

DATA 252 / DATA 551: Homework 3 Solution

1. In *Introduction to Probability*, skim through pages 183 to 187; don't worry about the technical details, but make sure that you understand figures 5.1 and 5.2. Read the section on **Possin Distribution**, pages 187 to 192 (some of the ensuing homework problems are based on examples from this section).

Solution NA.

2. A typesetter makes, on average, one mistake per 1000 word. Let X be the number of mistakes that he makes on a page with n words.

- a. Suppose we model X with a binomial distribution. What are the model parameters? Discuss the binomial model assumptions in the context of the problem.
- b. With a binomial model, calculate the probabilities that: (i) he makes no mistake on a page with 100 words; (ii) he makes exactly 1 mistake on a page with 100 words; (iii) he makes 1 or more mistake on a page with 100 words; (iv) he makes no mistake on a page with 200 words.
- c. Suppose we model X with a poisson distribution. What is the model parameter? Discuss the poisson model assumptions in the context of the problem.
- d. Re-calculate the probabilities in b using a poisson model.
- e. Simulate 1000 random observations from the binomial model in a and plot a histogram of these observations; simulate another 1000 random observations from the poisson model in c and also plot a histogram. Compare the binomial and poisson models by comparing the two histograms.

Solution: We can model X with binomial ($n, p = 0.001$). We assume that (1) whether he makes a mistake on one word is *independent* from whether he makes mistakes on other words, and (2) each word has *equal probability* that he makes a mistake. Probabilities in b are calculated below.

```
dbinom(0,size=100,prob=0.001)
```

```
## [1] 0.9047921
```

```
dbinom(1,size=100,prob=0.001)
```

```
## [1] 0.09056978
```

```
1-dbinom(0,size=100,prob=0.001)
```

```
## [1] 0.09520785
```

```
dbinom(0,size=200,prob=0.001)
```

```
## [1] 0.8186488
```

We can also model X with poisson ($\lambda = 0.001n$). This is an approximation because the sample space of number of mistakes he can make is $0, 1, \dots, n$, but the poisson distribution has sample space $0, 1, \dots, \infty$. We assume that (1) whether he makes a mistake on one word is *independent* from whether he makes mistakes on other words, and (2) he makes mistakes at a *constant rate*. Probabilities in d are calculated below. Note that the probabilities are very close to the binomial model.

```
dpois(0,lambda=0.1)
```

```
## [1] 0.9048374
```

```
dpois(1,lambda=0.1)
```

```
## [1] 0.09048374
```

```
1-dpois(0,lambda=0.1)
```

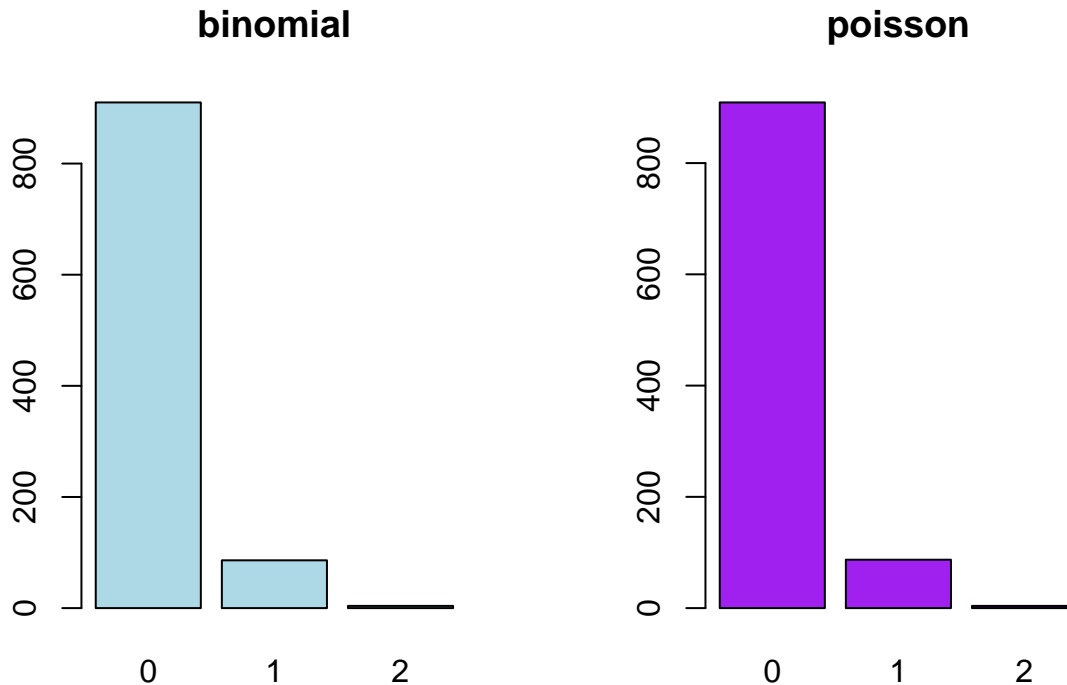
```
## [1] 0.09516258
```

```
dpois(0,lambda=0.2)
```

```
## [1] 0.8187308
```

