

MODULE-V

- DISCRETE AND CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLES
- CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION
- PROBABILITY MASS FUNCTION
- PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION
- EXPECTATION
- VARIANCE
- MOMENT GENERATING FUNCTION
- INTRODUCTION TO BINOMIAL, POISSON AND NORMAL DISTRIBUTION.

Random Variables

- If a real variable X be associated with the outcome of a random experiment, then since the values which X takes depend on chance, it is called a random variable.
- For example, if a random experiment E consists of tossing a pair of dice, the sum X of the two numbers which turn up have values $2, 3, \dots, 12$ depending on chance. Then X is the random variable. It is a function whose values are real numbers and depend on chance.

Discrete Random Variables

- If a random variable takes a finite set of values it is called discrete random variables.
- Example the number of heads in 4 tosses of a coin is a discrete random variable as it cannot assume values other than 0,1,2,3,4.
- Another example where the number of aces in a draw of 2 cards from a well shuffled deck is a random variable as it can take the values 0,1,2 only.

Discrete Probability Distribution(DPD)

- Suppose a discrete variate X is the outcome of some experiment.If the probability that X takes the values x_i is p_i ,then

$$P(X=x_i)=p_i \text{ or } p(x_i) \text{ for } i=1,2,\dots$$

where

$$\text{i)} p(x_i) \geq 0 \text{ for all values of } i,$$

$$\text{ii)} \sum p(x_i) = 1$$

The set of values x_i with their probabilities p_i constitute a discrete probability distribution of the discrete variable X .

Example:The DPD for X ,the sum of the numbers which turn on tossing a pair of dice is given by the following table:

| $X=x_i$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| $P(x_i)$ | 1/36 | 2/36 | 3/36 | 4/36 | 5/36 | 6/36 | 5/36 | 4/36 | 3/36 | 2/36 | 1/36 |

Since there are $6 \times 6 = 36$ equally likely outcomes and each has the probability $1/36$.When $X=2$ for 1 outcome,i.e.(1,1); $X=3$ for two outcomes (1,2) and (2,1) and so on.

Question

A random variable X has the following probability function:

| x | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------|---|---|----|----|----|-------|--------|----------|
| p(x) | 0 | k | 2k | 2k | 3k | k^2 | $2k^2$ | $7k^2+k$ |

- i. Find k ,
- ii. Evaluate $P(X < 6)$, $P(X \geq 6)$, $P(3 < X \leq 6)$
- iii. Find the maximum value of x so that $P(X \leq x) > 1/2$.

SOLUTION

$$i) \quad \sum_{x=0}^7 p(x) = 1$$

$$0+k+2k+2k+3k+k^2+2k^2+7k^2+k = 1$$

$$10k^2+9k-1=0, k=1/10$$

$$\begin{aligned} ii) \quad P(X < 6) &= P(X=0) + P(X=1) + P(X=2) + P(X=3) + P(X=4) + P(X=5) \\ &= 0 + k + 2k + 2k + 3k + k^2 \\ &= 81/100 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(X \geq 6) = P(X=6) + P(X=7) = 2k^2 + 7k^2 + k = 19/100$$

$$P(3 < X \leq 6) = P(X=4) + P(X=5) + P(X=6) = 3k + k^2 + 2k^2 = 33/100$$

$$iii. P(X \leq 1) = k = 1/10 < 1/2;$$

$$P(X \leq 2) = k + 2k = 3/10 < 1/2; P(X \leq 3) = k + 2k + 2k = 5/10 = 1/2; P(X \leq 4) = k + 2k + 2k + 3k = 8/10 > 1/2.$$

The maximum value of x so that $P(X \leq x) > 1/2$ is 4.

DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION OR CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION

The distribution function $F(x)$ of the discrete variate X is defined by

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) = \sum_{i=1}^x p(x_i) \text{ where } x \text{ is any integer.}$$

MEAN AND VARIANCE OF RANDOM VARIABLES

Let $X : x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

$P(X) : p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ be a discrete probability distribution.

$$\text{Mean} = \mu = \frac{\sum x_i p_i}{\sum p_i}$$

$$\text{Variance} = \sigma^2 = \sum p_i (x_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\text{Standard deviation} = \sqrt{\text{Variance}}$$

CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLES

- A continuous random variable is one which can assume any value within an interval.
- Examples: The height/weight of a group of individuals.
- The probability distribution of a continuous variate x is defined by a function $f(x)$ such that the probability of the variate x falling in the small interval $x - (1/2)dx$ to $x + (1/2)dx$.
- $P(x - (1/2)dx \leq x \leq x + (1/2)dx) = f(x)dx$. Then $f(x)$ is called the probability density function.

PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION

- The density function $f(x)$ is always positive and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$$

(The total area under the probability curve and the x-axis is unity)

DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION

- If $F(x)=P(X\leq x)= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx$
- $F(x)$ is defined as the cumulative distribution function or the distribution function of the continuous variate X . It is the probability that the value of the variate X will be $\leq x$.
- The distribution function $F(x)$ has the following properties:
 - i. $F'(x)=f(x) \geq 0$, so that $F(x)$ is non-decreasing function.
 - ii. $F(-\infty)=0$; iii) $F(\infty)=1$.
 - iv) $P(a\leq x\leq b)= \int_a^b f(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^b f(x)dx - \int_{-\infty}^a f(x)dx = F(b) - F(a)$

PROBLEMS

Is the function defined as follows a density function?

$$f(x) = e^{-x}, x \geq 0 \\ = 0, x < 0$$

Clearly $f(x) \geq 0$ for every x in $(1,2)$ and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 0 dx + \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} dx = 1$$

The function $f(x)$ satisfies the requirements for a density function.

EXPECTATION, VARIANCE AND MOMENT GENERATING FUNCTION

- The mean value (μ) of the probability distribution of a variate X is commonly known as its expectation and denoted by $E(X)$.
- If $f(x)$ is the probability density function of the variate X , then

$$E(X) = \sum_i x_i f(x_i) \quad \text{Discrete Distribution}$$

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \quad \text{Continuous Distribution}$$

VARIANCE

Discrete Distribution

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_I (x_i - \mu)^2 f(x_i)$$

Continuous Distribution

$$\sigma^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x_i - \mu)^2 f(x_i)$$

Problems

A variate X has the probability distribution

$$x: -3, 6, 9$$

$$P(X=x): 1/6, 1/2, 1/3$$

Find $E(X), E(X^2), E(2X+1)^2$

$$E(X) = -3 * 1/6 + 6 * 1/2 + 9 * 1/3 = 11/2$$

$$E(X^2) = 9 * 1/6 + 36 * 1/2 + 81 * 1/3 = 93/2$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(2X+1)^2 &= E(4X^2+4X+1) = 4E(X^2) + 4E(X) + 1 \\ &= 4 * 93/2 + 4 * 11/2 + 1 = 209 \end{aligned}$$

MOMENT GENERATING FUNCTION

- The moment generating function of the discrete probability distribution of the variate X about the value $x=a$ is defined as the expected value of $e^{t(x-a)}$ and is denoted by

$M_a(t) = \sum p_i e^{t(x_i - a)}$ which is a function of the parameter t only.

- $M_a(t) = e^{-at} \sum p_i e^{tx_i}$
- If $f(x)$ is the density function of a continuous variate X then m.g.f of this continuous probability distribution about $x=a$ is given by:

$$M_a(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t(x-a)} f(x) dx$$

PROBLEMS

Find the m.g.f of the exponential distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{c} e^{-\frac{x}{c}}, 0 \leq x < \infty, c > 0$$

Find its mean and standard deviation.

$$M_0(t) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{tx} \frac{1}{c} e^{-\frac{x}{c}} dx = \frac{1}{c} \int_0^{\infty} e^{(t-1/c)x} dx$$

$$= 1 + ct + c^2 t^2 + c^3 t^3 + \dots$$

$$\text{mean} = \frac{d}{dt} [M_0(t)]_{t=0} \\ = c$$

$$\text{Standard deviation} = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} [M_0(t)]_{t=0} \\ = c^2$$

BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

- It is concerned with trials of a repetitive nature in which only the occurrence or non-occurrence, success or failure , acceptance or rejection , yes or no of a particular event is of interest.
- Let there be n independent trials in an experiment . Let a random variable X denote the number of successes in these n trials . Let p be the probability of a success and q that of a failure in a single trial so that $p+q =1$.The probability of r successes in n trials

$$P(X=r) = {}^n C_r p^r q^{n-r}, \text{ where } p+q =1 \text{ and } r=0,1,2,\dots,n.$$

The above distribution is called binomial probability distribution and X is called the binomial variate.

NOTE

- In binomial distribution:
 1. n , the number of trials is finite.
 2. Each trial has only two possible outcomes called success and failure.
 3. All the trials are independent.
 4. p (and hence q) is constant for all the trials.

MEAN AND VARIANCE OF THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Mean $\mu = \sum_{r=0}^n rP(r) = \sum_{r=0}^n r \cdot {}^n C_r q^{n-r} p^r = np$
- Variance $\sigma^2 = \sum_{r=0}^n r^2 P(r) - \mu^2 = npq$

Problem

- In 256 sets of 12 tosses of a coin, in how many cases one can expect 8 heads and 4 tails.

$$P(\text{Head})=1/2 \text{ and } P(\text{tail})=1/2.$$

$$P(X=8)= {}^{12}C_8 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^8 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 = \frac{495}{4096}$$

The expected number of such cases in 256 sets= $256 * P(X=8)=30.9=31(\text{approx})$

Problem

- In sampling a large number of parts manufactured by a machine, the mean number of defectives in a sample of 20 is 2. Out of 1000 such samples, how many would be expected to contain at least 3 defective parts.

Here mean number of defectives $2=np=20p$

Probability of defective part is $p=2/20=.1$

Probability of non-defective is $q=.9$

The probability of at least three defectives in a sample of 20 = $1 - (\text{prob. That either none, or one, or two are non-defective parts})$

$$= 1 - [{}^{20}C_0(0.9)^{20} + {}^{20}C_1(0.1)(0.9)^{19} + {}^{20}C_2(0.1)^2(0.9)^{18}]$$

$$=.323$$

POISSON DISTRIBUTION

If the parameters n and p of a binomial distribution are known, we can find the distribution. But when n is very large and p is very small, binomial distribution is very labourious. As $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $p \rightarrow 0$ such that np always remains finite say λ , we get the Poisson approximation to the binomial distribution.

$$P(X=r) = \frac{\lambda^r e^{-\lambda}}{r!} \quad r=0,1,2,\dots \text{ where } \lambda=np.$$

Mean and Variance of the Poisson Distribution

- Mean $\mu = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} rP(r) = \lambda$
- Variance $\sigma^2 = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r^2 P(r) = \lambda$

The mean and variance of the Poisson distribution are equal to λ .

Problems

If the probability of a bad reaction from a certain injection is 0.001, determine the chance that out of 2000 individuals more than two will get a bad reaction.

$$\text{Mean} = \lambda = np = 2000 * 0.001 = 2$$

Probability that more than 2 will get a bad reaction = $1 - [\text{prob. That no one gets a bad reaction} + \text{prob that one gets a bad reaction} + \text{prob that two get bad reaction}]$

$$= 1 - [e^{-m} + me^{-m} + m^2 e^{-m} / !2] = 1 - 5/e^2 = .32$$

Problem

A car hire firm has two cars, which it hires out day by day. The number of demands for a car on each day is distributed as a Poisson distribution with mean 1.5. Calculate the proportion of days on which neither car is used and proportion of days on which some demand is refused. ($e^{-1.5} = .2231$)

$$\lambda = 1.5$$

Proportion of days on which neither car is used = Probability of there being no demand for the car = $m^0 e^{-m} / 0! = e^{-1.5} = .2231$.

