

Table 1 Discrete Distributions

Distribution	Probability Function	Mean	Variance	Moment-Generating Function
Hypergeometric	$p(y) = \frac{\binom{r}{y} \binom{N-r}{n-y}}{\binom{N}{n}};$ $y = 0, 1, \dots, n \text{ if } n \leq r,$ $y = 0, 1, \dots, r \text{ if } n > r$	$\frac{nr}{N}$	$n \left(\frac{r}{N}\right) \left(\frac{N-r}{N}\right) \left(\frac{N-n}{N-1}\right)$	does not exist in closed form
Poisson	$p(y) = \frac{\lambda^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!};$ $y = 0, 1, 2, \dots$	λ	λ	$\exp[\lambda(e^t - 1)]$
Binomial	$p(y) = \binom{n}{y} p^y (1-p)^{n-y};$ $y = 0, 1, \dots, n$	np	$np(1-p)$	$[pe^t + (1-p)]^n$
Geometric	$p(y) = p(1-p)^{y-1};$ $y = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t}$
Negative binomial	$p(y) = \binom{y-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{y-r};$ $y = r, r+1, \dots$	$\frac{r}{p}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$	$\left[\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t} \right]^r$

Table 2 Continuous Distributions

Distribution	Probability Function	Mean	Variance	Moment-Generating Function
Uniform	$f(y) = \frac{1}{\theta_2 - \theta_1}; \theta_1 \leq y \leq \theta_2$	$\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2}{2}$	$\frac{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)^2}{12}$	$\frac{e^{t\theta_2} - e^{t\theta_1}}{t(\theta_2 - \theta_1)}$

The Binomial Expansion of $(x + y)^n$ Let x and y be any real numbers, then

$$(x + y)^n = \binom{n}{0} x^n y^0 + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y^1 + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^0 y^n$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^{n-i} y^i.$$

The Sum of a Geometric Series Let r be a real number such that $|r| < 1$, and m be any integer $m \geq 1$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} r^i = \frac{1}{1-r}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} r^i = \frac{r}{1-r}, \quad \sum_{i=0}^m r^i = \frac{1-r^{m+1}}{1-r}.$$

The (Taylor) Series Expansion of e^x Let x be any real number, then

$$e^x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^i}{i!}.$$