

# Some important families of probability distributions

## Discrete

	Range	$p_X(x)$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$	$M_X(t)$
Binomial( $n, p$ )	$0, 1, \dots, n$	$\binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$	$np$	$npq$	$(pe^t + q)^n$
Geometric( $p$ )	$1, 2, \dots$	$pq^{x-1}$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{q}{p^2}$	$\frac{pe^t}{1 - qe^t}$
Negative Binomial( $r, p$ )	$r, r + 1, \dots$	$\binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r q^{x-r}$	$\frac{r}{p}$	$\frac{qr}{p^2}$	$\left( \frac{pe^t}{1 - qe^t} \right)^r$
Hypergeometric( $N, K, n$ )	$0, 1, \dots, n$	$\frac{\binom{K}{x} \binom{N-K}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$	$\frac{nK}{N}$	$\frac{nK(N-K)(N-n)}{N^2(N-1)}$	
Poisson( $\mu$ )	$0, 1, \dots$	$\frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!}$	$\mu$	$\mu$	$e^{\mu(e^t-1)}$

## Continuous

	Range	$f_X(x)$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$	$M_X(t)$
Uniform( $a, b$ )	$(a, b)$	$\frac{1}{b-a}$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$	$\frac{e^{tb} - e^{ta}}{t(b-a)}$
Exponential( $\beta$ )	$(0, \infty)$	$\frac{1}{\beta} e^{-x/\beta}$	$\beta$	$\beta^2$	$\frac{1}{1 - \beta t}$
Normal( $\mu, \sigma$ )	$(-\infty, \infty)$	$\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$	$e^{\mu t + \sigma^2 t^2/2}$
Gamma( $\alpha, \beta$ )	$(0, \infty)$	$\frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\beta}$	$\alpha\beta$	$\alpha\beta^2$	$\left( \frac{1}{1 - \beta t} \right)^\alpha$
Beta( $\alpha, \beta$ )	$(0, 1)$	$\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1}$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$	$\frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)}$	
Student's t( $n$ )	$(-\infty, \infty)$	$\frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})\sqrt{\pi n}} \left( 1 + \frac{x^2}{n} \right)^{-(n+1)/2}$	0	$\frac{n}{n-2}$	
$\chi^2(n)$	$(0, \infty)$	$\frac{x^{n/2-1}}{2^{n/2}\Gamma(n/2)} e^{-x/2}$	$n$	$2n$	$\left( \frac{1}{1 - 2t} \right)^{n/2}$
$F(n_1, n_2)$	$(0, \infty)$		$\frac{n_2}{n_2 - 2}$	$\frac{2n_2^2(n_1 + n_2 - 2)}{n_1(n_2 - 2)^2(n_2 - 4)}$	