

Discrete Distribution: Definition

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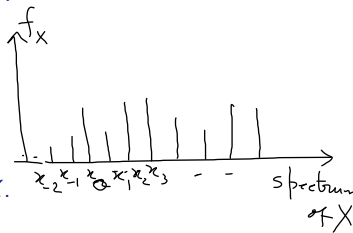
- If the spectrum of a random variable X is finite or countably infinite then the distribution of X is called a *discrete distribution*.
- Let spectrum of X : $T = \{x_i : i = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$ with

$$\dots < x_{-2} < x_{-1} < x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots$$

The function $f_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$, defined as

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} P(X = x_i), & x = x_i \in T \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

is called the probability mass function (p.m.f.) of X .

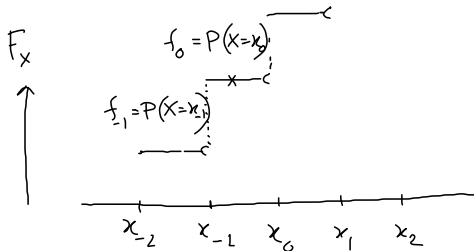


Discrete Distribution: Definition

- $F_X(x) = \sum_{x_j \leq x_i} P(X = x_j)$ if $x_i \leq x < x_{i+1}$
 $= \sum_{j=-\infty}^i f_X(x_j)$

Discrete Distribution: Definition

- $F_X(x) = \sum_{x_j \leq x} P(X = x_j)$ if $x_i \leq x < x_{i+1}$
- F_X is a step function with steps $f_i = P(X = x_i)$ for $i = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$



Discrete Distribution: Properties

1. $\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} f_j = 1$

we have,
 $F_X(\infty) = 1$

Discrete Distribution: Properties

1. $\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} f_j = 1$

2. At each non-spectrum point a , $P(X = a) = 0$

$$P(X=a) = F_X(a) - F_X(a-0)$$

let, $\exists x_k, x_{k+1} \in \text{spectrum of } X$ s.t.

$$\underbrace{x_k < a < x_{k+1}}$$

$$F_X(a) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^k f_X(x_j), \quad F(a-0) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{k-1} f_X(x_j)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(X=a) = 0.$$


Discrete Distribution: Properties

1. $\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} f_j = 1$

2. At each non-spectrum point a , $P(X = a) = 0$

3. $P(a < X \leq b) = \sum_{a < x_i \leq b} f_X(x_i)$

$P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$



Discrete Distribution: Examples

1. Binomial (n, p) Distribution

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$$

$$\text{Spectrum of } X = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

probability mass fn. (p.m.f)

$$f_X(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, \quad x=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$= 0, \text{ elsewhere}$$

$$\sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \left(p + (1-p) \right)^n = 1, \quad (0 < p < 1)$$

Discrete Distribution: Examples

2. Poisson (μ) Distribution

$$X \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$$

$$\text{Spectrum of } X = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$$\mu > 0$$

$$\text{p.m.f.} \quad f_X(x) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!}, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \frac{\mu^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} e^{\mu} = 1.$$

Definition

The distribution of a random variable X is said to be continuous if

1. the distribution function F_X is continuous
2. $\frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) = F'_X(x)$ is piecewise continuous in $(-\infty, \infty)$

Define: $f_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ as $f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x)$ which is called the probability density function (p.d.f.) of X .

Continuous Distribution: Properties

1. $f_X \geq 0$

$$f_X(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{since } F_X(x) \text{ is mon. inc. fn.}$$

Continuous Distribution: Properties

1. $f_X \geq 0$

2. $P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f_X(x) dx$

$$P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a).$$

(i) $f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x)$ (primitive exists)

(ii) $f_X(x)$ has finite no. of jump discontinuities (1st kind) in $[a, b] \Rightarrow f_X(x)$ is R. integrable in $[a, b]$.

\Rightarrow Applying Fundamental Th. of Integral Calculus

$$\int_a^b f_X(x) dx = F_X(b) - F_X(a) = P(a < X \leq b). \quad \square$$

Continuous Distribution: Properties

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3. $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(x) dx$

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Continuous Distribution: Properties

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4. $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$
5. $P(X = a) = 0$ for a given constant a
6. **Converse statement:** Every non-negative, real-valued, piecewise-continuous function f that is integrable in $(-\infty, \infty)$ and satisfies $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$, is the probability density function of a continuous distribution.

7. **Probability Differential:** Let X has continuous distribution. In differential notation we write:

$$P(x < X \leq x + dx) = F_X(x + dx) - F_X(x) = dF_X$$

8. **Density Curve:** The curve $y = f_X(x)$ is called the probability density curve of the corresponding continuous distribution.

Continuous Distribution: Examples

1. Uniform (a, b)

2. Normal (m, σ)

3. Cauchy (λ, μ) Distribution

4. Gamma (I) distribution

5. Beta (l, m) distribution of 1st kind

6. Beta (l, m) distribution of 2nd kind