

Discrete Distributions

Distribution	Probability Function	Mean	Variance	Moment-Generating Function
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	$p(y) = p(1-p)^{y-1};$ $y = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t}$
Hypergeometric	$p(y) = \frac{\binom{r}{y} \binom{N-r}{n-y}}{\binom{N}{n}};$ $y = 0, 1, \dots, n \text{ if } n \leq r,$ $y = 0, 1, \dots, r \text{ if } n > r$	$\frac{nr}{N}$	$n \left(\frac{r}{N} \right) \left(\frac{N-r}{N} \right) \left(\frac{N-n}{N-1} \right)$	
Poisson	$p(y) = \frac{\lambda^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!};$ $y = 0, 1, 2, \dots$	λ	λ	$\exp[\lambda(e^t - 1)]$
Negative binomial	$p(y) = \binom{y-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{y-r};$ $y = r, r+1, \dots$	$\frac{r}{p}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$	$\left[\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t} \right]^r$