

**UCLA STAT 251**  
**Statistical Methods for the Life and Health Sciences**

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**Discrete Random Variables**

- Random variables
- Probability functions
- The Binomial distribution
- Poisson Distribution
- Expected values

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**Definitions**

- An **experiment** is a naturally occurring phenomenon, a scientific study, a sampling trial or a test., in which an object (unit/subject) is selected at random (and/or treated at random) to *observe/measure* different outcome characteristics of the process the experiment studies.
- A **random variable** is a type of measurement taken on the outcome of a random experiment.

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**Definitions**

- The **probability function** for a discrete random variable  $X$  gives  $P(X = x)$  [denoted  $\text{pr}(x)$  or  $P(x)$ ] for every value  $x$  that the R.V.  $X$  can take
- E.g., number of heads when a coin is tossed twice

$x$	0	1	2
$\text{pr}(x)$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

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**Stopping at one of each or 3 children**

*Sample Space* – complete/unique description of the possible outcomes from this experiment.

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>GGG</b>	<b>GGB</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>BG</b>	<b>BBG</b>	<b>BBB</b>
<b>Probability</b>	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

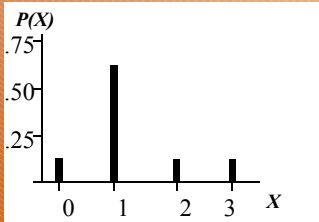
● For R.V.  $X =$  number of girls, we have

$X$	0	1	2	3
$\text{pr}(x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

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**Plotting the probability function**

$X$	0	1	2	3
$\text{pr}(x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$



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### Tossing a biased coin twice

- For each toss,  $P(\text{Head}) = p \rightarrow P(\text{Tail}) = P(\text{comp}(H)) = 1-p$
- Outcomes: HH, HT, TH, TT
- Probabilities:  $p, p, p(1-p), (1-p)p, (1-p)(1-p)$
- Count  $X$ , the number of heads in 2 tosses

$X$	0	1	2
$\text{pr}(x)$	$(1-p)^2$	$2p(1-p)$	$p^2$

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### Hospital stays

Days stayed	$x$	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
Frequency		10	30	113	79	21	8	2	263
Proportion	$\text{pr}(X=x)$	0.038	0.114	0.430	0.300	0.080	0.030	0.008	1.000
Cumulative Proportion	$\text{pr}(X \leq x)$	0.038	0.152	0.582	0.882	0.962	0.992	1.000	

From Chance Encounters by C.J. Wild and G.A.F. Seber, © John Wiley & Sons, 2000.

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### Calculating Interval probabilities from cumulative probabilities

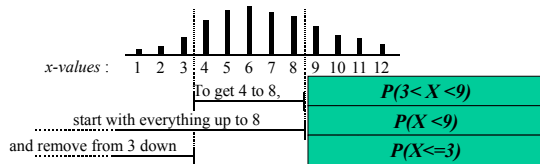


Figure 5.2.2 Interval probabilities from cumulative probabilities.<sup>a</sup>  
<sup>a</sup>[This Figure represents an arbitrary distribution, not the hospital distribution.]

From Chance Encounters by C.J. Wild and G.A.F. Seber, © John Wiley & Sons, 2000. **How to find the upper-tail?**

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### Review

- What is a **random variable**? What is a discrete random variable? (type of measurement taken on the outcome of random experiment)
- What general principle is used for finding  $P(X=x)$ ? (Adding the probabilities of all outcomes of the experiment where we have measured the RV,  $X=x$ )
- What two general properties must be satisfied by the probabilities making up a probability function? ( $P(x) \geq 0$ ;  $\sum P(x) = 1$ )
- What are the two names given to probabilities of the form  $P(X \leq x)$ ? (cumulative & lower/left-tail)

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### Review

- How do we find an **upper/right-tail** probability from a **cumulative** probability? [ $P(X > x) = 1 - P(X \leq x)$ ]
- When we use  $P(X \leq 12) - P(X \leq 5)$  to calculate the probability that  $X$  falls within an **interval** of values, what numbers are included in the interval? ([6:12])

