

# assignment2020

November 12, 2020



## 1 Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Data Analytics)

### 1.1 ##### Programme Module: Programming for Data Analysis (COMP08050)

#### 1.1.1 Assignment 2020

The following assignment concerns the `numpy.random` package in Python. You are required to create a Jupyter notebook explaining the use of the package, including detailed explanations of at least five of the distributions provided for in the package.

There are four distinct tasks to be carried out in your Jupyter notebook. 1. Explain the overall purpose of the package. 2. Explain the use of the “Simple random data” and “Permutations” functions. 3. Explain the use and purpose of at least five “Distributions” functions. 4. Explain the use of seeds in generating pseudorandom numbers.

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#### 1.1.2 1. Explain the overall purpose of `numpy.random` package

Numerical Python more commonly referred to as NumPy is an open source Python library created in 2005 by Travis Oliphant. It contains multi-dimensional array and matrix data structures. Multi-dimensional arrays have more than one column (dimension), consider it like an excel spreadsheet. (Malik, 2020).

NumPy also has a large collection of high-level mathematical functions to operate on these arrays. One of the main uses of NumPy is its use in data analysis *“as a container for data to be passed between algorithms and libraries”*. (McKinney, 2018). These capabilities mean *“many numerical computing tools for Python either assume NumPy arrays as a primary data structure or else target seamless interoperability with NumPy”*. (McKinney, 2018).

Before explaining the overall purpose of the `numpy.random` module let’s have a quick overview of what random numbers are. Random refers to something that cannot be predicted logically. Randomness is useful in many areas such as simulating the impact of chance on stock markets or

in the selection of representative samples of patients when testing new drugs. (Matthews, 2020). However, there is a problem when using randomness for making unbiased choices and that comes down to bias. *“The lack of bias only really appears in an infinitely long set of random numbers. In any given collection, there can be astonishingly long patterns”*. (Matthews, 2020)

There are two types of random number.

1. True-Random: Truly random number sequences are generated by chance that contain no recognisable pattern or regularity. (Spacey, 2016).
2. Pseudo-Random: generated by computers, are not random as they are deterministic devices i.e., they are predictable by design. *“So, to create something unpredictable, they use mathematical algorithms to produce numbers that are random enough”*. (ComputerHope, 2019)

The `numpy.random` module adds to the already built in Python `random` *“with functions for efficiently generating whole arrays of sample values from many kinds of probability distributions”*. (McKinney, 2020).

`Numpy.random` and Python `random` although sharing the same algorithm work in different ways. In terms of efficiency, NumPy is most likely to perform better because arrays can be created without the need of a loop. (DiTect, 2020). Note the algorithm used by NumPy has now changed. Previously Numpy used the Mersenne Twister as the core generator but with the introduction of the latest version 1.19 the core generator is now PCG64.

**1.1 Import required libraries** Below are the libraries I use in creating arrays and visualisations through this notebook.

```
[1]: # import required modules
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
```

### 1.1.3 2. Explain the use of the “Simple random data” and “Permutations” functions

**2.1 np.random.choice** The concept of the NumPy `random.choice` is relatively easy to grasp, however implementing it can be difficult. Knowing the syntax and how it works is key.

First lets look at the syntax of `np.random.choice()`.

`np.random.choice(a= , size = , replace = , p= )`

1. `np.random.choice` is the function name.
2. `a` is the array you want to operate on.
3. `size` is the size of the output array.
4. `replace` is a true or false value that indicates whether you want to sample with replacement.
5. `p` are the probabilities associated with the elements of the input array.

Now lets look at putting this together using an example. In the example I want to select a random number i.e. a single integer from between 0-9. You can do this one of two ways either by using an array or not. For the first example we will use an array using the `numpy.arange` function.

```
[2]: array = np.arange(start = 0, stop = 10)
```

Lets see what this does.

```
[3]: print (array)
```

```
[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]
```

As expected it generates a list of integers between 0 and 9. Now lets select a random number from here.

```
[4]: np.random.choice(a = array)
```

```
[4]: 3
```

In this instance it returned 7 , the next time it could be 8, next time 1 and so on. You can also produce this outcome by using a shorter syntax.

```
[5]: np.random.choice(10)
```

```
[5]: 9
```

