

RVSP

Dr. G.  
Omprakash

Bank arrivals:  
Staffing  
decisions using  
Poisson

Betting Games

Reliability using  
conditional  
density

Sum of Random  
variables

# Practical Examples



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## Bank arrivals: Staffing decisions using Poisson



# Bank arrivals

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```
# Bank arrivals (Poisson) - sizing tellers
```

```
import numpy as np
```

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
from scipy.stats import poisson
```

```
np.random.seed(1)
```

```
lam = 10 # true average customers per hour
```

```
hours = 1000 # simulated hourly observations
```

```
arrivals = np.random.poisson(lam, size=hours)
```

```
# sample statistics
```

```
sample_mean = arrivals.mean()
```

```
sample_var = arrivals.var(ddof=0)
```

```
# capacity example
```

```
tellers = 2
```

```
service_rate = 4 # customers per hour per teller
```

```
capacity = tellers * service_rate
```

```
# empirical overload probability
```

```
p_exceed_emp = np.mean(arrivals > capacity)
```



# Staffing decisions

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- `np.random.poisson(lam, size = hours)` simulates hourly counts from Poisson
- `sample_mean` and `sample_var` are the estimates of mean and variance.
- `p_exceed_emp` estimates the probability an hour's arrivals exceed the service capacity ( $= \text{tellers} \times \text{service\_rate}$ ).
- `poisson.ppf()` stands for the **Percent Point Function**
  - It is the inverse of the cumulative distribution function (CDF).
  - Find number of tellers  $k$ , such that  $P(X \leq k) = 1 - \alpha = 0.95$
- The three plots show
  - (a) histogram of counts
  - (b) running mean (Law of Large Numbers)
  - (c) running variance (Poisson has  $\text{Var} \approx \text{Mean}$ ).
- `np.random.seed(1)` makes all random operations reproducible.
  - `seed` ensures you get the same random sequence every time you run the code



# Bank arrivals

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```
# theoretical capacity for a target risk alpha (e.g., alpha=0.05)
alpha = 0.05
k_needed = int(poisson.ppf(1-alpha, lam)) # smallest k s.t.  $P(N \leq k) \geq 1-\alpha$ 

# plots
plt.figure(); plt.hist(arrivals, bins=range(0, max(arrivals)+2)); plt.title("Hourly arrivals (hist)"); plt.xlabel("arrivals/hr")
plt.figure(); plt.plot(np.cumsum(arrivals)/np.arange(1, hours+1)); plt.title("Running mean")
plt.figure(); plt.plot([arrivals[:i].var(ddof=0) for i in range(1, hours+1)]); plt.title("Running variance")
plt.show()

