

Announcements

Regrade requests

If you lost points because you selected the wrong pages for a problem, you should submit a regrade request

Midsemester survey

Please fill it out if you can

© Goal for today

Two more common distributions

Derive their basic properties

Why?

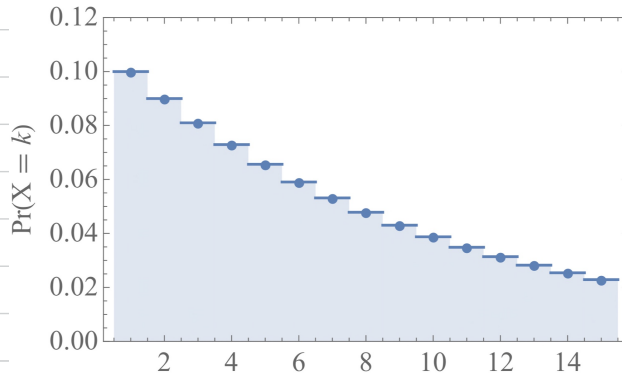
Want to build probabilistic models of situations
in science or technology

① Geometric distribution

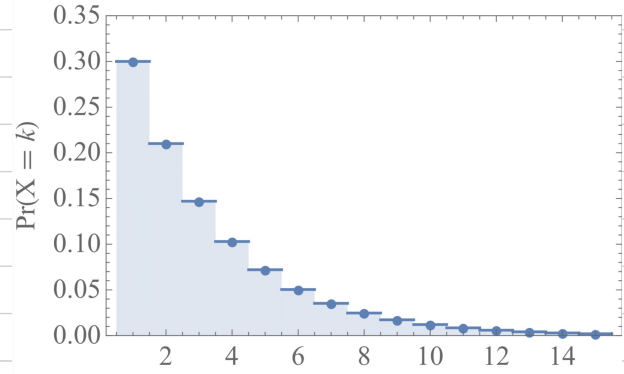
Have a biased coin which is heads with probability p
Flip it until you get heads

$X =$

Example



$p = 0.1$



$p = 0.3$

Have a biased coin which is heads with probability p
Flip it until you get heads

$X = \#$ of flips

Example

TTTH

$X = 4$

probability:

TTTTTH

$X = 5$

probability:

H

$X = 1$

probability:

Distribution of X

Possible values:

$$P(X=i) =$$

This distribution is called the
and we write

Reminder $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p) \Rightarrow P(X=i) = (1-p)^{i-1} p$

Question What is $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X=i)$?

Answer

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X=i) =$$

Lesson

①.1 Expected value of geometric distribution

Thm IF $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$ then $E(X) = \frac{1}{p}$.

pf $E(X) =$

$E(X) =$

Warning Can only manipulate infinite series like this
when they are

Thm IF $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$ then $E(X) = \frac{1}{p}$.

Example I roll a fair 6-sided die until I get a 6.
If it takes n rolls,

Question How much are you willing to pay to play
this game with me?

Answer

①.2 Example: Coupon Collector's Problem

n types of Pokémon
Each day you catch a random Pokémon



Define $X =$

Define $X = \#$ of days until you have one of each type
What is $E(X)$?

Define new random variables

Note:

Example



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4



Day 5



Day 6

X = # of days until we get all n types

For $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ X_i = # of days after we have $i-1$ types until we have i types

Note: $X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$

$E(X) =$

Upside:

What is $E(X_i)$?

Distribution of X_i :

$\Rightarrow E(X_i) =$

①.3 Variance of geometric distribution

Thm If $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$ then $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$

pf $\text{Var}(X) =$

$$E(X^2) =$$

\Rightarrow

Thm If $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$ then $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$

pf (continued) $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 =$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Have: } E(X^2) - (1-p)E(X^2) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (2i-1)(1-p)^{i-1}p \\ &= \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow

Comment

② Poisson distribution

Poisson \neq Poisson

Def A random variable X has the Poisson distribution with parameter λ if the distribution of X is

we write $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ to indicate this

Comment Bernoulli

Binomial

Geometric

Poisson

②① Intuitive meaning of Poisson distribution

Poisson distribution: $P(X=k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$ for $k=0,1,2,\dots$

Intuitive meaning

Some event occurs

of times it occurs in any 2
disjoint intervals are



$X =$

What random variables have Poisson distribution?

