

# Probability Assignment 5

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**Question :** There are 5% defective items in a bulk of items. What is the probability that a sample of 10 items will include not more than one defective item ?

**Solution :** Let  $X$  denote the number of defective items out of 10 items. Clearly,  $X$  has the binomial distribution with  $n = 10$  and  $p = 0.05$ , being the probability of item being defective.

$$n = 10 \quad (1)$$

$$p = 0.05 \quad (2)$$

$$q = 1 - p = 0.95 \quad (3)$$

Since  $X$  has binomial distribution,

$$\Rightarrow P_X(r) = {}^nC_r (p)^r (q)^{n-r} \quad (4)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_X(r) = \sum_{r=0}^r {}^nC_r (p)^r (q)^{n-r} \quad (5)$$

Therefore,

$$\Pr(X \leq 1) = F_X(1)$$

$$= \sum_{r=0}^1 {}^{10}C_r (0.05)^r (0.95)^{10-r} \quad (7)$$

$$= 0.914 \quad (8)$$

Now for Gaussian distribution,

$$\mu(\text{mean}) = np \quad (9)$$

$$= 0.5 \quad (10)$$

$$\sigma(\text{standardDeviation}) = \sqrt{npq} \quad (11)$$

$$= 0.6982 \quad (12)$$

Since binomial is for discrete random variable, we need to add correction factor in bounds. For this case,

$$\text{upperbound} = 1 + 0.5 \quad (13)$$

$$= 1.5 \quad (14)$$

Where 0.5 is the correction factor .Therefore,

$$P(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{1.5} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right) e^{\left( \frac{-(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)} dx \quad (15)$$

$$= 0.926 \quad (16)$$

The results obtained from both binomial and gaussian distribution are quite close.

**Showing binomial can be approximated by Gaussian :**

The Binomial distribution can be approximated by Gaussian distribution when the number of trials is large and probability of success is not too close to 0 or 1.

Binomial distribution to obtain probability of  $X$  success in  $n$  trials with probability  $p$  is given by:

$$\Pr(X = k) = {}^nC_k (p)^k (1 - p)^{n-k} \quad (17)$$

Using Stirlings's approximation for factorial,

$${}^nC_k \approx \sqrt{2\pi n} \times \left( \frac{n}{e} \right)^n \times \left( \frac{1}{k} \right)^k \times \left( \frac{1}{n-k} \right)^{n-k} \quad (18)$$

Substituting this approximation into the binomial distribution formula, we get:

$$\Pr(X = k) \approx \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi np(1-p)}} \times \left( \frac{n}{e} \right)^n \times \left( \frac{p}{e} \right)^k \times \left( \frac{1-p}{e} \right)^{n-k} \right) \quad (19)$$

This expression can be simplified further using the Q function, which is defined as:

$$Q(x) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) \times \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \quad (20)$$

The probability of  $X$  being less than or equal to  $k$  can be expressed as:

$$\Pr(X \leq k) \approx Q\left( \frac{k + 0.5 - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \quad (21)$$

Where,

$$\mu(\text{Mean}) = np \quad (22)$$

$$\sigma(\text{Standard Deviation}) = \sqrt{np(1-p)} \quad (23)$$

Therefore, Binomial can be approximated by the Gaussian distribution in terms of the Q function.