In this example, when we ran the code `np.random.choice(10)` a specific NumPy array was not provided as an input. Instead, the number 10 was provided. *“When we provide a number to `np.random.choice` this way, it will automatically create a NumPy array using NumPy `arange`. Effectively, the code `np.random.choice(10)` is identical to the code `np.random.choice(a = np.arange(10))`. So by running `np.random.choice` this way, it will create a new numpy array of values from 0 to 9 and pass that as the input to `numpy.random.choice`. This is essentially a shorthand way to both create an array of input values and then select from those values using the NumPy random choice function.”* (Ebner, 2019)

**2.2 Permutations** Permutation is a mathematical term and permutation of a set is defined as the arrangement of it's elements in a sequence or a linear order. If it is already arranged then permutation is the rearrangement of its elements in another sequence. The number of permutations of a specified data set can be calculated using a mathematical formula however NumPy provides two built in functions to do this namely the `permutation()` function and the `shuffle()` function. They are very similar; the functions are the same but they are different.

In `numpy.random` the permutation as already stated is built in. The permutation provides an array as an output. However, it doesn't offer all the permutations of the array *“but only one in which we can find that the elements of the array have been re-arranged”*. (Sourcecodester, 2020). The permutation function returns a re-arranged array and leaves the original unchanged. So, the original array is intact and will return a shuffled array. If we have an array `x=[1, 4, 2, 8]` as the original the permutation may return a re-arranged array, say `[8, 2, 1, 4]`. Let's look at an example to explain this further.

```
[6]: # import numpy and create an array
a = np.arange(12)
print (a)
# permute the results
```

```
b = np.random.permutation(a)
print (b)
print (a)
```

```
[ 0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10 11]
[ 0  3  7  6  1  4 11  9 10  8  5  2]
[ 0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10 11]
```

In the above array you can see that the original array is unchanged. Now let's look at how the `shuffle()` function works.

```
[7]: # import numpy and create an array
a = np.arange(12)
print (a)
# shuffle the results
np.random.shuffle(a)
print (a)
```

```
[ 0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10 11]
[10 11  9  1  3  7  6  4  2  8  0  5]
```

**Permutation** does not directly operate on the original array, but returns a new array of scrambled orders, without changing the original array whereas the **shuffle** function directly operates on the original array, changing the order of the original array, no return value. (ProgrammerSought, 2020)

### 1.1.4 3. Explain the use and purpose of at least five “Distributions” functions

**3.1 Uniform distribution** Uniform distribution is a type of probability distribution in which all outcomes are equally likely. For example, a coin toss has a uniform distribution, because the probability of getting heads or tails is the same. A uniform distribution can also be discrete or continuous. A discrete uniform distribution has a finite number of outcomes, for example the probability of landing on each side of a die. (Investopedia, 2020).

Alternatively, the continuous uniform distribution (also referred to as a rectangular distribution) is a statistical distribution with an infinite number of equally likely measurable values. (CFI, 2020). Let's take 0.0 and 1.0 every point in the continuous range between these has an equal opportunity of appearing, yet there are an infinite number of points between them.

**3.2 Normal distribution** Normal distribution (Gaussian) in probability theory is a type of continuous probability distribution for a real valued random variable. The data can be distributed or spread out in different ways i.e. it can move to the left, the right or it can be jumbled up. However, there are numerous instances “*where the data tends to be around a central value with no bias to the left or right and it gets close to a normal distribution*”. (MathsIsFun, 2020). This normally distributed data is shaped sort of like a “bell curve”. In NumPy the `random.normal` gives you the ability to create an array that contains normally distributed data. Let's have a look at this in more detail.

The syntax of `random.normal` is below

```
np.random.normal(loc= , scale= , size = )
```

1. `np.random.normal` is the function name.
2. `loc` is the mean of the distribution.
3. `scale` is the standard deviation of the distribution.
4. `size` is the shape of the output NumPy array.

We can use `random.normal()` to get a normal distribution

```
[8]: #create the variables and assign them
x = np.random.normal(90, 2, 10000)

# print the array
print("Normal distribution:\n", x)
```

