

## Other random variables.

So far:

Discrete

uniform

Binomial

geometric

Bernoulli

Poisson

Continuous

uniform

Exponential

Normal (Gaussian)

Strategy:

- 1) Underlying physical experiment
- 2) Limiting procedure

# Poisson (Approximation to Binomial)

Binomial

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n \quad (\text{i.i.d.})$$

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & p \\ 0 & 1-p \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{independent} \\ \text{\& identically} \\ \text{distributed} \end{array}$$

$$P(X=k) = b(k, n, p) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

Setting:  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $p \rightarrow 0$ ,  $np \rightarrow \lambda$

Practically:  $n$  large,  $p$  is small,  $np$  moderate

$$p = \frac{\lambda}{n} \quad (\lambda \text{ is constant})$$

$$n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$b(k, n, p) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{k! (n-k)!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-k}$$

$$= \frac{\overbrace{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-k+1)}^{k \text{ terms}}}{k! n^k} \lambda^k \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^k}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b(k, n, p) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \cdot 1$$

$$= P(k, \lambda)$$

$k$	$P(k, \lambda)$	$b(k, n, p)$
0	0.2541	0.2537
1	0.3481	0.3484
⋮	⋮	⋮
5	0.0102	0.0101
6	0.0023	0.0023

$$n = 500$$

$$p = \frac{1}{365}$$

$$np = \lambda = 1.3699$$

$P(k, \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$  is a valid probability mass function

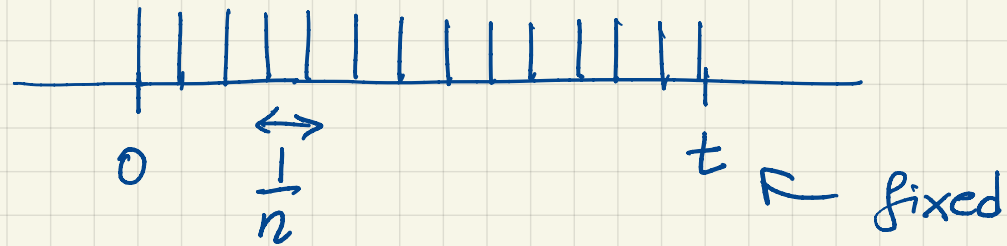
$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} = e^{-\lambda} \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}}_{e^{\lambda}} = e^{-\lambda} \cdot e^{\lambda} = 1.$$

If  $x$  is Poisson distributed:

$$E[x] = \lambda$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \lambda$$

Events occur over time



- Divide interval of time  $[0, t]$  into small intervals of size  $\frac{1}{n}$  ( $n$  is large)
- Event occurs in a small interval with probability  $p$  that is small
- During interval  $[0, t]$ , I have  $\approx nt$  small interval (trials in a binomial R.V.)

$b(k, nt, p)$   
 ↑                      ↑                      ← prob. of event  
 # events                      # trials  
 in  $[0, t]$

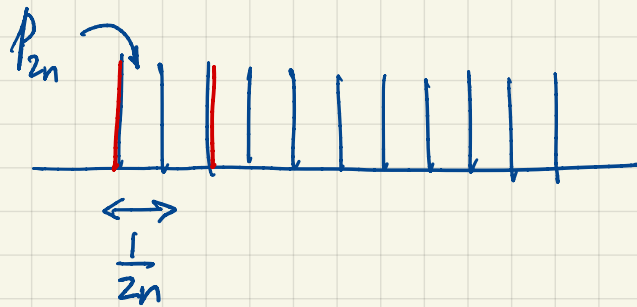
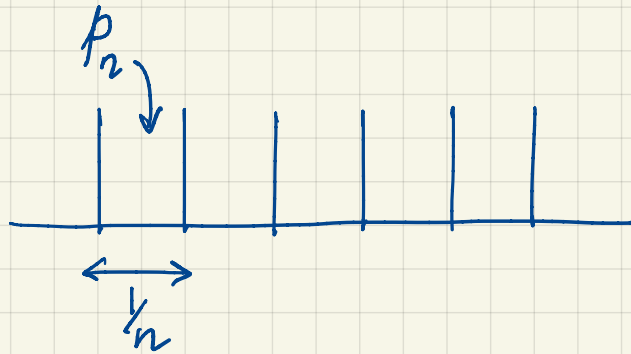
- Let's assume that  $np \rightarrow \lambda$  ( $np$  does not vanish)  
 ( $np$  does not go to  $\infty$ )

- $ntp \rightarrow \lambda t$

$$P(k \text{ events in } [0, t]) \approx \frac{(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t}}{k!} \quad (\text{Poisson approx})$$

# events in  $[0, t]$

is a discrete quantity  $\in \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$



$$1 - P_n = (1 - P_{2n})(1 - P_{2n})$$

$$1 - P_n = 1 - 2P_{2n} + P_{2n}^2$$

$$P_n = 2P_{2n} - P_{2n}^2$$

$$nP_n = 2nP_{2n} - nP_{2n}^2$$

so  $nP_n < 2nP_{2n}$

so  $nP_n$  does not go to zero

$nP_n$  does not go to infinity either because this means we expect infinitely many event in any small interval  $t$ .

let  $T$  = time until the first event  
(continuous quantity)

$$P(T \leq t) = ?$$

example:  $t = 10$  sec

What's the prob. that the first event occurs  
within 10 sec ?

