

Chapter 2: Response distributions

2.1 Using the notation of Section 2.2, show that the mean and variance of a Bernoulli random variable are π and $\pi(1 - \pi)$ respectively. More generally show that the mean and variance of binomial random variable are $n\pi$ and $n\pi(1 - \pi)$, respectively.

Bernoulli:

$$\begin{aligned}f(y) &= \pi^y(1 - \pi)^{1-y} & y = 0, 1 \\E(y) &= \sum_{j=0}^1 j \cdot \pi^j(1 - \pi)^{1-j} \\&= 0 \cdot \pi^0(1 - \pi)^1 + 1 \cdot \pi^1(1 - \pi)^0 \\&= \pi . \\E(y^2) &= \sum_{j=0}^1 j^2 \cdot \pi^j(1 - \pi)^{1-j} \\&= \pi , \text{ and hence} \\Var(y) &= E(y^2) - \{E(y)\}^2 \\&= \pi - \pi^2 \\&= \pi(1 - \pi) .\end{aligned}$$

Binomial:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(y) &= \binom{n}{y} \pi^y (1-\pi)^{n-y} \quad y = 0, \dots, n \\
 E(y) &= \sum_{j=0}^n j \cdot \binom{n}{j} \pi^j (1-\pi)^{n-j} \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^n j \frac{n!}{j!(n-j)!} \pi^j (1-\pi)^{n-j} \\
 &= n\pi \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{(n-1)!}{(j-1)!(n-j)!} \pi^{j-1} (1-\pi)^{n-j} \\
 &= n\pi \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-1-k} \quad \text{putting } k = j - 1 \\
 &= n\pi \{\pi + (1-\pi)\}^{n-1} \quad \text{using the binomial theorem} \\
 &= n\pi . \\
 E(y^2) &= \sum_{j=0}^n j^2 \cdot \binom{n}{j} \pi^j (1-\pi)^{n-j} \\
 &= n\pi \sum_{j=1}^n j \cdot \frac{(n-1)!}{(j-1)!(n-j)!} \pi^{j-1} (1-\pi)^{n-j} \\
 &= n\pi \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (k+1) \binom{n-1}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-1-k} \\
 &= n\pi \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} k \binom{n-1}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-1-k} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-1-k} \right\} \\
 &= n\pi \{(n-1)\pi + 1\} . \\
 \text{Var}(y) &= E(y^2) - \{E(y)\}^2 \\
 &= n\pi \{(n-1)\pi + 1\} - (n\pi)^2 \\
 &= n\pi(1-\pi) .
 \end{aligned}$$

2.2 Show that the mean and variance of a χ_ν^2 random variable are ν and 2ν respectively.

The pdf of the χ_ν^2 distribution is

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{2^{\nu/2} \Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} y^{\frac{\nu}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{y}{2}} .$$

$$\begin{aligned}
E(y) &= \frac{1}{2^{\nu/2}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \int_0^\infty u \cdot u^{\frac{\nu}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{u}{2}} du \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{\nu/2}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \int_0^\infty u^{\frac{\nu}{2}} e^{-\frac{u}{2}} du \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{\nu/2}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \int_0^\infty (2z)^{\frac{\nu}{2}} e^{-z} 2 dz \quad \text{putting } z = \frac{u}{2} \\
&= \frac{2^{\nu/2+1}}{2^{\nu/2}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \int_0^\infty z^{\frac{\nu}{2}} e^{-z} dz \\
&= \frac{2\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2} + 1)}{\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \\
&= \frac{2 \cdot \frac{\nu}{2} \Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \\
&= \nu .
\end{aligned}$$

Using similar logic, we can show that $E(y^2) = \nu(\nu + 2)$ and $\text{Var}(y) = \nu(\nu + 2) - \nu^2 = 2\nu$.

2.3 The distribution of the number of failures y till the first success in independent Bernoulli trials, with probability of success π at each trial, is the geometric:

$$f(y) = (1 - \pi)^y \pi \quad y = 0, 1, \dots .$$

Show that the mean and variance of the geometric distribution are $E(y) = (1 - \pi)/\pi$ and $\text{Var}(y) = (1 - \pi)/\pi^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
E(y) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j \cdot (1 - \pi)^j \pi \\
&= \pi \cdot \frac{1 - \pi}{\pi^2} \quad \left(\text{using } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kr^k = \frac{r}{(1 - r)^2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1 - \pi}{\pi} . \\
E(y^2) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j^2 \cdot (1 - \pi)^j \pi \\
&= \pi \cdot \frac{(1 - \pi)(2 - \pi)}{\pi^3} \quad \left(\text{using } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 r^k = \frac{r(1 + r)}{(1 - r)^3} \right) \\
&= \frac{(1 - \pi)(2 - \pi)}{\pi^2} , \text{ giving} \\
\text{Var}(y) &= \frac{(1 - \pi)(2 - \pi)}{\pi^2} - \left(\frac{1 - \pi}{\pi} \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1 - \pi}{\pi^2} .
\end{aligned}$$