

Geometric Distribution

A geometric distribution is the number of trials until one success in a series of Bernoulli trials. (Or number of failures on the right!)

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = k) &= (1-p)^{k-1}p & P(X = k) &= (1-p)^k p \\ E(X) &= \frac{1}{p} & E[X] &= \frac{1-p}{p} \\ \text{var}(X) &= \frac{1-p}{p^2} & \text{var}(X) &= \frac{1-p}{p^2} \end{aligned}$$

Negative Binomial Distribution

Let X denote the the number of trials needed until getting the r^{th} success. A negative binomial distribution, denoted $NB(r, p)$, is the probability of the number of trials undertaken until the r th success.

$$\begin{aligned} NB(r, p) &= P(X = k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r} \\ E(X) &= \frac{r}{p} & \text{var}(X) &= \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2} \end{aligned}$$

Poisson Distribution

Let λ be the parameter which indicates the average number of events in the given time interval. The range of a Poisson Distribution is $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. The Poisson Distribution is given by

$$P(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}, \quad E(X) = \lambda, \quad \text{var}(X) = \lambda.$$

Suppose $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ and $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$ and that X, Y are independent. Then we have

- (a) $E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y) = \lambda + \mu$,
- (b) $X + Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda + \mu) = P(X + Y = z)$

$$= e^{\lambda - \mu} \sum_{y=0}^z \frac{\lambda^{z-y}}{(z-y)!} \frac{\mu^y}{y!}.$$

Exponential Distribution

The exponential distribution is commonly used to model waiting times between occurrences of rare events. Given a rate parameter λ , we have for $x \geq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & F_X(x) &= 1 - e^{-\lambda x}, \\ E(X) &= \frac{1}{\lambda}, & \text{var}(X) &= \frac{1}{\lambda^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Gamma Distribution

Let Y denote the sum of r number of *exponential*(λ) random variables. Then Y denotes the number of time until the r^{th} event.

$$f(y) = e^{-\lambda y} \frac{(\lambda y)^{y-1}}{(r-1)!}.$$

Uniform Distribution

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{b-a} & F(x) &= \frac{x-a}{b-a} \\ E[X] &= \frac{1}{2}(a+b) & \text{var}(X) &= \frac{1}{12}(b-a)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Normal Distribution

$$\text{CLT: } \frac{(\bar{X} - \mu)}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \implies X = \mu + \sigma Z$$

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \implies \alpha X \sim N(\mu, \alpha^2 \sigma^2)$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}}$$

Bivariate Normal Distribution

If $X \sim N(0, 1)$, $Y \sim N(0, 1)$, $\text{corr}(X, Y) = \rho$, then

$$Y|X = x \sim N(\rho x, 1 - \rho^2)$$

$$X|Y = y \sim N(\rho y, 1 - \rho^2)$$

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} \quad \text{for } X, Y \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$Y = \rho X + (1 - \rho^2)Z$$

$$x = r \cos(\theta), y = r \sin(\theta), \theta = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

Expectation

$$E[X] = \sum_x xP(X = x)$$

$$E[X] = \int_x xP(X = x) dx$$

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

$$E[XY] = E[X]E[Y], \quad \text{for } X, Y \text{ independent}$$

$$E[XY] = \sum_x \sum_y xyP(X = x, Y = y)$$

Variance

- (a) $\text{var}(c) = 0$, where c is a constant
- (b) $\text{var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$
- (c) $\text{var}(aX) = a^2 \cdot \text{var}(X)$, where a is a constant
- (d) $\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y)$, independent X, Y
- (e) $\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y) + 2\text{cov}(X, Y)$

Covariance

- (a) $\text{cov}(X, X) = \text{var}(X)$
- (b) $\text{cov}(X, c) = 0$, where c is a constant
- (c) $\text{cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$
- (d) $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$ for independent X, Y
- (e) $\text{cov}(X, Y) = \text{cov}(Y, X)$
- (f) $\text{cov}(aX, Y) = a \cdot \text{cov}(X, Y)$
- (g) $\text{cov}(X, Y + Z) = \text{cov}(X, Y) + \text{cov}(X, Z)$

