

Formulae for distributions (topic 8.2, further mathematics SL topic 2.2)

Discrete distributions

Distribution	Notation	Probability mass function	Mean	Variance
Bernoulli	$X \sim B(1, p)$	$p^x(1-p)^{1-x}$ for $x = 0, 1$	p	$p(1-p)$
Binomial	$X \sim B(n, p)$	$\binom{n}{x} p^x(1-p)^{n-x}$ for $x = 0, 1, \dots, n$	np	$np(1-p)$
Hypergeometric	$X \sim \text{Hyp}(n, M, N)$	$\frac{\binom{M}{x} \binom{N-M}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$ for $x = 0, 1, \dots, n$	np where $p = \frac{M}{N}$	$np(1-p) \left(\frac{N-n}{N-1} \right)$ where $p = \frac{M}{N}$
Poisson	$X \sim P_o(m)$	$\frac{m^x e^{-m}}{x!}$ for $x = 0, 1, \dots$	m	m
Geometric	$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$	pq^{x-1} for $x = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{q}{p^2}$
Negative binomial	$X \sim \text{NB}(r, p)$	$\binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r q^{x-r}$ for $x = r, r+1, \dots$	$\frac{r}{p}$	$\frac{rq}{p^2}$
Discrete uniform	$X \sim \text{DU}(n)$	$\frac{1}{n}$ for $x = 1, \dots, n$	$\frac{n+1}{2}$	$\frac{n^2-1}{12}$

Continuous distributions

Distribution	Notation	Probability density function	Mean	Variance
Uniform	$X \sim U(a, b)$	$\frac{1}{(b-a)}, a \leq x \leq b$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$
Exponential	$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x}, x \geq 0$	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$
Normal	$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$	$\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$		σ^2