

Discrete Random Variables

Binomial - Fixed number of trials, success or failure. Y is number of trials until first success.

$$P(y) = \binom{n}{y} p^y (1-p)^{n-y} \quad F(y) = \text{pbinom}(y, \text{size}, \text{prob}) \quad E(Y) = np \quad V(Y) = np(1-p)$$

Geometric - Do trials until success. Y is the number of of the first success trial.

$$P(y) = (1-p)^{y-1} p \quad F(y) = 1 - (1-p)^y \quad E(Y) = \frac{1}{p} \quad V(Y) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

Hypergeometric - N objects. Simple Random Sample of n objects. r are type A, $N-r$ are type B. Y is the number of type A in the n .

$$P(y) = \frac{\binom{r}{y} \binom{N-r}{n-y}}{\binom{N}{n}} \quad F(y) = \text{phyper}(y, r, N-r, n) \quad E(Y) = \frac{r}{N} \quad V(Y) = \frac{r(N-r)}{N^2} \frac{n}{N}$$

Poisson - Defined for $\lambda > 0$. The limit of the binomial distribution as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $p \rightarrow 0$. Think of a box of pollutant particles, slicing it into small slices to check if a particle is in each slice.

$$P(y) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^y}{y!} \quad F(y) = \text{ppois}(y, \lambda) \quad E(Y) = \lambda \quad V(Y) = \lambda$$

Chebychev's Inequality: $1 - \frac{1}{k^2} < P(|Y - \mu| < \sigma k) \quad \frac{1}{k^2} \geq P(|Y - \mu| \geq \sigma k)$

Continuous Random Variables

Quantiles - The p^{th} quantile (100 p^{th} percentile) of $F(Y)$ is ϕ_p such that $F(\phi_p) = p$.

Density Function - $f(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F(y) \quad E(Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f(y) dy \quad V(Y) = E(Y^2) - E(Y)^2$

Exponential - $F(y) = 1 - e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}}, \beta = \frac{1}{\lambda}$

Normal - Density function: $\phi(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}}$ is an even function ($\phi(-a) = \phi(a)$) (This is the standard normal)

Use `qnorm` to find quantiles. `pnorm` integrates the density function to give $F(y)$ Define for constants a and b

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi b}} e^{-\frac{(y-a)^2}{2b^2}}$$

If a random variable Y has this density, then the random variable $Z = \frac{Y-a}{b}$ is standard normal. Y has normal distribution with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$ if

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Probabilities are found by rescaling.

Gamma Function - $\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} dx \quad \text{For an integer } k, \Gamma(k) = (k-1)!$

For $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$
$$f(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{y^{\alpha-1} e^{-y/\beta}}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} & y > 0 \\ 0 & y \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad E(Y) = \alpha\beta \quad V(Y) = \alpha\beta^2$$

Lack of Memory Property - The following holds for continuous exponential and discrete geometric distributions. Let $a > 0, b > 0$. Then

$$P(Y > a+b | Y > a) = P(Y > b)$$

Join Probability Functions

Expectation of a function -

$$E(g(y_1, y_2)) = \int \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} g(y_1, y_2) f(y_1, y_2) dy_1 dy_2$$

Covariance - The covariance of two random variables Y_1, Y_2 is

$$\text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = E(Y_1 Y_2) - E(Y_1)E(Y_2)$$

Correlation - The Correlation between two random variables Y_1, Y_2 ranges from -1 to 1, and is given by

$$\rho = \frac{\text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2)}{\sqrt{V(Y_1)V(Y_2)}}$$

If two random variables Y_1 and Y_2 are independent, then their covariance is 0, and for functions g and h it is true that

$$E[g(Y_1)h(Y_2)] = E[g(Y_1)] E[h(Y_2)]$$

Other facts

$$\text{cov}(a_1 Y_1 + b_1, a_2 Y_2 + b_2) = a_1 a_2 \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2)$$

$$\text{cov}(Y_1 + Y_2, Y_3 + Y_4) = \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_3) + \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_4) + \text{cov}(Y_2, Y_3) + \text{cov}(Y_2, Y_4)$$

$$V(Y_1 + Y_2) = V(Y_1) + V(Y_2) + 2\text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2)$$

Five Number Summary: $\{\min, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, \max\}$

Outliers are identified as values more than 1.5 IQR (Inter-Quartile Range) outside Q_1 and Q_3 .

$$\text{Sample Variance: } s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}{n-1}$$

Law of Total Probability (Stratified Sampling Theorem): Let B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k partition S , and let A be some event in S . Then

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(B_i)P(A|B_i)$$

Bayes' Theorem: For a partition B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k of S , an event A and the particular event B_j out of the partition,

$$P(B_j|A) = \frac{P(A|B_j)P(B_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(A|B_i)P(B_i)}$$

$$E(g_1(Y) + g_2(Y)) = E(g_1(Y)) + E(g_2(Y))$$

$$E(aY + b) = aE(Y) + b$$

$$V(aY + b) = a^2 V(Y)$$

$$SD(aY + b) = |a|SD(Y)$$

If a random variable has a moment generating function, $m(t)$, in a neighborhood of $t = 0$ with $m(t) < \infty$ for all $|t| < b$ for some $b > 0$, then

$$E(Y^k) = m^{(k)}(0) \quad k^{th} \text{ derivative}$$