

Chapter 5 Statistical Models in Simulations

Contents

- Basic Probability Theory Concepts
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Purpose & Overview

- The world the model-builder sees is probabilistic rather than deterministic.
 - Some statistical model might well describe the variations.
- An appropriate model can be developed by sampling the phenomenon of interest:
 - Select a known distribution through educated guesses
 - Make estimate of the parameters
 - Test for goodness of fit
- In this chapter:
 - Review several important probability distributions
 - Present some typical application of these models

Basic Probability Theory Concepts

Review of Terminology and Concepts

- In this section, we will review the following concepts:
 - Discrete random variables
 - Continuous random variables
 - Cumulative distribution function
 - Expected value

Discrete Random Variables

- *X* is a discrete random variable if the number of possible values of *X* is finite, or countable infinite.
- Example: Consider packets arriving at a router.
 - Let *X* be the number of packets arriving each second at a router.
 - R_X = possible values of X (range space of X) = {0,1,2,...}
 - $p(x_i)$ = probability the random variable X is x_i , $p(x_i) = P(X = x_i)$
 - *p*(*x_i*), *i* = 1,2, ... must satisfy:

1. $p(x_i) \ge 0$, for all *i*

- $2. \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p(x_i) = 1$
- The collection of pairs (*x_i*, *p*(*x_i*)), *i* = 1,2,..., is called the **probability distribution** of *X*, and
- $p(x_i)$ is called the **probability mass function (PMF)** of X.

Continuous Random Variables

- X is a continuous random variable if its range space R_X is an interval or a collection of intervals.
- The probability that *X* lies in the interval [*a*, *b*] is given by:

$$P(a \le X \le b) = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx$$

• f(x) is called the **probability density function** (PDF) of X, and satisfies:

1.
$$f(x) \ge 0$$
, for all x in R_X
2. $\int_{R_X} f(x) dx = 1$
3. $f(x) = 0$, if x is not in R_X

• Properties

$$f(x) \qquad P(X \in [a,b])$$

1.
$$P(X = x_0) = 0$$
, because $\int_{x_0}^{x_0} f(x) dx = 0$
2. $P(a \le X \le b) = P(a < X \le b) = P(a \le X < b) = P(a < X < b)$

Continuous Random Variables

• Example: Life of an inspection device is given by *X*, a continuous random variable with PDF:



- *X* has exponential distribution with mean 2 years
- Probability that the device's life is between 2 and 3 years is:

$$P(2 \le x \le 3) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{2}^{3} e^{-x/2} dx = 0.145$$

Cumulative Distribution Function

• Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF) is denoted by *F*(*x*), where



Properties

1. *F* is nondecreasing function. If $a \le b$, then $F(a) \le F(b)$

- 2. $\lim_{x\to\infty} F(x) = 1$
- 3. $\lim_{x \to -\infty} F(x) = 0$
- All probability questions about *X* can be answered in terms of the CDF: $P(a \le X \le b) = F(b) - F(a)$, for all $a \le b$

Cumulative Distribution Function

• Example: The inspection device has CDF:

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x e^{-t/2} dt = 1 - e^{-x/2}$$

• The probability that the device lasts for less than 2 years:

$$P(0 \le X \le 2) = F(2) - F(0) = F(2) = 1 - e^{-1} = 0.632$$

• The probability that it lasts between 2 and 3 years:

$$P(2 \le X \le 3) = F(3) - F(2) = \left(1 - e^{-\frac{3}{2}}\right) - \left(1 - e^{-1}\right) = 0.145$$

Expected value

- The expected value of *X* is denoted by *E*(*X*)
 - If *X* is discrete $E(X) = \sum_{\text{all } i} x_i p(x_i)$
 - If X is continuous E(X) =

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f(x) dx$$

- a.k.a the mean, m, μ , or the 1st moment of X
- A measure of the central tendency

Variance

- The variance of *X* is denoted by V(X) or Var(X) or σ^2
 - **Definition:** $V(X) = E((X E[X])^2)$
 - Also $V(X) = E(X^2) (E(X))^2$
 - A measure of the spread or variation of the possible values of *X* around the mean



Standard deviation

- The standard deviation (SD) of X is denoted by σ
 - Definition: $\sigma = \sqrt{V(x)}$
 - The standard deviation is **expressed** in the **same units** as the **mean**
 - Interprete σ always together with the mean
- Attention:
 - The standard deviation of two different data sets may be difficult to compare

Expected value and variance: Example

 Example: The mean of life of the previous inspection device is:

