## **Discrete** distributions

• Uniform, U(m)

- PMF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{m}$$
, for  $x = 1, 2, ..., m$   
-  $\mu = \frac{m+1}{2}$  and  $\sigma^2 = \frac{m^2 - 1}{12}$ 

• Hypergeometric

- PMF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{\binom{N_1}{x}\binom{N_2}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

-x is the number of items from the sample of n items that are from group/type 1.

$$-\mu = n(\frac{N_1}{N}) \text{ and } \sigma^2 = n(\frac{N_1}{N})(\frac{N_2}{N})(\frac{N-n}{N-1})$$

• Binomial, b(n, p)

- PMF: 
$$f(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$
, for  $x = 0, 1, ..., n$ 

- -x is the number of successes in n trials.
- $\mu = np$  and  $\sigma^2 = np(1-p) = npq$

- MGF: 
$$M(t) = [(1-p) + pe^t]^n = (q + pe^t)^n$$

• Negative Binomial, nb(r, p)

- PMF: 
$$f(x) = {\binom{x-1}{r-1}} p^r (1-p)^{x-r}$$
, for  $x = r, r+1, r+2, \dots$ 

-x is the number of trials necessary to see r successes.

$$-\mu = r(\frac{1}{p}) = \frac{r}{p} \text{ and } \sigma^2 = \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2} = \frac{rq}{p^2}$$
$$-\text{ MGF: } M(t) = \frac{(pe^t)^r}{[1-(1-p)e^t]^r} = \left(\frac{pe^t}{1-qe^t}\right)^r$$

- Geometric, geo(p)
  - PMF:  $f(x) = (1-p)^{x-1}p$ , for x = 1, 2, ...
  - -x is the number of trials necessary to see 1 success.

$$\begin{aligned} &-\text{ CDF: } P(X \le k) = 1 - (1-p)^k = 1 - q^k \text{ and } P(X > k) = (1-p)^k = q^k \\ &-\mu = \frac{1}{p} \text{ and } \sigma^2 = \frac{1-p}{p^2} = \frac{q}{p^2} \\ &-\text{ MGF: } M(t) = \frac{pe^t}{1 - (1-p)e^t} = \frac{pe^t}{1 - qe^t} \end{aligned}$$

– Distribution is said to be "memoryless", because P(X > k + j | X > k) = P(X > j).

• Poisson

- PMF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda^{x} e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$
, for  $x = 0, 1, 2, ...$ 

- -x is the number of changes in a unit of time or length.
- $\lambda$  is the average number of changes in a unit of time or length in a Poisson process.

- CDF: 
$$P(X \le x) = e^{-\lambda} (1 + \lambda + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{\lambda^x}{x!})$$
  
-  $\mu = \sigma^2 = \lambda$   
- MGF:  $M(t) = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$ 

## **Continuous Distributions**

• Uniform, U(a, b)

- PDF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}$$
, for  $a \le x \le b$   
- CDF:  $P(X \le x) = \frac{x-a}{b-a}$ , for  $a \le x \le b$   
-  $\mu = \frac{a+b}{2}$  and  $\sigma^2 = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$   
- MGF:  $M(t) = \frac{e^{tb} - e^{ta}}{t(b-a)}$ , for  $t \ne 0$ , and  $M(0) = 1$ 

• Exponential

- PDF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\theta}e^{-x/\theta}$$
, for  $x \ge 0$ 

- -x is the waiting time we are experiencing to see one change occur.
- $\theta$  is the average waiting time between changes in a Poisson process. (Sometimes called the "hazard rate".)
- CDF:  $P(X \le x) = 1 e^{-x/\theta}$ , for  $x \ge 0$ .

$$-\mu = \theta$$
 and  $\sigma^2 = \theta^2$ 

$$- \text{ MGF: } M(t) = \frac{1}{1 - \theta t}$$

- Distribution is said to be "memoryless", because  $P(X \ge x_1 + x_2 | X \ge x_1) = P(X \ge x_2)$ .

