

01/27/2026: Discrete Random Variables (Part 1)

CSCI 546: Diffusion Models

Textbook reference: Sec 3.1-3.5

Announcement (Sign-in Sheet)

Please sign the sign-in sheet.

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Announcement (Office Hours)

My office hours this Thursday need to be changed due to a grant meeting. If you would like to meet on Thursday, please send me an email to set up a time.

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Announcement (Group exercises)

Group exercises will be posted to the course repo after class. Please continue working on what you don't finish in class.

Bayes Law Practice

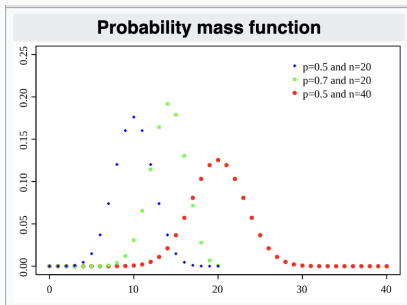
Review Problem Set #3

Binomial Distribution

The **Binomial distribution** with parameters n, p is the discrete probability distribution of the number of successes in a sequence of n independent experiments, each asking a yes-no question, whose outcome is yes (or “success”) with probability p and no (or “failure”) with probability $1 - p$.

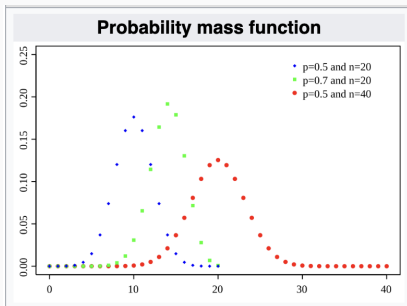
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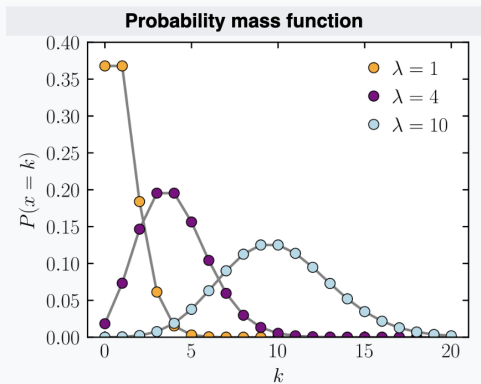
$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

Poisson Distribution

The **Poisson distribution** with rate λ is a discrete probability distribution that calculates the likelihood of a certain number of events occurring within a fixed interval of time, assuming the events occur independently.

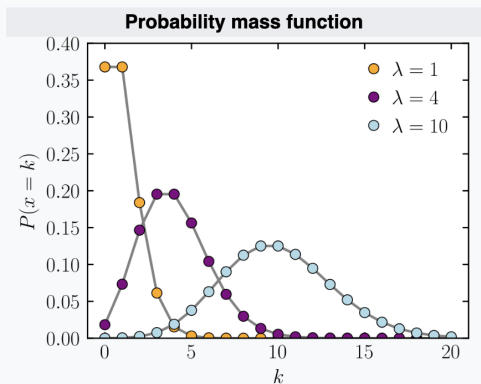
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$$P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

Random Groups

Aubrey Williams: 5

Austin Barton : 2

Blake Sigmundstad: 1

Diego Moylan: 6

Dillon Shaffer: 3

Felicia Jayasaputra: 1

Ismoiljon Muzaffarov: 7

Jacob Tanner: 4

Josh Stoneback: 2

Joshua Bowen: 3

Joshua Calwell: 5

Laura Banaszewski: 1

Lina Hammel: 8

Logan Racz: 8

Matt Hall: 7

Micah Miller: 4

Mike Kadoshnikov: 2

Owen Cool: 6

Racquel Bowen: 4

Samuel Mocabee: 5

Tatiana Kirillova: 3

Group exercises - Problem Set 4

1. (3.2.1) Let X and Y be independent random variables, each taking the values -1 and 1 with probability $\frac{1}{2}$, and let $Z = XY$. Show that X , Y and Z are pairwise independent. Are they independent?
2. (3.5.2) In your pocket is a random number N of coins, where N has the Poisson distribution with parameter λ . You toss each coin once, with heads showing with probability p each time. Show that the total number of heads has the Poisson distribution with parameter λp .