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Imp. [G.B.T.U. 2013; M.T.U. 2013, 2014]

Poisson Distribution: → It is a Particular limiting

form of the Binomial distribution when p or q is very small and n is very big. while Poisson

distribution is $P(r) = \frac{m^r e^{-m}}{r!}$, where m is the mean

Proof: - In Binomial distribution

$$P(r) = {}^n C_r p^r (1-p)^{n-r}$$

$$= {}^n C_r \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^{n-r} \left(\frac{m}{n}\right)^r$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-r+1)}{r!} \left(\frac{m}{n}\right)^r \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^{n-r}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{n}{n} \left(\frac{n}{n} - \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(\frac{n}{n} - \frac{2}{n}\right) \dots \left(\frac{n}{n} - \frac{r-1}{n}\right) m^r \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^n}{r! \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^r}$$

$$= \frac{1 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{r-1}{n}\right) m^r \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^n}{r! \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^r}$$

Since mean

$$m = np$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{m}{n}$$

Taking limits, when n tends to infinity

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^{-\frac{n}{m}}\right]^{-m} = e^{-m}$$

{ Since n is very large }

$$\Rightarrow P(r) = \frac{m^r}{r!} e^{-m}$$

Proved.

Note 1: - m is called the parameter of the distribution.

Note 2: The sum of the probabilities $P(r)$ for $r=0, 1, 2, \dots$ is 1.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } P(0) + P(1) + P(2) + \dots &= e^{-m} + \frac{m e^{-m}}{1} + \frac{m^2 e^{-m}}{2!} + \frac{m^3 e^{-m}}{3!} + \dots \\ &= e^{-m} \left(1 + \frac{m}{1} + \frac{m^2}{2!} + \frac{m^3}{3!} + \dots\right) = e^{-m} \cdot e^m = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Recurrence Formula for the Poisson Distribution

For Poisson distribution, $P(r) = \frac{e^{-m} m^r}{r!}$, $P(r+1) = \frac{e^{-m} m^{r+1}}{(r+1)!}$

$$\therefore \frac{P(r+1)}{P(r)} = \frac{m^{r+1}}{m^r} \cdot \frac{r!}{(r+1)!} = \frac{m}{r+1}$$

$$\text{or } P(r+1) = \frac{m}{r+1} P(r), \quad r=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Mean and Variance of the Poisson distribution (AKTU-2018)

For the Poisson distribution, $P(r) = \frac{e^{-m} m^r}{r!}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Mean } \mu &= \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r P(r) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r \frac{e^{-m} m^r}{r!} \\ &= e^{-m} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{m^r}{(r-1)!} = e^{-m} \left(m + \frac{m^2}{1!} + \frac{m^3}{2!} + \dots \right) \\ &= m e^{-m} \left(1 + \frac{m}{1!} + \frac{m^2}{2!} + \dots \right) \\ &= m e^{-m} \cdot e^m = m = \text{mean} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Variance } \sigma^2 &= \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r^2 P(r) - \mu^2 = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r^2 \frac{m^r e^{-m}}{r!} - m^2 \\ &= e^{-m} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^2 m^r}{r!} - m^2 \\ &= e^{-m} \left[\frac{1^2 m}{1!} + \frac{2^2 m^2}{2!} + \frac{3^2 m^3}{3!} + \frac{4^2 m^4}{4!} + \dots \right] - m^2 \\ &= m e^{-m} \left[1 + \frac{2 \cdot 2 m}{1!} + \frac{3^2 m^2}{2!} + \frac{4^2 m^3}{3!} + \dots \right] - m^2 \\ &= m e^{-m} \left[1 + \frac{(1+1)m}{1!} + \frac{(1+2)m^2}{2!} + \frac{1+3}{3!} + \dots \right] - m^2 \\ &= m e^{-m} \left[1 + \frac{m}{1!} + \frac{m^2}{2!} + \frac{m^3}{3!} + \dots \right] + \left[\frac{m}{1!} + \frac{2m^2}{2!} + \frac{3m^3}{3!} + \dots \right] - m^2 \\ &= m e^{-m} \left[e^m + m \left(1 + \frac{m}{1!} + \frac{m^2}{2!} + \dots \right) \right] - m^2 \\ &= m e^{-m} \left[e^m + m e^m \right] - m^2 = m e^{-m} \cdot e^m (1+m) - m^2 \\ &= m(1+m) - m^2 = m \end{aligned}$$

Hence, Variance = m