

Addition theorems for some distributions

X_1 and X_2 are independent random variables.

X_1	X_2	$X_1 + X_2$
$B(n_1, p)$	$B(n_2, p)$	$B(n_1 + n_2, p)$
$P(\lambda_1)$	$P(\lambda_2)$	$P(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
$NB(r_1, p)$	$NB(r_2, p)$	$NB(r_1 + r_2, p)$
$E(\lambda)$	$E(\lambda)$	$\Gamma(2, \lambda)$
$\Gamma(n_1, \lambda)$	$\Gamma(n_2, \lambda)$	$\Gamma(n_1 + n_2, \lambda)$
$N(\mu_1, \sigma_1)$	$N(\mu_2, \sigma_2)$	$N(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2})$
$\chi^2(r_1)$	$\chi^2(r_2)$	$\chi^2(r_1 + r_2)$
$C(a)$	$C(a)$	$C(2a)$

17.2 Probability Distributions

Discrete probability distributions (random variables)

Distribution	$P(X=x)$	Expectation μ	Variance σ^2	Example of application
Binomial $B(n, p)$	$\binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$ $x=0, 1, \dots, n$	np	$np(1-p)$	The frequency in n independent trials has a binomial distribution. Probability in each trial = p
Geometric $G(p)$	$(1-p)^{x-1} p$ $x=1, 2, 3, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	The number of required trials until an event with probability p occurs has a geometric distribution
Poisson $P(\lambda)$	$\frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}$ $x=0, 1, 2, \dots$	λ	λ	Distribution of number of points in random point process under certain simple assumptions. Approximation to the binomial distribution when n is large and p is small, $\lambda = np$.
Hypergeometric $H(N, n, p)$	$\frac{\binom{N}{x} \binom{N-p}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$	np	$np(1-p) \frac{N-n}{N-1}$	This distribution is used in connection with sampling without replacement from a finite population with elements of two different kinds
Negative binomial or Pascal $NB(r, p)$	$\binom{r-1}{x-r} p^r (1-p)^{x-r}$ $x=r, r+1, \dots$	$\frac{r}{p}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$	The number of required trials until an event with probability p occurs for the r th time has a negative binomial distribution

Continuous probability distributions (random variables)

Distribution	$f(x)$	Expectation μ	Variance σ^2	Example of application
Uniform $U(a, b)$	$\frac{1}{b-a}$ $a \leq x \leq b$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$	Certain waiting times Rounding off errors
Exponential $E(\lambda)$	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$ $x \geq 0$	$1/\lambda$	$1/\lambda^2$	Distribution of length of life when no aging
Normed normal distribution $N(0, 1)$	$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}$	0	1	If X has a general normal distribution, then $(X-\mu)/\sigma$ has a normed normal distribution
General normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma)$	$\frac{1}{\sigma} \varphi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$	μ	σ^2	Under general conditions, the sum of a large number of random variables is approximately normally distributed (<i>the central limit theorem</i>)
Gamma $\Gamma(n, \lambda)$	$\frac{\lambda^n}{\Gamma(n)} x^{n-1} e^{-\lambda x}$	$\frac{n}{\lambda}$	$\frac{n}{\lambda^2}$	Distribution of the sum of n independent random variables with an exponential distribution with parameter λ
χ^2 $\chi^2(r)$	$\frac{1}{2^{r/2} \Gamma(r/2)} x^{r/2-1} e^{-x/2}$ $x \geq 0$ The parameter r is called the "number of degrees of freedom".	r	$2r$	Distribution of $u_1^2 + u_2^2 + \dots + u_r^2$, where u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r are independent and have a normed normal distribution
t $t(r)$	$\frac{a_r}{b_r} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{r}\right)^{-\frac{r+1}{2}}$ $a_r = \Gamma\left(\frac{r+1}{2}\right)$ $b_r = \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{r}{2}\right)$	$0, r > 1$	$\frac{r}{r-2}, r > 2$	Distribution of $u/\sqrt{X/r}$ where u and X are independent, u has a normed normal distribution and X a χ^2 -distribution with r degrees of freedom
F $F(r_1, r_2)$	$\frac{a_r x^{(r_1/2)-1}}{b_r (r_2 + r_1 x)^{\frac{r_1+r_2}{2}}}$ $x \geq 0$ $a_r = \Gamma\left(\frac{r_1+r_2}{2}\right) r_1^{r_2} r_2^{r_1/2}$ $b_r = \Gamma\left(\frac{r_1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{r_2}{2}\right)$	$\frac{r_2}{r_2-2}$ $r_2 > 2$	$\frac{2r_2^2(r_1+r_2-2)}{r_1(r_2-2)^2(r_2-4)}$ $r_2 > 4$	Distribution of $(X_1/r_1)/(X_2/r_2)$, where X_1 and X_2 are independent and have χ^2 -distributions with r_1 and r_2 degrees of freedom