

Negative binomial distribution

Let X be the number of trials until the n -th success

$P(X=x | n, p) = P(A \text{ occurs } n-1 \text{ times in } x-1 \text{ trials and } A \text{ occurs in the } x\text{-th trial})$

$$= \binom{x-1}{n-1} p^{n-1} (1-p)^{x-n} p, \quad x = n, n+1, \dots$$

$$= \binom{x-1}{n-1} p^n (1-p)^{x-n}, \quad x = n, n+1, \dots$$

$n=1$ gives

$$P(X=x | 1, p) = p(1-p)^{x-1}, \quad x = 1, 2, \dots$$

which is the geometric distribution, for which

$$M_X(t) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} p(1-p)^{x-1} = p e^t \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} (e^t(1-p))^s = \frac{p e^t}{1 - e^t(1-p)}$$

$$\text{Need } e^t(1-p) < 1 \Leftrightarrow e^t < \frac{1}{1-p} \text{ or } t < \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-p}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_X'(t) &= \frac{p e^t}{1 - e^t(1-p)} + \frac{p e^t e^t(1-p)}{(1 - e^t(1-p))^2} = \frac{p e^t}{1 - e^t(1-p)} \left[1 + \frac{e^t(1-p)}{1 - e^t(1-p)} \right] \\ &= \frac{p e^t}{(1 - e^t(1-p))^2}. \quad M_X'(0) = \frac{1}{p} = E[X] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly: } \text{Var}[X] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = \frac{1-p}{p^2}.$$

Let $Y_1 \sim$ the number of trials until the 1. success

\vdots

$Y_i \sim$ — u — between the $(i-1)$ -th and the i -th

success.

$X \sim$ negative binomial $\Rightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ where Y_1, \dots, Y_n

are identical, independent geometric distributed.

Therefore, $E[X] = \frac{n}{p}$, $Var[X] = \frac{n(1-p)}{p^2}$

$$\text{and } M_X(t) = \left[\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t} \right]^n$$

For X negative binomial let $Y = X - n$

$$\Rightarrow P(Y=y) = P(X-n=y) = P(X=n+y)$$

$$= \binom{n+y-1}{n-1} p^n (1-p)^y, \quad y = 0, 1, \dots$$

Bernoulli, Binomial, Geometric, Negative Binomial

The Gamma distribution

The gamma function is defined as

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{\alpha-1} e^{-t} dt$$

$$\Gamma(\alpha+1) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{\alpha} e^{-t} dt = \left[-t^{\alpha} e^{-t} \right]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} \alpha t^{\alpha-1} e^{-t} dt = \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$$

$\Rightarrow \Gamma(\alpha+1) = \alpha!$ if α is a positive integer.

$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x}}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$, $x > 0$, $\alpha > 0$ is a pdf for a random variable X .

$$\text{Let } Y = \beta X \Rightarrow X = \frac{Y}{\beta}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{y^{\alpha-1}}{\beta^{\alpha-1}} \frac{e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha) \beta^{\alpha}} y^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}}, \quad y > 0, \alpha > 0, \beta > 0$$

This is defined as the pdf in the gamma distribution.

α is called the shape parameter and β the scale parameter.

Since $f_Y(y)$ is a density we have

$$\int_0^{\infty} y^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}} = \Gamma(\alpha) \beta^{\alpha}$$

$$E[Y^m] = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} y^{\alpha+m-1} e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}}}{\Gamma(\alpha) \beta^{\alpha}} = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+m) \beta^{\alpha+m}}{\Gamma(\alpha) \beta^{\alpha}}$$

provided $\alpha+m-1 > 0$ or $m > 1-\alpha$

$$\text{That gives } E[X] = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)\beta}{\Gamma(\alpha)} = \alpha\beta$$

$$E[X^2] = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2)\beta^2}{\Gamma(\alpha)} = \alpha(\alpha+1)\beta^2$$

$$\text{and } \text{Var}[X] = \alpha(\alpha+1)\beta^2 - \alpha^2\beta^2 = \alpha\beta^2$$

Useful results

If $X \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow cX \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, c\beta)$

If $m > 1 - \alpha \Rightarrow E[X^m]$ exist

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} \int_0^\infty e^{tx} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} dx = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta(1-\beta t)}} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} \Gamma(\alpha) \cdot \frac{\beta^\alpha}{(1-\beta t)^\alpha} = \frac{1}{(1-\beta t)^\alpha} \quad \text{provided } 1-\beta t > 0$$

or $t < \frac{1}{\beta}$.