Proportion of days on which some demand is refused = Probability for the number of demands to be more than two = $1 - P(x \leq 2) = 1 - (e^{-m} + m e^{-m} + m^2 e^{-m} / 2!)$
 $= 1 - e^{-1.5} (1 + 1.5 + (1.5)^2 / 2) = .1912625$

NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

- The normal distribution is a continuous distribution.
- It can be derived from the binomial distribution in the limiting case when n , the number of trials is very large and probability of a success is close to $\frac{1}{2}$.
- The general equation of the normal distribution is given by:

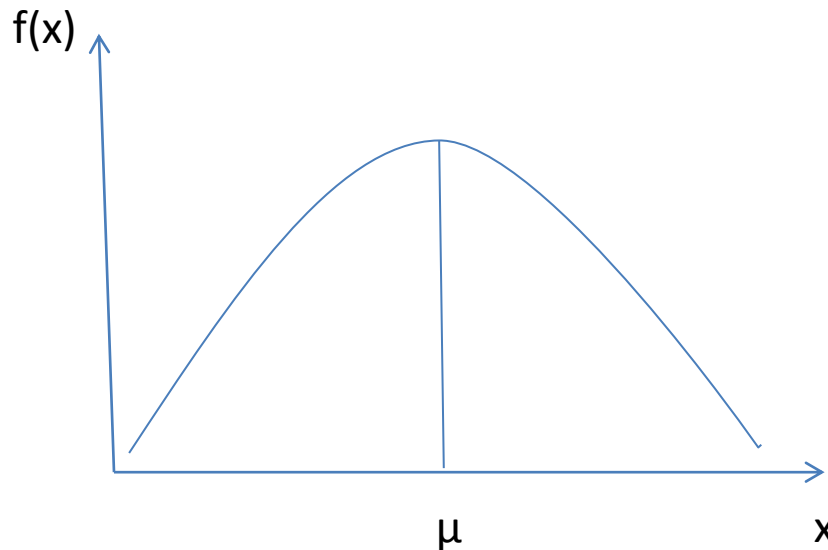
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

Where the variable x can assume all values from $-\infty$ to ∞ . μ and σ called the parameters of the distribution are the mean and standard deviation of the distribution and $-\infty < \mu < \infty, \sigma > 0$. x is called the normal variate and $f(x)$ is called the probability density function of the normal distribution.

If a variable x has the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ , we briefly write $x:N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

NORMAL CURVE

- The graph of the normal distribution is called the normal curve.
- It is bell shaped and symmetrical about the mean μ .



Normal Curve

- The two tails of the curve extend from $+\infty$ to $-\infty$ towards the positive and negative directions of the x-axis and gradually approaches the x-axis without ever meeting it.
- The curve is unimodal and the mode of the normal distribution coincides with its mean μ . The line $x=\mu$ divides the area under the normal curve above x-axis into two equal parts.
- The median of the distribution also coincides with its mean and mode.
- The area under the normal curve between any two given ordinates $x=x_1$ and $x=x_2$ represents the probability of values falling into the given interval.
- The total area under the normal curve above the x-axis is 1.

STANDARD FORM OF THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

- If X is a normal random variable with mean μ and standard deviation σ , then the random variable Z is

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

The random variable Z is called the standardized normal random variable.

- The probability density function for the normal distribution in standard form is given by

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}z^2}$$

NOTE

- If $f(z)$ is the probability density function for the normal distribution, then

$$P(z_1 \leq Z \leq z_2) = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} f(z) dz = F(z_2) - F(z_1)$$

$$\text{where } F(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z f(z) dz = P(Z \leq z)$$

The function $F(z)$ defined above is called the distribution function for the normal distribution.

