	0.0106	14	0.0095	14	0.0089	15	0.0085	15	0.0082
12	0.0114	14	0.0108	14	0.0109	13	0.0107	13	0.0102	13	0.009	15	0.0086	15	0.0087	15	0.0086	14	0.0083
14	0.0106	12	0.0106	12	0.0097	12	0.0087	15	0.0082	15	0.0085	13	0.0083	13	0.0075	13	0.0066	16	0.0064
11	0.0068	8	0.0067	15	0.007	15	0.0075	12	0.0074	12	0.0068	9	0.0054	9	0.0053	16	0.0057	16	0.0057
8	0.0067	15	0.0065	8	0.0066	8	0.0063	8	0.0061	8	0.0059	8	0.0054	16	0.0053	9	0.0052	9	0.0048
7	0.0067	7	0.0064	7	0.006	7	0.0056	9	0.0054	9	0.0054	12	0.0053	8	0.0051	8	0.0048	8	0.0044
15	0.006	11	0.0058	9	0.0049	9	0.0052	7	0.005	7	0.0048	16	0.0049	12	0.0044	10	0.0042	8	0.004
6	0.0051	6	0.0047	11	0.0048	19	0.0042	19	0.004	16	0.004	7	0.0041	7	0.0038	12	0.0036	20	0.0033
19	0.0046	9	0.0046	19	0.0044	6	0.0038	20	0.0037	19	0.0039	20	0.0036	10	0.0037	7	0.0034	7	0.0031
18	0.0045	19	0.0045	6	0.0043	20	0.0037	16	0.0036	20	0.0037	19	0.0035	20	0.0034	21	0.0028	21	0.0028

Table 2: Table of the 10 largest errors, εF_{abs} and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 10$ with continuity correction.

$p=0.01$	0.0199	0.0297	0.0395	0.0493	0.059	0.0685	0.0795	0.089	0.0978	0.1086	0.1172	0.1273	0.1394
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$
2	0.0356	2	0.0343	3	0.0332	3	0.0325	3	0.0314	3	0.0304	3	0.0294
3	0.0335	3	0.0334	2	0.0331	2	0.0292	2	0.0252	2	0.0239	2	0.0212
0	0.0245	0	0.0242	0	0.0239	0	0.0229	0	0.0216	0	0.0207	0	0.0196
6	0.0117	6	0.0116	6	0.0114	6	0.0116	4	0.0131	4	0.0135	4	0.0147
4	0.009	4	0.0096	4	0.0101	4	0.0107	6	0.0103	6	0.0101	6	0.0098
5	0.009	5	0.0086	5	0.0082	5	0.0077	7	0.007	7	0.0069	7	0.0068
7	0.0072	7	0.0072	7	0.0071	7	0.0071	5	0.0063	5	0.0058	5	0.0059
1	0.0047	1	0.0035	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.0036	1	0.0044	5	0.0032
8	0.0031	8	0.003	1	0.0024	1	0.0017	1	0.0028	8	0.003	8	0.003
9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001
0.1464	0.1542	0.1629	0.1727	0.1838	0.1965	0.2113	0.2288	0.25	0.2764	0.311	0.3613	0.5	
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$
3	0.0281	3	0.0276	3	0.0269	3	0.0262	3	0.0186	4	0.016	4	0.0112
0	0.0185	0	0.018	0	0.0175	0	0.0169	4	0.0166	3	0.0155	3	0.0114
2	0.0172	2	0.0161	4	0.0159	4	0.0161	0	0.0116	1	0.0099	1	0.0079
4	0.0154	4	0.0156	2	0.0149	2	0.0135	1	0.0111	0	0.0098	0	0.0076
6	0.0088	6	0.0086	1	0.0088	1	0.0093	1	0.0055	7	0.005	5	0.0047
1	0.0079	1	0.0084	6	0.0083	6	0.008	6	0.0051	5	0.0048	7	0.0042
7	0.0066	7	0.0066	7	0.0065	7	0.0064	2	0.0039	6	0.0039	8	0.0027
8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.0029	5	0.0036	8	0.0026	6	0.0021
5	0.0021	5	0.0017	5	0.0012	9	9e-04	8	0.0028	2	0.0017	9	5e-04
9	0.001	9	0.001	9	9e-04	5	7e-04	10	9e-04	9	9e-04	6	6e-04

Table 3: Table of the 10 largest errors, $\varepsilon_{F_{abs}}$ and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 3$ with continuity correction.

