

TABLE II: SOME COMMON PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS

Name	Type	Parameters	Definition	Support	$E(X)$	$\text{Var}(X)$	mgf
Bernoulli	disc	$0 \leq p \leq 1$	$p_X(k) = p^k(1-p)^{1-k}$	$k = 0, 1$	$p$	$p(1-p)$	$e^tp + (1-p)$
binomial	disc	$n; 0 \leq p \leq 1$	$p_X(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k(1-p)^{n-k}$	$k = 0, 1, \dots, n$	$np$	$np(1-p)$	$(e^tp + (1-p))^n$
geometric	disc	$0 \leq p \leq 1$	$p_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1}p$	$k = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t}$
Poisson	disc	$\alpha > 0$	$p_X(k) = \frac{e^{-\alpha}\alpha^k}{k!}$	$k = 0, 1, \dots$	$\alpha$	$\alpha$	$e^{\alpha(e^t-1)}$
uniform	cont	$a < b$	$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}$	$a \leq x \leq b$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$	$\frac{e^{bt} - e^{at}}{(b-a)t}$
exponential	cont	$\alpha > 0$	$f_X(x) = \alpha e^{-\alpha x}$	$x \geq 0$	$\frac{1}{\alpha}$	$\frac{1}{\alpha^2}$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-t}$
gamma	cont	$r \geq 1; \alpha > 0$	$f_X(x) = \frac{\alpha^r}{\Gamma(r)} (\alpha x)^{r-1} e^{-\alpha x}$	$x \geq 0$	$\frac{r}{\alpha}$	$\frac{r}{\alpha^2}$	$\left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-t}\right)^r$
normal	cont	$\mu; \sigma > 0$	$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$	$-\infty < x < \infty$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$	$e^{(t\mu + \sigma^2 t^2/2)}$