

# *Modelação de sistemas complexos*

*Department of Physics, University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal*

Alexander V. Goltsev

## **Project 1.**

### **Probability. Binomial and Poisson distributions. The central limiting theorem.**

#### **1. Probability.**

**Task 1.1** A random number  $x$  can take the values  $1, 2, 3, \dots, M$  uniformly at random with the same probability  $1/M$ . Prove **analytically** that the averaged value  $\langle x \rangle$  of the random number  $x$  is

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{M+1}{2}, \quad (1)$$

and the variance is

$$\langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle = \frac{M^2 - 1}{12}. \quad (2)$$

Prove **analytically** that the probability that  $x$  is smaller or equal  $q=60$  is 0.6 at  $M=100$ .

**Task 1.2** Prove Eqs. (1) and (2) **numerically**.

#### **Algorithm.**

Generate  $N$  times a random integer numbers  $x_i$ , (where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ) where  $x_i = 1, \text{ or } 2, \text{ or } 3, \dots, \text{ or } M$  uniformly at random. Find the average value and the variance:

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i, \\ \langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \langle x \rangle)^2.$$

The number of attempts  $N = 1000, 10^4, 10^6$ . Compare numerical results with the theoretical predictions Eqs. (1) and (2). Show that the mean value  $\langle x \rangle$ , the variance  $\langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle$ , and the probability  $p$  tend to the theoretical predictions.

**Task 1.3** Prove that if two random numbers  $x = \text{rand}(1)$  and  $y = \text{rand}(1)$  are uncorrelated random variables then the mean value of a random variable  $z = xy$  is  $\langle z \rangle = \langle x \rangle \langle y \rangle$ .

**Algorithm.** Generate  $N$  pairs of random numbers  $x = \text{rand}(1)$  and  $y = \text{rand}(1)$ . Find their product,  $z_i = x_i y_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Then find the mean values  $\langle x \rangle$ ,  $\langle y \rangle$ , and  $\langle z \rangle$ :

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i, \quad \langle y \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i, \quad \langle z \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N z_i$$

and compare with  $\langle z \rangle = \langle x \rangle \langle y \rangle$ . The number of attempts  $N = 100, 10^4, 10^6$

#### **2. Probability density.**

1. Find numerically the probability density  $p(x)$  for a random variable  $x = \text{rand}(1)$ , i.e.  $x$  is a random number in the interval  $0 \leq x < 1$ . Plot  $p(x)$ .

- Find the mean value  $\langle x \rangle$ , and the variance  $\sigma^2 = \int_0^1 (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 p(x) dx$ . Compare with the theoretical values  $\langle x \rangle = 1/2$ ,  $\sigma^2 = 1/12$ .
- Find the probability density  $g(x)$  of a random variable  $x$  defined as  $x = \sqrt{\text{rand}(1)}$ . Plot  $g(x)$  versus  $x$ . Compare with the theoretical result

$$g(x) = 2x.$$

Use the algorithm in the task 3 below.

**Parameters:** the number of iterations  $N = 100, 10^3, 10^6$ . The width of the bin is  $\Delta x = 0.005$ .

### 3. The central limiting theorem.

Generate  $n$  random numbers  $z_i$  with the mean value  $\langle z \rangle$  and the variance  $\sigma^2$ . For example, you can use the random number generator  $z = \text{rand}(1)$ . A random number  $Y$  is defined as a sum of random numbers  $z_i$ ,

$$Y = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i.$$

Find the distribution function  $P(Y)$  of the random numbers  $Y$ . Plot  $P(Y)$ . Shows that the mean value of  $Y$  is equal to  $\langle z \rangle$ . Calculate the variance of  $Y$ ,

$$\Lambda^2 = \langle (Y - \langle Y \rangle)^2 \rangle,$$

and show that  $\Lambda^2$  tends to  $\sigma^2/n$  when the number of trials tends to infinity.

#### Algorithm.

- Using  $z = \text{rand}(1)$ , generate  $n$  random numbers  $z_i$  and calculate  $Y$ .
- Repeat step 1  $N$  times. You will get  $N$  random numbers  $Y_m, m = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .
- Divide the interval  $[0, 1]$  into bins of width  $\Delta y$ , i.e.,  $(k\Delta y, (k+1)\Delta y)$  where

$k = 0, 1, \dots, k_{\max} = \frac{1}{\Delta y} - 1$ . Calculate the numbers of  $Y_m$  in each bin ( $k \leq Y_m < k + 1$ ). Let this number in

the bin  $k$  is  $M(k)$ . Calculate the distribution function  $P(y_k)$  (the probability density),

$$P(y_k) = \frac{M(k)}{N\Delta y}.$$

Here we define a parameter  $y_k = (k + 0.5)\Delta y$  (the coordinate of the bin  $k$ ). Check the normalization condition  $\sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} P(y_k) = 1$ .

- Calculate the mean value and the variance of  $Y_m$ ,

$$\langle Y \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} y_k P(y_k) \Delta y,$$

$$\Lambda^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} (y_k - \langle Y \rangle)^2 P(y_k) \Delta y.$$

Parameters:  $n = 10, 100, 1000$ .  $\Delta y = 0.005$ , the number of trials  $N = 10^6$ .

### 4. Throwing balls.

There are  $M$  boxes and  $N$  balls. The balls are distributed among the boxes uniformly at random. Find the probability to find  $n$  balls in a given box.  $M = 9, N = 21$ , the number of trials  $K = 10^3, 10^4, 10^6$ .

#### Algorithm.

- Let us measure the number of balls in the box with the number 3. Generate at random  $N$  integer numbers  $x_i, (i = 1, 2, \dots, N)$ . Each  $x_i = 1, \text{ or } 2, \text{ or } 3, \dots, \text{ or } M$  uniformly at random. from 1 to  $M$ .

2. Calculate how many times the number 3 appear among these  $N$  integer numbers  $x_i$ . Let it be  $n$  times.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2  $K$  times ( $K$  trials). You will get  $K$  random numbers  $n_j, j = 1, 2, \dots K$ .
4. Calculate the number of trials  $N_{tr}(n)$  which give  $n$  darts in the box 3. Calculate the probability to find  $n$  balls in the box of number 3 as follows:

$$P(n) = \frac{N_{tr}(n)}{K}.$$

5. Plot  $P(n)$  versus  $n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots N$ . Compare between  $P(n)$  and the binomial, Poisson and Gaussian distributions:

$$B(n, N) = C_n^N p^n (1-p)^{N-n},$$

$$P_n(Np) = \frac{(Np)^n}{n!} e^{-Np},$$

$$G(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(n - \langle n \rangle)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

Here  $p = 1/M$ ,  $\langle n \rangle = \sigma^2 = Np$ . What distribution, the Poisson or Gaussian, is a better approximation to the exact binomial distribution?