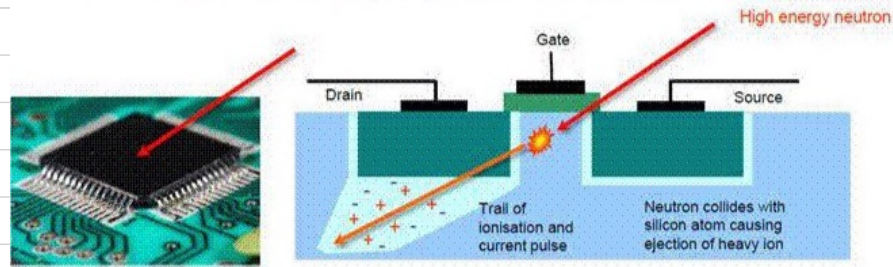
①

②

A cool example

Sometimes, cosmic rays

When they do, they can cause



This is a real problem!

How many bits do we expect to flip this way per year?

Poisson distribution: $P(X=k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$ for $k=0,1,2,\dots$

Uses of the Poisson distribution

Use #1: Model various naturally occurring situations in science, technology, etc

Use #2: Approximation to the binomial distribution

One formalization of this:

Thm

②.2 Calculating things about the Poisson distribution

Suppose $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

What are $E(X)$ and $\text{Var}(X)$?

Warm-up $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(X=k) =$

pf

Comment

Lesson:

Thm If $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ then $E(X) = \lambda$

pf

Consider $e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$

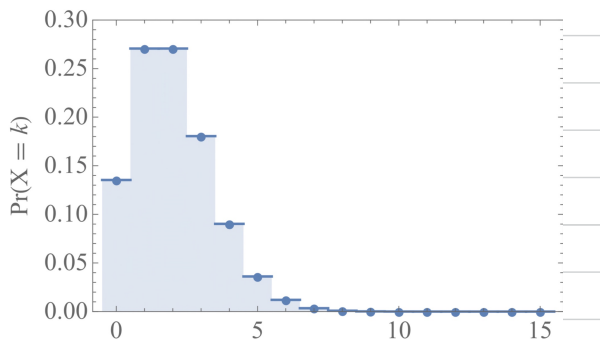
Thm If $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ then $\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$

pf

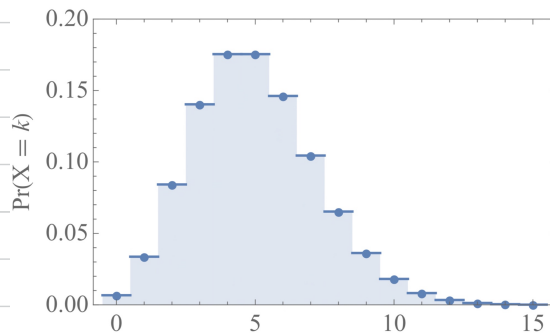
$$e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

Comment Common way to check if Poisson distribution is a good model for a situation:

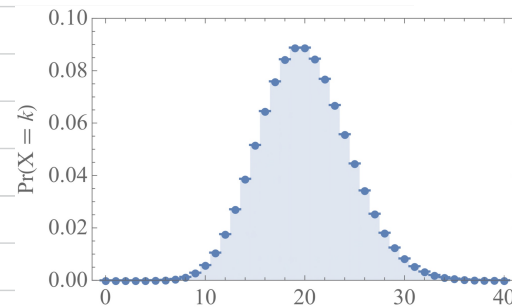
What does $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ look like?



$\lambda = 3$



$\lambda = 5$



$\lambda = 20$

As $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$,

Later, we will see this is explained by the following fact

Thm If $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ and $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$ are independent then

Thm If $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ and $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$ are independent
then $X + Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda + \mu)$

pF Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$.
Need to show

Thm For $n=1,2,3,\dots$ let $X_n \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$

Then for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n = k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

Intuition Poisson (λ)

|—————| expected number of events:

①

②

③

Thm For $n=1,2,3,\dots$ let $X_n \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$

Then for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n = k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

pf

③ Summary

Bernoulli

$$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$$

$$E(X) = p$$
$$\text{Var}(X) = p(1-p)$$

Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

$$E(X) = np$$
$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1-p)$$

Geometric

$$X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$$

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{p}$$
$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

Poisson

$$X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$$

$$E(X) = \lambda$$
$$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$$