

Hypergeometric Distribution

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Introduction

Definition

In probability theory and statistics, the **hypergeometric distribution** is a discrete probability distribution that describes the probability of k successes (random draws for which the object drawn has a specified feature) in n draws, without replacement, from a finite population of size N that contains exactly K objects with that feature, wherein each draw is either a success or a failure.

Formula

- A random variable X follows the hypergeometric distribution if its probability mass function (pmf) is given by

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

where

- **N** is the population size,
- **n** is the number of draws
- **K** is the number of success states in the population,
- **k** is the number of observed successes.

Problem 1

Assume that a bag contains 8 blue, 12 red balls,

- a)** What is the probability of getting red ball among 5 of the 8 selected balls, without replacement?
- b)** What is the probability of getting at most 1 red ball among selected 4 balls, without replacement?

Problem 1 (a)

a) What is the probability of getting red ball among 5 of the 8 selected balls, without replacement?

Problem 1 (a) Solution

a) What is the probability of getting red ball among 5 of the 8 selected balls, without replacement?

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

- $N = 20$ (Total 20 balls exist)
- $n = 8$ (8 balls are drawn from the bag)
- $K = 12$ (Since the red ball will be drawn, 12 red balls exist in bag)
- $k = 5$ (Question asks the probability of 5 selected balls being red)

$$P(X = 5) = \frac{\binom{12}{5} \binom{20-12}{8-5}}{\binom{20}{8}} = \frac{\binom{12}{5} \binom{8}{3}}{\binom{20}{8}} = \frac{\frac{12!}{5!7!} \cdot \frac{8!}{3!5!}}{\frac{20!}{8!12!}} = \frac{792 \cdot 56}{125970} \approx 0,352$$

Problem 1 (b)

b) What is the probability of getting at most 1 red ball among selected 4 balls, without replacement?

Problem 1 (b) Solution

b) What is the probability of getting at most 1 red ball among selected 4 balls, without replacement?

- $N = 20$ (Total 20 balls exist)
- $n = 4$ (Choose 4 balls from the bag)
- $K = 12$ (Since the red ball will be drawn, 12 red balls exist in bag)
- $k = 0$ and 1 (Question asks the probability of at most 1 selected balls being red)

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq 1) &= [P(X = 0) + P(X = 1)] = \left[\frac{\binom{12}{0} \binom{20-12}{4-0}}{\binom{20}{4}} + \frac{\binom{12}{1} \binom{20-12}{4-1}}{\binom{20}{4}} \right] \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 70 + 12 \cdot 56}{4845} \approx 0,153 \end{aligned}$$

References



Walpole, Myers, Myers, Ye, Probability & Statistics for Engineers & Scientists - *9th Edition*



Wikipedia: Hypergeometric distribution



BUders : <http://www.buders.com/>