

# 05\_Binomial\_Random\_Variables

## Bernoulli Random Variable

- Bernoulli trials are random events with three characteristics:
  - Two possible outcomes (success or failure, 0 or 1, etc)
  - Fixed probability of success for each outcome
  - Variables are independent
- Definition
  - A random variable  $B$  with two possible values
  - 1 = success and 0 = failure
  - $E(B)=p$ 
    - $\text{Var}(B)=p(1-p)$  ## Random Variables for Counts
- The sum of independent and identical-distribution (IID) Bernoulli random variables is  $Y$
- $Y$ 
  - Number of successes in  $n$  Bernoulli trials
  - Defined by parameters  $(n)$  and  $(p)$ 
    - Each trial  $(n)$  has probability of success  $(p)$
- **Properties of Binomial Random Variables**
  - Mean and Variance
    - $E(Y) = np$ 
      - Number of trials \* the probability of each trial
    - $\text{Var}(Y) = np(1-p)$ 
      - Variance of random variables  $p(1-p)$  times number of variables
  - Consists of two parts:
    - The number of sequences that have  $Y$  successes in  $n$  attempts
    - The probability of a specific sequence of Bernoulli trials with  $Y$  success in  $n$  attempts
  - Binomial probability for  $Y$  success in  $n$  trials
    - $P(Y = y) = nC_y p^y (1-p)^{n-y}$
    - $nC_y$ : “ $n$  choose  $y$ ”
      - Calculated  $(n!/(y!(n-y)!))$
    - Range of random variable  $Y$  is 0- $n$  because you can have zero success to at most,  $n$  success

Binomial Probability for  $Y$  success in  $n$  trials

$$P(Y=y) = {}^nC_y p^y (1-p)^{n-y}$$

$${}^nC_y = \text{"n choose y"} = \frac{n!}{y!(n-y)!}$$

or  $\binom{n}{y}$

E.g. Probability of seeing 8 doctors in 10 visits.

$$P(Y=8) = {}_{10}C_8 (0.4)^8 (0.6)^2 = 0.011 \approx 1\%$$

## R Examples

```
y <- 0:10
# Discrete binomial with n of 10 and probability of .4
p_y <- dbinom(y, size = 10, prob = 0.4)

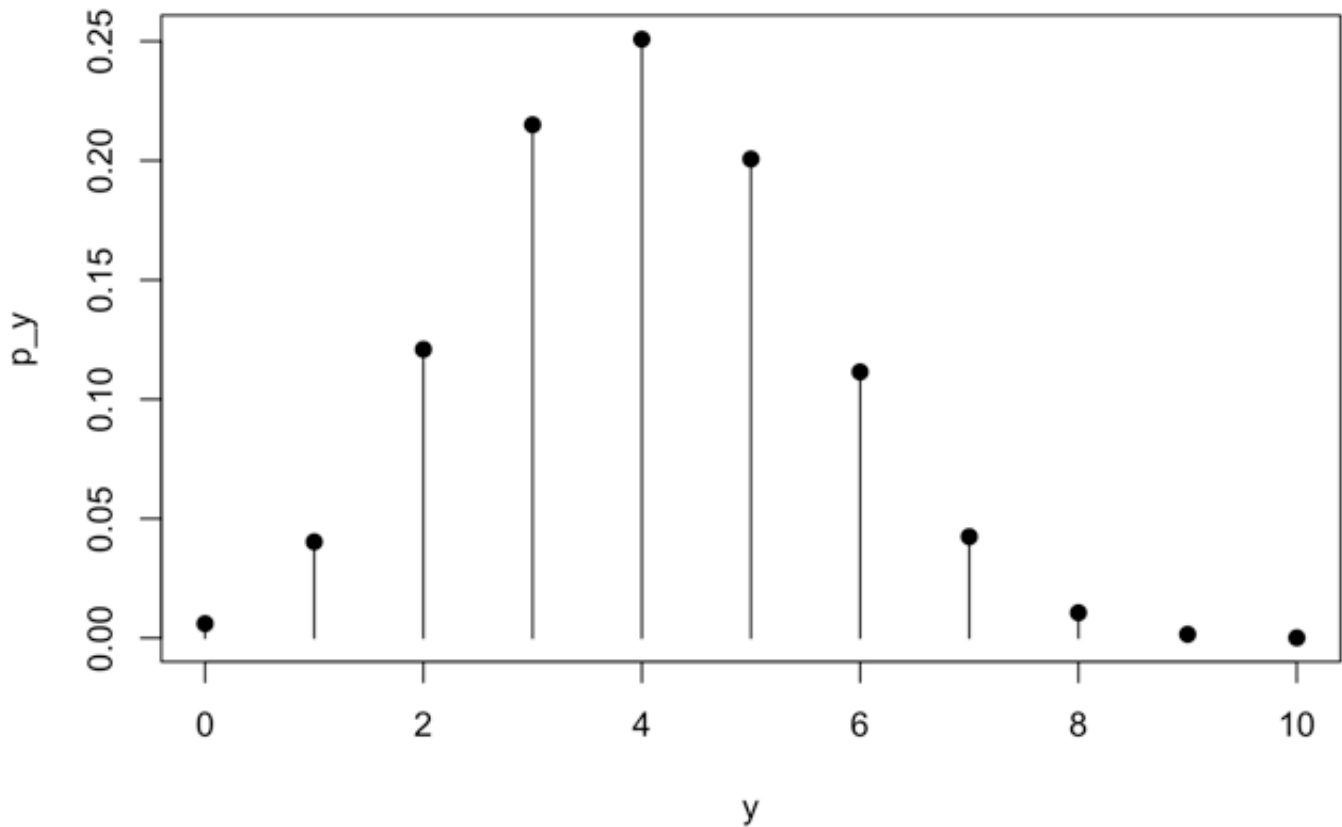
# Create distribution of y and probability of y
dist <- cbind(y,p_y)

# Name columns
colnames(dist) <- c("y", "p(y)")

# Call distribution
dist
```

```
##           y           p(y)
## [1,]  0 0.0060466176
## [2,]  1 0.0403107840
## [3,]  2 0.1209323520
## [4,]  3 0.2149908480
## [5,]  4 0.2508226560
## [6,]  5 0.2006581248
## [7,]  6 0.1114767360
## [8,]  7 0.0424673280
## [9,]  8 0.0106168320
## [10,] 9 0.0015728640
## [11,] 10 0.0001048576
```

```
# Create plot with type = histogram  
plot(y, p_y, type = "h")  
points(y, p_y, pch=19)
```



```
# Cumulative probability  
#  $p(Y \geq 8) = 1 - P(Y \leq 7)$   
1-pbinom(7, size = 10, prob = 0.4)
```

```
## [1] 0.01229455
```

