

Poisson Process

related
like Geo & Pascal

- Poisson vars
- Exponential vars
- Erlang vars

Poisson Process: continuous limit of binomial:
cons. avg. rate of "arrivals" on a continuum.
windows are independent

Binomial: n repetitions of trials = "window"

Poisson: window size in a continuum

PMF: $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$, X counts # arrivals
in a window
avg. rate that window is λ .

$$P_X(k) = \begin{cases} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} & k=0,1,2,\dots \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Example: Clients arriving at Post Office.
Avg. rate = 5 clients/hr.

- Prob. nobody in first 10 mins of opening.
- Prob. of 5 clients in first hour. (exactly 5)
- Prob. of 9 clients in first two hours. (exactly 9)

Solution: (a) window size = $\frac{1}{6}$ hr, $\lambda = \frac{5}{6}$.

$$X \sim \text{Pois}\left(\frac{5}{6}\right), P_X(0) = e^{-\frac{5}{6}} \cdot \frac{(\frac{5}{6})^0}{0!} = e^{-\frac{5}{6}} \approx \boxed{0.435}$$

$$(b) \lambda = 5, P_X(5) = e^{-5} \frac{5^5}{5!} \approx \boxed{0.175}$$

$X \sim \text{Poi}(5)$

$$X \sim \text{Pois}(10)$$

$$(c) \lambda = 10 \frac{\text{clicks}}{\text{window of 2hrs}} \rightsquigarrow P_X(9) = e^{-10} \frac{10^9}{9!} \approx \boxed{0.125}$$

Compare to Binomial:

$$\text{Claim: Binomial } (n, p = \frac{\lambda}{n}) \longrightarrow \text{Pois}(\lambda) \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$X_n \sim \text{Bin}(n, p = \frac{\lambda}{n}), \quad Y \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$$

$$P_{X_n}(k) \longrightarrow P_Y(k) \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

E.g.: Say $\lambda = 3$, look at $P_{X_n}(1)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\text{From Binomial PMF: } P_{X_n}(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k q^{n-k}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow P_{X_n}(1) = \binom{n}{1} \left(\frac{3}{n}\right)^1 \left(1 - \frac{3}{n}\right)^{n-1} \quad \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} e^x$$

$$= n \cdot \frac{3}{n} \left(1 - \frac{3}{n}\right)^{n-1} = 3 \left(1 - \frac{3}{n}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow 3e^{-3} \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, X measures wait time until first arrival in a Poisson process.

PDF:

$$f_x(t) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda t} & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{Recall: } P[a \leq X \leq b] = \int_a^b f_x dt$$

- analog of geometric for continuous case.
- Quickly calculate "tail probability" $P[X > t] = e^{-\lambda t}$
i.e. "exponential decay"

$X \sim \text{Erlang}(l, \lambda)$ when X measures wait time until l^{th} arrival in Poisson process.

PDF:

$$f_x(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^l}{(l-1)!} t^{l-1} e^{-\lambda t} & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

Example: San Andreas fault: avg. 1 $\frac{\text{quake}}{100 \text{ yrs}}$

- Prob. no quake next 20 years?
- Prob. at least three quakes next 20 years?

Solution: (a) set $\lambda = \frac{1}{100} = .01 \frac{\text{quakes}}{\text{year}}$ $X \sim \text{Exp}(.01)$

$$P[X > 20] = \int_{20}^{\infty} (.01) e^{-.01t} dt = e^{-.01 \cdot 20} \approx \boxed{0.82}$$

(b) Again $\lambda = .01$. Now: $X \sim \text{Erlang}(3, .01)$

3rd quake



$$f_X(t) = \frac{(0.01)^3}{(3-1)!} t^{3-1} e^{-0.01 \cdot t} = \frac{10^{-6}}{2} t^2 e^{-0.01 t}$$

$$P[X \leq 20] = \int_0^{20} \frac{10^{-6}}{2} t^2 e^{-0.01 t} dt \approx 1.15 \times 10^{-3}$$

Derived Random Variables

Idea: $Y = g(X)$ $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 OR $Z = g(X, Y)$ $g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

technical meaning: $Y(s) := (g \circ X)(s)$
outcome $s \in S$

possible values of RV $X = x$ such that $P_X(x) \neq 0$ or $f_X(x) \neq 0$

Some facts about expectation & variance:

$$\circ E[g(X)] = \sum_{\substack{x = \text{pos.} \\ \text{values}}} g(x) P_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx$$

$$Y = g(X), \quad E[Y] = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} y P_Y(y) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} y P_{g(X)}(y)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_{g(X)}(y) dy$$

say $Y = aX + b$
 or $Z = X + Y$

$$\circ \left. \begin{aligned} E[aX + b] &= aE[X] + b \\ E[X + Y] &= E[X] + E[Y] \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ "linearity of expectation"}$$

Example: $S = \text{Bin}(n, p)$, what is $E[S]$?

