

## Poisson Distribution

The distribution of the number of events in a “random process”.

Examples:

Random Process	Event
Telephone calls in a fixed time interval	Number of wrong calls in an hour (Time dependent)
Accident in a factory	Number of Accident in a day (Time dependent)
Flaws in a glass Panel	Number of flaws per square cm (Area dependent)
Bacteria in Milk	Number of bacteria per 2 liter (Volume dependent)

- An event is as likely to occur in one given interval as it is in another.
- Events occur uniformly is proportional to the size of the time interval, area, or volume.

The Poisson distribution formula:

$$P(X = x) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^x}{x!} \text{ where } \mu = \lambda t \text{ and } x = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

The Poisson Notation:

$X \sim Pn(\lambda t)$ : The random variable x has a poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda t$ .

Where  $\lambda$  is a rate per unit and t is a time interval.

- X is the number of event in a time interval of length t with rate  $\lambda$  per unit time
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Expected Value and Variance of the Poisson Distribution

$$E(x) = \mu \text{ and } Var(x) = \mu$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\lambda = \mu = m$$

$\lambda$  (c/d)      $\mu$  (Book)      $m$  (IB Booklet)

Ex) Faults occur on a piece of string at an average rate of one every three meters. Bobbins, each containing 5 meters of this string, are to be used. What is the probability that a randomly selected bobbin will contain.

- a. Two faults.
- b. At least two faults.

$$m = \mu = \lambda = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot 5 = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$P(X=2) = \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2 e^{-5/3}}{2!} = \text{poisson pdf} \left(\frac{5}{3}, 2\right)$$

$$1 - P(X=0) - P(X=1)$$

$$1 - \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^0 (e^{-5/3})}{0!} - \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^1 (e^{-5/3})}{1!}$$

Ex) A radioactive source emits particles at an average rate of one every 12 seconds. Find the probability that at most 5 particles are emitted in one minute.

$$\rightarrow 1 - \text{poisson cdf} \left(\frac{5}{3}, 1\right)$$

One minute = 60 sec.

$$\mu = m = \left(\frac{1}{12}\right)(60) = 5$$

$$P(X \leq 5)$$

$$= P(X=0) + P(X=1) + \dots + P(X=5)$$

$$= \frac{(5)^0 (e^{-5})}{0!} + \frac{(5)^1 (e^{-5})}{1!} + \dots$$

$$\frac{(5)^5 (e^{-5})}{5!} = \text{poisson cdf} (5, 5)$$

Ex) A typist finds that they make two mistakes, on average, every three pages. Assuming that the number of errors per page follows a poisson distribution, what are the chances that there will be 2 mistakes in the next page they type?

## Continuous Probability Density Functions

A continuous probability density functions (PDF) is a function  $f(x)$  such that  $f(x) \geq 0$  on a given

interval  $[a, b]$  and  $\int_a^b f(x) dx = 1$ .

### The Properties:

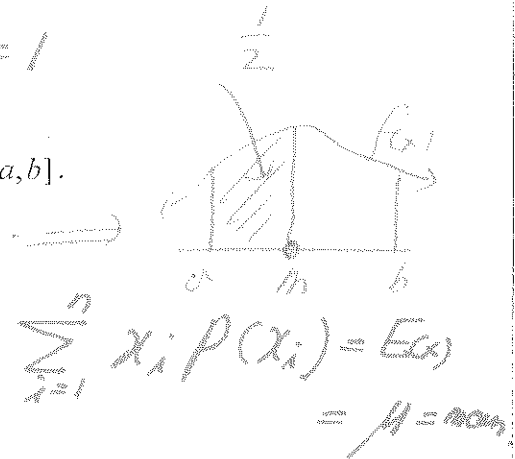
1) The mode is the value of  $x$  at the maximum value of  $f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ .

2) The median  $m$  is the solution for  $m$  of equation  $\int_a^m f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2}$

3) The mean is defines as  $\int_a^b xf(x) dx = \mu$

4) The variance is defined as  $\int_a^b x^2 f(x) dx - \mu^2 = \text{var}(x)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n P(x_i) = 1$$



$$\text{var}(x) = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

Ex)  $f(x) = \begin{cases} -0.2x(x-b) & 0 \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$  is a probability density function.

a) Find  $b$ .

$$\int_0^b -0.2x(x-b) dx = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^b (-0.2x^2 + 0.2bx) dx = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[ \frac{-0.2}{3} x^3 + \frac{0.2b}{2} x^2 \right]_{x=0}^{x=b} = 1$$

$$= \frac{-0.2b^3}{3} + \frac{0.2b^3}{2} = 1$$

$$= \frac{-0.4b^3 + 0.6b^3}{6} = 1$$

b) Find the mean

$$\int_a^b xf(x) dx = \int_0^{\sqrt[3]{30}} x^2 [-0.2(x - \sqrt[3]{30})] dx$$

$$= 1.554 \dots \approx \boxed{1.55}$$

$$\Rightarrow b = \sqrt[3]{30}$$

c) Find the variance and the standard deviation.

$$\text{var}(x) = \int_0^{\sqrt[3]{30}} x^2 [-0.2x(x - \sqrt[3]{30})] dx - (1.554 \dots)^2$$

$$\approx \boxed{0.482}$$

Practice)  $f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^2(x-6) & 0 \leq x \leq 5 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$  is a probability density function.

a) Find k.  $\int_0^5 kx^2(x-6) dx = 1 \Rightarrow \int_0^5 k(x^3 - 6x^2) dx$

$$k = \frac{-4}{375}$$

b) Find the mode

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{-4}{375} x^2(x-6) \right) = 0$$

Solve for x

$$x = 4$$

c) Find the mean

median.

$$\frac{-4}{375} \int_0^m (x^3 - 6x^2) dx = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{-4}{375} \left[ \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{6x^3}{3} \right]_{x=0}^{x=m} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{-4}{375} \left( \frac{m^4}{4} - 2m^3 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2$$

$$\frac{-8}{375} \left[ \frac{m^4}{4} - 2m^3 \right] = 1$$

d) Find the variance and the standard deviation.

Use the polynomial Root finder.

$$m = 3.46$$

$$-2m^4 + 16m^3 = 375$$

$$-2m^4 + 16m^3 - 375 = 0$$

### The Normal Distribution (Distribution for a continuous random variable)

Many naturally occurring phenomena have a distribution that is normal or close to normal (a Bell-shaped distribution).

#### The Standard Normal Curve

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \text{ (for } -\infty < z < \infty \text{) and where } z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \text{ (Standardized variable)}$$