

# **Stat 100a, Introduction to Probability.**

## Outline for the day:

1. Variance of Bernoulli random variables.
2. Negative binomial random variables.
3. Poisson random variables.
4. Moment generating functions.
5. Review list.
6. Review problems.

Exam1 is Oct26. ♠ ♣ ♥ ♦

Homework 2 is on the course website. It is due Nov9.

**HW2 and future homeworks can be submitted as pdf via CCLE!**

**Please write your ID number at the top of your hw and leave all answers as decimals, not fractions, for all homeworks.**

There is no lecture Thu Nov4 because of the faculty meeting.

<http://www.stat.ucla.edu/~frederic/100A/F21>

Why does  $\text{Var}(X) = pq$  if  $X$  is Bernoulli?

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - \mu^2.$$

$$\mu = E(X) = (1)(p) + (0)(q) = p.$$

$$E(X^2) = (1^2)(p) + (0^2)(q) = p.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \text{Var}(X) = p - p^2$$

$$= p(1-p)$$

$$= pq.$$

## Negative binomial random variables, ch5.4.

Recall: if each trial is independent, and each time the probability of an occurrence is  $p$ , and  $X = \#$  of trials until the first occurrence, then:

$$X \text{ is Geometric } (p), \quad P(X = k) = p^1 q^{k-1}, \quad \mu = 1/p, \quad \sigma = (\sqrt{q}) \div p.$$

Suppose now  $X = \#$  of trials until the  $r$ th occurrence.

Then  $X = \text{negative binomial } (r, p)$ .

e.g. the number of hands you have to play til you've gotten  $r=3$  pocket pairs.

Now  $X$  could be 3, 4, 5, ..., up to  $\infty$ .

pmf:  $P(X = k) = \text{choose}(k-1, r-1) p^r q^{k-r}$ , for  $k = r, r+1, \dots$

e.g. say  $r=3$  &  $k=7$ :  $P(X = 7) = \text{choose}(6, 2) p^3 q^4$ .

Why? Out of the first 6 hands, there must be exactly  $r-1 = 2$  pairs. Then pair on 7th.

$P(\text{exactly 2 pairs on first 6 hands}) = \text{choose}(6, 2) p^2 q^4$ .  $P(\text{pair on 7th}) = p$ .

**If  $X$  is negative binomial  $(r, p)$ , then  $\mu = r/p$ , and  $\sigma = (\sqrt{rq}) \div p$ .**

e.g. Suppose  $X =$  the number of hands til your 12th pocket pair.  $P(X = 100)$ ?  $E(X)$ ?  $\sigma$ ?

$X = \text{Neg. binomial } (12, 5.88\%)$ .

$$P(X = 100) = \text{choose}(99, 11) p^{12} q^{88}$$

$$= \text{choose}(99, 11) * 0.0588^{12} * 0.9412^{88} = \mathbf{0.104\%}.$$

$$E(X) = r/p = 12/0.0588 \sim \mathbf{204}. \quad \sigma = \sqrt{12 * 0.9412} / 0.0588 = \mathbf{57.2}.$$

So, you'd typically *expect* it to take 204 hands til your 12th pair, +/- around 57.2 hands.

## Poisson random variables, ch 5.5.

Player 1 plays in a very slow game, 4 hands an hour, and she decides to do a big bluff whenever the second hand on her watch, at the start of the deal, is in some predetermined 15 second interval, i.e. with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Now suppose Player 2 plays in a game where about 10 hands are dealt per hour, so he similarly looks at his watch at the beginning of each poker hand, but only does a big bluff if the second hand is in a 6 second interval, i.e. with probability  $\frac{1}{10}$ .

