

Statistics Assignment 9

1. Marginally we have $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, ps)$, as shown on a previous homework problem using a story proof (the eggs can be thought of as independent Bernoulli trials with probability ps of success for each). Here X and Y are not independent, unlike in the chicken-egg problem from class (where N was Poisson). This follows immediately from thinking about an extreme case: if $X = n$, then clearly $Y = 0$. So they are not independent: $P(Y = 0) < 1$, while $P(Y = 0|X = n) = 1$. To find the joint distribution, condition on N and note that only the $N = i + j$ term is nonzero: for any nonnegative integers i, j with $i + j \leq n$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X = i, Y = j) &= P(X = i, Y = j | N = i + j) P(N = i + j) \\
 &= P(X = i | N = i + j) P(N = i + j) \\
 &= \binom{i+j}{i} s^i (1-s)^j \binom{n}{i+j} p^{i+j} (1-p)^{n-i-j} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{i! j! (n-i-j)!} (ps)^i (p(1-s))^j (1-p)^{n-i-j}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If we let Z be the number of eggs which don't hatch, then from the above we have that (X, Y, Z) has a Multinomial($n, (ps, p(1-s), (1-p))$) distribution, which makes sense intuitively since each egg independently falls into 1 of 3 categories: hatch-and-survive, hatch-and-don't-survive, and don't-hatch, with probabilities $ps, p(1-s), 1-p$ respectively.