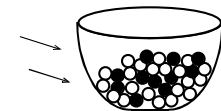
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### The two-color urn model

$N$  balls in an urn, of which there are

$M$  black balls

$N - M$  white balls

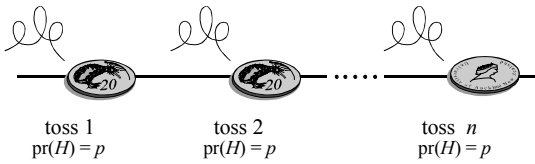


Sample  $n$  balls and count  $X = \#$  black balls in sample

**We will compute the probability distribution of the R.V.  $X$**

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### The biased-coin tossing model



Perform  $n$  tosses and count  $X = \#$  heads

We also want to compute the probability distribution of this R.V.  $X!$   
 Are the two-color urn and the biased-coin models related? How do we present the models in mathematical terms?

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### The answer is: Binomial distribution

- The distribution of the number of heads in  $n$  tosses of a biased coin is called the **Binomial distribution**.

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**Binomial( $N, p$ )** – the probability distribution of the number of Heads in an  **$N$ -toss** coin experiment, where the probability for Head occurring in each trial is  **$p$** .  
 E.g., Binomial(**6, 0.7**)

	$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Individual	$\text{pr}(X = x)$	0.001	0.010	0.060	0.185	0.324	0.303	0.118
Cumulative	$\text{pr}(X \leq x)$	0.001	0.011	0.070	0.256	0.580	0.882	1.000

For example  $P(X=0) = P(\text{all 6 tosses are Tails}) = (1 - 0.7)^6 = 0.3^6 = 0.001$

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### Binary random process

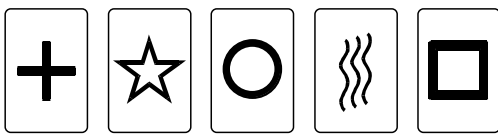
The **biased-coin tossing model** is a physical model for situations which can be characterized as a series of trials where:

- each trial has only **two outcomes**: *success* or *failure*;
  - $p = P(\text{success})$  is the same for every trial; and
  - trials are **independent**.
- The distribution of  $X =$  number of successes (heads) in  $N$  such trials is

Binomial( $N, p$ )

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### Extra-Sensory Perception (ESP)



Hypnosis enhances your ESP? **CumBin(324, 1500, 0.2) = 0.94**

A card is randomly selected from a shuffled deck. Two people under hypnosis participate, one staring at the card, the other trying to guess the card. 15 pairs of students tested, each doing the experiment 100 times. Total of 1,500 trials. 325 correct guesses were recorded. Is there evidence for ESP potentiation? Purely random guessing would yield expected 300 correct answers.

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### Binomial Distribution

The **biased-coin tossing model** is a physical model for situations which can be characterized as a series of trials where:

- each trial has only **two outcomes**: *success* or *failure*;
  - $p = P(\text{success})$  is the same for every trial; and
  - trials are **independent**.
- The distribution of  $X =$  number of successes (heads) in  $N$  such trials is

Binomial( $N, p$ )

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## Sampling from a finite population – Binomial Approximation

If we take a sample of size  $n$

- from a much larger population (of size  $N$ )
- in which a proportion  $p$  have a characteristic of interest, then the distribution of  $X$ , **the number in the sample with that characteristic**,
- is *approximately* Binomial( $n, p$ ).
  - (Operating Rule: Approximation is adequate if  $n/N < 0.1$ .)
- Example, polling the US population to see what proportion is/has-been married.

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## Odds and ends ...

