

For any real-valued probability distribution with cumulative distribution function  $F$ , a median is defined as any real number  $m$  that satisfies the inequalities

$$\int_{(-\infty, m]} dF(x) \geq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } \int_{(m, \infty)} dF(x) \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

An equivalent phrasing uses a random variable  $X$  distributed according to  $F$ :

$$P(X \leq m) \geq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } P(X \geq m) \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

Note that this definition does not require  $X$  to have an absolutely continuous distribution (which has a probability density function) nor does it require a discrete one. In the former case, the inequalities can be upgraded to equality: a median satisfies

$$P(X \leq m) = \int_{-\infty}^m f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} = \int_m^{\infty} f(x) dx$$

Any probability distribution on  $\mathbb{R}$  has at least one median, but in pathological cases there may be more than one median: If  $F$  is

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Notes for B.Sc part 1st, paper 2 & 3

Question :- Write notes on STANDARD ERROR  
OF MEDIAN?

Answer :- Standard Error of Mean :- The  
standard error of mean providing certain assumptions  
are made, the standard error of  
median can be estimated by multiplying  
the standard error of the  
mean by a constant:

Algebraically speaking -

$$SE(\text{median}) = 1.2533 \times SE(\bar{x}) \text{ where}$$

$SE(\text{median})$  is the standard error of  
the median,

$SE(\bar{x})$  is the standard error of the  
mean.

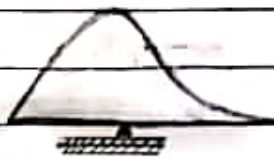
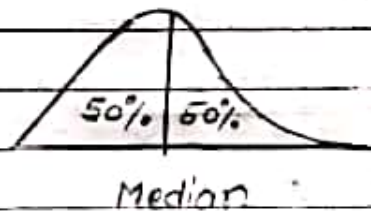
The assumptions are:

the sample size is large  
the sample is drawn from a

normally distributed population

Since the median is usually only used when the data are not drawn from a normally distributed population, this rather limits the usefulness of this formula, and it is rarely used.

Probability distributions :-



Geometric  
visualisation of  
the mode, median  
and mean of an  
arbitrary  
probability  
density  
function.

constant  $1/2$  on an interval  $(a, b)$  that  $f = 0$  there), then any value of that interval  $(a, b)$  is a median.

Sampling distribution :-

The distributions of both the sample mean and the sample median were determined by Laplace. The distribution of function  $f(x)$  is asymptotically normal with mean  $m$  and variance.

$$\frac{1}{4n f(m)^2}$$

→ See also

- Medoids which are a generalisation of the median in higher dimensions
- Central Tendency
  - Mean
  - Mode
- Absolute deviation
- Bias of an estimator
- Concentration of measure for Lipschitz functions
- Median (geometry)
- Median graphs
- Median search
- Median slope
- Median voter theory
- Weighted median