print("sample_mean, sample_var, p_exceed_emp, k_needed:", sample_mean, sample_var, p_exceed_emp, k_needed)
```

sample\_mean, sample\_var, p\_exceed\_emp, k\_needed: 9.907 9.688350999999999 0.667

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# Observations and Insights

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- **Histogram:** shape is roughly Poisson/peaked near  $\lambda$  (here  $\approx 10$ ). The right tail shows risk of high arrival hours.
- Running mean: should converge toward  $\lambda$  as sample size increases — a visual demonstration of the Law of Large Numbers.
- Running variance: for Poisson, variance  $\approx$  mean; the running variance should stabilize near the mean.
- **Exercise:**
  - Change *tellers* to 15 and observe  $p\_exceed\_emp$
  - Change  $\lambda$  to 5, 15 and observe how  $k\_needed$  changes.
  - Choose  $\alpha = 0.01$  and compute the required capacity ( $k\_needed$ )



# Observations

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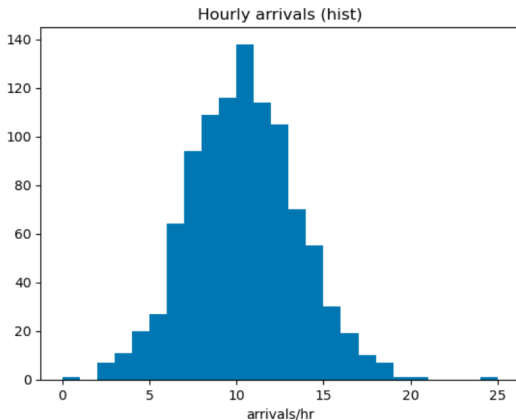
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**Histogram:** shape is roughly Poisson/peaked near  $\lambda$  (here  $\approx 10$ ). The right tail shows risk of high arrival hours.







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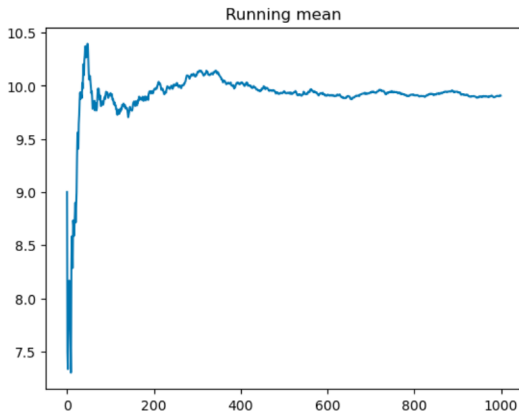
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Running mean: should converge toward  $\lambda$  as sample size increases — a visual demonstration of the Law of Large Numbers.





# Observations

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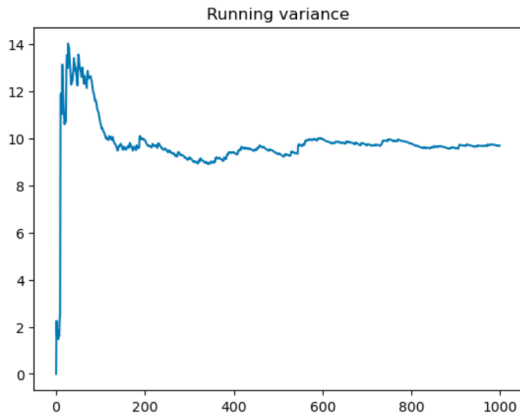
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Running variance: for Poisson, variance  $\approx$  mean; the running variance should stabilize near the mean.





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# Betting Games



# Betting Games

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There are two games: A and B

- Game A: Outcomes:  $\{1, -1\}$ ; Probability:  $\{0.5, 0.5\}$
- Game B: Outcomes:  $\{4, -1\}$ ; Probability:  $\{0.3, 0.7\}$
- From the results:
  - Game A: mean  $\approx 0$ , std  $\approx 1$ ,  $P(\text{loss}) \approx 0.5$ .
  - Game B: mean  $\approx 0.5$ , std  $\approx 2.29$ ,  $P(\text{loss}) \approx 0.7$ .
- **Insights**
  - Game B has a higher long-run expected payoff but is riskier
  - If the player cares about long-run average (large number of plays) and can tolerate risk (variance), pick higher mean (Game B).
  - If the player is risk-averse or must avoid short-term losses, prefer lower variance even with lower EV (Game A).



# Betting Games

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```
# Betting games - compare Expected Value and variance
import numpy as np
from math import sqrt
np.random.seed(1)
trials = 100000

# Game A: fair +/-1
gameA = np.random.choice([1, -1], size=trials)

# Game B: 30% win +4, 70% lose -1 => EV = 0.3*4 + 0.7*(-1) = 0.5
gameB = np.random.choice([4, -1], size=trials, p=[0.3, 0.7])

meanA, varA = gameA.mean(), gameA.var(ddof=0)
meanB, varB = gameB.mean(), gameB.var(ddof=0)
p_loss_A = np.mean(gameA < 0)
p_loss_B = np.mean(gameB < 0)

print("Game A: mean, std, P(loss) = ", meanA, sqrt(varA), p_loss_A)
print("Game B: mean, std, P(loss) = ", meanB, sqrt(varB), p_loss_B)
```



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## Reliability using conditional density



# Reliability from Conditional Density

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## Reliability example

- Consider lifetimes of two machine components A and B together
- A and B are independent exponential lifetimes.
- But once we “condition” on A ?
- **Exercise:** Make B depend on A ( $B = 0.5 * A + \text{noise}$ )
  - $B = 0.5 * A + np.random.normal(0, 1, N)$
- Observations:
  - When independent : conditional density  $\approx$  marginal density (no change).
  - If they were dependent, the conditional PDF would shift or narrow.