- For what types of situation is the urn-sampling model useful? For modeling binary random processes. When sampling **with replacement**, Binomial distribution is **exact**, where as, in sampling **without replacement** Binomial distribution is an **approximation**.
- For what types of situation is the biased-coin sampling model useful? Defective parts. Approval poll of cloning for medicinal purposes. Number of Boys in 151 presidential children (90).
- Give the three essential conditions for its applicability. (**two outcomes; same  $p$  for every trial; independence**)

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## Odds and ends ...

- What is the distribution of the number of heads in  $n$  tosses of a biased coin?
- Under what conditions does the Binomial distribution apply to samples taken without replacement from a finite population? When interested in assessing the distribution of a R.V.,  $X$ , the number of observations in the sample (of  $n$ ) with one specific characteristic, where  $n/N < 0.1$  and a proportion  $p$  have the characteristic of interest in the beginning of the experiment.

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## Binomial Probabilities – the moment we all have been waiting for!

- Suppose  $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ , then the **probability**

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{(n-x)}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq n$$

- Where the **binomial coefficients** are defined by

$$\binom{n}{x} = \frac{n!}{(n-x)! x!}, \quad n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times (n-1) \times n$$

*n-factorial*

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## Binomial Formula with examples

- Does the Binomial **probability** satisfy the requirements?

$$\sum_x P(X = x) = \sum_x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{(n-x)} = (p + (1-p))^n = 1$$

- Explicit examples for  $n=2$ , do the case  $n=3$  at home!

$$\sum_{x=0}^2 \binom{2}{x} p^x (1-p)^{(2-x)} = \{ \text{Three terms in the sum} \}$$

$$\binom{2}{0} p^0 (1-p)^2 + \binom{2}{1} p^1 (1-p)^1 + \binom{2}{2} p^2 (1-p)^0 =$$

$$1 \times 1 \times (1-p)^2 + 2 \times p \times (1-p) + 1 \times p^2 \times 1 =$$

$$(p + (1-p))^2 = 1$$

*Usual quadratic-expansion formula*

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## Expected values

- The game of chance: cost to play: \$1.50; Prices  $\{\$1, \$2, \$3\}$ , **probabilities** of winning each price are  $\{0.6, 0.3, 0.1\}$ , respectively.
- **Should** we play the game? What are our **chances** of winning/loosing?

Prize (\$)	x	1	2	3	
Probability	pr(x)	0.6	0.3	0.1	
What we would "expect" from 100 games					<i>add across row</i>
Number of games won		$0.6 \times 100$	$0.3 \times 100$	$0.1 \times 100$	✓
\$ won		$1 \times 0.6 \times 100$	$2 \times 0.3 \times 100$	$3 \times 0.1 \times 100$	Sum
Total prize money = Sum;		Average prize money = $\frac{\text{Sum}}{100}$			
		$= 1 \times 0.6 + 2 \times 0.3 + 3 \times 0.1$			
		$= 1.5$			

**Theoretically Fair Game: price to play EQ the expected return!**

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**TABLE 5.4.1 Average Winnings from a Game conducted  $N$  times**

Number of games played ( $N$ )	Prize won in dollars ( $x$ )			Average winnings per game ( $\bar{x}$ )
	1	2	3	
	frequencies			
	(Relative frequencies)			
100	64 (.64)	25 (.25)	11 (.11)	1.7
1,000	573 (.573)	316 (.316)	111 (.111)	1.538
10,000	5995 (.5995)	3015 (.3015)	990 (.099)	1.4995
20,000	11917 (.5959)	6080 (.3040)	2000 (.1001)	1.5042
30,000	17946 (.5982)	9049 (.3016)	3005 (.1002)	1.5020
$\infty$	(.6)	(.3)	(.1)	1.5

**So far we looked at the theoretical expectation of the game. Now we simulate the game on a computer to obtain random samples from our distribution, according to the probabilities {0.6, 0.3, 0.1}.**

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### Definition of the expected value, in general.

