

ISyE 6739 Video Assignment 3

1. Suppose X is a random variable. Write the PMF, the mean, and the variance if the distribution of X :

- (a) Poisson with the rate λ .
- (b) Geometric with probability of success p .
- (c) Negative-Binomial with parameters (r, p) .

Answer:

- (a) PMF:

$$P(k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

Mean:

$$E[X] = \lambda,$$

Variance:

$$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda.$$

- (b) PMF:

$$P(k) = p(1-p)^{k-1}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

Mean:

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{p},$$

Variance:

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{p} \left(\frac{1}{p} - 1 \right).$$

- (c) PMF:

$$P(k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

Mean:

$$E[X] = \frac{r}{p},$$

Variance:

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{r}{p} \left(\frac{1}{p} - 1 \right).$$

2. Write the memoryless property. What distribution does have this property?

Answer:

$$\Pr(X > a + b | X > a) = \Pr(X > b).$$

Both geometric and exponential distributions have this property.