$p = 0.01$	0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899	
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0.16.9732	0.17.7468	0.18.5666	0.19.4284	0.20.3435	0.21.3015	0.22.3354	0.23.4367	0.24.515	0.25.7144	0.26.9868	0.28.4404	0.29.8146	0.31.2175	0.32.9391	0.34.6254	0.36.684	0.38.5519	0.40.7878	0.42.5395
1	3.5794	1	3.7342	1	3.8973	1	4.0678	1	4.2478	1	4.435	1	4.636	1	4.8487	1	5.0558	1	5.2633
2	1.1123	2	1.1665	2	1.2233	2	1.2825	2	1.3447	2	1.4092	2	1.4781	2	1.5507	2	1.621	2	1.6958
3	0.3227	3	0.3473	3	0.373	3	0.3998	3	0.4278	3	0.4568	3	0.4877	3	0.5202	3	0.5516	3	0.5861
7	0.2216	7	0.2213	7	0.2209	7	0.2203	7	0.2195	7	0.2186	7	0.2176	7	0.2168	7	0.2158	7	0.2148
8	0.2097	8	0.2111	8	0.2125	8	0.2137	8	0.2149	8	0.2161	8	0.2173	8	0.2184	8	0.2194	8	0.2204
6	0.2064	6	0.2036	6	0.2007	6	0.1975	6	0.1944	6	0.1914	6	0.1884	6	0.1854	6	0.1824	6	0.1794
9	0.1817	9	0.1843	9	0.1869	9	0.1895	9	0.1919	9	0.1944	9	0.1968	9	0.1991	9	0.2012	9	0.2034
10	0.1457	10	0.1489	10	0.1522	10	0.1555	10	0.1588	10	0.1621	10	0.1654	10	0.1687	10	0.1718	10	0.1751
5	0.1454	5	0.139	5	0.1322	5	0.1251	5	0.1177	5	0.1104	5	0.1031	5	0.0958	5	0.0885	5	0.0812
0.1979	0.2066	0.2163	0.2269	0.2389	0.2454	0.2598	0.2678	0.2764	0.2857	0.2959	0.307	0.3194	0.3333	0.3492	0.3679	0.3909	0.4219	0.5	
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0.42.5395	0.44.5543	0.46.8956	0.49.6484	0.52.9297	0.54.8179	0.59.2257	0.61.819	0.64.7361	0.68.041	0.71.8159	0.76.168	0.81.2398	0.87.2252	0.94.3951	1.03.1377	1.14.019	1.27.794	0.138.6176	0.149.1341
1	8.385	1	8.7454	1	9.1618	1	9.6485	1	10.2247	1	10.5545	1	11.3197	1	11.767	1	12.2677	1	12.8322
2	2.7193	2	2.8352	2	2.9685	2	3.1235	2	3.306	2	3.41	2	3.6501	2	3.7897	2	3.9454	2	4.1201
3	1.0329	3	1.0828	3	1.14	3	1.2063	3	1.2841	3	1.3283	3	1.4299	3	1.4887	3	1.5541	3	1.6273
4	0.3625	4	0.3878	4	0.4168	4	0.4504	4	0.4897	4	0.5119	4	0.5631	4	0.5926	4	0.6253	4	0.6619
9	0.2196	9	0.2204	9	0.2212	9	0.2218	9	0.2224	9	0.2226	9	0.2227	9	0.2227	9	0.2227	9	0.2227
8	0.216	8	0.2148	8	0.2133	8	0.2124	8	0.2110	8	0.2096	8	0.2082	8	0.2068	8	0.2054	8	0.2040
10	0.2049	10	0.2072	10	0.2097	10	0.2114	10	0.214	10	0.2168	10	0.2197	10	0.2212	10	0.2225	10	0.2239
7	0.1841	7	0.1822	7	0.1859	7	0.1899	7	0.1944	7	0.1968	7	0.202	7	0.2017	7	0.2079	7	0.2154
0.1979	0.2066	0.2163	0.2269	0.2389	0.2454	0.2598	0.2678	0.2764	0.2857	0.2959	0.307	0.3194	0.3333	0.3492	0.3679	0.3909	0.4219	0.5	