- The expected value:

$$E(X) = \sum_{\text{all } x} x P(x) \left( = \int_{\text{all } X} x P(x) dx \right)$$

- = Sum of (value times probability of value)

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### Example

In the at least one of each or at most 3 children example, where  $X = \{\text{number of Girls}\}$  we have:

$X$	0	1	2	3
$\text{pr}(x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

$$E(X) = \sum_x x P(x)$$

$$= 0 \times \frac{1}{8} + 1 \times \frac{5}{8} + 2 \times \frac{1}{8} + 3 \times \frac{1}{8}$$

$$= 1.25$$

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### The expected value and population mean

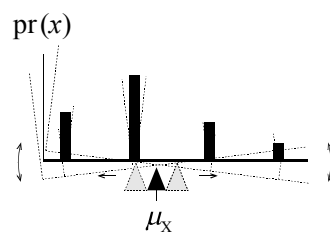
$\mu_x = E(X)$  is called the *mean* of the distribution of  $X$ .

$\mu_x = E(X)$  is usually called the *population mean*.

$\mu_x$  is the point where the bar graph of  $P(X=x)$  balances.

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### The expected value as the point of balance



The mean  $\mu_x$  is the balance point.

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### Population standard deviation

The *population standard deviation* is

$$\text{sd}(X) = \sqrt{E[(X - \mu)^2]}$$

Note that if  $X$  is a RV, then  $(X - \mu)$  is also a RV, and so is  $(X - \mu)^2$ . Hence, the *expectation*,  $E[(X - \mu)^2]$ , makes sense.

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . mean**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

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

$E(X) = \text{Sum}(\text{Value} \times \text{Probability})$

$$\sum_{x=1}^n x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} =$$

If  $x=0$ , the entire term is zero

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

Change variables:  $x \rightarrow (x+1)$

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . mean**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^{n-1} (x+1) \binom{n}{x+1} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-1-x} =$$

Expand the binomial coefficient

$$\sum_{x=0}^{n-1} (x+1) \frac{n \times (n-1)!}{(n-1-x)!(x+1)!} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-1-x} =$$

$$n \times p \sum_{x=0}^{n-1} \frac{(n-1)!}{(n-1-x)!x!} p^x (1-p)^{n-1-x} =$$

Remaining term is just the binomial formula – expectation of the constant 1, which is always 1

$$n \times p \times (p + (1-p))^{n-1} = n \times p$$

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . SD**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

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

$E(X) = \text{Sum}(\text{Value} \times \text{Probability})$

Expand the square term

$$\sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} +$$

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

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . SD**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

$$SD^2(X) = E((X - \mu)^2) = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} +$$

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

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

$$\sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} + n^2 p^2 - 2n^2 p^2 =$$

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . mean**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

$$SD^2(X) = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} + n^2 p^2 - 2n^2 p^2 =$$

This is simply the Expectation of  $X^2$ ,  $E(X^2)$  and we compute It exactly like  $E(X)$

$$\sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} - n^2 p^2 =$$

Change the summation index  $x \rightarrow x+1$

$$\sum_{x=1}^{n-1} (x+1)^2 \binom{n}{x+1} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-1-x} - n^2 p^2 =$$

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**For the Binomial distribution . . . SD**

$E(X) = np,$   $sd(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$

$$SD^2(X) =$$

As before, factor out  $np$  and do the math

$$np \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} (x+1) \binom{n-1}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-1-x} - n^2 p^2 =$$

Split off the  $(x+1)$  term

$$np \left[ \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} x \binom{n-1}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-1-x} + 1 \right] - n^2 p^2 =$$

$$np((n-1)p + 1) - n^2 p^2 = n^2 p^2 - np^2 + np - n^2 p^2 = np(1-p)$$

Binomial Formula and a bit of arithmetic yield the result

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### Linear Scaling (affine transformations) $aX + b$

For any constants  $a$  and  $b$ , the expectation of the RV  $aX + b$  is equal to the sum of the product of  $a$  and the expectation of the RV  $X$  and the constant  $b$ .

$$E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b$$

And similarly for the standard deviation ( $b$ , an additive factor, does not affect the SD).