• Gamma

- PDF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\theta^{\alpha}} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\theta} = \frac{1}{(\alpha-1)!\theta^{\alpha}} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\theta}$$
, for  $x \ge 0$ 

- x is the waiting time we are experiencing to see  $\alpha$  changes.
- $-\theta$  is the average waiting time between changes in a Poisson process and  $\alpha$  is the number of changes that we are waiting to see.

$$-\mu = \alpha \theta$$
 and  $\sigma^2 = \alpha \theta^2$ 

$$- \text{ MGF: } M(t) = \frac{1}{(1 - \theta t)^{\alpha}}$$

• Chi-square (Gamma with  $\theta = 2$  and  $\alpha = \frac{r}{2}$ )

- PDF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(r/2)2^{r/2}} x^{r/2-1} e^{-x/2}$$
, for  $x \ge 0$   
-  $\mu = r$  and  $\sigma^2 = 2r$   
- MGF:  $M(t) = \frac{1}{(1-2t)^{r/2}}$ 

• Normal,  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ 

- PDF: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}$$
  
- MGF:  $M(t) = e^{\mu t + \sigma^2 t^2/2}$ 

Integration formulas

• 
$$\int p(x)e^{ax} dx = \frac{1}{a}p(x)e^{ax} - \frac{1}{a^2}p'(x)e^{ax} + \frac{1}{a^3}p''(x)e^{ax} - \dots$$
  
• 
$$\int_a^\infty x \left(\frac{1}{\theta}e^{-x/\theta}\right) dx = (a+\theta)e^{-a/\theta}$$
  
• 
$$\int_a^\infty x^2 \left(\frac{1}{\theta}e^{-x/\theta}\right) dx = ((a+\theta)^2 + \theta^2)e^{-a/\theta}$$

Other Useful Facts

- $\sigma^2 = E[(X \mu)^2] = E[X^2] \mu^2 = M''(0) M'(0)^2$
- $\operatorname{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X \mu_x)(Y \mu_y)] = E[XY] \mu_x \mu_y$
- $\operatorname{Cov}(X, Y) = \sigma_{xy} = \rho \sigma_x \sigma_y$ and  $\rho = \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$
- Least squares regression line:  $y = \mu_y + \rho \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} (x \mu_x)$
- When variables  $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$  are not pairwise independent, then  $\operatorname{Var}(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} \sigma_{ij}$ and  $\operatorname{Var}(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} a_i a_j \sigma_{ij}$ where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the covariance of  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ .
- When X depends upon Y, E[X] = E[E[X|Y]].
- When X depends upon Y, Var(X) = E[Var(X|Y)] + Var(E[X|Y]). (Called the "Total Variance" of X.)
- Chebyshev's Inequality: For a random variable X having any distribution with finite mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ ,  $P(|X \mu| \ge k\sigma) \le \frac{1}{k^2}$ .
- For the variables X and Y having the joint PMF/PDF f(x, y), the moment generating function for this distribution is

$$M(t_1, t_2) = E[e^{t_1 X + t_2 Y}] = E[e^{t_1 X} e^{t_2 Y}] = \sum_x \sum_y e^{t_1 x} e^{t_2 y} f(x, y)$$

 $-\mu_x = M_{t_1}(0,0)$  and  $\mu_y = M_{t_2}(0,0)$  (These are the first partial derivatives.)

- $E[X^2] = M_{t_1t_1}(0,0) \text{ and } E[Y^2] = M_{t_2t_2}(0,0) \text{ (These are the "pure" second partial derivatives.)} \\ E[XY] = M_{t_1t_2}(0,0) = M_{t_2t_1}(0,0) \text{ (These are the "mixed" second partial derivatives.)}$
- Central Limit Theorem: As the sample size n grows,

- the distribution of  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i$  becomes approximately normal with mean  $n\mu$  and variance  $n\sigma^2$ 

- the distribution of 
$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i$$
 becomes approximately normal with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\frac{\sigma^2}{n}$ .

- If X and Y are joint distributed with PMF f(x, y), then
  - the marginal distribution of X is given by  $f_x(x) = \sum_y f(x, y)$ - the marginal distribution of Y is given by  $f_y(y) = \sum_x f(x, y)$

$$- f(x|y = y_0) = \frac{f(x, y_0)}{f_y(y_0)}.$$
$$- E[X|Y = y_0] = \sum_x x f(x|y = y_0) = \frac{\sum_x x f(x, y_0)}{f_y(y_0)}$$