

## Lecture 14

• Prop: Suppose that  $x$  is an integrable discrete random variable with range contained in  $0, 1, 2, \dots$ , then we have  $E[x] = \sum_{n \geq 0} P(x > n)$

• Ex Let  $X$  be the number of rolls a die until the first 6 appears.  $X \sim \text{Geom}(\frac{1}{6})$ . We know  $P(x > n) = (\frac{5}{6})^n$ .

Hence :

$$E[x] = 1 + \frac{5}{6} + (\frac{5}{6})^2 + \dots + (\frac{5}{6})^n + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{5}{6}} = 6.$$

Rmks:

- The mean shows the "center"
- The variance tells how far values typically lie from that center (spread)
- The standard deviation is the typical distance from the mean.

Question: Why not just  $E[x - \mu]$ ? Why  $E[(x - \mu)^2]$ ?

↳ Answer: Because  $E[x - \mu] = 0$  always.

## Probability Generating Functions:

- Def: (The probability generating function). Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable with range  $N_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ . For  $n \in N_0$  we set  $p_n = P(X=n)$ .

The probability generating function (pgf) of  $X$  is the function

$$G_X: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad G_X(s) = p_0 + p_1 s + \dots + p_n s^n + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n s^n$$

- Ex Let  $X$  be a random variable with range  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  and pmf,  
 $p(0) = p(3) = \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $p(1) = p(2) = \frac{3}{8}$

$$G_X(s) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8}s + \frac{3}{8}s^2 + \frac{1}{8}s^3$$

- Any statistical quantity associated to a random variable can be expressed in terms of its probability generation function.

Prop: Suppose that  $X$  is a discrete random variable with range contained in  $N_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

If  $G_X(s)$  is the pgf of  $X$  then:

$$G_X(1) = 1$$

$$E[X] = G_X'(1)$$

$$M_2[X] = G_X''(1) + G_X'(1)$$

$$\text{var}[X] = G_X''(1) + G_X'(1) - [G_X'(1)]^2$$

$X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$   $X = \{0, 1\}$

$$G_X(s) = p_0 + p_1 s = (1-p) + ps$$

$$G_X'(s) = p \quad E[X] = p$$

$$G_X''(s) = 0 \quad \text{var}[X] = 0 + p - p^2 \\ = p(1-p)$$

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p) \quad \mathcal{X} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$G_X(s) = p_0 + p_1 s + p_2 s^2 + \dots + p_n s^n$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n P(X=k) s^k$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} (1-p)^n + \binom{n}{1} (1-p)^{n-1} p s + \binom{n}{2} (1-p)^{n-2} p^2 s^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} p^n s^n$$

$$= [(1-p) + ps]^n \quad \text{by Newton's binomial formula}$$

$$= [G_{\text{Ber}(p)}(s)]^n$$

$$G_X'(s) = np [(1-p) + ps]^{n-1}$$

$$G_X''(s) = n(n-1) p^2 [(1-p) + ps]^{n-2}$$

$$G_X'(1) = np = E[X]$$

$$G_X''(1) = n(n-1) p^2$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = n(n-1) p^2 + np - n^2 p^2$$

$$= np [(n-1)p + 1 - np] = np(1-p)$$

$$X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$$

$$G_X(s) = p_0 + p_1 s + \dots = ps + (1-p)ps^2 + (1-p)^2 ps^3 + \dots$$

$$= ps [1 + (1-p)s + (1-p)^2 s^2 + \dots] = \frac{ps}{1-(1-p)s}$$

$$G_X'(s) = \frac{p[1-(1-p)s] + ps(1-p)}{[1-(1-p)s]^2} = \frac{p}{[1-(1-p)s]^2}$$

$$\text{recall } \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{gf' - fg'}{g^2}$$

$$G_X'(1) = \frac{p}{[1-(1-p)]^2} = \frac{1}{p} = E[X]$$

$$G_X''(s) = \dots$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \dots$$

$X \sim \text{Neg Bin}(r, p)$

$$G_X(s) = \sum_{n=r}^{\infty} P(X=n) s^n$$

because  $P(X=n)$  for  $n < r$  is always 0.

$$= \sum_{n=r}^{\infty} \binom{n-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{n-r} s^n$$

$$= p^r (1-p)^{-r} \sum_{n=r}^{\infty} \binom{n-1}{r-1} (1-p)^n s^n$$

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

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

$$[1 - (1-p)s]^{-r}$$

$$G_X(s) = p^r s^r [1 - (1-p)s]^{-r}$$

$$= \left( \frac{ps}{1 - (1-p)s} \right)^r$$

$X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$

$$G_X(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n s^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} s^n$$

$$= e^{-\lambda} + \frac{\lambda}{1!} e^{-\lambda} s + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} e^{-\lambda} s^2 + \dots$$

$$= e^{-\lambda} \left( 1 + \frac{\lambda s}{1!} + \frac{(\lambda s)^2}{2!} + \dots \right) = e^{-\lambda} \cdot e^{\lambda s} = e^{\lambda(s-1)}$$

$$G_X'(s) = \lambda e^{\lambda(s-1)}$$

$$G_X''(s) = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda(s-1)}$$

$$G_X'(1) = \lambda$$

$$G_X''(1) = \lambda^2$$

$$E[X] = \lambda$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \lambda$$