$$SD(aX + b) = |a| SD(X)$$

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### Linear Scaling (affine transformations) $aX + b$

Why is that so?

$$E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b \quad SD(aX + b) = |a| SD(X)$$

$$E(aX + b) = \sum_{x=0}^n (a x + b) P(X = x) =$$

$$\sum_{x=0}^n a x P(X = x) + \sum_{x=0}^n b P(X = x) =$$

$$a \sum_{x=0}^n x P(X = x) + b \sum_{x=0}^n P(X = x) =$$

$$a E(X) + b \times 1 = a E(X) + b.$$

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### Linear Scaling (affine transformations) $aX + b$

And why do we care?

$$E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b \quad SD(aX + b) = |a| SD(X)$$

-completely general strategy for computing the distributions of RV's which are obtained from other RV's with known distribution. E.g.,  $X \sim N(0,1)$ , and  $Y = aX + b$ , then we need **not** calculate the mean and the SD of  $Y$ . We know from the above formulas that  $E(Y) = b$  and  $SD(Y) = |a|$ .

-These formulas hold for **all distributions**, not only for binomial.

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### Linear Scaling (affine transformations) $aX + b$

And why do we care?

$$E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b \quad SD(aX + b) = |a| SD(X)$$

-E.g., say the rules for the game of chance we saw before change and the new pay-off is as follows:  $\{\$0, \$1.50, \$3\}$ , with probabilities of  $\{0.6, 0.3, 0.1\}$ , as before. What is the newly expected return of the game? Remember the old expectation was equal to the entrance fee of  $\$1.50$ , and the game was fair!

$$Y = 3(X-1)/2$$

$$\{\$1, \$2, \$3\} \rightarrow \{\$0, \$1.50, \$3\},$$

$$E(Y) = 3/2 E(X) - 3/2 = 3/4 = \$0.75$$

And the game became clearly biased. Note how easy it is to compute  $E(Y)$ .

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### Review

- What does the expected value of  $X$  tell you about? (Expected outcome from an experiment regarding the characteristics measured by the RV  $X$ )
- Why is the **expected value** also called the **population mean**? (because for finite population  $E(X)$  is the ordinary mean (average))
- What is the relationship between the population mean and the bar graph of the probability function? (balances the graph)
- What are the mean and standard deviation of the Binomial distribution? ( $np$ ;  $np(1-p)$ )
- Why is  $SD(X+10) = SD(X)$ ?
- Why is  $SD(2X) = 2SD(X)$ ?

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### Poisson Distribution – Definition

- Used to model counts – number of arrivals ( $k$ ) on a given interval ...
- The Poisson distribution is also sometimes referred to as the **distribution of rare events**. Examples of Poisson distributed variables are number of accidents per person, number of sweepstakes won per person, or the number of catastrophic defects found in a production process.

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### Functional Brain Imaging – Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

**Annihilation (simple)**

electron/positron annihilation

annihilation photon  $\gamma$

annihilation photon  $\gamma$

decay to a positron emission

Physics of PET, photon detection - 1

**conservation of momentum:**  
before: system at rest, momentum = 0  
after: two photons created, must have same energy and travel in opposite direction.

**conservation of energy:**  
before: 2 electrons, each with a rest mass of 511keV  
after: 2 photons, each with 511keV

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### Functional Brain Imaging - Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

**Annihilation detection**

line of response (LOR)

detector block (8x8 detector)

detector

Physics of PET, photon detection - 1

http://www.nucmed.buffalo.edu  
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### Functional Brain Imaging – Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

Positron emission

annihilation

annihilation photon

annihilation photon

Positron emission

annihilation

annihilation photon

annihilation photon

Positron emission

annihilation

annihilation photon

annihilation photon

Isotope	Energy (MeV)	Range(mm)	1/2-life	Application
$^{11}\text{C}$	0.96	1.1	20 min	receptor studies
$^{15}\text{O}$	1.7	1.5	2 min	stroke/activation
$^{18}\text{F}$	0.6	1.0	110 min	neurology
$^{124}\text{I}$	~2.0	1.6	4.5 days	oncology

