

Homework9

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1. The price of one share of stock in the Pilsdorff Beer Company is given by Y_n on the n th day of the year. Finn observes that the differences $X_n = Y_{n+1} - Y_n$ appear to be independent random variables with a common distribution having mean $\mu = 0$ and variance $\sigma^2 = 1/4$. If $Y_1 = 100$, estimate the probability that Y_{365} is

- a. ≥ 100
- b. ≥ 110
- c. ≥ 120

we can assume the X_n 's are nearly normal and compute the sum of the independent random variables

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n \\ &= (Y_2 - Y_1) + (Y_3 - Y_2) + \dots + (Y_{n+1} - Y_n) \\ &= Y_{n+1} - Y_1 \\ &= Y_{n+1} - 100 \end{aligned}$$

The Y_2, Y_3, \dots, Y_n 's all cancel out so it's only $Y_{n+1} - Y_1$ that survives.

The mean of S_n is computed as $n\mu = 0$

The variance of S_n is computed as $n\sigma^2 = 364 * 0.25 = 91$

The standard deviation of S_n is computed as $\sqrt{n\sigma^2} = \sqrt{91}$

($n = 364$ as $Y_{364+1} = Y_{364} + X_{364} = Y_{365}$)

$S_{364} = Y_{365} - 100$ and $Y_{365} = S_{364} + 100$

for a.

$$P(Y_{365} \geq 100) = P(S_{364} + 100 \geq 100) = P(S_{364} \geq 0)$$

As a nearly normal distribution with mean 0 and is symmetric around 0, $P(S_{364} \geq 0) \approx 0.5$

for b.

$$P(Y_{365} \geq 110) = P(S_{364} + 100 \geq 110) = P(S_{364} \geq 10) = P(S_{364}^* \geq 10/\sqrt{91})$$

for c.

$$P(Y_{365} \geq 120) = P(S_{364} + 100 \geq 120) = P(S_{364} \geq 20) = P(S_{364}^* \geq 20/\sqrt{91})$$

we can use R to assist us in estimating the probabilities

- b.

```
sd <- sqrt(91)
prob <- 10/sd

pnorm(prob, lower.tail = FALSE)
```

```
## [1] 0.1472537
```

c.

```
sd <- sqrt(91)
prob <- 20/sd

pnorm(prob, lower.tail = FALSE)
```

```
## [1] 0.01801584
```

2. Calculate the expected value and variance of the binomial distribution

using the moment generating function

Answer:

Binomial Distribution: $p(x) = \binom{n}{j} p^j (q)^{n-j}$

Moment Generating Function:

$$\begin{aligned} g(t) &= \sum_{j=0}^n e^{jt} p(x) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^n e^{jt} \binom{n}{j} p^j (q)^{n-j} \\ &= \binom{n}{j} (pe^t)^j q^{n-j} \\ &= (pe^t + q)^n \end{aligned}$$

The last part of the equality is that if you let $a = pe^t$, you have the binomial theorem that is $\sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} (a)^j q^{n-j} = (a + q)^n$ and substitute back, you get the moment generating function to be $(pe^t + q)^n$

$$\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

$$E(X) = g'(0) = n(pe^t + q)^{n-1} pe^t \Big|_{t=0} = np$$

(When you set $t = 0$, you get $p+q$ in the base and $q = 1-p$ so $p+1-p = 1$)

$$E(X)^2 = (np)^2$$

$$E(X^2) = g''(0) = np \left[e^t (p(n-1)(pe^t + q)^{n-2} + (pe^t + q)^{n-1}) \right] \Big|_{t=0} = np^2(n-1) + np$$

$$\sigma^2 = np^2(n-1) + np - (np)^2 = np(1-p)$$

The $E(X^2)$ is using the product rule for derivatives and evaluating at $t=0$.

σ^2 is derived using factoring.

3. Calculate the expected value and variance of the exponential distribution

using the moment generating function

Answer:

Exponential Distribution: $f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$

Moment Generating Function:

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{xt} f(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{xt} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= \lambda \int_0^{\infty} e^{x(t-\lambda)} dx \\ &= \lambda (e^x / (t - \lambda)) \Big|_0^{\infty} (t < \lambda) \\ &= \lambda / (\lambda - t) \end{aligned}$$

Note that $t < \lambda$ otherwise the moment generating function would not converge.

Calculating the variance using a moment generating function:

$$\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

$E(X) = M'_X(0)$ that is the first moment is equal to the derivative of the moment generating function with respect to t evaluated at 0 ($t=0$)

$E(X^2) = M''_X(0)$ that is the second moment is equal to the 2nd derivative of the moment generating function with respect to t evaluated at 0 ($t=0$)

$$E(X) = M'_X(0) = \lambda * -1 * -1(\lambda - 0)^{-2} = 1/\lambda$$

$$E(X)^2 = 1/\lambda^2$$

$$E(X^2) = M''_X(0) = 2\lambda/(\lambda - 0)^{-3} = 2/\lambda^2$$

$$\sigma^2 = 2/\lambda^2 - 1/\lambda^2 = 1/\lambda^2$$