

Table of Random Variables

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Name	[D]isc./[C]ont.	Notation	Interpretation	p.m.f./p.d.f.	c.d.f.	Expected Val.	Var.	m.g.f.
Bernoulli	D	Ber(p)	[S]uccess or [F]ailure, $\mathbb{P}(S) = p$	$p^x(1-p)^{1-x}, x \in \{0, 1\}$	$(1-p)\mathbb{1}_{[0,\infty)}(x) + p\mathbb{1}_{[1,\infty)}(x)$	p	$p(1-p)$	$1 - p + pe^t, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Discrete Uniform	D	DUNIF(a, b)	Integer outcomes between a and b equally likely	$\frac{1}{b-a+1}, x \in \{a, a+1, \dots, b\}$	$\left(\frac{\lfloor x \rfloor - a + 1}{b - a + 1}\right) \mathbb{1}_{[a,b]}(x) + \mathbb{1}_{[b+1,\infty)}(x)$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a+1)^2 - 1}{12}$	$\frac{e^{at} - e^{(b+1)t}}{(b-a+1)(1-e^t)}, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Binomial	D	BIN(n, p)	Number of S out of n i.i.d. Ber(p) trials	$\binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, x \in \{0, \dots, n\}$	$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor x \rfloor} \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$	np	$np(1-p)$	$(1 - p + pe^t)^n, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Hypergeometric	D	HYPERGEOM(n, M, N)	Number of S out of n pulls w.o. replacement, M Ss, N total	$\frac{\binom{M}{x} \binom{N-M}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$ $x \in \{\max(0, n+M-N), \dots, \min(n, M)\}$	$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor x \rfloor} \frac{\binom{M}{k} \binom{N-M}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$	$\frac{Mn}{N}$	$\frac{nM(N-M)(N-n)}{N^2(N-1)}$	$\frac{\sum_{k=0}^n e^{tk} \binom{M}{k} \binom{N-M}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Geometric	D	GEOM(p)	Repeat i.i.d. Ber(p) trials until S	$p(1-p)^{x-1}, x \in \mathbb{N}$	$(1 - (1-p)^{\lfloor x \rfloor}) \mathbb{1}_{[1,\infty)}(x)$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{pe^t}{1 - (1-p)e^t}, t < -\ln(1-p)$
Negative Binomial	D	NBIN(n, p)	Sum of n i.i.d. GEOM(p); repeat i.i.d. Ber(p) trials until n Ss seen	$\binom{x}{n} p^n (1-p)^x, x \in \{n, n+1, \dots\}$	$p^n \sum_{k=n}^{\lfloor x \rfloor} \binom{k}{n} (1-p)^k$	$\frac{n}{p}$	$\frac{n(1-p)}{p^2}$	$\left(\frac{pe^t}{1 - (1-p)e^t}\right)^n, t < -\ln(1-p)$
Poisson	D	POI(μ)	Number of times event occurs over some period	$\frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!}, x \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$	$e^{-\mu} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor x \rfloor} \frac{\mu^k}{k!}$	μ	μ	$e^{\mu(e^t - 1)}, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Normal	C	$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$	Mean μ and variance σ^2	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$	$\Phi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$	μ	σ^2	$e^{\mu t + \frac{\sigma^2 t^2}{2}}, t \in \mathbb{R}$
Uniform	C	UNIF(a, b)	Reals between a and b equally likely	$\frac{1}{b-a} \mathbb{1}_{[a,b]}(x)$	$\left(\frac{x-a}{b-a}\right) \mathbb{1}_{[a,b]}(x) + \mathbb{1}_{(b,\infty)}(x)$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$	$\frac{e^{tb} - e^{ta}}{t(b-a)} \mathbb{1}_{\{t \neq 0\}}(t) + \mathbb{1}_{\{t=0\}}(t), t \in \mathbb{R}$
Exponential	C	EXP(λ)	Time to wait until event occurs, at rate λ per time unit	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x} \mathbb{1}_{[0,\infty)}(x)$	$(1 - e^{-\lambda x}) \mathbb{1}_{[0,\infty)}(x)$	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$	$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}, t < \lambda$
Gamma	C	GAMMA(ν, λ)	Sum of ν i.i.d. EXP(λ) (if $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$); time to wait until event occurs ν times, at rate λ per time unit	$\frac{\lambda^\nu x^{\nu-1} e^{-\lambda x}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \mathbb{1}_{[0,\infty)}(x)$	$\begin{cases} 1 - e^{-\lambda x} \sum_{k=0}^{\nu-1} \frac{(\lambda x)^k}{k!}, & \nu \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\gamma(\nu, \lambda x)}{\Gamma(\nu)}, & \nu \in (0, \infty) \setminus \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$	$\frac{\nu}{\lambda}$	$\frac{\nu}{\lambda^2}$	$\left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}\right)^\nu, t < \lambda$