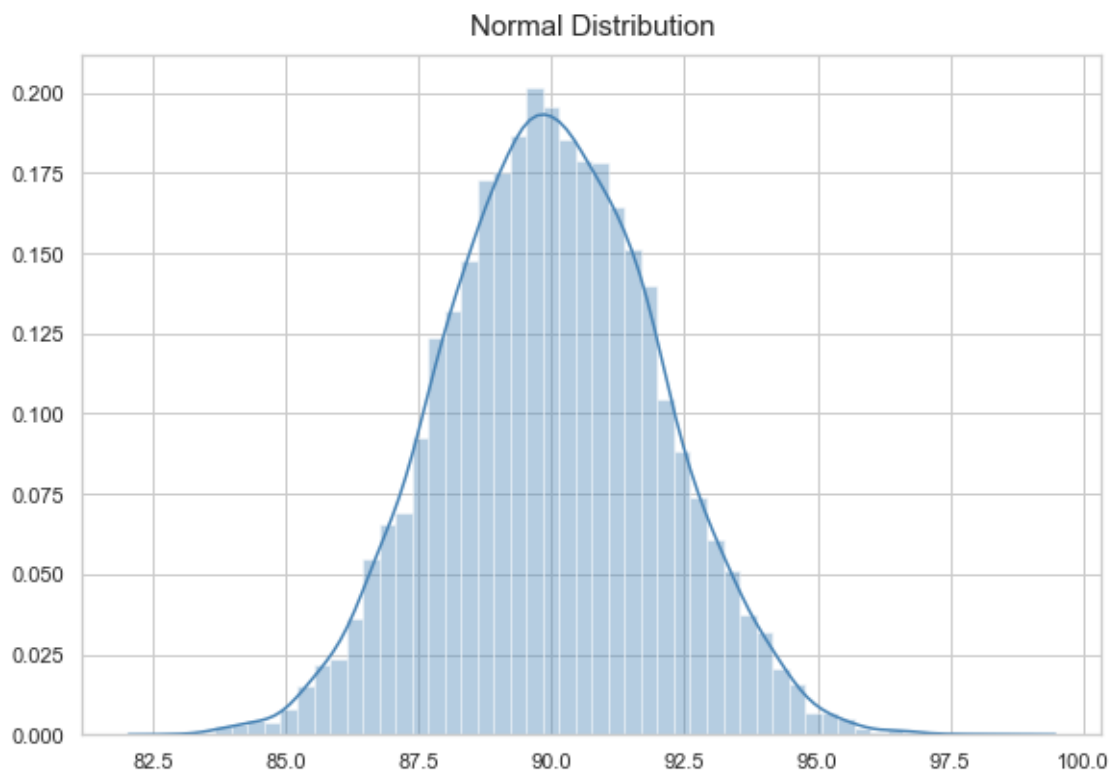
Normal distribution:

```
[88.31188641 88.95624398 92.54624274 ... 90.87306093 94.21582853
85.94647506]
```

Now lets visualise the distribution.

```
[9]: # visualisation styling code
sns.set(rc={'figure.figsize':(9.5, 6.5)})
sns.set_context('notebook')
sns.set_style("whitegrid")

#
sns.distplot(x, kde=True, color='steelblue')
plt.title("Normal Distribution", fontsize=15, y=1.012);
```



In a normal distribution, 68% of the data set will lie within  $\pm 1$  standard deviation of the mean. 95% of the data set will lie within  $\pm 2$  standard deviations of the mean. And 99.7% of the data set will lie within  $\pm 3$  standard deviations of the mean. This is called the 68–95–99.7 rule. More information can be found [here](#).

**3.3 Exponential distribution** Exponential distribution is a widely used continuous distribution. It is often used to model the time elapsed between events. For example, the amount of time (beginning now) until an earthquake might occur. In physics it is used to measure radioactive decay or in engineering measuring the time associated with receiving a defective part on the production line. In finance it is used to “*measure the likelihood of incurring a specified number of defaults within a specified time period*”. (Science Direct, 2017). NumPy the `random.exponential` gives you the ability to create an array that contains normally distributed data. Let’s have a look at this in more detail.

The syntax of `random.exponential` is below

```
np.random.exponential(scale= , size = )
```

1. `np.random.exponential` is the function name.
2. `scale` is the inverse of the rate which is by default set to 1.0.
3. `size` is the number of values drawn from an exponential distribution.