## Example

/Images/05\_BiProb\_Example.png

### Focus on Sales

A focus group with nine randomly chosen participants was shown a prototype of a new product and asked if they would buy it at a price of \$99.95. Six of them said yes. The development team claimed that 80% of customers would buy the new product at that price. If the claim is correct, what results would we expect from the focus group?

### Method

|

Use the binomial model for this situation. Each focus group member has two possible responses: yes, no. We can use  $Y \sim \text{Bi}(n = 9, p = 0.8)$  to represent the number of yes responses out of nine.

/Images/05\_BiProb\_Solution.png

## Mechanics – Find $E(Y)$ and $SD(Y)$

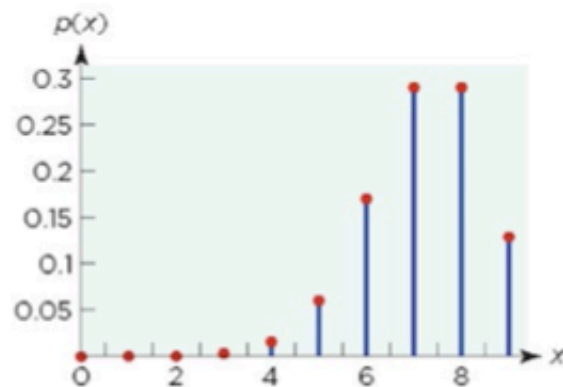
$$E(Y) = np = (9)(0.8) = 7.2$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = np(1-p) = (9)(0.8)(0.2) = 1.44$$

$$SD(Y) = 1.2$$

The expected number is higher than the observed number of 6.

## Mechanics – Probability Distribution



$P(Y=6) = 0.18$ . While 6 is not the most likely outcome, it is still common.

Results seem in line with development claims.

## Poisson Distribution

- Measures counts in a continuous interval of trials
- Poisson Random Variable
  - Describes the number of events determined by a random process during an interval of time or space
  - Is not finite, possible values are infinite
    - Opposed to binomial where range is 0:n
- Example: How many people enter a store in a day?

- Represented by  $\lambda$ 
  - The rate of events
- $P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda}(\lambda^x/x!)$  /Images/05\_Poisson\_Formula.png
  - $e$  is a constant, 2.71828
  - $\lambda$  = rate or average number of counts in an interval of time
  - $x$  = number of counts
    - $P(x)$  = probability of number of counts in your range
- $E(X) = \lambda$
- $\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$  Example:

/Images/05\_Poisson\_Example.png

## Motivation

A supplier claims that its wafers have 1 defect per 400 cm<sup>2</sup>. Each wafer is 20 cm in diameter, so the area is 314 cm<sup>2</sup>. What is the mean number of defects and the standard deviation?

