

Probability Distribution

1. Let X be a random variable with the following probability distribution:

x	-2	3	5
f(x)	0.3	0.2	0.5

Find the standard deviation of X!

✚ Answer :

$$E(x) = \sum(x \cdot f(x)) = (-2)(0.3) + (3)(0.2) + (5)(0.5) = 2.5$$

$$V(x) = \sum[x - E(x)]^2 \cdot f(x)$$

$$= (-2 - 2.5)^2(0.3) + (3 - 2.5)^2(0.2) + (5 - 2.5)^2(0.5) \\ = 9.25$$

$$\text{Standard deviation of } X = \sqrt{V(x)} = \sqrt{9.25} = 3.04$$

2. Suppose that the probabilities are 0.4, 0.3, 0.2 and 0.1, respectively, that 0,1,2,3 power failures will strike a certain subdivision in any given year. Find the mean and variance of the random variable X representing the number of failures striking this subdivision.

✚ Answer :

$$\text{Mean} = E(x) = \sum(x \cdot f(x)) = (0)(0.4) + (1)(0.3) + (2)(0.2) + (3)(0.1) = 1$$

$$\text{Variance} = V(x) = \sum[x - E(x)]^2 \cdot f(x)$$

$$= (0 - 1)^2(0.4) + (1 - 1)^2(0.3) + (2 - 1)^2(0.2) + (3 - 1)^2(0.1) \\ = 0.668$$

3. If X be a random variable with the following probability distribution:

x	5	7	9
f(x)	0.5	0.2	0.4

Find the mean!

✚ Answer :

$$E(x) = \sum(x \cdot f(x)) = (5)(0.5) + (7)(0.2) + (9)(0.4) = 7.5$$

Binomial Distribution

1. According to a study published by a group of University of Massachusetts sociologist, approximately 60% of the Valium users in the state of Massachusetts first took Valium for psychological problems. Find the probability that among the next 8 users interviewed from this state that exactly 3 began taking Valium for psychological problems!

✚ Answer:

$$P = \langle X | n, p \rangle = \langle X = 3 | 8, 0.6 \rangle = {}_8C_3 \cdot p^3 \cdot q^5$$

$$= \frac{8!}{3!5!} (0.6)^3 (1 - 0.6)^5 = 0.12$$

2. In testing a certain kind of truck tire over a rugged terrain, it is found that 25% of the trucks fail to complete the test run without a blowout. Of the next 15 trucks tested, find the probability that
- from 3 to 6 have blowouts
 - fewer than 4 have blowouts
 - more than 5 have blowouts

✚ Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a). } P(3 \leq X \leq 6) &= \sum_{x=3}^6 b(x; 15, 0.25) \\ &= {}^{15}C_3(0.25)^3(0.75)^{12} + {}^{15}C_4(0.25)^4(0.75)^{11} + {}^{15}C_5(0.25)^5(0.75)^{10} + {}^{15}C_6(0.25)^6(0.75)^9 \\ &= 0.225 + 0.225 + 0.165 + 0.091 \\ &= 0.706 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b). } P(X < 4) &= \sum_{x=0}^3 b(x; 15, 0.25) \\ &= {}^{15}C_0(0.25)^0(0.75)^{15} + {}^{15}C_1(0.25)^1(0.75)^{14} + {}^{15}C_2(0.25)^2(0.75)^{13} + {}^{15}C_3(0.25)^3(0.75)^{12} \\ &= 0.4607 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c). } P(X > 5) &= 1 - \sum_{x=0}^5 b(x; 15, 0.25) \\ &= 1 - 0.851044 \\ &= 0.148 \end{aligned}$$

3. The probability that a patient recovers from a delicate heart operation is 0.9. What is the probability that exactly 5 of the next 7 patients having this operation survive?

✚ Answer:

$$P(X; n, p) = P(5; 7, 0.9) = {}^7C_5(0.9)^5(0.1)^2 = 0.124$$

Hyper geometric Distribution

1. If 7 cards are dealt from an ordinary deck of 52 playing cards, what is the probability that:

- Exactly 2 of them will be face cards?
- At least 1 of them will be a queen?

✚ Answer:

$$\text{a). } P = \frac{{}^{12}C_2 \cdot {}^{40}C_5}{{}^{52}C_7} = \frac{(66)(658008)}{133784560} = 0.3246$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b). } P &= \frac{{}^4C_1 \cdot {}^{48}C_6 + {}^4C_2 \cdot {}^{48}C_5 + {}^4C_3 \cdot {}^{48}C_4 + {}^4C_4 \cdot {}^{48}C_3}{{}^{52}C_7} = \frac{49086048 + 10273824 + 778320 + 17296}{133784560} \\ &= 0.4496 \end{aligned}$$

2. A homeowner plants 6 bulbs selected at random from a box containing 5 tulip bulbs and 4 daffodil bulbs. What is the probability that he planted 2 daffodil bulbs and 4 tulip bulbs?

✚ Answer:

$$P\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \mid a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, N, n \rangle = \frac{\binom{a_1}{x_1} \binom{a_2}{x_2} \dots \binom{a_k}{x_k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

$$P\langle 2, 4 \mid 4, 5, 9, 6 \rangle = \frac{\binom{4}{2} \binom{5}{4}}{\binom{9}{6}} = \frac{(6)(5)}{84} = \frac{5}{14}$$

3. A foreign student club lists as its members 2 Canadians, 3 Japanese, 5 Italians, and 2 Germans. If a committee of 4 is selected at random, find the probability that all nationalities are represented!

✚ Answer:

$$P\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \mid a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, N, n \rangle = \frac{\binom{a_1}{x_1} \binom{a_2}{x_2} \dots \binom{a_k}{x_k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

$$P\langle 1, 1, 1, 1 \mid 2, 3, 5, 2, 12, 4 \rangle = \frac{\binom{2}{1} \binom{3}{1} \binom{5}{1} \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{12}{4}} = \frac{(2)(3)(5)(2)}{495} = 0.1212$$

Poisson Distribution

1. The average in a year that people living in a certain city, own dogs are estimated to be 8. Find the probability in a year that people randomly interviewed in that city have the 10 dogs!

✚ Answer:

$$P\langle x \mid \lambda \rangle = \frac{(\lambda^x)(e^{-\lambda})}{x!}$$

$$P\langle 10 \mid 8 \rangle = \frac{(8^{10})(e^{-8})}{10!} = 0.09925$$

2. During a laboratory experiment the average number of radioactive particles passing through a counter in 1 millisecond is 3. What is the probability that 5 particles enter the counter in a given millisecond?

✚ Answer:

$$P\langle x \mid \lambda \rangle = \frac{(\lambda^x)(e^{-\lambda})}{x!}$$

$$P\langle 5 \mid 3 \rangle = \frac{(3^5)(e^{-3})}{5!} = 0.1008$$

3. A certain area of the eastern United States is, on average, hit by 6 hurricanes a year. Find the probability that for a given year that are will be hit by 4 hurricanes!

✚ Answer:

$$P\langle x \mid \lambda \rangle = \frac{(\lambda^x)(e^{-\lambda})}{x!}$$

$$P\langle 4 \mid 6 \rangle = \frac{(6^4)(e^{-6})}{4!} = 0.1338$$

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