Table 4: Table of the 10 largest errors, $\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$ and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 10$ without continuity correction.

p	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0	29.7208	0.31.1973	0.32.7709	0.34.4347	0	36.212	0	38.084	0	40.1172	0	42.297	0	44.454	0	46.851	0	49.4206	0
1	6.4725	1 6.7619	1 7.0685	1 7.3907	1 7.7327	1 8.0908	1 8.4774	1 8.8893	1 9.2928	1 9.7419	1 10.2188	1 10.7642	1 11.2805	1 11.8083	1 12.4572	1 13.0941	1 13.8735	1 14.5828	1 15.4344
2	2.2923	2 2.3926	2 2.4984	2 2.6091	2 2.7361	2 2.848	2 2.9789	2 3.1178	2 3.2532	2 3.4032	2 3.5617	2 3.7421	2 3.912	2 4.0849	2 4.2964	2 4.503	2 4.7545	2 4.9822	2 5.2542
3	0.9707	3 1.0166	3 1.0648	3 1.1151	3 1.1681	3 1.2232	3 1.2822	3 1.3445	3 1.4051	3 1.4721	3 1.5425	3 1.6224	3 1.6975	3 1.7735	3 1.8663	3 1.9566	3 2.066	3 2.1647	3 2.2822
4	0.4247	4 0.4491	4 0.4747	4 0.5014	4 0.5295	4 0.5586	4 0.5898	4 0.6227	4 0.6547	4 0.6899	4 0.7269	4 0.7689	4 0.8081	4 0.8479	4 0.8963	4 0.9433	4 1.0002	4 1.0514	4 1.1121
5	0.1665	5 0.1804	5 0.1951	5 0.2104	5 0.2265	5 0.2433	5 0.2612	5 0.2802	5 0.2986	5 0.3189	5 0.3403	5 0.3645	5 0.3873	5 0.4102	5 0.4382	5 0.4654	5 0.4982	5 0.5278	5 0.5629
9	0.0451	9 0.0468	9 0.0485	9 0.0503	9 0.0521	9 0.054	9 0.056	9 0.058	9 0.06	9 0.062	9 0.064	9 0.066	9 0.068	9 0.07	9 0.072	9 0.074	9 0.076	9 0.078	9 0.08
8	0.0439	8 0.0447	8 0.0455	8 0.0463	8 0.0471	8 0.0479	8 0.0487	8 0.0495	8 0.0503	8 0.0511	8 0.0519	8 0.0527	8 0.0535	8 0.0543	8 0.0551	8 0.0559	8 0.0567	8 0.0575	8 0.0583
6	0.0387	6 0.0395	6 0.0403	6 0.0411	6 0.0419	6 0.0427	6 0.0435	6 0.0443	6 0.0451	6 0.0459	6 0.0467	6 0.0475	6 0.0483	6 0.0491	6 0.0499	6 0.0507	6 0.0515	6 0.0523	6 0.0531
10	0.0353	10 0.0359	10 0.0364	10 0.0368	10 0.0372	10 0.0376	10 0.038	10 0.0384	10 0.0388	10 0.0392	10 0.0396	10 0.04	10 0.0404	10 0.0408	10 0.0412	10 0.0416	10 0.042	10 0.0424	10 0.0428

