

DEF: *Bernoulli* random process $x(n)$ is a discrete-time 1-sided iidrp with:

$$x(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{success or arrival with prob. } p \\ 0 & \text{failure or nonarrival with } 1 - p \end{cases} \quad p_{x(n)}(X) = \begin{cases} p & \text{for } X = 1 \\ 1 - p & \text{for } X = 0 \end{cases}$$

Note: Kolmogorov: $p_{x(i_1)\dots x(i_N)}(X_1 \dots X_N) = \prod_{i=1}^N p_{x(n)}(X_i)$. Bernoulli rvs.

Question	pmf name	pmf formula	$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{k}]$	$\sigma_{\mathbf{k}}^2$
$Pr\left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \text{ successes} \\ \text{in } N \text{ trials} \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Binomial	$\binom{N}{k} p^k (1-p)^{N-k}$	Np	$Np(1-p)$
$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} \# \text{ trials until} \\ \text{next success} \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Geometric	$(1-p)^{k-1} p, k \geq 1$	$1/p$	$(1-p)/p^2$
$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} \# \text{ trials until} \\ r^{\text{th}} \text{ success} \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Pascal	$\binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}$	r/p	$r(1-p)/p^2$

Note: "Until" means "up to *and including*" in the above. pmf ranges omitted.

Binomial: $Pr[k \text{ successes in any closed interval of length } N - 1 \text{ (} N \text{ points)}]$

Binomial: =sum of N independent Bernoulli rvs.: z-xform= $((1-p) + pz)^N$.

Geometric: 1st-order interarrival time=#trials from last success to next success.

Geometric: Let A =next success on k^{th} trial and B_j =no successes on last j trials.

Memoryless: $Pr[A|B_j] = \frac{Pr[AB_j]}{Pr[B_j]} = \frac{Pr[B_{k+j-1}]p}{Pr[B_j]} = \frac{(1-p)^{k+j-1}p}{(1-p)^j} = \frac{(1-p)^{k-1}p}{k=1,2\dots} = Pr[A]$.

Pascal: r^{th} -order interarrival time=sum of r independent Geometric rvs.

Pascal: $Pr[r - 1 \text{ successes in } k - 1 \text{ trials}]Pr[r^{\text{th}} \text{ success in } k^{\text{th}} \text{ trial}]$. $k \geq r$.

DEF: *Poisson* process: continuous-time with arrivals at points in time.

1. $Pr[\text{arrival in } [t_o, t_o + \delta t]] = \lambda \delta t$ as $\delta t \rightarrow 0$. λ =average arrival rate.

2. Events defined on non-overlapping intervals are independent.

3. Continuous-time limit of Bernoulli with $p = \lambda \delta t$ and $N = T/\delta t$.

Question	pdf name	pdf formula	$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{t}]$	$\sigma_{\mathbf{t}}^2$
$Pr\left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \text{ arrivals} \\ \text{in time } T \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Poisson pmf	$(\lambda T)^k e^{-\lambda T} / k!$	λT	λT
$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} \text{time } t \text{ until} \\ \text{next arrival} \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Exponential	$\lambda e^{-\lambda t}, t \geq 0$	$1/\lambda$	$1/\lambda^2$
$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} \text{time } t \text{ until} \\ r^{\text{th}} \text{ arrival} \end{smallmatrix}\right]$	Erlang	$\lambda^r t^{r-1} e^{-\lambda t} / (r-1)!$	r/λ	r/λ^2

Poisson: $\binom{N}{k} p^k (1-p)^{N-k} \approx \frac{N^k}{k!} p^k (1-p)^N \rightarrow (T/\delta t)^k (\lambda \delta t)^k (1 - \lambda \delta t)^{T/\delta t} / k!$.

Exponen: $(1-p)^{k-1} p \rightarrow (1 - \lambda \delta t)^{t/\delta t} (\lambda \delta t) \rightarrow \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \delta t$ since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + ax)^{b/x} = e^{ab}$.

Exponen: *Memoryless*, like Geometric pmf (similar derivation to that above).

Erlang: r^{th} -order interarrival time=sum of r independent Exponential rvs.

Counting: Poisson *counting* process $N(t)$ =#arrivals in Poisson process in $[0, t]$.

Refs: pp. 377-384 and 36-42; also see A.W. Drake text on closed reserve.

Σ : x_1, x_2 independent Poisson processes with avg. arrival rates λ_1, λ_2 .

DEF: New rp x_3 where an arrival in *either* x_1 or x_2 is an arrival in x_3 .

Then: x_3 is *also* a Poisson process with avg. arrival rate $\lambda_3 = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$,

since: $Pr[\text{arrival in } [t_o, t_o + \delta t]] = \lambda_1 \delta t + \lambda_2 \delta t - \lambda_1 \lambda_2 (\delta t)^2 \rightarrow (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \delta t$,
and events defined on non-overlapping intervals are still independent.

EX: $x_1 \dots x_N$ are iidrvs with exponential pdf $f_{x_i}(X) = \lambda e^{-\lambda X}, X \geq 0$.

Then: $y = \min[x_1 \dots x_N]$ has exponential pdf $f_y(Y) = N\lambda e^{-N\lambda Y}, Y \geq 0$

since: y is 1st arrival in superposition of N indpt Poisson processes.

EX: 8 light bulbs turned on at $t = 0$. Bulb lifetime is an exponential pdf.

Q: Compute mean and variance of time t until the 3rd bulb burns out.

A: Bulb burnout=arrival in Poisson process (only until it burns out!).

Σ : Sum of n independent Poisson processes (n =#bulbs still on).

$E[t]$: $E[t] = 1/(8\lambda) + 1/(7\lambda) + 1/(6\lambda)$. $\sigma_t^2 = 1/(8\lambda)^2 + 1/(7\lambda)^2 + 1/(6\lambda)^2$.

Q: In x_3 , compute $Pr[\text{next arrival comes from } x_1, \text{ as opposed to } x_2]$.

A1: $Pr[\text{arrival } x_1 | \text{arrival } x_3] = \frac{Pr[\text{arrival } x_1 \& x_3]}{Pr[\text{arrival } x_3]} = \frac{\lambda_1 \delta t}{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \delta t} = \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$.

A2: t_i =time to next arrival in x_i . $f_{t_i}(T_i) = \lambda_i e^{-\lambda_i T_i}, T_i \geq 0, i = 1, 2$.

Want: $Pr[t_1 < t_2] = \int_0^\infty \int_{T_1}^\infty \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda T_1} \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda T_2} dT_2 dT_1 = \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$.

Note: $Pr[7 \text{ of next } 10 \text{ arrivals in } x_3 \text{ from } x_1] = \binom{10}{7} \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^7 \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^3$.

Random x is a Poisson process with average arrival rate λ .

erasures At each arrival in x , flip a coin with $Pr[\text{heads}]=P$.

If heads: Count the arrival in x as an arrival in a new process y .

If tails: *Don't* count arrival in x as an arrival in new process y .

Assume: Coin flips are independent, and flipping is independent of x .

Then: y is a Poisson process with average arrival rate λP .

EX: Defective Geiger counter only works with $Pr[\text{detect particle}]=P$.

Radioactivity is well-modelled by Poisson process: arrivals=particles.

But: If coin flips *not* independent, y is not Poisson.

EX: If coin alternates heads and tails, not *random* erasures.

Then: Interarrival times for y are 2nd-order Erlang pdf!