

1. Suppose that 20 percent of smokers get lung cancer and 1 percent of non-smokers get lung cancer. In a population there are equal number of males and females, however 30 percent of males are smokers and 20 percent of females are smokers. A person was chosen at random from the population. What is the probability that he/she has lung cancer? If the chosen person has lung cancer, what is the conditional probability that it is a non-smoking male?

Solution: Let C be the event that a randomly chosen person has lung cancer,
 S be the event that a randomly chosen person is a smoker and
 M be the event that a randomly chosen person is a male.

Then, we are given: $P(C/S) = 20\% = 0.2$, $P(C/S^C) = 1\% = 0.01$ and $P(S/M) = 30\% = 0.3$ and $P(S/M^C) = 20\% = 0.2$.

Now, $\frac{P(C \cap S)}{P(S)} = 0.2$ and $\frac{P(C \cap S^C)}{P(S^C)} = 0.01$

Also, $\frac{P(S \cap M)}{P(M)} = 0.3$ and $\frac{P(S \cap M^C)}{P(M^C)} = 0.2$

Since it is given that there are equal number of males and females, so $P(M) = P(M^C) = 0.5$, \therefore
 $P(S \cap M) = 0.3 \times 0.5 = 0.15$ and $P(S \cap M^C) = 0.2 \times 0.5 = 0.1$
 $P(S) = P(S \cap M) + P(S \cap M^C) = 0.25$ and $P(S^C) = 0.75$ Thus, $P(S \cap C) = 0.2 \times 0.25 = 0.05$ and
 $P(C \cap S^C) = 0.01 \times 0.75 = 0.0075$ and hence,

$$P(C) = 0.005 + 0.0075 = 0.0575$$

For the next part, we need to compute $P(S^C \cap M/C)$.

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & P(C \cap S^C \cap M) \\ &= P(M \cap S^C) \cdot P(C/M \cap S^C) \\ &= P(M \cap S^C) \cdot P(C/M^C \cap S^C) \\ &= P(M \cap S^C) \cdot P(C/S^C), \text{ (as a non-smoker gets cancer with probability 0.01 irrespective of whether} \\ & \text{the person is male or female)} \\ &= 0.35 \times 0.01 = 0.0035 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $P(S^C \cap M/C) = \frac{P(S^C \cap C \cap M)}{P(C)} = \frac{35}{575} = 0.06$, which is the required probability. \square

2. Let k be a natural number. Consider a coin, where the chance of Head is p with $0 < p \leq 1$. Let G be the number of independent tosses of the coin to obtain k many Heads in succession (i.e., consecutively) for the first time. Show that $P(G = k + 1) = P(G = k + 2) = \dots = P(G = 2k)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P(G = k + 1) &= P(\text{Tail at first toss and then all Heads}) \\ &= p^k (1 - p), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(G = k + 2) &= P(\text{Head or Tail at first toss, Tail at second toss and then all Heads}) \\ &= p(1 - p)p^k + (1 - p)(1 - p)p^k \\ &= p^k (1 - p), \end{aligned}$$

⋮

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(G = 2k) &= P(\text{Head or Tail at } (k-1) \text{ places, Tail at } k\text{-th place and then } k \text{ successive Heads}) \\
 &= \sum_{s \in \{H, T\}^{k-1}} P(s, T, HHH \dots H) \\
 &= \left[\sum_{s \in \{H, T\}^{k-1}} P(s) \right] (1-p) p^k \\
 &= 1 (1-p) p^k = p^k (1-p).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get the desired conclusion. \square

3. Suppose X, Y are independent random variables. Assume that X has Binomial distribution with parameters (m, p) and Y has Binomial distribution with parameters (n, p) , where m, n are natural numbers and $0 \leq p \leq 1$. Show that $Z = X + Y$ has Binomial distribution with parameters $(m+n, p)$. Show that $X - Y$ does not have Binomial distribution, even if $m \geq n$.

Solution: The m.g.f of X is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[e^{Xt}] &= \sum_{j=0}^m e^{jt} \binom{m}{j} p^j (1-p)^{m-j}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R} \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} (p e^t)^j (1-p)^{m-j} \\
 &= \left((1-p) + p e^t \right)^m.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the m.g.f of Y is $E[e^{Yt}] = \left((1-p) + p e^t \right)^n$.

