



STAT 2011 Tutorial 5

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Bernoulli and Binomial

- Definition:

Definition 3.2.8 (Bernoulli trials). *A series of n independent trials, each resulting in one of two possible outcomes “success” or “failure” with constant success probability p is called a Bernoulli trial of length n .* \square


Theorem 3.2.5. *Let X denote the number of successes in a Bernoulli trial of length n . Then*

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

which is known as the binomial distribution. \square

- Mean value and variance:

Theorem 3.2.6. *Suppose X is a binomial RV with parameters n and p , $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$. Then $E(X) = np$ and the variance is $\text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p)$.* \square



Hypergeometric

- **Definition:**

Theorem 3.2.7. Suppose an urn contains a total of N chips of which r are red and w are white. If n chips are drawn out at random, without replacement, and if RV X denotes the number of red chips selected, then

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{r}{k} \binom{w}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad (6)$$

where k varies over all integers for which $\binom{r}{k}$ and $\binom{w}{n-k}$ are defined. The probabilities on the RHS of Equation (6) are known as the hypergeometric distribution. \square

- **Mean value and variance:**

Theorem 3.2.8. If X is a hypergeometric RV with parameters r , w and n , that is with pdf

$$p_X(k) = P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{r}{k} \binom{w}{n-k}}{\binom{r+w}{n}} \quad \text{and} \quad E(X) = \frac{rn}{r+w} \quad \square$$



Poisson

- **Definition:**

Theorem 3.2.9. Suppose X is a binomial random variable where

$$P(X = k) = p_X(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

If $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $p \rightarrow 0$ in such a way that $\lambda = np$ remains constant then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X = k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k} = \frac{e^{-np} (np)^k}{k!}.$$

- **Mean value and variance:**

Theorem 3.2.10. The random variable X is said to have a Poisson distribution if

$$p_X(k) = P(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where λ is a positive constant. Also, for any Poisson random variable $E(X) = \lambda$ and $Var(X) = \lambda$.