Histograms to compare the binomial and poisson models are given below. Comment: it's hard to estimate tail probabilities like $P(X = 3, 4, \dots, 100)$ using simulation because the probabilities are very small.

```
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
plot(as.factor(rbinom(1000,size=100,prob=0.001)),
     col='lightblue',main='binomial')
plot(as.factor(rpois(1000,lambda=0.1)),
     col='purple',main='poisson')
```



3. Do question 18 (page 199) in *Introduction to Probability*.

Solution:

- (a) The number of raisins in a randomly picked cookie, X , can be modeled using a poisson distribution with $\lambda = 600/500$, so $P(X = 0)$ is `dpois(0,lambda=6/5)=0.3011942`.
- (b) Similar to (a), we use poisson with $\lambda = 400/500$.
 $P(X = 2) = \text{dpois}(2, \text{lambda}=4/5) = 0.1437853$.
- (c) $P(X \geq 2) = 1 - P(X = 0, 1)$.
 $1 - \text{dpois}(0, \text{lambda}=1000/500) - \text{dpois}(1, \text{lambda}=1000/500) = 0.5939942$.

4. Under the setup of question 26 (page 201) in *Introduction to Probability*, the number of hits in each of the 576 small areas can be modeled by a poisson distribution. What is the parameter? Calculate the probabilities that a small area would have 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 or more hits under the poisson model, and compare the probabilities to the actual proportions.

Solution: The number of hit can be modeled by poisson with $\lambda = 537/576$. Calculation below shows that the poisson model works very well.

```
#estimated probabilities
estimated=dpois(c(0,1,2,3,4),lambda=537/576)
estimated[6]=1-sum(dpois(c(0,1,2,3,4),lambda=537/576))

#actual proportions
actual=c(229,211,93,35,7,1)/537

result=cbind(estimated,actual)
```

```
rownames(result)=c('0 hit','1 hit','2 hits','3 hits','4 hits', '5 or more hits')
round(result,3)
```

```
##               estimated actual
## 0 hit          0.394  0.426
## 1 hit          0.367  0.393
## 2 hits         0.171  0.173
## 3 hits         0.053  0.065
## 4 hits         0.012  0.013
## 5 or more hits 0.003  0.002
```

5. Do question 33 (page 202) in *Introduction to Probability* by simulating the process and making random draws from the distribution of X . The random draws can be used to empirically study the distribution of X . For instance, plot a histogram of the random draws to estimate the shape of the distribution; use observed proportions to estimate the probability mass function.

Solution: Simulation given below. We can estimate, for instance, $P(X = 0) = 0.05$, $P(X = 1) = 0.15$, etc.