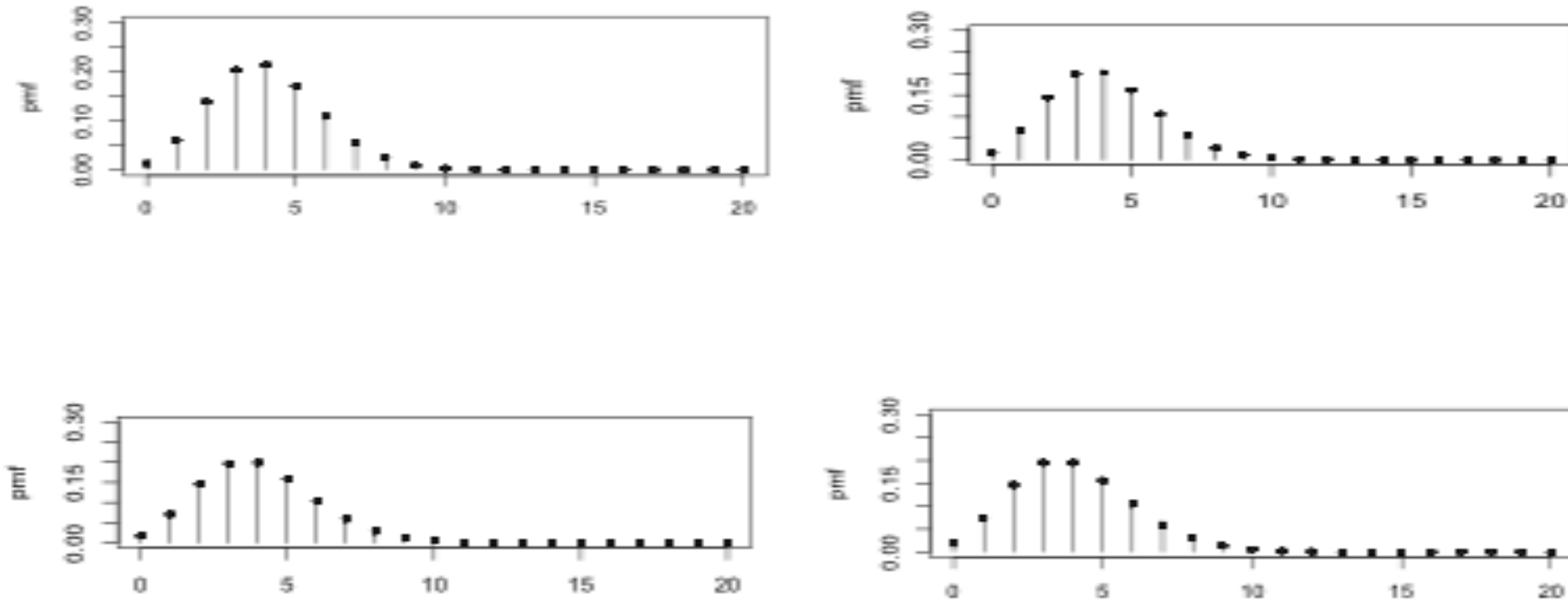
Player 3 plays in a faster game where about 20 hands are dealt per hour, and she bluffs only when the second hand on her watch at the start of the deal is in a 3 second interval, with probability  $\frac{1}{20}$ . Each of the three players will thus average one bluff every hour.

Let  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ , and  $X_3$  denote the number of big bluffs attempted in a given 4 hour interval by Player 1, Player 2, and Player 3, respectively.

Each of these random variables is binomial with an expected value of 4, and a variance approaching 4.

They are converging toward some limiting distribution, and that limiting distribution is called the *Poisson* distribution.

They are converging toward some limiting distribution, and that limiting distribution is called the *Poisson* distribution. Unlike the binomial distribution which depends on two parameters,  $n$  and  $p$ , the Poisson distribution depends only on one parameter,  $\lambda$ , which is called the *rate*. In this example,  $\lambda = 4$ .



The pmf of the Poisson random variable is  $f(k) = e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k / k!$ , for  $k=0,1,2,\dots$ , and for  $\lambda > 0$ , with the convention that  $0!=1$ , and where  $e = 2.71828\dots$

The Poisson random variable is the limit in distribution of the binomial distribution as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  while  $np$  is held constant.

For a Poisson( $\lambda$ ) random variable  $X$ ,  $E(X) = \lambda$ , and  $Var(X) = \lambda$  also.  $\lambda = rate$ .

