

Important distributions and densities

Name	Parameter(s)	Distribution function or density function	E(X)	V(X)
Binomial	n, p	$\binom{n}{k} p^k q^{n-k}, \ k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$	np	npq
Geometric	p	$q^{n-1} p, \ n = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{q}{p^2}$
Poisson	λ	$\frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}, \ k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$	λ	λ
Exponential	λ	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \ x \geq 0$	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$
Normal	μ, σ	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}, \ x \in \mathbf{R}$	μ	σ^2

For the binomial and geometric distributions, I have used the notation $q = 1 - p$.