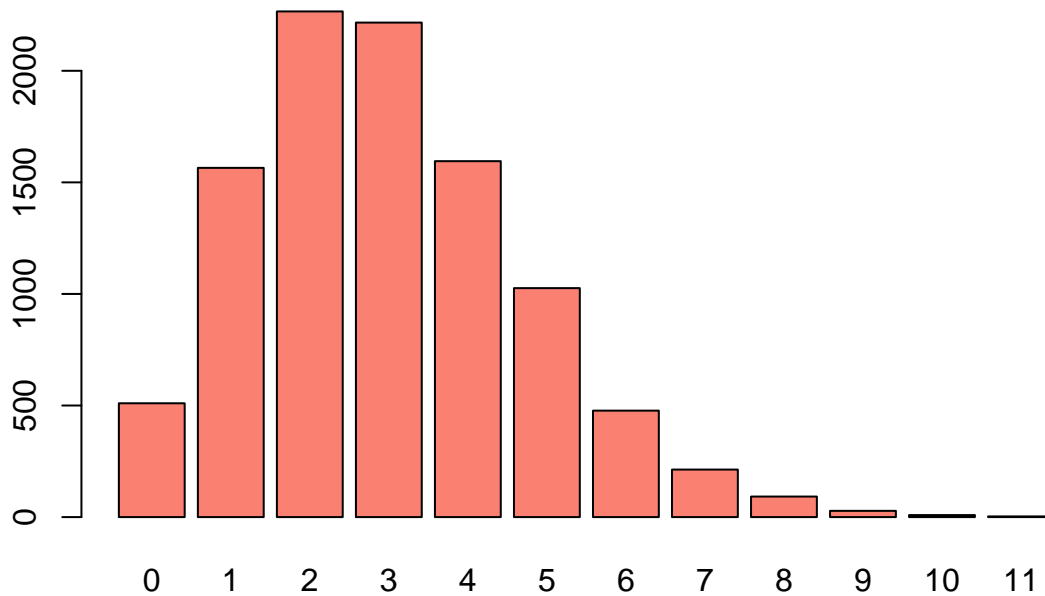
```
nsim=10000
result=rep(NA,nsim)

for(i in 1:nsim){
  numcar=rpois(1,lambda = 4) #total number of cars
  result[i]=rbinom(1,size=numcar,prob=3/4) #number of cars that choose Main Street
}
table(result)/nsim #estimated probabilities
```

```
## result
##      0      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9
## 0.0510 0.1565 0.2266 0.2216 0.1595 0.1026 0.0477 0.0213 0.0092 0.0028
##     10     11
## 0.0009 0.0003
```

```
plot(as.factor(result),main='Number of cars that go to Main Street',col='salmon')
```

Number of cars that go to Main Street



6. Suppose that the probabilities of having a male or a female child are both 0.5, and you do not have to consider cases like twins. Calculate the following probabilities using appropriate models.

- If you plan to have three children, what is the probability that you have exactly one daughter? What is the probability that you have at least one daughter?
- What is the probability that your first daughter is your third child? (Hint: imagine the scenario of keeping having children until you have a daughter, and model the number of children when the first daughter “occurs”).
- What is the probability that your second daughter is your third child?
- How many children do you need to have to guarantee with more than 95% chance that you will have at least a daughter?

Solution: For a, b, c:

```
dbinom(1,size=3,prob=0.5) #a, exactly 1
```

```
## [1] 0.375
```

```
1-dbinom(0,size=3,prob=0.5) #a, at least 1
```

```
## [1] 0.875
```

```
dgeom(2,prob=0.5) #b
```

```
## [1] 0.125
```

```
dnbinom(1,size=2,prob=0.5) #c
```

```
## [1] 0.25
```

For d, let N be the number of children you have, then the number of daughters, X , can be modeled as binomial with $n = N$ and $p = 0.5$. We want $P(X \geq 1) = 1 - P(X = 0)$ to be greater than 95%. We calculate this probability for different values of N , and see that $N = 5$ is the smallest number of children to satisfy the condition.

```
1-dbinom(0,size=c(1:10),prob=0.5)
```

```
## [1] 0.5000000 0.7500000 0.8750000 0.9375000 0.9687500 0.9843750 0.9921875  
## [8] 0.9960938 0.9980469 0.9990234
```