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### Functional Brain Imaging – Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

**Left Hand**

BASELINE STIMULATION RECOVERY

(37, 75)

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### SVT Analysis Saccade PET Data - Local SVT Maps

Z=4 V=148 X=34

Z=8 V=133 X=-9

Y=-87

Y=-15

Freq 8 - Freq 1                      Freq 1 - Freq 8

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### Poisson Distribution – Mean

- Used to model counts – number of arrivals ( $k$ ) on a given interval ...
- $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ , then  $P(Y=k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$ ,  $k=0, 1, 2, \dots$
- Mean of  $Y$ ,  $\mu_Y = \lambda$ , since

$$E(Y) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^k}{k!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{(k-1)!} = \lambda e^{-\lambda} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} = \lambda e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda} = \lambda$$

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### Poisson Distribution - Variance

- $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ , then  $P(Y=k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$ ,  $k=0, 1, 2, \dots$
- Variance of  $Y$ ,  $\sigma_Y = \lambda$ , since

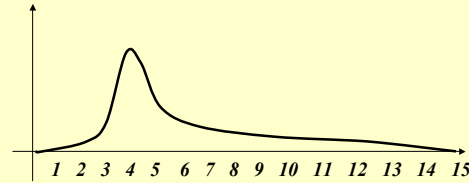
$$\sigma_Y^2 = \text{Var}(Y) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k - \lambda)^2 \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} = \dots = \lambda$$

- For example, suppose that  $Y$  denotes the number of blocked shots (arrivals) in a randomly sampled game for the UCLA Bruins men's basketball team. Then a Poisson distribution with mean=4 may be used to model  $Y$ .

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### Poisson Distribution - Example

- For example, suppose that  $Y$  denotes the number of blocked shots in a randomly sampled game for the UCLA Bruins men's basketball team. Poisson distribution with mean=4 may be used to model  $Y$ .



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### Continuous Distributions

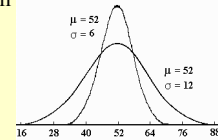
- Normal distribution
- Student's T distribution
- F-distribution
- Chi-squared ( $\chi^2$ )
- Cauchy's distribution
- Exponential distribution
- ...

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### Continuous Distributions - Normal

- (General) Normal distribution

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



- (Standard) Normal distribution ( $\mu=0, \sigma=1$ )

$$y = \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \quad Z = \frac{Y - \mu}{\sigma}$$

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### Continuous Distributions - Student's T

- Student's T distribution [approx. of Normal(0,1)]
  - $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N$  IID from a Normal( $\mu; \sigma$ )
  - Variance  $\sigma^2$  is unknown
- In 1908, William Gosset (pseudonym Student) derived the exact sampling distribution of the statistics

$$T = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu_Y}{\hat{\sigma}_Y / \sqrt{N}}$$

- $T \sim \text{Student}(df=N-1)$ , where  $\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_k$ ;  $\hat{\sigma}_Y = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{k=1}^N (Y_k - \bar{Y})^2}{N-1}}$

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### Continuous Distributions - F-distribution

- F-distribution k-samples of different sizes.
- Snedecor's F distribution is most commonly used in tests of variance (e.g., ANOVA). The ratio of two chi-squares divided by their respective degrees of freedom is said to follow an F distribution
  - $\{Y_{1,1}, Y_{1,2}, \dots, Y_{1,N_1}\}$  IID from a Normal( $\mu_1; \sigma_1$ )
  - $\{Y_{2,1}, Y_{2,2}, \dots, Y_{2,N_2}\}$  IID from a Normal( $\mu_2; \sigma_2$ )
  - ...
  - $\{Y_{k,1}, Y_{k,2}, \dots, Y_{k,N_k}\}$  IID from a Normal( $\mu_k; \sigma_k$ )
  - $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = \sigma_3 = \dots = \sigma_k = \sigma$ . ( $1/2 \leq \sigma_i / \sigma_j \leq 2$ )
  - Samples are independent!