**Example.** Suppose in a certain casino jackpot hands are defined so that they tend to occur about once every 50,000 hands on average. If the casino deals approximately 10,000 hands per day, **a)** what are the expected value and standard deviation of the number of jackpot hands dealt in a 7 day period? **b)** How close are the answers using the binomial distribution and the Poisson approximation? Using the Poisson model, if  $X$  represents the number of jackpot hands dealt over this week, what are **c)**  $P(X = 5)$  and **d)**  $P(X = 5 \mid X > 1)$ ?

**Answer.** It is reasonable to assume that the outcomes on different hands are iid, and this applies to jackpot hands as well. In a 7 day period, approximately 70,000 hands are dealt, so  $X =$  the number of occurrences of jackpot hands is binomial( $n=70,000, p=1/50,000$ ). Thus **a)**  $E(X) = np = 1.4$ , and  $SD(X) = \sqrt(npq) = \sqrt{70,000 \times 1/50,000 \times 49,999/50,000} \sim 1.183204$ . **b)** Using the Poisson approximation,  $E(X) = \lambda = np = 1.4$ , and  $SD(X) = \sqrt{\lambda} \sim 1.183216$ . The Poisson model is a very close approximation in this case. Using the Poisson model with rate  $\lambda = 1.4$ ,

**c)**  $P(X=5) = e^{-1.4} 1.4^5/5! \sim 1.105\%$ .

**d)**  $P(X = 5 \mid X > 1) = P(X = 5 \text{ and } X > 1) \div P(X > 1) = P(X = 5) \div P(X > 1) = [e^{-1.4} 1.4^5/5!] \div [1 - e^{-1.4} 1.4^0/0! - e^{-1.4} 1.4^1/1!] \sim 2.71\%$ .

## Moment generating functions, ch. 4.7

Suppose  $X$  is a random variable.  $E(X)$ ,  $E(X^2)$ ,  $E(X^3)$ , etc. are the *moments* of  $X$ .

$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$  is called the *moment generating function* of  $X$ .

Take derivatives with respect to  $t$  of  $\phi_X(t)$  and evaluate at  $t=0$  to get moments of  $X$ .

1<sup>st</sup> derivative  $(d/dt) e^{tX} = X e^{tX}$ ,  $(d/dt)^2 e^{tX} = X^2 e^{tX}$ , etc.

$(d/dt)^k E(e^{tX}) = E[(d/dt)^k e^{tX}] = E[X^k e^{tX}]$ , (see p.84)

so  $\phi'_X(0) = E[X^1 e^{0X}] = E(X)$ ,

$\phi''_X(0) = E[X^2 e^{0X}] = E(X^2)$ , etc.

**The moment gen. function  $\phi_X(t)$  uniquely characterizes the distribution of  $X$ .**

So to show that  $X$  is, say, Poisson, you just need to show that it has the moment generating function of a Poisson random variable.

**Also, if  $X_i$  are random variables with cdfs  $F_i$ , and  $\phi_{X_i}(t) \rightarrow \phi(t)$ , where  $\phi_X(t)$  is the moment generating function of  $X$  which has cdf  $F$ , then  $X_i \rightarrow X$  in distribution, i.e.  $F_i(y) \rightarrow F(y)$  for all  $y$  where  $F(y)$  is continuous.**

## Moment generating functions, continued.

$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$  is called the *moment generating function* of  $X$ .

Suppose  $X$  is Bernoulli (0.4). What is  $\phi_X(t)$ ?

$$E(e^{tX}) = (0.6) (e^{t(0)}) + (0.4) (e^{t(1)}) = 0.6 + 0.4 e^t.$$

Suppose  $X$  is Bernoulli (0.4) and  $Y$  is Bernoulli (0.7) and  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.

What is the distribution of  $XY$ ?

$$\phi_{XY}(t) = E(e^{tXY}) = P(XY=0) (e^{t(0)}) + P(XY=1)(e^{t(1)})$$

$$= P(X=0 \text{ or } Y=0) (1) + P(X=1 \text{ and } Y=1)e^t$$

$$= [1 - P(X=1)P(Y=1)] + P(X=1)P(Y=1)e^t$$

$$= [1 - 0.4 \times 0.7] + 0.4 \times 0.7 e^t$$

$$= 0.72 + 0.28e^t, \text{ which is the moment generating function of a Bernoulli (0.28) random variable.}$$

Therefore  $XY$  is Bernoulli (0.28).

