

M3397: March 1st, 2023.

Poisson Thinning.

Thm. Let $N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ be a counting random variable for some events of interest.
Suppose that independently from N , each of these events fall into a particular category indexed by $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ w/ probability p_i ($i = 1 \dots m$). ($p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_m = 1$)
Let N_i be the count of events from category i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Then,

- $N_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i = p_i \cdot \lambda)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$
- $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_m$ are independent random variables.

111. The number of accidents follows a Poisson distribution with mean 12. Each accident generates 1, 2, or 3 claimants with probabilities $1/2$, $1/3$, and $1/6$, respectively.

Calculate the variance of the total number of claimants.

(A) 20

(B) 25

(C) 30

(D) 35

(E) 40

S ... the total # of claimants

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

• N_i ... # of accidents w/ i claimants, $i=1,2,3$

$N_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i = \lambda \cdot p_i)$

$N_1 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_1 = \underline{6})$

$N_2 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_2 = \underline{4})$

$N_3 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_3 = \underline{2})$

112. In a clinic, physicians volunteer their time on a daily basis to provide care to those who are not eligible to obtain care otherwise. The number of physicians who volunteer in any day is uniformly distributed on the integers 1 through 5. The number of patients that can be served by a given physician has a Poisson distribution with mean 30.

Determine the probability that 120 or more patients can be served in a day at the clinic, using the normal approximation with continuity correction.

(A) $1 - \Phi(0.68)$

(B) $1 - \Phi(0.72)$

(C) $1 - \Phi(0.93)$

(D) $1 - \Phi(3.13)$

(E) $1 - \Phi(3.16)$

$$S = 1 \cdot N_1 + 2 \cdot N_2 + 3 \cdot N_3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[S] &= \text{Var}[N_1 + 2N_2 + 3N_3] = \boxed{N_1, N_2, N_3 \text{ are independent by the "thinning" Thm}} \\ &= \text{Var}[N_1] + 4\text{Var}[N_2] + 9\text{Var}[N_3] \\ &= \lambda_1 + 4\lambda_2 + 9\lambda_3 \\ &= 6 + 4(4) + 9(2) = 40 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Binomial Coefficients.

For $n, k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ w/ $n \geq k$:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

We can generalize to $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that

$$x > k-1$$

$$\binom{x}{k} = \frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{\Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(x-k+1)}$$

Negative Binomial Distribution.

Inspiration: A Modelling Problem.

Consider a sequence of **independent**, identically dist'd Bernoulli trials.

Say: the probab. of **success** in every trial is p .

The repetition of the Bernoulli trials continues until a **total** of r successes is achieved.

N ... # of failures before the r^{th} success

Q: What's the support of N ? $\mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

For $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$p_N(k) = \underbrace{P[N=k]} = \binom{r+k-1}{k} p^r (1-p)^k$$

What is the probability of seeing k failures before the r^{th} success?

The last trial must be a success!

In this class, and the FAM-S Tables, we have this parameterization:

$$p = \frac{1}{1+\beta} \quad \text{for some } \beta > 0$$

With this parameterization:

$$p_N(k) = \binom{r+k-1}{k} \left(\frac{1}{1+\beta} \right)^r \left(\frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \right)^k$$

Returning to our generalization of binomial coefficients, we can have

$$r > 0, \beta > 0$$

We write: $N \sim \text{NegBinomial}(r, \beta)$

- $\mathbb{E}[N] = r \cdot \beta$
- $\text{Var}[N] = r \cdot \beta (1+\beta) > \mathbb{E}[N]$
- $P_N(z) = (1 - \beta(z-1))^{-r}$

Q: What do we get in the special case where $r=1$?

$$\rightarrow: N \sim \text{Geometric}(\beta)$$

The geometric dist'n has the memoryless property.