

### Bernoulli random variables:

- **Experiment:** Any experiment with two outcomes, success and failures:

$$X = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if outcome is a failures} \\ 1 & \text{if outcome is a success} \end{cases}$$

- **Parameters:**  $p$  = probability of success
- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1\}$
- **Probability mass function:**

$$P(X = x) = p^x(1 - p)^{1-x}, \quad x = 0, 1.$$

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = p, \quad \text{Var}(X) = p(1 - p).$$

### Binomial random variables:

- **Experiment:** Repeat  $n$  independent Bernoulli trials, each with success probability  $p$

$$X = \text{\# of success in } n \text{ trials.}$$

- **Parameters:**  $n$  = # of trials  $p$  = probability of success in a single Bernoulli trial
- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1, n\}$
- **Probability mass function:**

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

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = np, \quad \text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p).$$

### Geometric random variables:

- **Experiment:** Repeat Bernoulli trials (independently) until first success.

$X = \# \text{ of failures before first success.}$

- **Parameters:**  $p = \text{probability of success in a single Bernoulli trial}$
- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- **Probability mass function:**

$$P(X = x) = p(1 - p)^x, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = \frac{1 - p}{p}, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1 - p}{p^2}.$$

### Negative binomial random variables:

- **Experiment:** Repeat Bernoulli trials (independently) until the  $r$ th success.

$X = \# \text{ of failures before the } r\text{th success.}$

- **Parameters:**  $r = \text{number of successes after which we terminate the sequence of Bernoulli trials, } p = \text{probability of success in a single Bernoulli trial}$
- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- **Probability mass function:**

$$P(X = x) = \binom{x + r - 1}{x} p^r (1 - p)^x, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = \frac{r(1 - p)}{p}, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{r(1 - p)}{p^2}.$$

## Poisson random variable:

- **Experiment:** The random variable arises from experiments which can be approximated by Binomial experiments with large  $n$ , small  $p$  and  $np \rightarrow \lambda > 0$ . It is generally used to model the number of times a certain event occurs in a given time frame or a given area.
- **Parameters:**  $\lambda > 0$ , referred to as the “rate” parameter.
- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- **Probability mass function:**

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

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = \lambda, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda.$$

## Hypergeometric random variable:

- **Experiment:** Draw  $n$  objects from  $N$  objects of two types (I and II). The objects are drawn without replacement.

- $X = \#$  of objects of Type I.

- **Parameters:**

$N$  = total number of objects

$n$  = number of objects drawn

$k$  = total number of objects of Type I

- $\mathfrak{X} = \text{Range}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, k\}$

- **Probability mass function:**

$$P(X = x) = \frac{\binom{k}{x} \binom{N-k}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

- **Expected value, variance**

$$E(X) = \frac{nk}{N}, \quad \text{Var}(X) = n \left( \frac{k}{N} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{k}{N} \right) \left( \frac{N-n}{N-1} \right).$$