

Probability review

1. Pairwise independence does not imply mutual independence

- a. $X = \text{Flip Coin}$, $\Pr(X = \text{heads}) = \frac{1}{2}$
- b. $Y = \text{Flip Coin}$, $\Pr(Y = \text{heads}) = \frac{1}{2}$
- c. $Z = \Pr(\text{exactly } X \text{ or } Y \text{ are heads (not both)}) = \frac{1}{2}$
 - $\Pr(X, Z)$ pairwise independence
 - $\Pr(X=0, Z=0) = \Pr(X=0) * \Pr(Z=0) = \frac{1}{4}$
 - $\Pr(X, Y, Z)$ not mutual independence
 - $\Pr(X=1, Y=1, Z=0) = \frac{1}{4}$ where as $\Pr(X=1) * \Pr(Y=1) * \Pr(Z=0) = \frac{1}{8}$

2. Definitions

a. Expectation

- When X is a discrete random variable, $\sum_i i \cdot \Pr[X = i]$
- When X is a continuous random variable, and $f(x)$ is its probability density

$$\blacksquare \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f(x) dx$$

function,

b. Variance

- $Var[X] = E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$
- Measures how far your data spread out from their average value

c. Standard deviation

- Square root of variance

3. Covariance and Correlation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Definitions: } Cov(X, Y) &= E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= \sum_x \sum_y (x - E[X])(y - E[Y]) p_{X,Y}(x, y) \\ Corr(X, Y) &= \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} \end{aligned}$$

a.

4. Covariance

a. Some properties

- $Cov(X + c, Y) = Cov(X, Y)$
- $Cov(aX + bY, Z) = a * Cov(X, Z) + b * Cov(Y, Z)$

b. Exercise

- X and Y are two independent $N(0,1)$ random variables and

- $Z = 1 + X + XY^2$
- $W = 1 + X$
- Find $\text{Cov}(W, Z)$

Normal distribution:

$$E(x) = E(Y) = 0$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = \text{Var}(Y) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cov}(1+X, 1+X+XY^2) \\ &= \text{Cov}(X, X + XY^2) \\ &= \text{Cov}(X, X) + \text{Cov}(X, XY^2) \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + E[X^2Y^2] - E[X] \cdot E[XY^2] \\ &= 1 + 1 - 0 \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

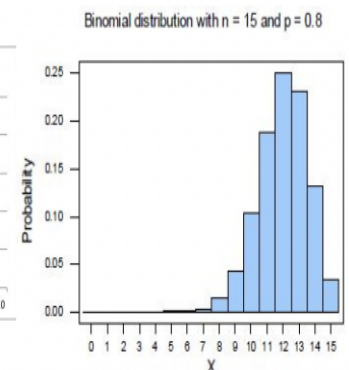
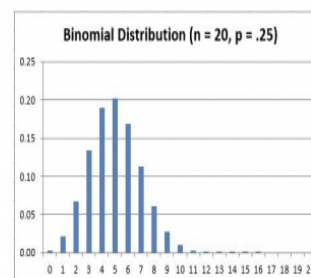
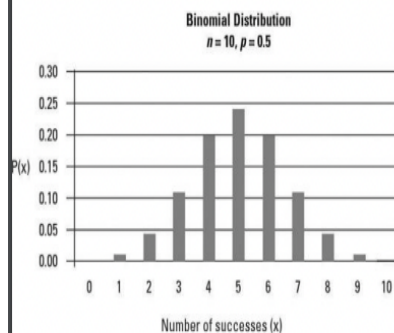
5. Discrete probability distributions

a. Bernoulli (p)

- Discrete
- Two outcomes: 0, 1
- $\Pr(X=1) = p = 1 - q$
- $\Pr(X=0) = q = 1 - p$
- Expectation: $E[x] = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1-p) = p$
- Example: Flip a coin 5 times, what is the probability of having exactly 2 heads

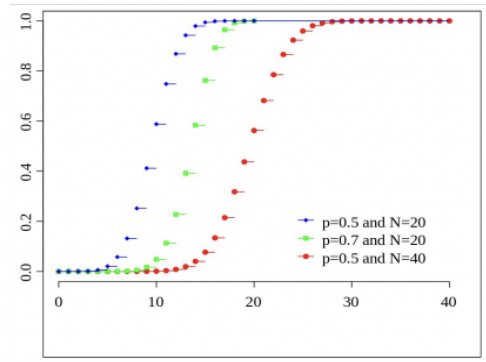
- ❖ Sample repetitively from a Bernoulli distribution n times
- ❖ Bernoulli = Binomial with $n = 1$
- ❖ $\Pr[X = k] = nCk \cdot p^k \cdot (1-p)^{(n-k)}$
- ❖ Expectation = $n \cdot p$

$$\text{PDF } \Pr[X = k] = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$



b. Binomial (n, p)

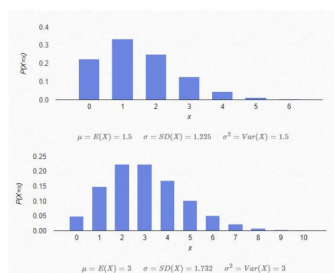
• CDF: $F_x(t) = \Pr(X \leq T)$



c. Poisson (lambda)