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## Continuous Distributions – F-distribution

### F-distribution k-samples of different sizes

TABLE 10.3.2 Typical Analysis-of-Variance Table for One-Way ANOVA

Source	Sum of squares	df	Mean sum of Squares <sup>a</sup>	F-statistic	P-value
Between	$\sum n_i(\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}..)^2$	$k-1$	$s_B^2$	$f_0 = s_B^2 / s_W^2$	$\text{pr}(F \geq f_0)$
Within	$\sum (n_i - 1)s_i^2$	$n_{tot} - k$	$s_W^2$		
Total	$\sum \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x}..)^2$	$n_{tot} - 1$		$\sum n_i (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}..)^2$	

<sup>a</sup>Mean sum of squares = (sum of squares)/df

•  $s_B^2$  is a measure of variability of sample means, how far apart they are.

•  $s_W^2$  reflects the avg. internal variability within the samples.

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## Continuous Distributions – $\chi^2$ [Chi-Square]

### $\chi^2$ [Chi-Square] goodness of fit test:

■ Let  $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N\}$  are IID  $N(0, 1)$

■  $W = X_1^2 + X_2^2 + X_3^2 + \dots + X_N^2$

■  $W \sim \chi^2(\text{df}=N)$

■ Note: If  $\{Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N\}$  are IID  $N(\mu, \sigma)$ , then

$$SD(Y) = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=1}^N (Y_k - \bar{Y})^2$$

■ And the Statistics  $W \sim \chi^2(\text{df}=N-1)$

$$W = \frac{N-1}{\sigma^2} SD^2(Y)$$

$$X^2 = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{(O_k - E_k)^2}{E_k} \sim \chi^2$$

■  $E(W)=N$ ;  $\text{Var}(W)=2N$

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## Continuous Distributions – Cauchy's

• Cauchy's distribution,  $X \sim \text{Cauchy}(t, s)$ ,  $t$ =location;  $s$ =scale

• PDF(X):  $f(x) = \frac{1}{s\pi(1+(x-t)/s)^2}$ ;  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  (reals)

• PDF(Std Cauchy's(0,1)):  $f(x) = \frac{1}{s\pi(1+x^2)}$

• The Cauchy distribution is (theoretically) important as an example of a *pathological case*. Cauchy distributions look similar to a normal distribution. However, they have much heavier tails. When studying hypothesis tests that assume normality, seeing how the tests perform on data from a Cauchy distribution is a good indicator of how sensitive the tests are to heavy-tail departures from normality. The mean and standard deviation of the Cauchy distribution are undefined!!! The practical meaning of this is that collecting 1,000 data points gives no more accurate an estimate of the mean and standard deviation than does a single point.

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## Continuous Distributions – Exponential

• Exponential distribution,  $X \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda)$

• The exponential model, with only one unknown parameter, is the simplest of all life distribution models.

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}; \quad x \geq 0$$

•  $E(X)=1/\lambda$ ;  $\text{Var}(X)=1/\lambda^2$

• Another name for the exponential mean is the **Mean Time To Fail** or **MTTF** and we have  $\text{MTTF} = 1/\lambda$ .

• If  $X$  is the time between occurrences of rare events that happen on the average with a rate 1 per unit of time, then  $X$  is distributed exponentially with parameter  $\lambda$ . Thus, the exponential distribution is frequently used to model the time interval between successive random events. Examples of variables distributed in this manner would be the gap length between cars crossing an intersection, life-times of electronic devices, or arrivals of customers at the check-out counter in a grocery store.

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## Continuous Distributions – Exponential

• Exponential distribution, Example:

• On weeknight shifts between 6 pm and 10 pm, there are an average of 5.2 calls to the UCLA medical emergency number. Let  $X$  measure the time needed for the first call on such a shift. Find the probability that the first call arrives (a) between 6:15 and 6:45 (b) before 6:30. Also find the median time needed for the first call.