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty x e^{-x/2} dx = -x e^{-x/2} \Big|_0^\infty + \int_0^\infty e^{-x/2} dx = 2$$

• To compute the variance of X, we first compute $E(X^2)$:

$$E(X^{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} x^{2} e^{-x/2} dx = -\chi^{2} e^{-\chi/2} \Big|_{0}^{\infty} + \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-x/2} dx = 8$$

• Hence, the variance and standard deviation of the device's life are: $V(X) = 8 - 2^2 = 4$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{V(X)} = 2$$

Expected value and variance: Example

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty x e^{-x/2} dx = -x e^{-x/2} \Big|_0^\infty + \int_0^\infty e^{-x/2} dx = 2$$

Partial Integration

$$\int u(x)v'(x)dx = u(x)v(x) - \int u'(x)v(x)dx$$

Set

u(x) = x $v'(x) = e^{-x/2}$ \Rightarrow u'(x) = 1 $v(x) = -2e^{-x/2}$ $E(X) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} x e^{-x/2} dx = \frac{1}{2} (x \cdot (-2e^{-x/2}) \Big|_{0}^{\infty} - \int_{0}^{\infty} 1 \cdot (-2e^{-x/2}) dx)$

Mean and variance of sums

• If $x_1, x_2, ..., x_k$ are k random variables and if $a_1, a_2, ..., a_k$ are k constants, then

$$E(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_kx_k) = a_1E(x_1) + a_2E(x_2) + \dots + a_kE(x_k)$$

• For independent variables

$$\operatorname{Var}(a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_k x_k) = a_1^2 \operatorname{Var}(x_1) + a_2^2 \operatorname{Var}(x_2) + \dots + a_k^2 \operatorname{Var}(x_k)$$

Coefficient of variation

- The ratio of the standard deviation to the mean is called coefficient of variation (C.O.V.)
 - Dimensionless
 - Normalized measure of dispersion

$$C.O.V = \frac{\text{standard deviation}}{\text{mean}} = \frac{\sigma}{\mu} \qquad , \mu > 0$$

• Can be used to compare different datasets, instead the standard deviation.

Covariance

• Given two random variables x and y with μ_x and μ_y , their covariance is defined as

$$Cov(x, y) = \sigma_{xy}^{2} = E[(x - \mu_{x})(y - \mu_{y})] = E(xy) - E(x) E(y)$$

- Cov(x, y) measures the dependency of x and y, i.e., how x and y vary together.
- For independent variables, the covariance is **zero**, since

E(xy) = E(x)E(y)

Correlation coefficient

• The normalized value of covariance is called the correlation coefficient or simply correlation

Correlation(x, y) =
$$\rho_{x,y} = \frac{\sigma_{xy}^2}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$$

• The correlation lies between -1 and +1

Quantile

• The x value at which the CDF takes a value α is called the α -quantile or 100 α -percentile. It is denoted by x_{α} .

$$P(X \le x_{\alpha}) = F(x_{\alpha}) = \alpha \quad , \; \alpha \in [0,1]$$



• Relationship:

• The median is the 50-percentile or 0.5-quantile

Mean, median, and mode

• Three different indices for the central tendency of a distribution:

• Mean:
$$E(X) = \mu = \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f(x) dx$$

• Median: The 0.5-quantile, i.e., the x_i for that half of the values are smaller and the other half is larger.

• Mode: The most likely value, i.e., the x_i that has the highest probabiliy p_i or the x at which the PDF is maximum.

Mean, median, and mode



Selecting among mean, median, and mode



Relationship between simulation and probability theory

Central limit theorem

• Let Z_n be the random variable

$$Z_n = \frac{X(n) - \mu}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}}$$

• and $F_n(z)$ be the distribution function of Z_n for a sample size of n, i.e., $F_n(z)=P(Z_n \le z)$, then

$$F_n(z) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} \Theta(z)$$

• where $\Theta(z)$ is normal distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=1$

$$\Theta(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{z} e^{\frac{-y^2}{2}} dy \quad \text{for } -\infty < z < \infty$$

Strong law of large numbers

• Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be IID random variables with mean μ .

$$\overline{X}(n) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} \mu$$
 with probability 1
Sample mean



Discrete Distributions

Discrete Distributions

- Discrete random variables are used to describe random phenomena in which only integer values can occur.
- In this section, we will learn about:
 - Bernoulli trials and Bernoulli distribution
 - Binomial distribution
 - Geometric and negative binomial distribution
 - Poisson distribution

Bernoulli Trials and Bernoulli Distribution

- Bernoulli trials:
 - Consider an experiment consisting of *n* trials, each can be a success or a failure.



