

# **PROBABILITY & STATISTICS**

**Lec: Binomial & Poisson Distribution**

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# The Binomial Distribution

The requirements for using the binomial distribution are as follows:

- The outcome is determined completely by **chance**.
- There are only **two** possible outcomes.
- All trials have the **same probability** for a particular outcome in a single trial. That is, the probability in a subsequent trial is independent of the outcome of a previous trial. Let this constant probability for a single trial be  $p$ .
- The number of trials,  **$n$** , must be **fixed**, regardless of the outcome of each trial.

**IF the random variable  $X$  has Binomial distribution, then we write**

**$P(X) = b(X; n, p)$ :**

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{(n-x)}$$

$$x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$$

*$n$  – Number of trials;*

*$x$  – Number of successes;*

*$p$  – Probability of a success in one trial*

*$q$  – probability of failures  $q = 1 - P$ .*



## Consider the following scenarios:

- The number of heads/tails in a sequence of coin flips.
- Vote counts for two different candidates in an election.
- The number of male/female employees in a company.
- The number of successful sales calls.
- The number of defective products in a production run.
- The number of days in a month your company's computer network experiences a problem.

1) Mean  $\mu = E(X) = np$

2) Variance  $\sigma^2 = npq$

3) Standard Deviation  $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$

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**Example 2.11:** Team A has probability  $2/3$  of winning whenever it plays. If A plays 4 games, find the probability that A wins

- (i) Exactly 2 games (ii) At least 1 game (iii) More than half of the games.

**Solution:**

Here  $n = 4, p = 2/3$  and  $q = 1 - p = 1/3$

(i) Exactly 2 games,

$$P(2 \text{ wins}) = P(X = 2) = b\left(2; 4, \frac{2}{3}\right) = \binom{4}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = 6 * \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{8}{27}$$

(ii) At least 1 game,

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \geq 1) &= P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) + P(X = 4) \\ &= 1 - P(X = 0) = 1 - \binom{4}{0} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^4 = 1 - \frac{1}{81} = \frac{80}{81} \end{aligned}$$

(iii) More than half of the games.

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > 2) &= P(X = 3) + P(X = 4) \\ &= \binom{4}{3} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 + \binom{4}{4} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 = 80/243 \end{aligned}$$



**Example 2.12:** Eggs are packed in boxes of 12. The probability that each egg is broken is 0.35. Find the probability that there are less than 3 broken eggs.



**Solution:**

Here  $n = 12$ ,  $p = 0.35$  and  $q = 1 - p = 0.65$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X < 3) &= P(X = 0) + P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) \\ &= \binom{12}{0} 0.35^0 0.65^{12} + \binom{12}{1} 0.35^1 0.65^{11} + \binom{12}{2} 0.35^2 0.65^{10} \\ &= 0.0151 \end{aligned}$$

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## 2.2.5) The Poisson distribution

This is a discrete distribution that is used in two situations. It is used, when certain conditions are met, as a probability distribution in its own right, and it is also used as a convenient approximation to the binomial distribution in some circumstances. The distribution is named for **S.D. Poisson**, a French mathematician of the nineteenth century.

### Consider the following scenarios:

- The hourly number of customers arriving at a bank
- The daily number of accidents on a particular stretch of highway
- The hourly number of accesses to a particular web server
- The daily number of emergency calls in Dallas
- The number of typos in a book
- The monthly number of employees who had an absence in a large company
- Monthly demands for a particular product



**Examples** of occurrences to which the Poisson distribution often applies include counts from a Geiger counter, collisions of cars at a specific intersection under specific conditions, flaws in a casting, and telephone calls to a particular telephone or office under particular conditions. For the Poisson distribution to apply to these outcomes, they must occur randomly.

$$P(X) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where  $\lambda$  is the average number of occurrences per base unit, and  $t$  is the number of base units inspected

1) Mean  $\mu = E(X) = \lambda$

2) Variance  $\sigma^2 = \lambda$

3) Standard Deviation  $\sigma = \sqrt{\lambda}$

**Example 2.15:** new cases of  $\underline{H}_5\underline{N}_1$  Virus in New England are occurring at a rate of about 2 per month, Find the probabilities that: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 cases will occur in New England in the next month

$$P(x = 0) = \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!} = 0.135$$

$$P(x = 1) = \frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!} = 0.27$$

$$P(x = 2) = \frac{2^2 e^{-2}}{2!} = 0.27$$

$$P(x = 3) = \frac{2^3 e^{-2}}{3!} = 0.18$$

$$P(x = 4) = \frac{2^4 e^{-2}}{4!} = 0.09$$



**Example 2.18:** The number of meteors(الشهب) found by a radar system in any 30-second interval under specified conditions averages 1.81. Assume the meteors appear randomly and independently.

- What is the probability that no meteors are found in a one-minute interval?
- What is the probability of observing at least five but not more than eight meteors in two minutes of observation?

**Solution:**

|    |   |             |   |
|----|---|-------------|---|
| a) | $\lambda$                                   | <i>time</i> |   |
|    | 1.81  | 30 second   | $\lambda_{new\ 1} = 3.62/min$                 |
|    | $\lambda_{new\ 1}$                          | 60 second   |   |
|    | $P(X = x) = \frac{3.62^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$ |             | $P(0) = \frac{3.62^0 e^{-3.62}}{0!} = 0.0268$ |

|    |                    |             |                               |
|----|--------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| b) | $\lambda$          | <i>time</i> |                               |
|    | 1.81               | 30 second   | $\lambda_{new\ 2} = 7.24/min$ |
|    | $\lambda_{new\ 2}$ | 120 second  |                               |

$$P(5 \leq X \leq 8) = P(X = 5) + P(X = 6) + P(X = 7) + P(X = 8) = 0.545$$


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**Example 2.16:** Message arrives at a computer at an average rate of 15 messages / second. The number of messages that arrive in 1 second is known to be a Poisson random variable.

- a) Find the probability that no messages arrive in 1 second
- b) Find the probability that more than 10 messages arrive in a 1- second period

**Solution:**

$$a) P(0) = \frac{\lambda^0 e^{-\lambda}}{0!} = e^{-15} = 3.06 * 10^{-7}$$

$$b) P(x > 10) = 1 - P(n \leq 9) = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^9 \frac{15^i e^{-15}}{i!} = 0.8815$$





THANK YOU

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