What about  $Z = \min\{X, Y\}$ ?

If you think about it,  $Z = XY$  in this case, since  $X$  and  $Y$  are 0 or 1, so the answer is the same.



## **Review.**

- 1) Basic principles of counting.
- 2) Axioms of probability, and addition rule.
- 3) Permutations & combinations.
- 4) Conditional probability.
- 5) Independence.
- 6) Multiplication rules.  $P(AB) = P(A) P(B|A)$  [=  $P(A)P(B)$  if ind.]
- 7) Odds ratios.
- 8) Discrete RVs and probability mass function (pmf).
- 9) Expected value.
- 10) Pot odds calculations.
- 11) Luck and skill.
- 12) Variance and SD.
- 13)  $E(aX+b)$ ,  $E(X+Y)$ ,  $V(X+Y)$ .
- 14) Bayes's rule.
- 15) Markov and Chebyshev inequalities.
- 16) Bernoulli, binomial, geometric, negative binomial, and Poisson rvs.
- 17) Moment generating functions.

We have basically done all of chapters 1-5.

**on the midterm, FOR EACH QUESTION, WRITE THE LETTER OF YOUR ANSWER TO THE LEFT OF THE QUESTION.**

## Example problems.

\_\_\_ 1. What is the probability that you will be dealt a king and another card of the same suit as the king?

a. 1.69%. b. 3.62%. c. 4.89%. d. 5.02%. e. None of the above.

$$4 * 12 / C(52,2) = 3.62\%.$$

**P(flop an ace high flush)?** [where the ace might be on the board]

-- 4 suits

-- one of the cards must be an ace. C(12,4) possibilities for the others.

So  $P(\text{flop ace high flush}) = 4 * C(12,4) / C(52,5)$   
 $= 0.0762\%$ , or 1 in **1313**.

**P(flop a straight | 87 of different suits in your hand)?**

It could be 456, 569, 6910, or 910J. Each has  $4*4*4 = 64$  suit combinations.

So  $P(\text{flop a straight} | 87) = 64 * 4 / C(50,3)$   
 $= 1.31\%$ .

**P(flop a straight | 86 of different suits in your hand)?**

Now it could be 457, 579, or 7910.

$P(\text{flop a straight} | 86) = 64 * 3 / C(50,3)$   
 $= 0.980\%$ .

Let  $X$  = the # of hands until your 1<sup>st</sup> pair of black aces. What are  $E(X)$  and  $SD(X)$ ?

$X$  is geometric( $p$ ), where  $p = 1/C(52,2) = 1/1326$ .

$E(X) = 1/p = 1326$ .

$SD = (\sqrt{q}) / p$ , where  $q = 1325/1326$ .  $SD = 1325.5$ .

What is  $P(X = 12)$ ?

$q^{11}p = 0.0748\%$ .

You play 100 hands. Let  $X$  = the # of hands where you have 2 black aces. What is  $E(X)$ ? What is  $P(X = 4)$ ?

$X$  is binomial(100, $p$ ), where  $p = 1/1326$ .

$E(X) = np = .0754$ .

$P(X = 4) = C(100,4) p^4 q^{96} = .000118\%$ .

Suppose  $X = 0$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $1$  with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $2$  with probability  $\frac{1}{8}$ , and  $3$  with probability  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

What is  $E(X)$ ? What is  $E(X^2)$ ? What is  $\text{Var}(X)$ ? What is  $\text{SD}(X)$ ? What is  $\phi_X(t)$ ?

$$E(X) = 0(1/2) + 1(1/4) + 2(1/8) + 3(1/8) = 0.875.$$

$$E(X^2) = 0(1/2) + 1(1/4) + 4(1/8) + 9(1/8) = 1.875.$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = 1.875 - 0.875^2 = 1.109.$$

$$\text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{1.109} = 1.05.$$

$$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \frac{1}{2} (1) + \frac{1}{4} (e^t) + \frac{1}{8} (e^{2t}) + \frac{1}{8} (e^{3t}).$$

## **P(flop two pairs).**

If you're sure to be all-in next hand, what is  $P(\text{you will flop two pairs})$ ?