Correlation

- (a) $\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{var}(X)\text{var}(Y)}}$
- (b) $\text{corr}(X, X) = 1$
- (c) $\text{corr}(X, Y) = \text{corr}(Y, X)$
- (d) X, Y independent $\implies \text{corr}(X, Y) = 0$
- (e) $-1 \leq \text{corr}(X, Y) \leq 1$
- (f) $\text{corr}(aX + b, Y) = \text{corr}(X, Y)$ for $a > 0$, $-\text{corr}(X, Y)$ for $a < 0$

Conditional Expectation

- (a) $E[X|Y = y] = \sum_{\text{all } x} xP(X = x|Y = y)$
- (b) $E[X|Y = y] = \int_x x f_{X|Y}(x, y) dx$
- (c) $f_Y(y) = \int_{\text{over } x} f(x, y) dx$
- (d) $E[E(Y|X)] = E[Y]$
- (e) $E[X + Y|Z] = E[X|Z] + E[Y|Z]$
- (f) $E[Y] = \sum_x E[Y|X = x]P(X = x)$
- (g) $E[g(X)Y|X] = g(X)E[Y|X]$
- (h) $\text{var}(X) = E\left(\text{var}(X|Y)\right) + \text{var}\left(E[X|Y]\right)$

Strategy: separate into independent and dependent parts.

Moment Generating Functions

- (a) $M_X(t) = E\left[e^{tX}\right] = \sum_x e^{tx} p_X(x)$
- (b) $M_X(t) = E\left[e^{tX}\right] = \int_x e^{tx} f_X(x) dx$
- (c) $M_{X+Y}(t) = M_X(t) \cdot M_Y(t)$
- (d) $\frac{d}{dt}[M_X(t)] = E[X]$
- (e) $\frac{d^2}{dt^2}[M_X(t)] = E[X^2]$
- (f) *Bernoulli*(p) : $1 - p + pe^t$
- (g) *Binomial*(n, p) : $(1 - p + pe^t)^n$
- (h) *Geometric*(p) : $\frac{pe^t}{1 - (1 - p)e^t}$ for $t < -\ln(1 - p)$
- (i) *Poisson*(λ) : $e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$
- (j) *Exponential*(λ) : $\left(1 - \frac{t}{\lambda}\right)^{-1}$
- (k) *Gamma*(r, λ) : $\left(1 - \frac{t}{\lambda}\right)^{-r}$
- (l) *NB*(r, p) : $\frac{(1 - p)^r}{(1 - pe^t)^r}$
- (m) $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$: $e^{t\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$

Joint, Marginal, Conditional Probabilities

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x, Y = y) &= P(x, y) \\ P(X = x) &= \sum_{\text{all } y} P(X = x, Y = y) \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } y} P(X = x|Y = y)P(Y = y) \\ f(x, y) &= \int_x \int_{y(x)} f(x, y) dx dy = 1 \\ f_X(x) &= \int_{y(x)} f(x, y) dy \\ f_{X|Y}(x, y) &= \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} \end{aligned}$$

Change of Variables

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{f_X(x)}{\left|\frac{dy}{dx}\right|}$$

Geometric Series

$$\sum_{k=0}^n r^k = \frac{1 - r^{n+1}}{1 - r}$$

Poisson Approximation

Binomial(n, p) with large n and small p is approximated by *Poisson*(np).

Chebyshev's Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} P(|X - \mu| \geq \epsilon) &\leq \frac{\text{var}(X)}{\epsilon^2} \\ P(|X - \mu| \geq k\sigma) &\leq \frac{1}{k^2} \end{aligned}$$

Markov's Inequality

$$P(X \geq a) \leq \frac{E[X]}{a}$$

Law of Large Numbers

Let X_i be i.i.d, and let $\bar{X}_n = (X_1 + \dots + X_n)/n$ represent the average. Then

$$P(|\bar{X}_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Conditional Probability

- (a) $P(AB) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)$
- (b) $P(A|B) = \frac{P(AB)}{P(B)}$
- (c) $P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$

Series

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} x^n = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$