p	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0	29.7208	0.31.1973	0.32.7709	0.34.4347	0	36.212	0	38.084	0	40.1172	0	42.297	0	44.454	0	46.851	0	49.4206	0
1	6.4725	1 6.7619	1 7.0685	1 7.3907	1 7.7327	1 8.0908	1 8.4774	1 8.8893	1 9.2928	1 9.7419	1 10.2188	1 10.7642	1 11.2805	1 11.8083	1 12.4572	1 13.0941	1 13.8735	1 14.5828	1 15.4344
2	2.2923	2 2.3926	2 2.4984	2 2.6091	2 2.7361	2 2.848	2 2.9789	2 3.1178	2 3.2532	2 3.4032	2 3.5617	2 3.7421	2 3.912	2 4.0849	2 4.2964	2 4.503	2 4.7545	2 4.9822	2 5.2542
3	0.9707	3 1.0166	3 1.0648	3 1.1151	3 1.1681	3 1.2232	3 1.2822	3 1.3445	3 1.4051	3 1.4721	3 1.5425	3 1.6224	3 1.6975	3 1.7735	3 1.8663	3 1.9566	3 2.066	3 2.1647	3 2.2822
4	0.4247	4 0.4491	4 0.4747	4 0.5014	4 0.5295	4 0.5586	4 0.5898	4 0.6227	4 0.6547	4 0.6899	4 0.7269	4 0.7689	4 0.8081	4 0.8479	4 0.8963	4 0.9433	4 1.0002	4 1.0514	4 1.1121
5	0.1665	5 0.1804	5 0.1951	5 0.2104	5 0.2265	5 0.2433	5 0.2612	5 0.2802	5 0.2986	5 0.3189	5 0.3403	5 0.3645	5 0.3873	5 0.4102	5 0.4382	5 0.4654	5 0.4982	5 0.5278	5 0.5629
9	0.0451	9 0.0468	9 0.0485	9 0.0503	9 0.0521	9 0.054	9 0.056	9 0.058	9 0.06	9 0.062	9 0.064	9 0.066	9 0.068	9 0.07	9 0.072	9 0.074	9 0.076	9 0.078	9 0.08
8	0.0439	8 0.0447	8 0.0455	8 0.0463	8 0.0471	8 0.0479	8 0.0487	8 0.0495	8 0.0503	8 0.0511	8 0.0519	8 0.0527	8 0.0535	8 0.0543	8 0.0551	8 0.0559	8 0.0567	8 0.0575	8 0.0583
6	0.0387	6 0.0395	6 0.0403	6 0.0411	6 0.0419	6 0.0427	6 0.0435	6 0.0443	6 0.0451	6 0.0459	6 0.0467	6 0.0475	6 0.0483	6 0.0491	6 0.0499	6 0.0507	6 0.0515	6 0.0523	6 0.0531
10	0.0353	10 0.0359	10 0.0364	10 0.0368	10 0.0372	10 0.0376	10 0.038	10 0.0384	10 0.0388	10 0.0392	10 0.0396	10 0.04	10 0.0404	10 0.0408	10 0.0412	10 0.0416	10 0.042	10 0.0424	10 0.0428

p	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.0399	0.0499	0.0597	0.0698	0.0799	0.0893	0.0991	0.109	0.1196	0.129	0.1381	0.1487	0.1584	0.1696	0.1792	0.1899
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0	29.7208	0.31.1973	0.32.7709	0.34.4347	0	36.212	0	38.084	0	40.1172	0	42.297	0	44.454	0	46.851	0	49.4206	0
1	6.4725	1 6.7619	1 7.0685	1 7.3907	1 7.7327	1 8.0908	1 8.4774	1 8.8893	1 9.2928	1 9.7419	1 10.2188	1 10.7642	1 11.2805	1 11.8083	1 12.4572	1 13.0941	1 13.8735	1 14.5828	1 15.4344
2	2.2923	2 2.3926	2 2.4984	2 2.6091	2 2.7361	2 2.848	2 2.9789	2 3.1178	2 3.2532	2 3.4032	2 3.5617	2 3.7421	2 3.912	2 4.0849	2 4.2964	2 4.503	2 4.7545	2 4.9822	2 5.2542
3	0.9707	3 1.0166	3 1.0648	3 1.1151	3 1.1681	3 1.2232	3 1.2822	3 1.3445	3 1.4051	3 1.4721	3 1.5425	3 1.6224	3 1.6975	3 1.7735	3 1.8663	3 1.9566	3 2.066	3 2.1647	3 2.2822
4	0.4247	4 0.4491	4 0.4747	4 0.5014	4 0.5295	4 0.5586	4 0.5898	4 0.6227	4 0.6547	4 0.6899	4 0.7269	4 0.7689	4 0.8081	4 0.8479	4 0.8963	4 0.9433	4 1.0002	4 1.0514	4 1.1121
5	0.1665	5 0.1804	5 0.1951	5 0.2104	5 0.2265	5 0.2433	5 0.2612	5 0.2802	5 0.2986	5 0.3189	5 0.3403	5 0.3645	5 0.3873	5 0.4102	5 0.4382	5 0.4654	5 0.4982	5 0.5278	5 0.5629
9	0.0451	9 0.0468	9 0.0485	9 0.0503	9 0.0521	9 0.054	9 0.056	9 0.058	9 0.06	9 0.062	9 0.064	9 0.066	9 0.068	9 0.07	9 0.072	9 0.074	9 0.076	9 0.078	9 0.08
8	0.0439	8 0.0447	8 0.0455	8 0.0463	8 0.0471	8 0.0479	8 0.0487	8 0.0495	8 0.0503	8 0.0511	8 0.0519	8 0.0527	8 0.0535	8 0.0543	8 0.0551	8 0.0559	8 0.0567	8 0.0575	8 0.0583
6	0.0387	6 0.0395	6 0.0403	6 0.0411	6 0.0419	6 0.0427	6 0.0435	6 0.0443	6 0.0451	6 0.0459	6 0.0467	6 0.0475	6 0.0483	6 0.0491	6 0.0499	6 0.0507	6 0.0515	6 0.0523	6 0.0531
10	0.0353	10 0.0359	10 0.0364	10 0.0368	10 0.0372	10 0.0376	10 0.038	10 0.0384	10 0.0388	10 0.0392	10 0.0396	10 0.04	10 0.0404	10 0.0408	10 0.0412	10 0.0416	10 0.042	10 0.0424	10 0.0428