This is a tricky one. Don't double-count  $(4\spadesuit 4\heartsuit 9\spadesuit 9\heartsuit Q\heartsuit)$  and  $(9\spadesuit 9\heartsuit 4\spadesuit 4\heartsuit Q\heartsuit)$ .

There are  $\text{choose}(13,2)$  possibilities for the NUMBERS of the two pairs.

For each such choice (such as 4 & 9),

there are  $\text{choose}(4,2)$  choices for the suits of the lower pair,

and the same for the suits of the higher pair.

So,  $\text{choose}(13,2) * \text{choose}(4,2) * \text{choose}(4,2)$  different possibilities for the two pairs.

For each such choice, there are 44  $[52 - 8 = 44]$  different possibilities for your fifth card, so that it's not a full house but simply two pairs. So,

$$P(\text{flop two pairs}) = C(13,2) * C(4,2) * C(4,2) * 44 / C(52,5)$$

$\sim 4.75\%$ , or 1 in **21**.

**P(flop two pairs).**

Here is another way to do it. Find the mistake.

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{flop 2 pairs}) &= P(\text{pocket pair and flop 2 pairs}) + P(\text{no pocket pair and flop 2 pairs}) \\ &= P(\text{pocket pair}) P(\text{flop 2 pairs} \mid \text{pocket pair}) + P(\text{no pocket pair}) P(\text{flop 2 pairs} \mid \text{no pocket pair}) \\ &= P(\text{pocket pair aa}) * P(\text{bbc} \mid \text{aa}) + P(\text{ab}) * P(\text{abc} \mid \text{ab}) \\ &= 13 * C(4,2) / C(52,2) * 12 * C(4,2) * 44 / C(50,3) + C(13,2) * 4 * 4 / C(52,2) * 3 * 3 * 44 / C(50,3) \\ &= 2.85\%. \end{aligned}$$

What is the problem here?

**P(flop two pairs).**

Here is another way to do it. Find the mistake.

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{flop 2 pairs}) &= P(\text{pocket pair and flop 2 pairs}) + P(\text{no pocket pair and flop 2 pairs}) \\ &= P(\text{pocket pair}) P(\text{flop 2 pairs} \mid \text{pocket pair}) + P(\text{no pocket pair}) P(\text{flop 2 pairs} \mid \text{no pocket pair}) \\ &= P(\text{pocket pair aa}) * P(\text{bbc} \mid \text{aa}) + P(\text{ab}) * P(\text{abc} \mid \text{ab}) \\ &= 13 * C(4,2) / C(52,2) * 12 * C(4,2) * 44 / C(50,3) + C(13,2) * 4 * 4 / C(52,2) * \mathbf{3 * 3 * 44} / C(50,3) \\ &= 2.85\%. \end{aligned}$$

What is the problem here?

$P(\text{flop 2 pairs} \mid \text{no pocket pair}) \neq P(\text{ab}) * P(\text{abc} \mid \text{ab})$ . If you have ab, it could come acc or bcc on the flop.

$$\begin{aligned} &13 * C(4,2) / C(52,2) * 12 * C(4,2) * 44 / C(50,3) + C(13,2) * 4 * 4 / C(52,2) * (\mathbf{3 * 3 * 44} + \mathbf{6 * 11 * C(4,2)}) / C(50,3) \\ &= 4.75\%. \end{aligned}$$



A = the event you have AK.

B = the event both your hole cards are clubs.

What is  $P(B|A)$ ? Are A and B independent?

$$\begin{aligned}P(B|A) &= P(A \text{ and } B) / P(A) \\&= P(A\clubsuit K\clubsuit) / P(AK) \\&= [1/C(52,2)] / [16/C(52,2)] \\&= 1/16.\end{aligned}$$

$$P(B) = P(\clubsuit \clubsuit) = C(13,2)/C(52,2) = 1/17.$$

Not independent.