

2. On average, 1 bus stops at a certain point every 15 minutes. What's the probability that no buses will turn up in a single 15 minute interval?

If X is the number of buses that stop in a 15 minute interval, then $X \sim \text{Po}(1)$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \lambda \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= \lambda \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

For a general probability, $P(X = r) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^r}{r!}$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = 0) &= \frac{e^{-1} \times 1^0}{0!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-1} \times 1}{1} \\ &= 0.368 \end{aligned}$$

3. 20% of cereal packets contain a free toy. What's the probability you'll need to open fewer than 4 cereal packets before finding your first toy?

If X is the number of cereal packets that need to be opened in order to find your first toy, then $X \sim \text{Geo}(0.2)$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= 1/p \\ &= 1/0.2 \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= q/p^2 \\ &= 0.8/0.2^2 \\ &= 0.8/0.04 \\ &= 20 \end{aligned}$$

For a general probability, $P(X \leq r) = 1 - q^r$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq 3) &= 1 - q^r \\ &= 1 - 0.8^3 \\ &= 1 - 0.512 \\ &= 0.488 \end{aligned}$$