• The Bernoulli distribution (one trial):

$$p_{j}(x_{j}) = p(x_{j}) = \begin{cases} p, & x_{j} = 1 \\ q \coloneqq 1 - p, & x_{j} = 0 \end{cases} \qquad j = 1, 2, ..., n$$

• where
$$E(X_j) = p$$
 and $V(X_j) = p(1-p) = pq$

Bernoulli Trials and Bernoulli Distribution

- Bernoulli process:
 - *n* Bernoulli trials where trials are independent:

 $p(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) = p_1(x_1)p_2(x_2) ... p_n(x_n)$

Binomial Distribution

• The number of successes in *n* Bernoulli trials, *X*, has a binomial distribution.



- The mean, $E(x) = p + p + ... + p = n \times p$
- The variance, $V(X) = pq + pq + ... + pq = n \times pq$

n

Geometric Distribution

- Geometric distribution
 - The **number** of Bernoulli trials, *X*, to achieve the 1st success:

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} q^{x-1}p, & x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• E(x) = 1/p, and $V(X) = q/p^2$

Negative Binomial Distribution

- Negative binomial distribution

• If *X* is a negative binomial distribution with parameters *p* and *k*, then:

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} x-1\\ k-1 \end{pmatrix} q^{x-k} p^k, & x = k, k+1, k+2, \dots \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$p(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x-1\\ k-1 \end{pmatrix} q^{x-k} p^{k-1} \cdot \underset{k-\text{th success}}{\overset{(k-1) \text{ successes}}{\overset{(k-1) \text{ successes}}}}}$$

•
$$E(X) = k/p$$
, and $V(X) = kq/p^2$

k-th success

Poisson Distribution

- Poisson distribution describes many random processes quite well and is mathematically quite simple.
 - where $\alpha > 0$, PDF and CDF are:



Poisson Distribution

- Example: A computer repair person is "beeped" each time there is a call for service. The number of beeps per hour ~ Poisson(α = 2 per hour).
 - The probability of three beeps in the next hour:

 $p(3) = \frac{2^3}{3!} e^{-2} = 0.18$ also, p(3) = F(3) - F(2) = 0.857 - 0.677 = 0.18

• The probability of two or more beeps in an 1-hour period:

$$p(2 \text{ or more}) = 1 - (p(0) + p(1))$$

= $1 - F(1)$
= 0.594

Continuous Distributions

Continuous Distributions

- Continuous random variables can be used to describe random phenomena in which the variable can take on any value in some interval.
- In this section, the distributions studied are:
 - Uniform
 - Exponential
 - Weibull
 - Normal
 - Lognormal

Uniform Distribution

• A random variable *X* is uniformly distributed on the interval (*a*, *b*), *U*(*a*, *b*), if its PDF and CDF are:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & a \le x \le b\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \qquad F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a\\ \frac{x-a}{b-a}, & a \le x < b\\ 1, & x \ge b \end{cases}$$

- Properties
 - $P(x_1 < X < x_2)$ is proportional to the length of the interval $[F(x_2) F(x_1) = (x_2 x_1)/(b a)]$
 - E(X) = (a+b)/2 $V(X) = (b-a)^2/12$
- *U*(0,1) provides the means to generate random numbers, from which random variates can be generated.



• A random variable X is exponentially distributed with parameter $\lambda > 0$ if its PDF and CDF are:





- Used to model interarrival times when arrivals are completely random, and to model service times that are highly variable
- For several different exponential PDF's (see figure), the value of intercept on the vertical axis is λ, and all PDF's eventually intersect.



- Memoryless property
 - For all *s* and *t* greater or equal to 0: P(X > s+t | X > s) = P(X > t)
 - Example: A lamp $\sim exp(\lambda = 1/3 \text{ per hour})$, hence, on average, 1 failure per 3 hours.
 - The probability that the lamp lasts longer than its mean life is: $P(X > 3) = 1 P(X < 3) = 1 (1 e^{-3/3}) = e^{-1} = 0.368$
 - The probability that the lamp lasts between 2 to 3 hours is: $P(2 \le X \le 3) = F(3) - F(2) = 0.145$
 - The probability that it lasts for another hour given it is operating for 2.5 hours: $P(X > 3.5 | X > 2.5) = P(X > 1) = e^{-1/3} = 0.717$