■ We must first determine the correct average of this exponential distribution. If we consider the time interval to be  $4 \times 60 = 240$  minutes, then on average there is a call every  $240 / 5.2$  (or 46.15) minutes. Then  $X \sim \text{Exp}(1/46)$ ,  $[E(X)=46]$  measures the time in minutes after 6:00 pm until the first call.

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## Continuous Distributions – Exponential Examples

• Customers arrive at a certain store at an average of 15 per hour. What is the probability that the manager must wait at least 5 minutes for the first customer?

• The exponential distribution is often used in probability to model (remaining) lifetimes of mechanical objects for which the average lifetime is known and for which the probability distribution is assumed to decay exponentially.

• Suppose after the first 6 hours, the average remaining lifetime of batteries for a portable compact disc player is 8 hours. Find the probability that a set of batteries lasts between 12 and 16 hours.

**Solutions:**

• Here the average waiting time is  $60/15=4$  minutes. Thus  $X \sim \text{exp}(1/4)$ ,  $E(X)=4$ . Now we want  $P(X>5)=1-P(X \leq 5)$ . We obtain a right tail value of .2865. So around 28.65% of the time, the store must wait at least 5 minutes for the first customer.

• Here the remaining lifetime can be assumed to be  $X \sim \text{exp}(1/8)$ ,  $E(X)=8$ . For the total lifetime to be from 12 to 16, then the remaining lifetime is from 6 to 10. We find that  $P(6 \leq X \leq 10) = .1859$ .

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**Summary**

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**Summary**

**Random variable**

- A type of measurement made on the outcome of a random experiment

**Probability function**

- $P(X = x)$  for every value  $X$  can take, abbreviated to  $P(x)$

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**Expected value**

Expected Value for a random variable  $X$ , denoted  $E(X)$ .

- Also called the population mean and denoted  $\mu_X$  (abbreviated to  $\mu$ ).
- Is a measure of the long-run average of  $X$ -values in many repetitions of the experiment.
- Formula (for a discrete random variable):

$$\mu_x = E(X) = \sum x P(x)$$

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**Population standard deviation**

- **Standard deviation** for a random variable  $X$ , denoted  $SD(X)$  is :
  - also called the *population standard deviation* and denoted  $\sigma_X$  (abbreviated  $\sigma$ )
  - Is a measure of the variability of  $X$ -values.
  - Formula:

$$\sigma_x = SD(X) = \sqrt{E[(X - \mu)^2]}$$

- for a discrete random variable  $X$ ,

$$E[(X - \mu)^2] = \sum (x - \mu)^2 P(x)$$

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**Affine Transformations  $aX + b$**

For any constants  $a$  and  $b$ ,

- $E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b$

and

- $SD(aX + b) = |a| SD(X)$

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**Sampling from a finite population**

- The *urn model* is a physical model for situations in which we
  - sample  $n$  individuals at random from a finite population and
  - count  $X$ , the number of individuals with a characteristic of interest
- When  $n/N < 0.1$ , the distribution of  $X$  is approximately **Binomial( $n, p$ )**
  - where  $p$  is the population proportion with the characteristic of interest

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### Observing a random process

The *biased-coin tossing model* is a physical model for situations which can be characterized as a series of trials where:

- each trial has only **two outcomes**: *success* and *failure*;
  - $p = P(\text{success})$  is the **same for every trial**; and
  - trials are **independent**.
- The distribution of  $X =$  number of successes (heads) in  $n$  such trials is

**Binomial( $n, p$ )**

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### Binomial distribution

- The distribution of the number of successes in  $n$  trials (or the number of heads in  $n$  tosses) is **Binomial ( $n, p$ )**
- The Binomial distribution has

$$E(X) = \mu_x = np \quad SD(X) = \sigma_x = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$$

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