$X \sim \text{gamma}(1, \beta) \Rightarrow f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1)} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}, x > 0, \beta > 0$

i.e. $X \sim \text{exp}(\frac{1}{\beta})$ and $M_X(t) = \frac{1}{1-\beta t}$

and $E[X] = \beta, \text{Var}[X] = \beta^2$

$X \sim \text{gamma}(d_1, \beta), Y \sim \text{gamma}(d_2, \beta)$ and independent

Let $Z = X + Y$

$$M_Z(t) = \frac{1}{(1-\beta t)^{d_1}} \cdot \frac{1}{(1-\beta t)^{d_2}} = \frac{1}{(1-\beta t)^{d_1+d_2}}$$

$\Rightarrow Z \sim \text{gamma}(d_1+d_2, \beta)$

Hence $X_1, \dots, X_m \sim \text{exp}(\frac{1}{\beta})$ and independent

$\Rightarrow Z = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i \sim \text{gamma}(m, \beta)$

$$Yf \quad X \sim \text{gamma}\left(\frac{p}{2}, 2\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma\left(\frac{p}{2}\right) 2^{\frac{p}{2}}} x^{\frac{p}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{x}{2}}, \quad x > 0$$

This is the density in the χ^2 -distribution with p degrees of freedom

Example. X_1, \dots, X_m independent and identically normally distributed with unknown expectation μ and unknown variance σ^2 .

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = S^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{m-1}$$

$$\text{Then } V = \frac{S^2(m-1)}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(m-1) \sim \text{gamma}\left(\frac{(m-1)}{2}, 2\right)$$

$$\text{and } S^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{m-1} V \sim \text{gamma}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}, \frac{2\sigma^2}{m-1}\right)$$

Poisson process

$$X \sim P_0(\lambda t) \Rightarrow P(X=x) = \frac{(\lambda t)^x e^{-\lambda t}}{x!}, \quad x=0,1,2,\dots$$

Let T_1 be the time to the first event. $T_1 \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$

$$\Rightarrow f_{T_1}(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{t}{\beta}} \sim T(1, \beta), \quad \beta = \frac{1}{\lambda}, \quad \lambda > 0, t > 0.$$

Let $T_d =$ time to event $d \Rightarrow T_d \sim T(d, \beta)$, d integer

$$P(T_d \leq t) \Leftrightarrow P(X \geq d) \quad \text{where } X \sim P_0(\lambda t).$$

The Beta distribution

$X \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, 1)$ and $Y \sim \text{gamma}(\beta, 1)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X}{X+Y} \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$$

The pdf is given by

$$f(x|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{\beta(\alpha, \beta)} x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \alpha > 0, \beta > 0$$

where $\beta(\alpha, \beta)$ denotes the beta function.

$$\beta(\alpha, \beta) = \int_0^1 x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}$$

For $m > -\alpha$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^m] &= \frac{1}{\beta(\alpha, \beta)} \int_0^1 x^m x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\beta(\alpha, \beta)} \int_0^1 x^{\alpha+m-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1} dx = \frac{\beta(\alpha+m, \beta)}{\beta(\alpha, \beta)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+m) \Gamma(\beta) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+m+\beta) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha) \cdot \Gamma(\beta)} = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+m) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+m) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$$\Rightarrow E[X] = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+1) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}$$

$$E[X^2] = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+2) \cdot \Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{(\alpha+\beta+1)(\alpha+\beta)}$$

$$\text{and } \text{Var}[X] = \frac{(\alpha+1)\alpha}{(\alpha+\beta+1)(\alpha+\beta)} - \frac{\alpha^2}{(\alpha+\beta)^2} = \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha+\beta)^2(\alpha+\beta+1)}$$