

Discrete Distributions : Bernoulli, Binomial and Poisson

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	Sample Space	PDF	μ	σ^2	MGF	CDF
Bernoulli	$X = \{1, 0\}$	$p^x(1-p)^{1-x}$	p	$p(1-p)$	$1-p+pe^t$	$\begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ p & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$
Binomial	$X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$	$\binom{n}{x} p^x(1-p)^{n-x}$	np	$np(1-p)$	$(1-p+pe^t)^n$	$\sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} p^x(1-p)^{n-x}$
Poisson	$n \rightarrow \infty$	$\frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!}$	μ	μ	$e^{\mu(e^t-1)}$	$e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{\mu^x}{x!}$

1 Bernoulli Distributions

1.1 PDF

$$Ber = \{Success, Fail\} = \{1, 0\}$$

$$PDF = Ber(x; p) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x} \quad \text{where } k = 1, 0$$

Illustration :

- When $x = 1$ (success) , $Ber(1; p) = p = \text{Prob}(Success)$
- When $x = 0$ (fail) , $Ber(0; p) = (1-p) = \text{Prob}(fail)$
- Summation of PDF = 1 : $p + (1-p) = 1$

Since Bernoulli Random Variable is a 2-membered sample space, so to find the μ and σ^2 , just directly use the definitions

1.2 μ_{Ber}

$$\mu_{Ber} = E(X_{Ber}) = \sum x f(x) = Success \times \text{Prob}(Success) + Fail \times \text{Prob}(Fail) = 1 \times p + 0 \times (1-p) = p$$

1.3 σ_{Ber}^2

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{Ber}^2 = Var(X_{Ber}) &= \sum (x_i - \mu)^2 f(x) = (Success - Mean)^2 \text{Prob}(Success) + (Fail - Mean)^2 \text{Prob}(Fail) \\ &= (1-p)^2 p + (0-p)^2 (1-p) = (1-p)p \end{aligned}$$

1.4 MFG

$$M_{Ber}(t) = E[e^{t(Ber)}] = \sum e^{tBer} Ber(x; p) = e^{t \times 1} p + e^{t \times 0} (1-p) = pe^t + 1 - p$$

1.5 CDF

$$CDF_{Ber} = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ p & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

2 Binomial Distribution

2.1 Binomial Coefficient Review

$$x \binom{n}{x} = n \binom{n-1}{x-1}$$

2.2 PDF

Binomial Distribution is the generalization of the Bernoulli Distribution

$$Bin(x; n, p) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$

Illustration

- When 1 trial ($n = 1$), success ($x = 1$), then $Bin(1; 1, p) = p = \text{Prob}(Success) = \text{Prob}(One\ Success)$
- When 1 trial ($n = 1$), fail ($x = 0$), then $Bin(0; 1, p) = 1 - p = \text{Prob}(Fail) = \text{Prob}(One\ Fail)$
- When 2 trial ($n = 2$), one fail one success ($x = 1$), then $Bin(1; 2, p) = 2p(1-p) = 2 \times \text{Prob}(Success) \times \text{Prob}(Fail)$, true, since one fail one success can be SF or FS (S=Success, F=Fail)
- When 3 trial ($n = 3$), two success ($x = 2$, that means 1 fail), then $Bin(2; 3, p) = \binom{3}{2} p^2 (1-p)^{3-2} = 3 \times \text{Prob}(Success) \times \text{Prob}(Success) \times \text{Prob}(Fail)$, also true, since there are 3 combination of 2-success-1-fail in a 3 trial : SSF, SFS, FSS.
- Therefore the term $\binom{n}{x}$ in $\binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$ means the number of all possible combinations of the required outcome.
- Summation of PDF = 1 : $\sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = (1 + (1-p))^n = 1^n = 1$

2.3 μ_{Bin}

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{Bin} &= E(X_{Bin}) = \sum x f(x) = \sum x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= \sum x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \sum x \frac{n!}{(n-x)!x!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= \sum \frac{n(n-1)!}{(n-x)!(x-1)!} p^{x-1} p (1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= np \underbrace{\sum \frac{(n-1)!}{(n-x)!(x-1)!} p^{x-1} (1-p)^{(n-1)-(x-1)}}_{\text{Binomial Expansion}} \\ &= np(p + (1-p))^{n-1} = np \end{aligned}$$

2.4 σ_{Bin}^2

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

Now consider the second order moment

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = np \sum_{x=1}^n x \binom{n-1}{x-1} p^{x-1} (1-p)^{(n-1)-(x-1)}$$

To avoid very long equation, let $x-1 = y$ so , $x = y+1$ and let $1-p = q$

$$np \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} (y+1) \binom{n-1}{y} p^y q^{(n-1)-y} = np \sum_{y=0}^{n-1} (y+1) \binom{n-1}{y} p^y q^{(n-1)-y}$$

Now also let $n-1 = m$

$$np \sum_{y=0}^m (y+1) \binom{m}{y} p^y q^{m-y} = np \left(\sum_{y=0}^m y \binom{m}{y} p^y q^{m-y} + \underbrace{\sum_{y=0}^m \binom{m}{y} p^y q^{m-y}}_{\text{Binomial Expansion}} \right)$$

$$np \left(\sum_{y=0}^m m \binom{m-1}{y-1} p^y q^{m-y} + \underbrace{(p+q)^m}_1 \right) = np \left(\underbrace{mp \sum_{y=0}^m \binom{m-1}{y-1} p^{y-1} q^{(m-1)-(y-1)}}_{\text{Binomial Expansion}} + \underbrace{(p+q)^m}_1 \right)$$

$$E[X^2] = np \left(\underbrace{m}_{n-1} p \underbrace{(p+q)^{m-1}}_1 + 1 \right) = np + n^2 p^2 - np^2$$