Table 5: Table of the 10 largest errors, $\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$ and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 10$ with continuity correction.

$p=0.01$	0.0199	0.0297	0.0395	0.0493	0.059	0.0685	0.0795	0.089	0.0978	0.1086	0.1172	0.1273	0.1394		
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0	0.5141	0	0.533	0	0.5523	0	0.5721	0	0.5924	0	0.6132	0	0.634	0	0.6588
2	0.0856	2	0.0842	2	0.0838	2	0.0813	2	0.0797	2	0.0782	2	0.0762	2	0.0741
3	0.0524	3	0.0527	3	0.053	3	0.0533	3	0.0536	3	0.0538	3	0.054	3	0.0542
1	0.0243	1	0.0189	1	0.0132	4	0.0141	4	0.0148	4	0.0155	1	0.0181	1	0.0247
6	0.0121	6	0.012	4	0.0126	6	0.0117	6	0.0115	6	0.0111	4	0.0163	4	0.0177
4	0.0112	4	0.0119	6	0.0118	5	0.0085	5	0.008	5	0.0075	1	0.0108	6	0.0109
5	0.0099	5	0.0094	5	0.009	1	0.0075	7	0.0072	7	0.0071	7	0.0071	7	0.0071
7	0.0073	7	0.0073	7	0.0072	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	5	0.0059	5	0.0054
8	0.0031	8	0.0031	8	0.0031	8	0.0031	1	0.0015	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003
9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001	9	0.001
0.1464	0.1542	0.1629	0.1727	0.1838	0.1965	0.2113	0.2288	0.25	0.2764	0.311	0.3613	0.5			
k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$	k	$\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$
0	0.8281	0	0.8499	0	0.8748	0	0.9036	0	0.9373	0	0.9773	0	1.0255	0	1.085
1	0.0692	1	0.0759	1	0.0836	1	0.0925	1	0.1029	1	0.1153	1	0.1304	1	0.1491
2	0.0579	2	0.0557	3	0.0531	3	0.0526	3	0.052	3	0.0512	3	0.05	3	0.0484
3	0.0536	3	0.0534	2	0.053	2	0.0499	2	0.0462	2	0.0417	2	0.0361	2	0.029
4	0.0211	4	0.0216	4	0.0222	4	0.0228	4	0.0234	4	0.0241	4	0.0249	4	0.0256
6	0.0093	6	0.0091	6	0.0088	6	0.0085	6	0.0081	6	0.0077	6	0.0071	6	0.0064
7	0.0068	7	0.0067	7	0.0066	7	0.0065	7	0.0065	7	0.0063	7	0.0062	7	0.006
8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003	8	0.003
5	0.0025	5	0.002	5	0.0014	9	9e-04	9	9e-04	9	9e-04	5	0.0029	5	0.0028
0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641	0	2.0641
1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769	1	0.4769
2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227	2	0.1227
3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02	3	0.02
4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031	4	0.0031
5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024	5	0.0024
7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002	7	0.002
8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016	8	0.0016
10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015	10	0.0015

Table 6: Table of the 10 largest errors, $\varepsilon_{F_{rel}}$ and which k is comes from, for every p_i , under $npq = 3$ with continuity correction.