- The probabilities $P(z_1 \leq Z \leq z_2)$, $P(z_1 < Z \leq z_2)$ and $P(z_1 \leq Z < z_2)$ are all regarded to be the same.
- $F(-z_1) = 1 - F(z_1)$

Problems

A sample of 100 dry battery cells tested to find the length of life produced the following results:

$$\bar{x} = 12 \text{ hours}, \sigma = 3 \text{ hours}$$

Assuming the data to be normally distributed, what percentage of battery cells are expected to have life

- i) more than 15 hours
- ii) less than 6 hours
- iii) between 10 and 14 hours

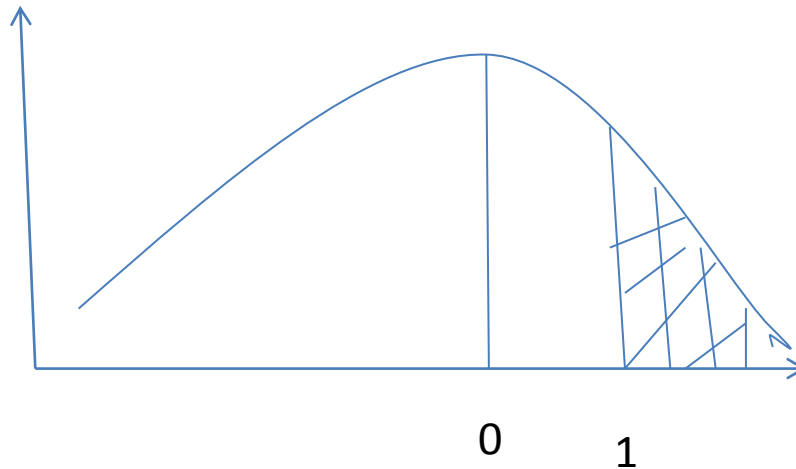
Solution

- Let x be the length of life of battery cells

$$z = (x - \mu) / \sigma = (x - 12) / 3$$

i) $x = 15, z = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x > 15) &= P(z > 1) = P(0 < z < \infty) - P(0 < z < 1) \\ &= 0.5 - .3413 = .1587 \end{aligned}$$

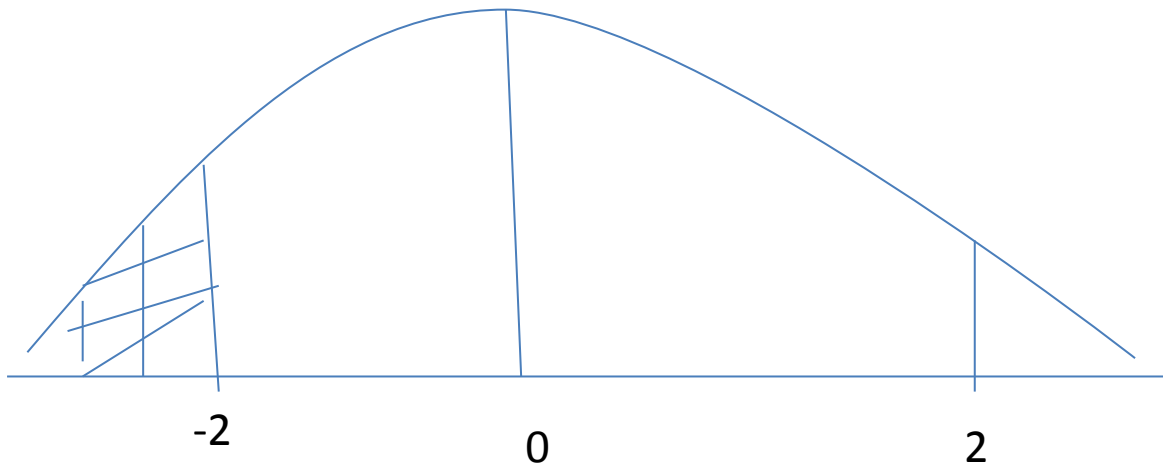


Criss cross lines show shaded area

Solution

ii) When $x=6, z=-2$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x < 6) &= P(z < -2) = P(z > 2) = P(0 < z < \infty) - P(0 < z < 2) \\ &= 0.5 - .4772 = 0.0228 \end{aligned}$$



solution

iii. When $x=10, z=-2/3=-.67$

when $x=14, z=2/3=.67$

$$P(10 < x < 14) = P(-.67 < z < .67)$$

$$= 2P(0 < z < .67)$$

$$= 2 * .2487$$

$$= .4974$$