Solution: $S = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ $X_i \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$$E[X_i] = p, \quad E[S] = E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_n]$$

$$= p + \dots + p = \boxed{np}$$

⚠ $E[XY] \neq E[X]E[Y]$ (except... indep.)

$$\circ \text{Var}[aX + b] = a^2 \text{Var}[X]$$

pf: see notes...
 (use definition)

"Var squares the scale factor"

"Var kills the shift"

Example:

X	1	2	3
P_x	$\frac{1}{7}$	$\frac{2}{7}$	$\frac{4}{7}$
Y	4	1	87

Say $Y = g(X)$, $g: 1 \mapsto 4, 2 \mapsto 1, 3 \mapsto 87$

$$E[X] = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{7} + 2 \cdot \frac{2}{7} + 3 \cdot \frac{4}{7} = \frac{17}{7}$$

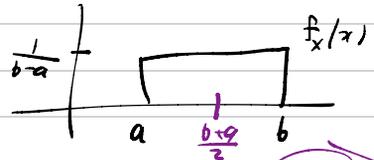
$$E[Y] = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{7} + 1 \cdot \frac{2}{7} + 87 \cdot \frac{4}{7} = \frac{354}{7}$$

Now... $E[5X + 2Y + 3] = 5E[X] + 2E[Y] + 3$

$$= 5 \cdot \frac{17}{7} + 2 \cdot \frac{354}{7} + 3 = \frac{814}{7}$$

Example: (See notes for details.)

$$X \sim \text{Unif}[a, b]$$



$$E[X] = \int_a^b x \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{b-a} \left(\frac{b^2}{2} - \frac{a^2}{2} \right) = \frac{b+a}{2} = \text{midpoint!}$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = ?$$

$$= E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

use $Y = g(X) = X^2$

$$E[X^2] = \int_a^b x^2 \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{b-a} \left(\frac{b^3}{3} - \frac{a^3}{3} \right)$$

$$\leadsto \text{Var}[X] = \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ba + a^2) - \left(\frac{b+a}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

Lastly: $f_x \overset{?}{\curvearrowright} f_y$ $y = g(x)$

Really: $f_x \overset{?}{\curvearrowright} f_{g(x)}$

⚠ NOT $g(f_x)$!

Three step process:

$P[X \leq x]$

" "

1. $f_x \rightsquigarrow F_x$ using $F_x(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_x(u) du$

2. $P[g(x) \leq x] = P[X \leq g^{-1}(x)]$ when g is increasing....
(e.g. $g(x) = x^2$ $x \geq 0$)

3. $f_y = \frac{d}{dx} F_y(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_x(g^{-1}(x))$ $f_x(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_x(x)$

Example: Say $F_x(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$

(a) Find f_x (b) Find f_y : $y = g(x) = e^x$ ✓ $g(x)$ is increasing!

Solution: (a) $f_x = \frac{d}{dx} F_x \rightsquigarrow \frac{d}{dx} (1+e^{-x})^{-1} = -(1+e^{-x})^{-2} (-e^{-x})$
 $= \frac{e^{-x}}{(1+e^{-x})^2}$

(b) $F_y(x) = P[e^x \leq x] = P[X \leq \ln x]$
 $= F_x(\ln x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\ln x}} = \frac{1}{1+x^{-1}}$
 $= (1+x^{-1})^{-1}$

$\rightsquigarrow f_y = \frac{d}{dx} F_y = \frac{d}{dx} ((1+x^{-1})^{-1}) = -(1+x^{-1})^{-2} (-x^{-2})$
 $= \frac{1}{x^2(1+x^{-1})^2} = \frac{1}{(x+1)^2}$