The random variable is the number of defects on a randomly selected wafer.  
The Poisson model applies.

$$1 \text{ defect} \quad 400 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\lambda \text{ defects} \quad 314 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\lambda = \frac{314}{400} = 0.785$$

$$E(y) = \lambda = 0.785 \text{ defects}$$

$$\text{Var}(y) = \lambda = 0.785 \text{ defects}$$

$$\text{SD}(y) = \sqrt{0.785} = 0.886 \text{ defects}$$

Probability of defect-free wafer

$$P(y=0) = \frac{e^{-0.785} 0.785^0}{0!} = 0.456 \approx 46\%$$

```
# X is number of defects per wafer
x <- 0:8

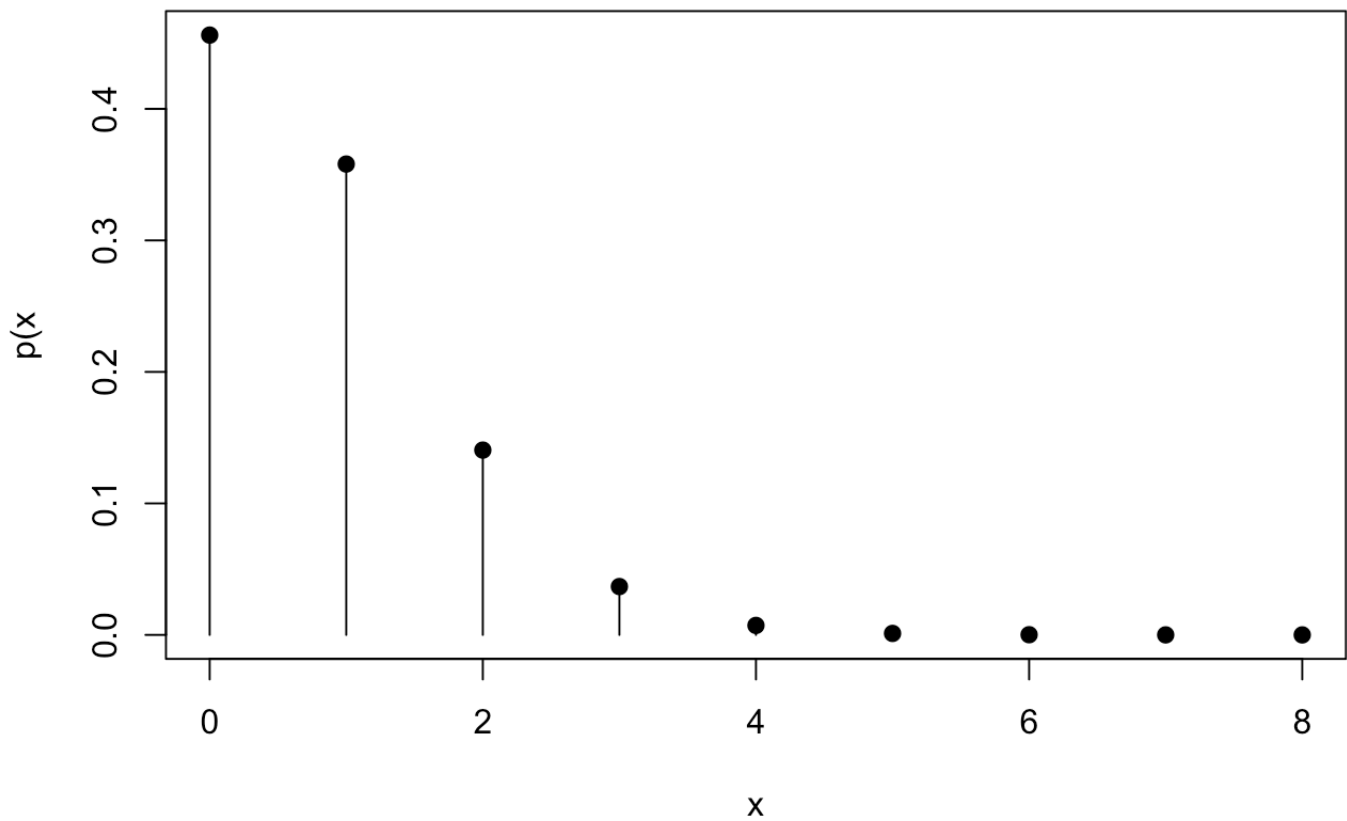
#Use dpois for probability of specific x
p_x <- dpois(x, lambda=314/400)

dist <- cbind(x,p_x)
colnames(dist) <- c("x", "p(x)")
dist
```

```
##      x      p(x)
## [1,] 0 4.561197e-01
## [2,] 1 3.580540e-01
## [3,] 2 1.405362e-01
## [4,] 3 3.677363e-02
## [5,] 4 7.216826e-03
## [6,] 5 1.133042e-03
## [7,] 6 1.482396e-04
## [8,] 7 1.662401e-05
## [9,] 8 1.631231e-06
```

```
plot(dist,type="h")
points(dist, pch=19)
```





```
# P(x = 0)
dpois(0, lambda=314/400)
```

```
## [1] 0.4561197
```

```
# P(x>=3) = 1-P(x<=2)
# For cumulative use ppois instead of dpois
1-ppois(2, lambda=314/400)
```

```
## [1] 0.04529015
```

```
# Simulate random Poisson numbers with same lambda
set.seed(123)

# Use rpois for random
randPoisson <- rpois(100, lambda=314/400)
head(randPoisson)
```

```
## [1] 0 1 0 2 2 0
```

```
mean(randPoisson)
```