- Poisson distribution is a probability distribution that is used to show how many times an event is likely to occur over a specified period
- Events are independent of each other
- The occurrence of one event does not affect the probability another event will occur
- The average rate (events per time period) is constant.
- Two events cannot occur at the same time

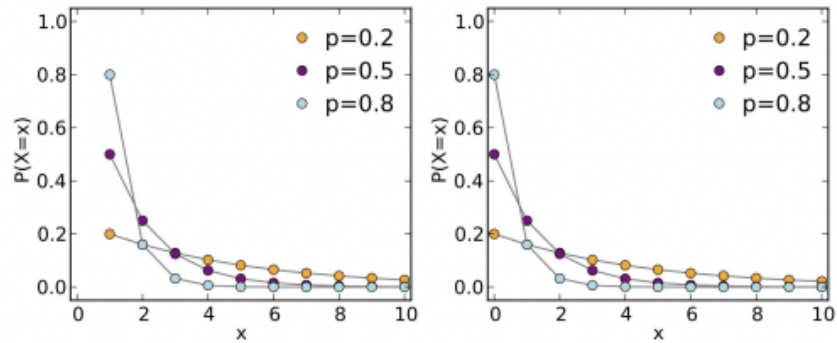
$$\Pr[X = k] = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$



- Example: You are “on call” at work. And every night between 12 and 8 AM you receive about 6 calls from customers
 - ❖ Question: what is the probability you receive a call from 2-4AM?
 - ❖ Definitions: $X \sim P(\lambda)$ where X is a random variable with a Poisson distribution, and “lambda” is the mean for the interval
 - ❖ 6 calls over an 8 hour window is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a call every hour, our window hours, so our “lambda” value is $2 * \frac{3}{4} = 1.5$

d. Geometric (p)

- Discrete, closely related to Bernoulli
- Probability of N failures before a success
- $\Pr(X=k) = (1-p)^{(k-1)} * p$

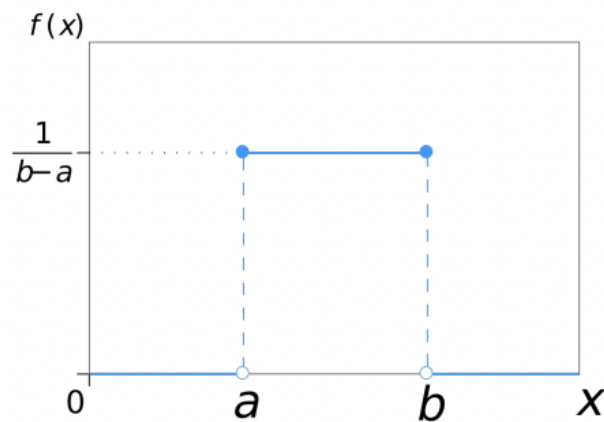


$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k * (1-p)^{k-1} p$$

- Expected number = $\frac{1}{p}$
- Example: What is the probability I flip a coin 4 times before getting heads?

6. Continuous probability distribution

a. Uniform (a, b)

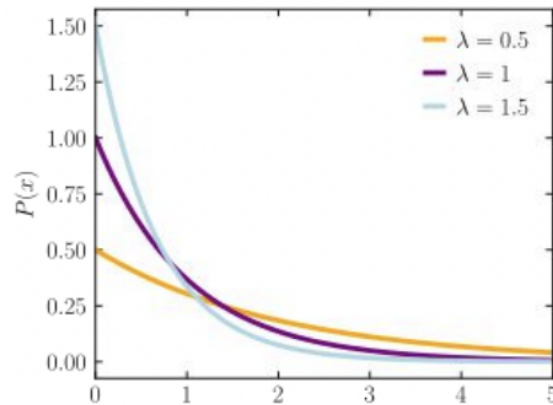


E[X] where $P(X=x) = 1/N$:

$$\frac{1}{b-a}$$

- $\text{Var}[x] = (b-a)^2/12$

b. Exponential (lambda)



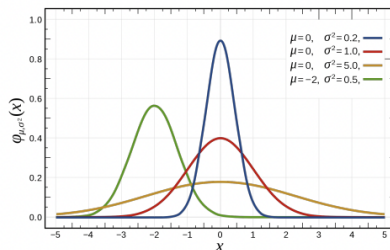
- The exponential distribution is the probability distribution of the time between events in a Poisson point process
- Parameterized by (lambda)
- PDF: $\Pr[X=x] = (\text{lambda}) * e^{-(\text{lambda}*x)}$
- Expected value = $1/\text{lambda}$
- Variance: $1/\text{lambda}^2$

c. Laplace (μ , b)

- It can be thought of as two exponential distributions (with an additional location parameter) spliced together along the abscissa
- Parameterized by μ (location - shift along the x axis) and b (scaling - maximum peak value)

$$\Pr[X = x] = \frac{1}{2b} \exp \left(-\frac{|x - \mu|}{b} \right)$$

d. Gaussian (μ , σ^2) - one dimension



$$\Pr[X = x] = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)$$

- μ = mean, σ = standard deviation
- It is important partly due to CLT