# Reliability

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```
from scipy.stats import expon

np.random.seed(2)
N = 10000
# lifetimes in hours ~ exponential
A = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N) # mean 5h
B = expon.rvs(scale=3, size=N) # mean 3h
# system fails when both fail → joint lifetimes (for study)
plt.figure(figsize=(5,5))
plt.scatter(A, B, alpha=0.3)
plt.xlabel("Component A lifetime (h)")
plt.ylabel("Component B lifetime (h)")
plt.title("Joint sample from exponential lifetimes")
plt.show()

# conditional density estimate:  $P(B|A \text{ in } [2,3])$ 
mask = (A > 2) & (A < 3)
plt.figure()
plt.hist(B[mask], bins=50, density=True, alpha=0.7)
plt.title("Conditional density: lifetime of B |  $A \in [2,3]$ ")
plt.xlabel("B lifetime (h)")
plt.ylabel("Density"); plt.show()
```





# Reliability

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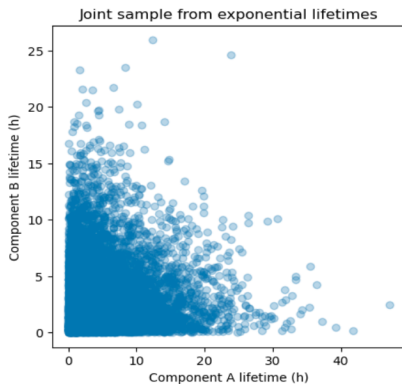
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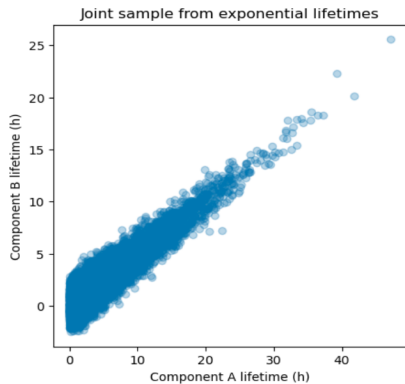
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(a)



(b)

Figure: (a) Joint samples (A and B Independent) (b) Joint samples (B dependent on A)



# Reliability

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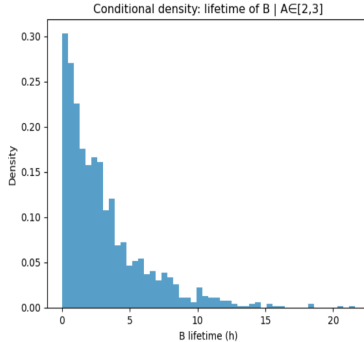
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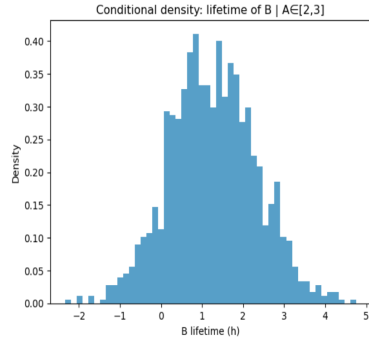
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(a)



(b)

**Figure:** (a) Conditional density  $B/A$  (A and B Independent) (b) Conditional density  $B/A$  (B dependent on A)

**If they are dependent, the conditional PDF would shift or narrow.**



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## Sum of Random variables



# Sum of Random variables

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Consider waiting time for each bus as a random variable

- Each bus wait  $\approx$  Exponential ( $\lambda=1/5$ ).
- Sum of 3 such i.i.d. exponentials : Gamma(3, 5) distribution (smoother, more symmetric).
- Insights: Adding independent random variables **smooths** and **spreads** distributions.
- As we sum more terms  $\rightarrow$  shape tends toward normal (Central Limit Theorem)
- **Exercise:** Change number of buses to 10/20/30 and watch distribution become bell-shaped.



# Sum of 3 Random variables

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```
from scipy.stats import expon
np.random.seed(3)

N = 100000
bus1 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus2 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus3 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
total_time = bus1 + bus2 + bus3

plt.figure(figsize=(7,4))
plt.hist(bus1, bins=80, density=True, alpha=0.4, label='1 bus')
plt.hist(total_time, bins=80, density=True, alpha=0.7, label='Sum of 3 buses')
plt.xlabel("Total waiting time (min)"); plt.ylabel("Density")
plt.title("Distribution of Sum of Independent Random Variables")
plt.legend(); plt.show()

print("E[1 bus] =", round(bus1.mean(),2))
print("E[3 buses] =", round(total_time.mean(),2))
print("Var[1 bus] =", round(bus1.var(),2))
print("Var[3 buses] =", round(total_time.var(),2))
```