We can use `random.exponential()` to get a exponential distribution.

```
[10]: #create the variables and assign them
x = np.random.exponential(scale=2, size=(4,8))

# print the array
print("Exponential distribution:\n",x)
```

Exponential distribution:

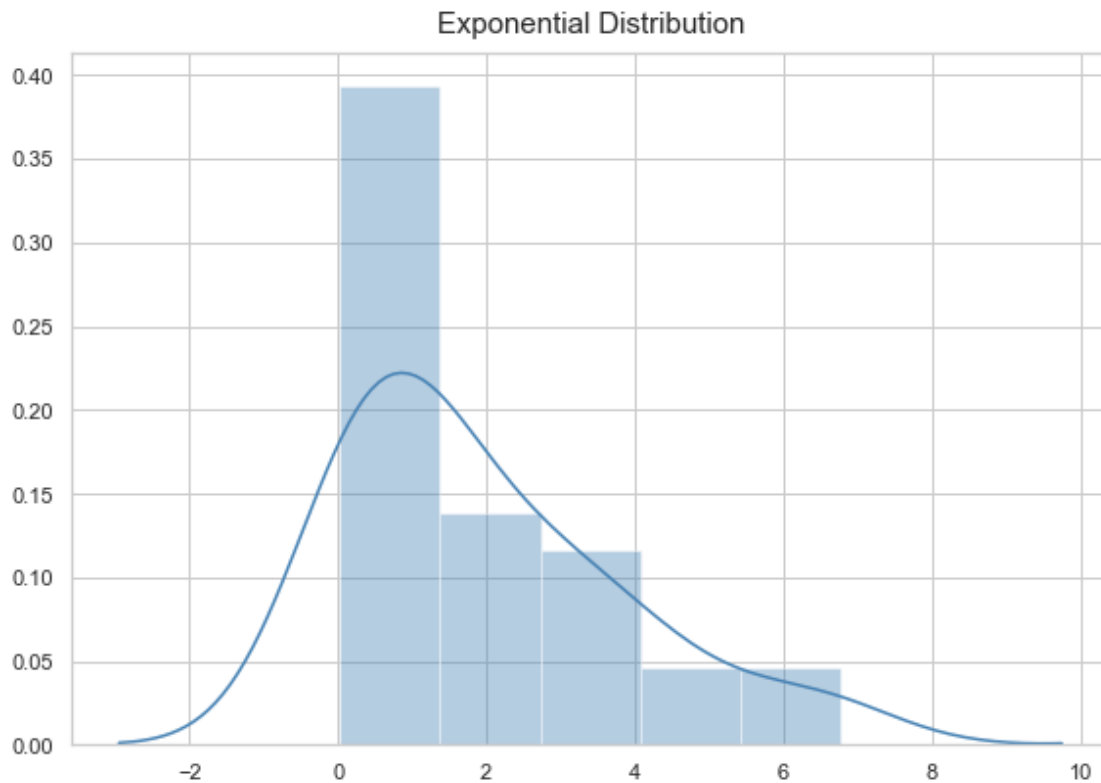
```
[[1.23352995 1.00327955 3.06248465 0.21402842 0.32367829 0.10873701
 3.07701659 5.20915929]
 [6.31739775 0.43891454 0.81681578 1.12343139 0.96492314 1.59845985
 0.02596954 0.33086099]
 [2.70938703 1.97381558 6.77558524 2.48059262 3.84748047 0.0335038
 1.24783191 4.51578792]
 [1.7023853 2.28058784 3.58364905 1.27485626 3.81699925 0.18401426
 0.02611172 0.42370674]]
```

Time to visualise how this looks.

```
[11]: # visualisation styling code
sns.set(rc={'figure.figsize':(9.5, 6.5)})
sns.set_context('notebook')
sns.set_style("whitegrid")

#
```

```
sns.distplot(x, kde=True, color='steelblue')
plt.title("Exponential Distribution", fontsize=15, y=1.012);
```



**3.4 Binomial distribution** Binomial distribution is the probability distribution of a sequence of experiments, where each experiment produces a binary outcome and where each of the outcomes is independent of all others. (Towards Data Science, 2019). In simple terms it is the probability of a of a success or failure outcome. (Statistics How to, 2020). The distribution of these binary scenarios is obtained by performing a number of “Bernolli” trials, which are assumed to meet each of the following criteria: (a) only two possible outcomes (b) each outcome has a fixed probability of occurring and (c) each trial is completely independent of all others. (GeeksforGeeks, 2020).

In real life binomial distributions are found everywhere. *”For example, if a new drug is introduced to cure a disease, it either cures the disease (it’s successful) or it doesn’t cure the disease (it’s a failure). If you purchase a lottery ticket, you’re either going to win money, or you aren’t. Basically, anything you can think of that can only be a success or a failure can be represented by a binomial distribution”.* (Statistics How to, 2020).