• Memoryless property

$$P(X > s + t \mid X > s) = \frac{P(X > s + t)}{P(X > s)}$$
$$e^{-\lambda(s+t)}$$

$$e^{-\lambda s}$$
$$= e^{-\lambda t}$$
$$= P(X > t)$$

Weibull Distribution

• A random variable *X* has a Weibull distribution if its PDF has the form:



- 3 parameters:
 - Location parameter: v, $(-\infty < v < \infty)$
 - Scale parameter: β , ($\beta > 0$)
 - Shape parameter: α , (> 0)
- Example: v = 0 and $\alpha = 1$:



Weibull Distribution

• Weibull Distribution

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \left(\frac{x-\nu}{\alpha}\right)^{\beta-1} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{x-\nu}{\alpha}\right)^{\beta}\right], & x \ge \nu\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• For
$$\beta = 1$$
, $\upsilon = 0$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{x}{\alpha}}, & x \ge v \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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• A random variable *X* is normally distributed if it has the PDF:



- Properties:
 - $\lim_{x \to -\infty} f(x) = 0$, and $\lim_{x \to \infty} f(x) = 0$
 - $f(\mu x) = f(\mu + x)$; the PDF is symmetric about μ .
 - The maximum value of the PDF occurs at $x = \mu$
 - the mean and mode are equal

- Evaluating the distribution:
 - Use numerical methods (no closed form)
 - Independent of μ and σ , using the standard normal distribution:

$$Z \sim N(0,1)$$

Transformation of variables: let $Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$,

$$F(x) = P(X \le x) = P\left(Z \le \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{(x-\mu)/\sigma} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\frac{-z^2}{2}} dz$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{(x-\mu)/\sigma} \phi(z) dz = \Phi(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}) \text{ , where } \Phi(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{z} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

- Example: The time required to load an oceangoing vessel, X, is distributed as $N(12,4), \mu=12, \sigma=2$
 - The probability that the vessel is loaded in less than 10 hours:

$$F(10) = \Phi\left(\frac{10 - 12}{2}\right) = \Phi(-1) = 1 - \Phi(1) = 0.1587$$

• Using the symmetry property, $\Phi(1)$ is the complement of $\Phi(-1)$, i.e., $\Phi(-x) = 1-\Phi(x)$



- Why is the normal distribution important?
 - The most commonly used distribution in data analysis
 - The sum of *n* independent normal variates is a normal variate.
 - The sum of a large number of independent observations from any distribution has a normal distribution.

Lognormal Distribution

• A random variable X has a lognormal distribution if its pdf has the form: $1 \le 1_{\Lambda}$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma x}} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right], & x > 0\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Mean $E(X) = e^{\mu + \sigma^2/2}$
- Variance $V(X) = e^{2\mu + \sigma^2/2} (e^{\sigma^2} 1)$



- Relationship with normal distribution
 - When $Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, then $X = e^Y \sim \text{lognormal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$
 - Parameters μ and σ^2 are not the mean and variance of the lognormal random variable X

Poisson Process

Poisson Process

- Definition: *N*(*t*) is a counting function that represents the number of events occurred in [0,*t*].
- A counting process $\{N(t), t \ge 0\}$ is a Poisson process with mean rate λ if:
 - Arrivals occur one at a time
 - { $N(t), t \ge 0$ } has stationary increments
 - Number of arrivals in [t, t+s] depends only on s, not on starting point t
 - Arrivals are completely random
 - { $N(t), t \ge 0$ } has independent increments
 - Number of arrivals during non-overlapping time intervals are independent
 - Future arrivals occur completely random

Poisson Process

• Properties

$$P(N(t) = n) = \frac{(\lambda t)^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda t}, \quad \text{for } t \ge 0 \text{ and } n = 0, 1, 2, ...$$

- Equal mean and variance: $E[N(t)] = V[N(t)] = \lambda t$
- Stationary increment:
 - The number of arrivals in time *s* to *t*, with *s*<*t*, is also Poissondistributed with mean $\lambda(t-s)$

Poisson Process: Interarrival Times

• Consider the interarrival times of a Poisson process $(A_1, A_2, ...)$, where A_i is the elapsed time between arrival *i* and arrival *i*+1



• The 1st arrival occurs after time t iff there are no arrivals in the interval [0, t], hence:

$$P(A_1 > t) = P(N(t) = 0) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$P(A_1 \le t) = 1 - P(A_1 > t) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$
 [CDF of exp(λ)]

• Interarrival times, A_1, A_2, \dots , are exponentially distributed and independent with mean $1/\lambda$



