

STAT 234 Lecture 6A

Binomial Distributions, Part 2

Section 3.5

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Binomial Distribution (Review)

Suppose n **independent** Bernoulli trials are to be performed, each of which results in

- a *success* with probability p and
- a *failure* with probability $1 - p$.

If we define

$X =$ the number of successes that occur in the n trials,

then X is said to have a *binomial distribution* with parameters (n, p) , denoted as

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p).$$

with the *probability mass function (pmf)*

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Binomial Conditions (Review)

Conditions required to apply the binomial formula:

1. each trial outcome must be classified as a *success* or a *failure*
2. the probability of success, p , must be the same for each trial
3. the number of trials, n , must be fixed
4. the trials must be independent
 - Draws made *without replacement* from a population are dependent
 - However, if the sample size (number of trials/draws) is *at most 5%* of the population size, the trials (outcomes of draws) are *approx. independent*.

Example: Driver's License

Suppose 80% of UChicago undergrads have their driver's license. Among a random sample of 10 UChicago undergrads, what is the probability that exactly 6 have license? Exactly 8?

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Let X = the number of undergrads w/ license in a sample of size 10. $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 10, p = 0.8)$

$$P(X = 6) = \binom{10}{6} \times 0.8^6 \times 0.2^4 = 210 \times 0.8^6 \times 0.2^4 \approx 0.088$$

$$P(X = 8) = \binom{10}{8} \times 0.8^8 \times 0.2^2 = 45 \times 0.8^8 \times 0.2^2 \approx 0.302.$$

R command for calculating $P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$ is
`dbinom(x, size = n, p)`

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dbinom(6, size = 10, p = 0.8)
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[1] 0.08808038
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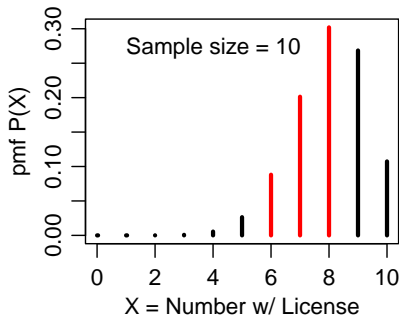
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dbinom(8, size = 10, p = 0.8)
```

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[1] 0.3019899
```

Example: Driver's License (Cont'd)

In a sample of size 10, what is the probability that 6 to 8 of them have license?

$$\begin{aligned}P(6 \leq X \leq 8) &= P(X = 6) + P(X = 7) + P(X = 8) \\&= \binom{10}{6} 0.8^6 0.2^4 + \binom{10}{7} 0.8^7 0.2^3 + \binom{10}{8} 0.8^8 0.2^2 \\&\approx 0.088 + 0.201 + 0.302 = 0.591\end{aligned}$$



Expected Value, Variance, and SD of Binomial Distributions

Expected Value, Variance and SD of Bin($n = 1, p$)

A Binomial random variable $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ with $n = 1$ can only take value 0 or 1 with the distribution below

value of X	0	1
probability	$1 - p$	p

The expected value, variance, and SD of Bin($n = 1, p$) can be calculated as follows.

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0,1} xp(x) = 0 \cdot (1 - p) + 1 \cdot p = \boxed{p},$$

$$E(X^2) = \sum_{x=0,1} x^2 p(x) = 0^2 \cdot (1 - p) + 1^2 \cdot p = p,$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = p - p^2 = \boxed{p(1 - p)} \quad \text{by the shortcut formula}$$

$$\text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)} = \boxed{\sqrt{p(1 - p)}}$$

Expected Value, Variance and SD of $\text{Bin}(n, p)$

For a Binomial random variable $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$, the mean, variance, and the SD are respectively

$$\mu = E(X) = np$$

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p)$$

$$\sigma = \text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{np(1 - p)}$$

Note the SD increases proportionally to \sqrt{n} , not n .

The proof will be given next week

Suppose 80% of UChicago undergrads have their driver's license. Among a random sample of 63 UChicago undergrads, how many do you expect to have driver's license? With what SD?

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 63, p = 0.8)$$

$$E(X) = np = 63 \times 0.8 = 50.4,$$

$$\text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)} = \sqrt{63(0.8)(1-0.8)} \approx 3.175$$

Mean and SD of Binomial distributions *might NOT be whole numbers*, and that is alright, these values represent what we would expect to see on average. **Do NOT round the mean and SD to integers.**

99.7% of the Probability Are Within 3 SDs from Mean

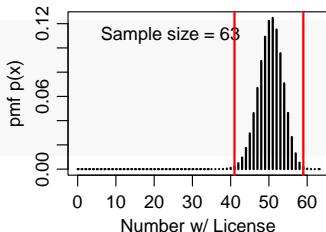
Almost all (99.7%) the probability of a random variables are *within 3 SDs away from the mean (expected value)*.

From the $E(X)$ and SD just computed, the possible number of students w/ license in a sample of size 63 is likely between

$$50.4 \pm (3 \times 3.175) \approx (40.875, 59.925)$$

For $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 63, p = 0.8)$, $P(41 \leq X \leq 59) \approx 0.9976$ and $P(40 \leq X \leq 60) \approx 0.9992$.

```
sum(dbinom(41:59, size=63, p = 0.8))  
[1] 0.9976559  
sum(dbinom(40:60, size=63, p = 0.8))  
[1] 0.9991908
```



Proof of the Expected Value of Binomial (Optional)

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{x=0}^n xP(X = x) = \sum_{x=0}^n x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= \sum_{x=1}^n x \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \end{aligned}$$

One key step: observe that

$$x \binom{n}{x} = x \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} = \frac{n!}{(x-1)!(n-x)!} = \frac{n \times (n-1)!}{(x-1)!(n-x)!} = n \binom{n-1}{x-1}.$$

Replacing $x\binom{n}{x}$ in $E(X)$ with $n\binom{n-1}{x-1}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{x=1}^n x\binom{n}{x}p^x(1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= \sum_{x=1}^n n\binom{n-1}{x-1}p^x(1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= np \sum_{x=1}^n \binom{n-1}{x-1}p^{x-1}(1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= np \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k}p^k(1-p)^{n-1-k} \quad \text{let } k = x - 1 \\ &= np(p + 1 - p)^{n-1} = np \end{aligned}$$

where $\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k}p^k(1-p)^{n-1-k} = (p + 1 - p)^{n-1}$ comes from the Binomial expansion

$$(a + b)^N = \sum_{k=0}^N \binom{N}{k}a^k b^{N-k}$$

with $a = p$, $b = 1 - p$, and $N = n - 1$.