The syntax of random.binomial is

`np.random.biomial(n= , p = , size= )`

1. `np.random.binomial` is the function name.
2. `n` is the number of trials.
3. `p` is the probability of occurrence.

4. size is the shape of returned array.

We can use random.binomial() to get a binomial distribution.

```
[12]: #create the variables and assign them
x = np.random.binomial(10, 0.5, 1000)

# print the array
print("Binomial distribution:\n",x)
```

Binomial distribution:

```
[ 5  7  7  4  4  4  6  7  5  7  6  4  7  5  4  3  6  6  6  8  6  6  5  6
  5  7  6  5  3  8  5  5  6  3  7  5  7  6  6  7  4  4  4  4  6  4  3  5
  4  6  6  4  5  6  6  3  6  7  5  6  6  4  5  2  4  3  6  5  4  5  6  2
  5  7  6  8  5  5  6  4  5  5  6  8  6  6  8  5  6  7  7  7  5  6  3  7
  6 10  5  2  6  6  6  5  6  7  5  4  5  7  6  4  5  7  6  3  4  3  7  8
  5  6  4  5  3  1  3  5  7  6  4  3  4  7  7  3  8  6  5  6  6  4  5  5
  6  6  1  5  4  6  4  4  8  5  4  7  4  4  5  7  6  3  4  2  6  6  5  4
  4  7  3  4  6  8  5  1  7  7  6  5  6  5  4  4  4  6  4  5  3  7  4  6
  1  3  3  5  3  6  4  4  3  4  4  4  6  5  4  4  5  7  7  4  6  6  5  8
  6  5  7  6  7  5  8  5  5  4  7  5  4  6  5  3  6  4  4  6  3  2  5  6
  7  6  7  7  5  6  6  9  5  6  7  5  7  7  4  2  6  4  3  6  5  5  5  6
  6  4  3  4  6  3  6  4  6  8  4  3  5  4  3  4  6  4  2  5  3  7  3  3
  3  3  4  6  5  6  4  5  7  5  6  5  5  3  5  5  4  9  5  5  3  7  4  2
  5  7  6  7  4  4  3  4  3  9  6  2  5  4  5  3  4  6  6  4  2  6  3  6
  6  5  6  2  6  4  4  8  6  7  5  5  6  4  2  3  4  6  6  4  6  2  4  4
  5  4  4  7  7  8  3  5  3  6  7  7  3  4  1  4  4  5  7  6  5  8  9  5
  3  6  6  4  5  7  4  6  4  4  5  6  2  6  6  3  5  5  5  5  3  6  5  2
  6  3  3  6  6  7  4  0  6  4  4  3  4  6  4  8  3  5  4  3  6  6  3  5
  3  6  3  1  5  6  5  7  7  4  4  6  5  5  6  6  7  5  6  5  2  4  8  7
