

HEART: Statistics and Data Science With Networks

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Outline

- 1 Probability
- 2 Statistics
- 3 Probability and Statistics for Random Graphs Primer

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Basic Probability

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- Most of this course will discuss simple probability
- In what follows, a *random variable* is just something whose outcome is random
- Examples:
 - The outcome of a coin flip
 - The sum of rolling two dice
 - A graph with random edges

Bernoulli Random Variables

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 - The number of times your coin flip lands heads in 12 flips
 - Nonexample: the number of coin flips needed to get 12 heads (why?)

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- Instead, the Gaussian distribution satisfies

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq \mu) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Gaussian Distribution

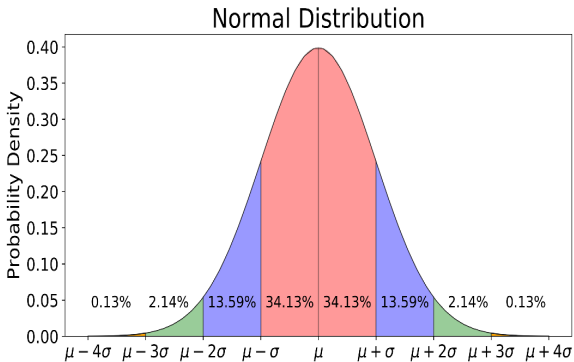


Figure: source

Other Random Variables/Distributions

- Poisson (counts)
- Exponential (times)
- Geometric (first time something happens)
- Gamma, Weibull, uniform
- ...

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- Example:
 - Bernoulli distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}X &= 1\mathbb{P}(X = 1) + 0\mathbb{P}(X = 0) \\ &= p\end{aligned}$$

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- Bernoulli Distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}X^2 &= 1^2 \mathbb{P}(X = 1) + 0^2 \mathbb{P}(X = 0) \\ &= p \\ \implies \text{Var}(X) &= p - p^2 \\ &= p(1 - p).\end{aligned}$$

Higher Moments

- Higher moments include the *skew* (third moment) and *kurtosis* (fourth moment)

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- Uncorrelated does not imply independent!

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- Statistics studies how to *learn the distribution*
- Statistics needs tools from probability and vice versa (though slightly less so)
- In practice, we do not know the Bernoulli parameter p !
- How do we estimate it?

Estimators

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- Sample mean for observations $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$:

$$\bar{X} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

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Erdos-Renyi Random Graphs

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$$\mathbb{P}(A_{ij} = 1) = p$$

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$$\mathbb{E}A = \begin{pmatrix} p & \cdots & p \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p & \cdots & p \end{pmatrix} = p\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top \quad \mathbf{1} = \text{vector of all ones}$$

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- One community SBM = Erdos-Renyi

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