The m.g.f of $Z = X + Y$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[e^{(X+Y)t}] &= E[e^{Xt} \cdot e^{Yt}] \\
 &= E[e^{Xt}] E[e^{Yt}] \\
 &= \left((1-p) + p e^t \right)^{m+n}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $Z = X + Y$ has Binomial distribution with parameters $(m+n, p)$.

When $m < n$, it is possible for $X - Y$ to be negative, which is not the case for any binomially distributed random variables.

When $m \geq n$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[e^{(X-Y)t}] &= E[e^{Xt} \cdot e^{-Yt}] \\
 &= E[e^{Xt}] E[e^{Y(-t)}] \\
 &= \left((1-p) + p e^t \right)^m \left((1-p) + p e^{-t} \right)^n,
 \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $X - Y$ just cannot be expressed as being a count of successes in a sequence of some amount of independent, identically distributed Bernoulli trials. \square

4. Suppose U is a random variable having uniform distribution in the interval $[-2, 2]$. Compute probability distribution function and densities of $R = \frac{U}{2} + 1$ and $S = U^2 + 1$.

Solution: Since $U \sim Unif[-2, 2]$, so we have

$$f_U(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & \forall u \in [-2, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

$R = \frac{U}{2} + 1 \in [0, 2]$ and $S = U^2 + 1 \in [0, 5]$.
Also, we have $U = 2(r - 1)$, so

$$\begin{aligned} f_R(r) &= f(2(r - 1)) \times 2, \quad \text{if } 2(r - 1) \in [-2, 2], \text{ i.e., } r \in [0, 2] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \times 2 = \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

\therefore the density is given by

$$f_R(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \forall r \in [0, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

and probability density function of R is given by

$$F_R(r) = \int_0^r f_R(t) dt = \int_0^r \frac{1}{2} dt = \frac{r}{2}.$$

Similarly, the density of S is given by

$$f_S(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4\sqrt{s-1}} & \forall s \in [0, 5] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

and probability density function of S is given by

$$F_S(s) = \int_0^s f_S(t) dt = \int_0^s \frac{1}{4\sqrt{t-1}} dt = \frac{\sqrt{s-1}}{2}.$$

□

5. Suppose X has Binomial distribution with parameters (n, p) , where n is a natural number and $0 < p < 1$. Suppose Y is a random variable defined as a function of X by

$$Y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } X = 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute the conditional distribution of X given $Y = 1$ and the conditional expectation of X given $Y = 1$.

Solution: The conditional distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = k/Y = 1) &= \frac{P(X = k \cap Y = 1)}{P(Y = 1)} \\ &= \frac{P(X = k \cap X \neq 0)}{P(Y = 1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, if $k = 0$, then $P(X = k/Y = 1) = 0$.

If $k \neq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{P(X = k)}{P(Y = 1)} &= \frac{P(X = k)}{P(X \neq 0)} \\ &= \frac{P(X = k)}{1 - P(X = 0)} \\ &= \frac{P(X = k)}{1 - \binom{n}{0} p^0 (1 - p)^{n-0}} \\ &= \frac{P(X = k)}{1 - (1 - p)^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, the conditional expectation:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X/Y = 1] &= \sum_{j=0}^n j P(X = j/Y = 1) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n j P(X = j/Y = 1) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - (1 - p)^n} \sum_{j=1}^n j \binom{n}{j} p^j (1 - p)^{n-j} \\ &= \frac{np}{1 - (1 - p)^n} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{(n-1)!}{(n-j)! (j-1)!} p^{j-1} (1 - p)^{n-j} \\ &= \frac{np}{1 - (1 - p)^n} \sum_{j=1}^n \binom{n-1}{j-1} p^{j-1} (1 - p)^{n-j} \\ &= \frac{np}{1 - (1 - p)^n} (p + (1 - p))^{n-1} \\ &= \frac{np}{1 - (1 - p)^n}. \end{aligned}$$

□

6. Suppose $\lambda > 0$ and E is an exponential random variable with parameter λ . Compute a probability density function for $K = 1 + \sqrt{E}$.

Solution: For any $k \geq 0$, the cumulative distribution function is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(K \leq k) &= P(1 + \sqrt{E} \leq k) \\ &= P(\sqrt{E} \leq k - 1) \\ &= P(E \leq (k - 1)^2), \text{ as exponential random variable is supported on } [0, \infty) \\ &= 1 - e^{-\lambda (k-1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the probability density function of K is

$$f_K(k) = 2 \lambda (k - 1) e^{-\lambda (k-1)^2}.$$

□