  7  4  5  5  5  5  3  5  5  4  4  1  5  4  3  7  6  5  6  2  3  5  6  4
  5  4  3  3  6  5  6  2  8  7  3  9  5  3  5  5  4  8  6  6  7  3  4  4
  5  4  6  5  4  5  6  4  5  3  7  3  4  6  6  6  4  7  6  7  8  7  5  5
  6  4  5  3  7  6  7  3  5  6  4  7  6  4  6  7  4  6  7  6  4  6  5  3
  7  6  5  3  7  6  5  3  3  3  4  7  6  6  8  4  7  5  5  4  5  6  7  5
  7  2  5  6  4  5  6  7  5  6  4  4  6  3  4  4  3  7  7  7  6  2  6  6
  5  6  3  8  7  5  5  5  5  5  4  5  6  5  6  3  7  5  5  5  6  8  4  6
  4  8  7  3  4  3  4  4  3  8  5  4  4  6  5  5  7  2  6  5  2  7  5  3
  5  6  6  3  5  4  3  5  6  8  3  6  6  7  3  4  6  9  2  3  5  2  7  3
  3  7  2  6  4  5  5  3  3  6  6  8  6  3  3  4  3  2  8  8  2  7  5  4
  4  3  6  7  4  4  5  6  5  6  6  4  7  6  3  2  3  5  4  7  5  8  4  4
  2  4  7  7  6  5  5  7  2  5  6  3  5  3  8  5  6  3  4  3  3  1  7  4
  5  4  5  5  6  6  5  3  8  4  5  3  5  6  4  6  4  5  3  6  6  7  2  5
  9  6  3  5  6  6  8  6  4  4  3  5  7  5  4  5  6  8  6  7  3  4  6  7
  5  5  5  4  5  4  3  4  4  7  2  3  5  6  8  5  6  4  7  7  5  6  2  5
  4  4  3  6  6  7  3  5  7  4  8  6  4  8  5  3  7  8  5  7  2  5  6  5
  7  5  3  6  6  6  6  6  5  4  7  5  4  8  5  5  4  6  5  5  4  5  3  6
  6  4  5  5  5  6  4  4  6  3  2  5  4  9  8  5  8  5  6  6  3  5  6  5
  3  6  7  2  4  7  4  5  4  4  3  3  3  5  2  8  1  3  4  5  4  6  2  4
```



```

7 8 5 4 3 7 6 5 6 5 3 5 7 7 4 5 5 7 9 4 3 3 5 6
5 6 4 8 4 4 2 5 6 7 3 5 5 2 6 3 4 4 4 5 6 8 6 6
6 5 7 6 6 5 8 5 6 3 7 7 3 4 5 4 7 5 7 6 3 3 7 7
5 4 6 4 6 4 6 7 4 5 4 3 4 6 5 3]

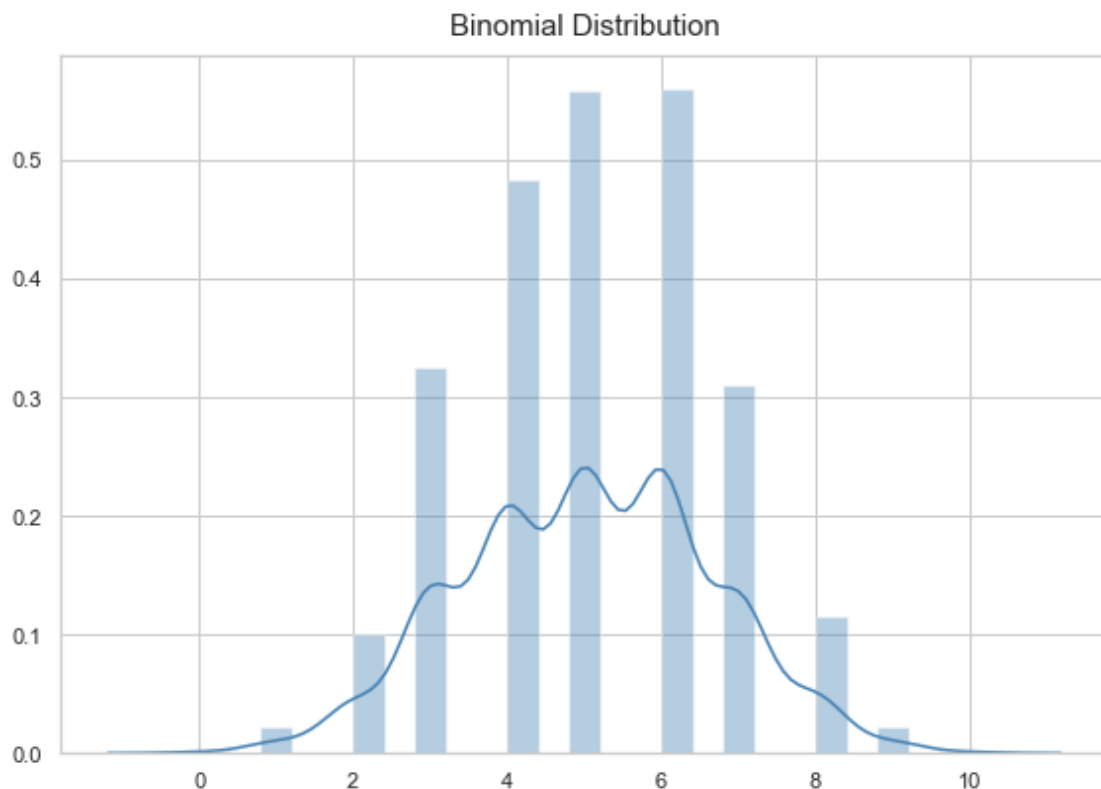
```

```

[13]: # visualisation styling code
sns.set(rc={'figure.figsize':(9.5, 6.5)})
sns.set_context('notebook')
sns.set_style("whitegrid")

#
sns.distplot(x, kde=True, color='steelblue')
plt.title("Binomial Distribution", fontsize=15, y=1.012);

```



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