Poisson Process: Splitting and Pooling

- Splitting:
 - Suppose each event of a Poisson process can be classified as Type I, with probability *p* and Type II, with probability 1-*p*.
 - N(t) = N1(t) + N2(t), where N1(t) and N2(t) are both Poisson processes with rates λp and $\lambda(1-p)$



Poisson Process: Splitting and Pooling

- Pooling:
 - Suppose two Poisson processes are pooled together
 - N1(t) + N2(t) = N(t), where N(t) is a Poisson processes with rates $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2$



$$P(N_{1} + N_{2} = n) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} P(N_{1} = j)P(N_{2} = n - j)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{n} \frac{(\lambda_{1}t)^{j}}{j!} e^{-\lambda_{1}t} \frac{(\lambda_{2}t)^{n-j}}{(n-j)!} e^{-\lambda_{2}t}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_{1}t} e^{-\lambda_{2}t} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \frac{(\lambda_{1}t)^{j}}{j!} \frac{(\lambda_{2}t)^{n-j}}{(n-j)!}$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2})t} t^{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \frac{\lambda_{1}^{j}}{j!} \frac{\lambda_{2}^{n-j}}{(n-j)!}$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2})t} \frac{t^{n}}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^{n} n! \frac{\lambda_{1}^{j}}{j!} \frac{\lambda_{2}^{n-j}}{(n-j)!}$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2})t} \frac{t^{n}}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \binom{n}{j} \lambda_{1}^{j} \lambda_{2}^{n-j}$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2})t} \frac{t^{n}}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \binom{n}{j} \lambda_{1}^{j} \lambda_{2}^{n-j}$$

Empirical Distributions

Empirical Distributions

- A distribution whose parameters are the observed values in a sample of data.
 - May be used when it is impossible or unnecessary to establish that a random variable has any particular parametric distribution.
 - Advantage: no assumption beyond the observed values in the sample.
 - Disadvantage: sample might not cover the entire range of possible values.

Empirical Distributions: Example

- Customers arrive in groups from 1 to 8 persons
- Observation of the last 300 groups has been reported
- Summary in the table below

Group Size	Frequency	Relative Frequency	Cumulative Relative Frequency
1	30	0.10	0.10
2	110	0.37	0.47
3	45	0.15	0.62
4	71	0.24	0.86
5	12	0.04	0.90
6	13	0.04	0.94
7	7	0.02	0.96
8	12	0.04	1.00

Empirical Distributions: Example



Useful Statistical Models

Useful Statistical Models

- In this section, statistical models appropriate to some application areas are presented.
- The areas include:
 - Queueing systems
 - Inventory and supply-chain systems
 - Reliability and maintainability
 - Limited data

Useful models: Queueing Systems

- In a queueing system, interarrival and service-time patterns can be probabilistic.
- Sample statistical models for interarrival or service time distribution:
 - Exponential distribution: if service times are completely random
 - Normal distribution: fairly constant but with some random variability (either positive or negative)
 - Truncated normal distribution: similar to normal distribution but with restricted values.
 - Gamma and Weibull distributions: more general than exponential (involving location of the modes of PDF's and the shapes of tails.)



Useful models: Inventory and supply chain

- In realistic inventory and supply-chain systems, there are at least three random variables:
 - The number of units demanded per order or per time period The time between demands

 - The lead time = Time between placing an order and the receipt of that order



- Sample statistical models for lead time distribution:
 - Gamma
- Sample statistical models for demand distribution:
 - Poisson: simple and extensively tabulated.
 - Negative binomial distribution: longer tail than Poisson (more large demands).
 - Geometric: special case of negative binomial given at least one demand has occurred.

Useful models: Reliability and maintainability

- Time to failure (TTF)
 - Exponential: failures are random
 - Gamma: for standby redundancy where each component has an exponential TTF
 - Weibull: failure is due to the most serious of a large number of defects in a system of components
 - Normal: failures are due to wear



Useful models: Other areas

- For cases with limited data, some useful distributions are:
 - Uniform
 - Triangular
 - Beta
- Other distribution:
 - Bernoulli
 - Binomial
 - Hyperexponential



Summary

- The world that the simulation analyst sees is probabilistic, not deterministic.
- In this chapter:
 - Reviewed several important probability distributions.
 - Showed applications of the probability distributions in a simulation context.
- Important task in simulation modeling is the collection and analysis of input data, e.g., hypothesize a distributional form for the input data.
- Student should know:
 - Difference between discrete, continuous, and empirical distributions.
 - Poisson process and its properties.