Thus

$$\sigma^2 = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = (np + n^2 p^2 - np^2) - (np)^2 = np - np^2 = np(1-p)$$

2.5 MGF

$$M_{Bin}(t) = E[e^{t(Bin)}] = \sum_{x=0}^n e^{tx} \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} (pe^t)^x (1-p)^{n-x} = [pe^t + (1-p)]^n$$

2.6 CDF

$$CDF = \begin{cases} \sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-q)^{n-x} & n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ \sum_{x=0}^{\lfloor n \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor n \rfloor}{x} p^x (1-q)^{\lfloor n \rfloor - x} & n \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

Remark. The CDF of Binomial Random Variable can also be expressed in terms of Beta Function.

3 Poisson Distribution

3.1 Derivation of the PDF

Poisson Distribution is the generalization of the Binomial Distribution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n-x)!x!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$

Since $\mu_{Bin} = np$, so $p = \frac{\mu}{n}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n-x)!x!} \left(\frac{\mu}{n}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{\mu}{n}\right)^{n-x}$$

1. Take the term that do not have n out of the limit
2. Make $(1 - A)$ term be $(1 + (-A))$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-x+1)}{x!} \frac{\mu^x}{n^x} \left(1 - \frac{\mu}{n}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\mu}{n}\right)^{-x} = \frac{\mu^x}{x!} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-x+1)}{n^x} \left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^n \left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^{-x}$$

Notice that $\underbrace{n(n-1)\dots(n-x+1)}_{x\text{-term}}$ and n^x also has x -term

$$\frac{\mu^x}{x!} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n} \dots \frac{n-x+1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^n \left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^{-x}$$

To form the $e^{-\mu}$:

$$\left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\frac{n}{-\mu}}\right)^{-\mu\left(\frac{n}{-\mu}\right)}$$

i.e.

$$\frac{\mu^x}{x!} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n} \dots \frac{n-x+1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{n}{-\mu}\right)}\right)^{-\mu\left(\frac{n}{-\mu}\right)} \left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^{-x}$$

Take the limit

$$\frac{\mu^x}{x!} \left[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\left(\frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n} \dots \frac{n-x+1}{n}\right)}_{\text{All are 1}} \right] \left[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{n}{-\mu}\right)}\right)^{-\mu\left(\frac{n}{-\mu}\right)} \right] \left[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{-\mu}{n}\right)^{-x}}_1 \right]$$

$$\frac{\mu^x}{x!} e^{-\mu}$$

i.e.

$$Poi(x; \mu) = \frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!}$$

Remark. n , the number of trial, or sample size, is dropped out.

When Poisson Distribution is used to approximate Binomial Distribution (n is large)

$$Poi(x; n, p) = \frac{(np)^x e^{-np}}{x!}$$

Illustration

- Sum of PDF = 1 : $\sum_{x=0}^n \frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{\mu^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \left(\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{\mu}{1!} + \frac{\mu^2}{2!} + \dots\right) = e^{-\mu} e^{\mu} = 1$

3.2 μ_{Poi}

$$\mu_{Poi} = E[X] = \sum x Poi(x; \mu) = \sum_{x=0}^n x \cdot \frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=1}^n \frac{\mu^x}{(x-1)!} = \mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{x-1=1-1}^{n-1} \frac{\mu^{x-1}}{(x-1)!}$$

Let $y = x - 1$, $n - 1 = m$

$$\mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=0}^m \frac{\mu^y}{y!} = \mu e^{-\mu} e^{\mu} = \mu$$

3.3 σ_{Poi}^2

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

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 Poi(x; \mu) = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x-1=1-1}^{n-1} \frac{x \mu^x}{(x-1)!}$$

Let $x - 1 = y$, $n - 1 = m$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=0}^m \frac{(y+1)\mu^{y+1}}{y!} &= e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=0}^m \frac{y\mu^{y+1}}{y!} + e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=0}^m \frac{\mu^{y+1}}{y!} = \mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=1}^m \frac{\mu^y}{(y-1)!} + \mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=0}^m \frac{\mu^y}{y!} \\ &= \mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{y=1}^m \frac{\mu^y}{(y-1)!} + \mu e^{-\mu} e^{\mu} = \mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{y-1=1-1}^{m-1} \frac{\mu^y}{(y-1)!} + \mu \end{aligned}$$

Let $y - 1 = k$, $m - 1 = r$

$$\mu e^{-\mu} \sum_{k=0}^r \frac{\mu^{k+1}}{k!} + \mu = \mu^2 e^{-\mu} \sum_{k=0}^r \frac{\mu^k}{k!} + \mu = \mu^2 e^{-\mu} e^{\mu} + \mu = \mu^2 + \mu$$

Therefore

$$\sigma_{Poi}^2 = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = (\mu^2 + \mu) - (\mu)^2 = \mu$$

3.4 MGF

$$M_{Poi}(t) = E[e^{t(Poi)}] = \sum_{x=0}^n e^{tx} \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{(e^t \mu)^x}{x!}$$

Since

$$e^{\theta} = \frac{1}{0!} + \frac{\theta}{1!} + \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \dots = \sum \frac{\theta^x}{x!}$$

Thus

$$M_{Poi}(t) = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{(e^t \mu)^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \exp(e^t \mu) = \exp(e^t \mu - \mu) = \exp(\mu(e^t - 1))$$

3.5 CDF

$$CDF = \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{\mu^x}{x!}$$

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