

Lecture-18Poisson Distribution :- Poisson r.v.

referent the number of occurrences of a rare event in a large number of trials i.e. it is a limiting case of $B(n, p)$, when n is too large and p is small.

A r.v. X is said to be a Poisson r.v. with parameter λ if X takes the values $0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty$ with p.m.f.

$$P_x(x) = P(X=x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}, \quad x=0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty$$

$$\sum_k \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!} = 1$$

$$X \sim p(\lambda)$$

$$R_x : 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Also note that

$$\frac{p_x(k-1)}{p_x(k)} = \frac{\frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}}{\frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}} = \frac{k}{\lambda}$$

\Rightarrow if $k < \lambda$ then $P_x(k-1) < P_x(k)$
 i.e. $P(x=k-1) < P(x=k)$

if $k > \lambda$ then $P_x(k-1) > P_x(k)$ i.e.

$$P(x=k-1) > P(x=k)$$

if $k = \lambda$ then $P(x=k-1) = P(x=k)$

Thus $P(x=k)$ increases with k from 0 till $k \leq \lambda$ and falls off beyond λ .

If λ is an integer then $P(x=k)$ has two maximal values at $k = \lambda - 1$ and λ .

Typical examples include,

- Number of telephone calls at an telephone exchange over a fixed duration
 - The number of winning tickets among those purchased in a large lottery
 - Number of printing errors in a book.
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$$B(n, p) \rightsquigarrow P(\lambda)$$

\downarrow \downarrow
 large small & $np = \lambda$

$$P(x=i) = \frac{\binom{n}{i}}{n-i+1} p^i (1-p)^{n-i}$$

$$P(X=i) = \frac{\cancel{n} \cancel{i}}{\cancel{n-i} \cancel{i}} p^i (1-p)^{n-i}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{n}}{\cancel{n-i} \cancel{i}} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-i}$$

Now for large n and moderate λ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n = \underline{e^{-\lambda}}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-i+1) \cancel{n-i}}{\cancel{n-i} \cancel{i}} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-i}$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-i+1)}{n^i} \frac{\lambda^i}{\cancel{i}} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{\lambda}^i \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-i}}{\cancel{\lambda}^i} \frac{\lambda^i}{\cancel{i}} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i}$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$P(X=i) = \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \frac{e^{-\lambda}}{1}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^i}{i!}$$

$$\Rightarrow B(n, p) \xrightarrow{\dots} P(\lambda)$$

$$\Rightarrow B(n, p) \xrightarrow{\text{large } n, \text{ small } p} P(\lambda)$$

large n , small p and $np = \lambda$

Ex. 1 - A typesetter makes on the average 1 mistake per 1000 words. Assume that he is setting a book with 100 words to a page. Let X be the number of mistakes that he makes on a single page. The exact probability distribution for X would be obtained by considering X as a result of 100 Bernoulli trials with $p = \frac{1}{1000}$ i.e.

$$P(X=j) = {}^{100}C_j p^j (1-p)^{100-j}$$

While Poisson approximation is given by

$$P(X=j) = \frac{\lambda^j e^{-\lambda}}{j!}, \text{ where } \lambda = np = 100 \times \frac{1}{1000} = 0.1$$

j	Poisson $\lambda = 0.1$	$B(n, p)$ $n=100, p=\frac{1}{1000}$
0	0.9048	0.9048
1	0.0905	0.0905
2	0.0045	0.0045
3	0.0007	0.0007

2	0.0045	0.0045
3	0.0002	0.0002
4	0.0000	0.0000

Ex 1 Assume that you live in a city of size 10 blocks by 10 block so that whole city is divided into 100 small squares. During a war, missiles hit the city. How likely is it that the square in which you live receive no hits if the city is hit by 400 missiles?

$$p = \frac{1}{100}, \quad n = 400$$

$$\lambda = np = \frac{400}{100} = 4$$

$$P(X=0) = e^{-4}$$

The Uniform Random Variable :- A r.v.

X is said to be uniformly distributed over the interval $[a, b]$ if its probability density function (pdf) is given by

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_x(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Note that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) dx = \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} dx = 1$$

and $f_x(x) \geq 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

and in particular,

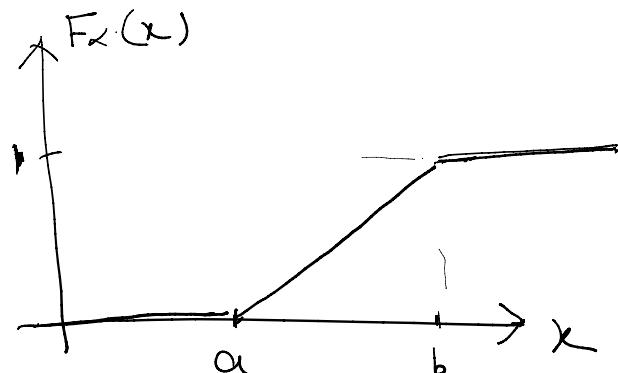
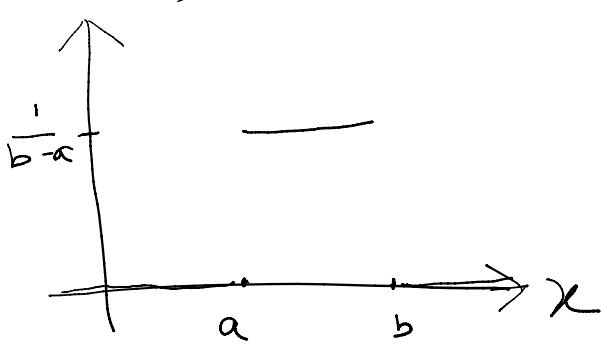
$f_x(x) > 0$ when $x \in [a, b]$.

X is uniformly distributed then

$$X \sim U[a, b]$$

$$F_x(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_x(t) dt$$

$$F_x(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a \\ \frac{x-a}{b-a}, & a \leq x < b \\ 1, & x \geq b \end{cases}$$



A particular important application is in the quantization of signal samples prior to encoding in digital communication systems.