# Sum of 10 Random variables

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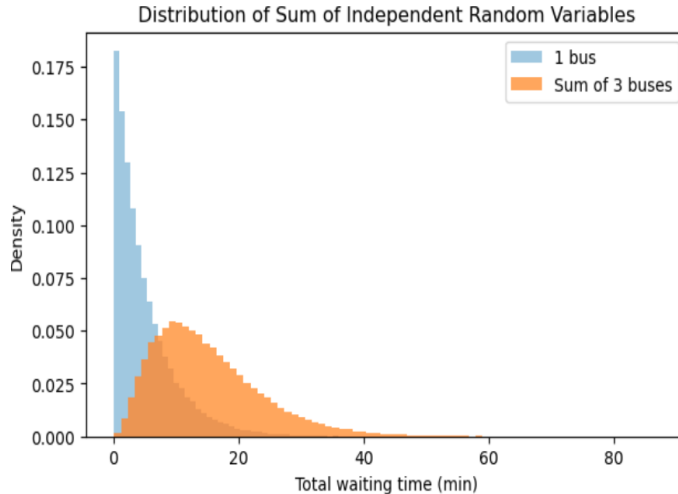
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# Sum of 10 Random variables

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```
from scipy.stats import expon
np.random.seed(3)

N = 100000
bus1 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus2 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus3 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus4 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus5 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus6 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus7 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus8 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus9 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)
bus10 = expon.rvs(scale=5, size=N)

total_time = bus1 + bus2 + bus3+bus4+bus5+bus6+bus7+bus8+bus9+bus10

plt.figure(figsize=(7,4))
plt.hist(bus1, bins=80, density=True, alpha=0.4, label='1 bus')
plt.hist(total_time, bins=80, density=True, alpha=0.7, label='Sum of 10 buses')
plt.xlabel("Total waiting time (min)"); plt.ylabel("Density")
plt.title("Distribution of Sum of Independent Random Variables")
plt.legend(); plt.show()

print("E[1 bus] =", round(bus1.mean(),2))
print("E[3 buses] =", round(total_time.mean(),2))
print("Var[1 bus] =", round(bus1.var(),2))
print("Var[3 buses] =", round(total_time.var(),2))
```



# Sum of 10 Random variables

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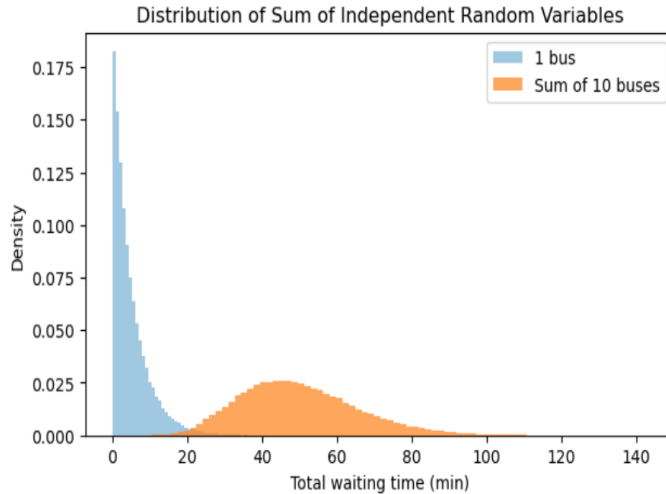
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Acknowledge various sources for the images.  
Thankyou