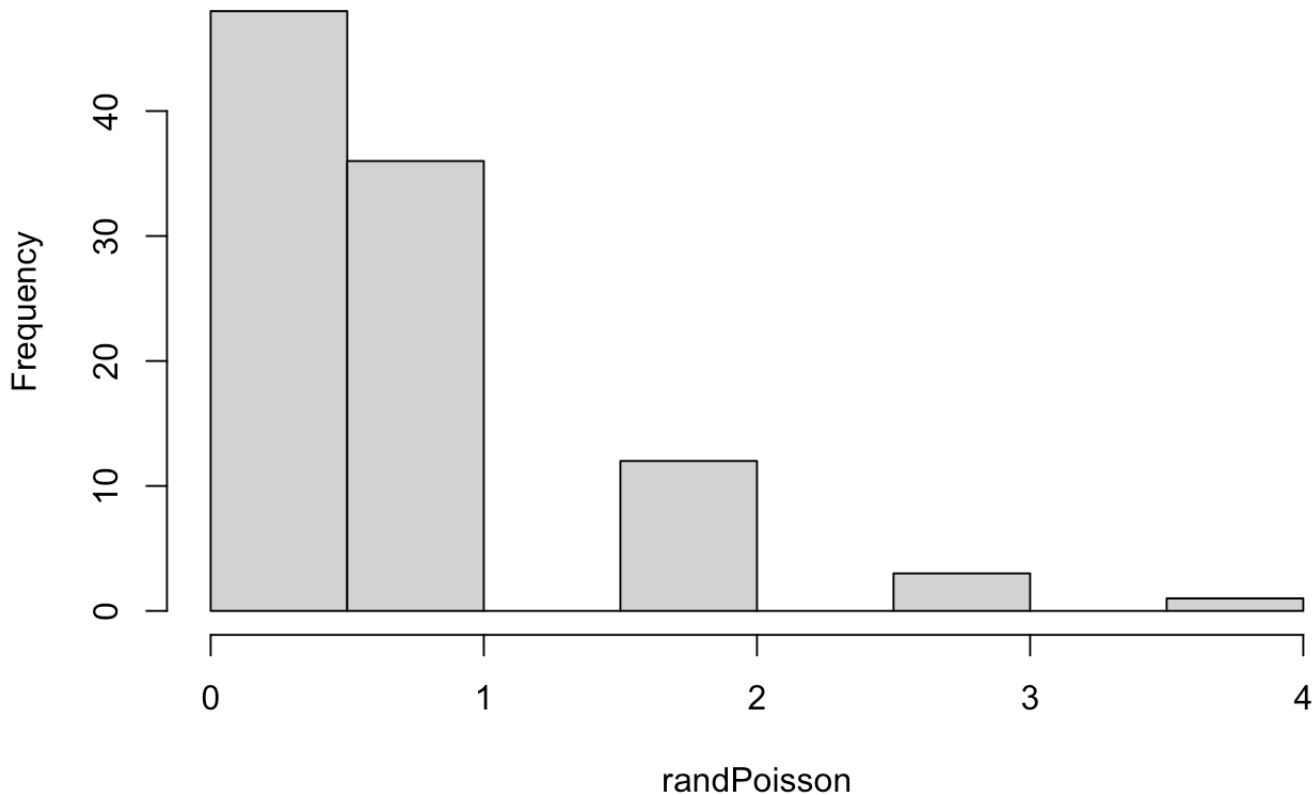
```
## [1] 0.73
```

```
var(randPoisson)
```

```
## [1] 0.7445455
```

```
hist(randPoisson)
```

## Histogram of randPoisson



## Best Practices and Pitfalls

- Best practices
  - Ensure you have Bernoulli trials if you're going to use the binomial model
    - Check three rules
  - If trials are continuous, use Poisson random variable
- Pitfalls
  - Do not presume independence without checking
  - Do not assume stable conditions routinely