This means within 10 sec I have one or more  
events.

$$P(k=1) + P(k=2) + P(k=3) + \dots = 1 - P(k=0)$$

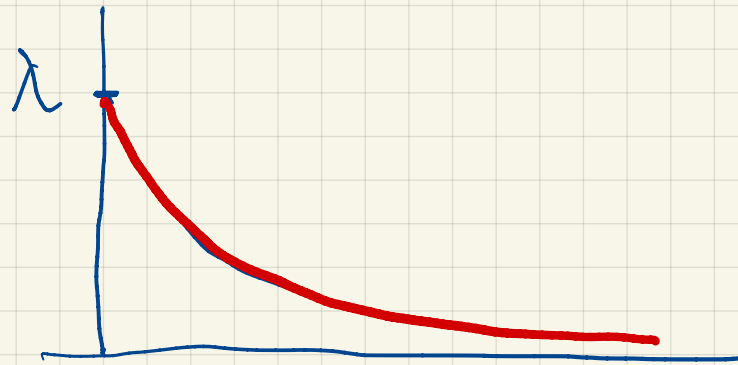
$$\text{For any } t \quad P(T \leq t) = 1 - \frac{(\lambda t)^0 e^{-\lambda t}}{0!} = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$



$$P(T \leq t) = \int_0^t f_T(z) dz = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$f_T(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$$

exponential density.



If  $X$  is exponentially distributed

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$$

then  $E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$

$$\sigma^2_X = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$P(T \geq t+z \mid \underline{\underline{T \geq z}})$$

I waited for  $z$  and nothing happened  
what's the prob. that I have to wait for an  
additional time  $t$

$$P(T \geq t+z \mid T \geq z) = \frac{\overbrace{P(T \geq z \mid T \geq t+z)}^1 P(T \geq t+z)}{P(T \geq z)}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\lambda(t+z)}}{e^{-\lambda z}} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$= P(T \geq t) \quad [\text{memoryless}]$$

Waiting for the additional time  $t$ , has the same prob.  
as waiting for  $t$  starting at time 0.

## Bayes rule with densities

$$f(x|y) = \frac{f(y|x)f(x)}{\int f(y|x)f(x)dx}$$

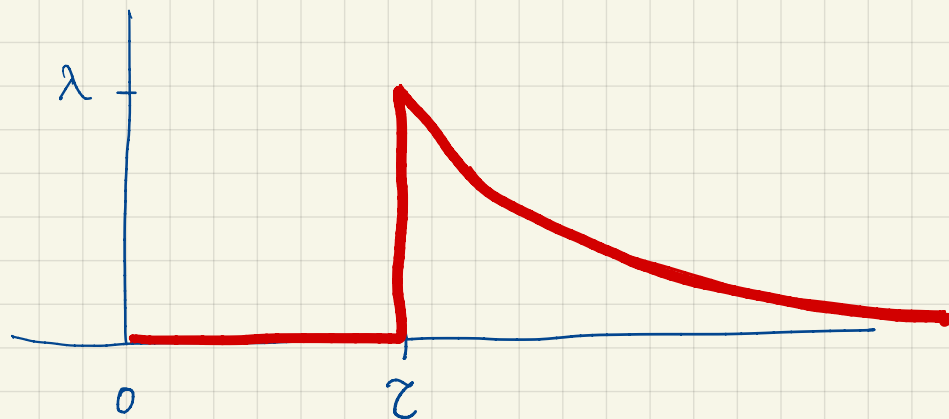
$$f_T(t | \underbrace{T \geq z}_{\text{Event}}) = \frac{P(T \geq z | T=t) f_T(t)}{\int_0^{\infty} P(T \geq z | T=t) f_T(t) dt}$$

$$P(T \geq z | T=t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t \geq z \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

the denominator is not 0 if  $t < z$   
[see below]

$$f_T(t|T \geq z) = \frac{\mathbb{1}_{t \geq z} \cdot f_T(t)}{\int_0^z \underbrace{P(T \geq z | T=t)}_0 f(t) dt + \int_z^\infty \underbrace{P(T \geq z | T=t)}_1 f(t) dt}$$

$$= \frac{\mathbb{1}_{t \geq z} f(t)}{\int_z^\infty f(t) dt = P(T \geq z)} = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda t}}{e^{-\lambda z}} = \lambda e^{-\lambda(t-z)} & t \geq z \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



In general

$$f(x|E) = \frac{P(E|X=x) f(x)}{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(E|X=x) f(x) dx}$$

$$P(E|x) = \frac{f(x|E) P(E)}{f(x|E) P(E) + f(x|E^c) [1 - P(E)]}$$