

MATH 425

10/19/2011

Note Title

10/19/2011

Negative binomial variable

We keep making independent Bernoulli trials with probability of success $= p$, until we get r failures. How many successes? X

Probability mass function

$$P\{X = k\} = \binom{k+r-1}{k} p^k (1-p)^r$$

$\underbrace{? \dots ?}_k$ F
 k successes & $(r-1)$ failures
 k factors

of possibilities
 is $\binom{k+r-1}{k}$

$$\binom{k+r-1}{k} = \frac{\overbrace{(k+r-1)(k+r-2) \dots r}^{k \text{ factors}}}{k!} =$$

$$= \frac{(-r) \cdot (-r-1) \cdot \dots \cdot (-r-k+1)}{k!} (-1)^k = (-1)^k \binom{-r}{k}$$

Negative binomial probability mass function

$$P\{X = k\} = \binom{-r}{k} (-p)^k (1-p)^r \quad || \quad \textcircled{\times}$$

What we learned: $a \in \mathbb{R}$, we can define

$$\binom{a}{k} = \frac{a \cdot (a-1) \cdot \dots \cdot (a-k+1)}{k!}$$

$$k \in \mathbb{N}_0 \quad \binom{a}{0} = 1$$

Newton's formula (generalizes the binomial theorem)

$$(1+x)^a = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{a}{k} x^k \quad \text{for } |x| < 1.$$

(Note: If $a = n \in \mathbb{N}$, $k > n$ then $\binom{n}{k} = 0$.)

Let us verify $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P\{X=k\} = 1$:

From $\textcircled{*}$ 1

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P\{X=k\} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-r}{k} (-p)^k (1-p)^r =$$

$$= (1-p)^r \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-r}{k} (-p)^k = (1-p)^r (1-p)^{-r} = 1.$$

use Newton's formula

$$x = -p \quad 1+x = 1-p$$

Example: A baseball pitcher walks a batter with probability $\frac{1}{10}$. A manager decides to pull him when he has walked 5 batters.

What is the probability that he will have pitched to exactly 15 batters before he is pulled?

Solution: $r = 5$ $p = \frac{1}{10}$, $k + r = 15$

$$k = 10$$

$$P\{X = 10\} = \binom{10}{5} \cdot \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^{10} \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^5 = \dots \quad \square$$

Calculating the expected value and the variance of the negative binomial.

Expected value of the negative binomial

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \cdot \binom{-r}{k} (-p)^k (1-p)^r = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-r) \binom{-r-1}{k-1} (-p)^k (1-p)^r =$$

$$a = -r$$

$$\text{let } l = k-1$$

$$k \cdot \binom{a}{k} = \frac{\binom{a}{k} (a-k+1)}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot (k-1)} = a \binom{a-1}{k-1}$$

$$(-p) \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{-r-1}{l} (-p)^{l+1} (1-p)^r = (-p)(1-p)^r \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{-r-1}{l} (-p)^l$$

$$(-p)(1-p)^r (-p)^{-r-1} = \frac{pr}{1-p}$$

Caution: reparametrisation
on the book!

Second moment:

$$E(X^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 \binom{-r}{k} (-p)^k (1-p)^r =$$

$$(-1)^r \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \binom{-r-1}{k-1} (-p)^k (1-p)^r = p^r (1-p)^r \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (l+1) \binom{-r-1}{l} (-p)^l$$

$l = k-1$

$$= p^r (1-p)^r \left(\underbrace{\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} l \binom{-r-1}{l} (-p)^l}_{(r+1)p(1-p)^{-r-2}} + \underbrace{\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{-r-1}{l} (-p)^l}_{(1-p)^{-r-1}} \right)$$

$$\left[(1+x)^a = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{a}{k} x^k \right] a(1+x)^{a-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \binom{a}{k} x^{k-1}$$

$$= p^L \left((L+1)p(1-p)^{-2} + (1-p)^{-1} \right)$$

$$\text{var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 =$$

$$= p^L \left(\underbrace{(L+1)p(1-p)^{-2} + (1-p)^{-1}}_{Lp(1-p)^{-2} + p(1-p)^{-2}} \right) - p^{2L}(1-p)^{-2} =$$

$$= p^L \left(p(1-p)^{-2} + \underbrace{(1-p)^{-1}}_{(1-p)(1-p)^{-2}} \right) = \frac{p^L}{(1-p)^2}$$

HW ① Reconcile my notation of the book
and decide if I got the formulas
for mean and variance right.

② 4.75 p. 178

③ 4.28 p. 182