

M339Y: March 23rd, 2022.

Poisson Thinning.

Theorem. Let $N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ be a counting random variable for some events of interest.

Suppose that independently from N , each of these events falls into a particular category indexed by $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ w/ probability p_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$) ($p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_m = 1$).

Let N_i be the count of events from category i , $i = 1..m$.

Then:

- $N_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i = p_i \cdot \lambda)$ for all $i = 1..m$
- N_1, N_2, \dots, N_m are independent random variables.

$$N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda=12)$$

111. The number of accidents follows a Poisson distribution with mean 12. Each accident generates 1, 2, or 3 claimants with probabilities 1/2, 1/3, and 1/6, respectively.

Assume INDEPENDENCE between N and the # of claimants.
Calculate the variance of the total number of claimants.

S... the total # of claimants

(A) 20

$$\underline{\text{Var}[S] = ?}$$

(B) 25

• for $i=1,2,3$, N_i ... # of accidents w/ i claimants

(C) 30

$$N_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i = \lambda \cdot p_i)$$

(D) 35

$$\Rightarrow N_1 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_1 = \underline{6}) \quad \checkmark$$

(E) 40

$$N_2 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_2 = \underline{4}) \quad \checkmark$$

$$N_3 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_3 = \underline{2}) \quad \checkmark$$

112. In a clinic, physicians volunteer their time on a daily basis to provide care to those who are not eligible to obtain care otherwise. The number of physicians who volunteer in any day is uniformly distributed on the integers 1 through 5. The number of patients that can be served by a given physician has a Poisson distribution with mean 30.

Determine the probability that 120 or more patients can be served in a day at the clinic, using the normal approximation with continuity correction.

(A) $1 - \Phi(0.68)$

(B) $1 - \Phi(0.72)$

(C) $1 - \Phi(0.93)$

(D) $1 - \Phi(3.13)$

(E) $1 - \Phi(3.16)$

$$S = 1 \cdot N_1 + 2 \cdot N_2 + 3 \cdot N_3$$

$$\text{Var}[S] = \text{Var}[N_1 + 2N_2 + 3N_3] = \boxed{\begin{array}{l} N_1, N_2, N_3 \text{ are independent} \\ \text{due to the} \\ \text{"thinning" theorem} \end{array}}$$

$$= \text{Var}[N_1] + 4\text{Var}[N_2] + 9\text{Var}[N_3]$$

$$= \lambda_1 + 4\lambda_2 + 9\lambda_3$$

$$= 6 + 4 \cdot 4 + 9 \cdot 2 = 40.$$

□

Negative Binomial Distribution.

Binomial Coefficients.

For $n, k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ w/ $n \geq k$:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

We can generalize to $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that

$$x > k-1$$

$$\binom{x}{k} = \frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{\Gamma(k+1) \cdot \Gamma(x-k+1)}$$

Inspiration: A Modelling Problem.

Consider a sequence of independent, identically dist'd Bernoulli trials.

Say: the probability of success in every trial is p .

The repetition of the Bernoulli trials continues until a total of r successes is achieved.

N ... # of failures before the r^{th} success.

Q: What is the support of N ? $\mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

For $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$P_N(k) = \underbrace{P[N=k]}_{\text{What is the probability of seeing } k \text{ failures before the } r^{\text{th}} \text{ success?}} = \binom{r+k-1}{k} p^r (1-p)^k$$

The last trial must be a success!

What is the probability of seeing k failures before the r^{th} success?

In this class, and the STAM exam, we use this parametrisation:

$$p = \frac{1}{1+\beta}$$

for some $\beta > 0$

With this parametrisation:

$$P_N(k) = \binom{r+k-1}{k} \left(\frac{1}{1+\beta}\right)^r \left(\frac{\beta}{1+\beta}\right)^k$$

Return to our generalization of binomial coefficients and have $r > 0$

We write: $N \sim \text{NegBinomial}(r, \beta)$

- $E[N] = r \cdot \beta$
- $\text{Var}[N] = r \cdot \beta(1+\beta) > E[N]$
- $P_N(z) = (1-\beta(z-1))^{-r}$

Q: What do we get in the special case where $r=1$?

→ We have $N \sim \text{Geometric}(\beta)$.

The geometric distribution has the memoryless property.