

# Lecture 31T

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#### **Poisson Process**

- When the set of interarrival times  $\{\tau_i: i \ge 1\}$  follow an exponential distribution with rate  $\lambda$ , we have a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$
- Poisson process is a classic way to model random arrivals
- Parameter  $\lambda$  is called the rate, since it corresponds to the average number of arrivals per unit of time
- The cdf for an  $EXP(\lambda)$  is  $F(x) = 1 e^{-\lambda x}$
- In simulation,  $\tau_i = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln(U_i)$  where  $\{U_1, U_2, U_3, \dots\}$  are *i*. *i*. *d*. Uniform[0,1]



## **Ex: Coffee Shop Revenue**

- A coffee shop is open for 8 hours Monday through Friday
- Customers arrive according to a Poisson process with a rate 5 per hour
- The time between arrivals  $\tau_i \sim EXP(5)$
- The amount a customer spends can be approximated using a Normal(2.5,1)
- This means the average customer spends \$2.50
- Q: What is the problem with using the Normal distribution for the amount spent?
- Any customer who arrives before closing will be served
- We want to simulate the revenue of the coffee shop for one day (8 hours)

## **Ex: Coffee Shop Revenue**

- We must simulate both the arrival times of customers and the amount of money they will spend
- To generate interarrival times we use the inverse transform method

$$\tau_i = -\frac{1}{5}\ln(U_i)$$

where  $U_i \sim Uniform[0,1]$ 

- To generate the amounts spend by different customers, we use the inverse transform method based on the NORM.INV function in Excel with a mean of 2.5 and a standard deviation of 1
- We simulate the times when customers arrive as well as the amounts they spend, then we add the expenses of all the customers who arrived during the time interval [0,8]



## **Ex: Coffee Shop Revenue**

- Download CoffeeShop.xlsx from the link Sheet 1 on the course website
- Focus on tab named Revenue
- Descriptions of columns
  - Column A contains interarrival times
  - Column B contains arrival times (notice the calculation)
  - Column C contains the amount spent (notice the use of MAX() function
  - Column D checks to see if the customer made it by closing
- Simulated revenue for a single day

Revenue for	the day:		
Sum of column C up to the last arrival in [0,8]			
120.062456			



- Same coffee shop from previous example
- We want to simulate the customer queue
- Assume there is only one person at the cash register, and that this person both takes the order and prepares the coffee
- Moment of silence for this poor worker
- Each customer takes a random amount of time to be served, which we model as an exponential random variable with mean of 5 minutes (1/12 hour)

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = 5 \min = \frac{1}{12} hr \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad \lambda = 12$$

• Customers are served in a first-come-first-serve basis



- We want to use simulation to determine the maximum waiting time experienced by a customer during the day, and the number of customers still present at the coffee shop (either in queue or being served) at closing time
- Generate interarrival times  $\{\tau_i: i \ge 1\}$  as before, making sure that we have enough to cover the 8-hour interval
- Let  $\chi_i$  denote the service time of customer i
- To generate service times we use the inverse transform method

$$\chi_i = -\frac{1}{12} \ln(V_i)$$

where  $V_i \sim Uniform[0,1]$ 

• Status of coffee shop changes whenever a customer arrives or leaves



- The number of customers in the coffee shop is the state of the system
- The arrival  $(A_i)$  and departure times  $(D_i)$  are known as events
- In simulation, we keep track of interarrival times, service times, arrival times, and departure times
- The only random numbers are interarrival times and the service times
- Customer *i* will start his/her service at two potential times
  - At the arrival time if no one is there
  - At the departure time of customer i 1 if there is somebody

 $\max\{A_i, D_{i-1}\}, \quad i = 2, 3, \dots,$ 

where the first customer starts always at time  $A_1$ 



- The number of customers in the coffee shop at the end of the day is Number of Arrivals in [0,8] – Number of Departures[0,8]
- Download CoffeeShop.xlsx from the link Sheet 1 on the course website
- Focus on tab named Queue
- Notice that departure time is the sum of arrival time and service time
- Column H shows the waiting times which is the difference between the start of service and arrival time

Maximum waiting time 0.42893819 hours 25.7362916 minutes



- In the coffee shop it may be unrealistic to assume that customers arrive at the same rate throughout the day
- To make our models more realistic, we can change the rate during different periods of the day
- Assume that we can divide the interval [0,8] into k periods
  [0, t<sub>1</sub>], (t<sub>1</sub>t<sub>2</sub>], ···, (t<sub>k-1</sub>, 8)] such that the arrival rate during each period is
  constant λ<sub>i</sub>
- Simulate the arrivals in each period using the corresponding rate
- In periods with large  $\lambda_i$ , arrivals will be closer to each other, while in periods with small  $\lambda_i$ , they will be more spread out



#### **Sample Mean and Variance**

- Consider a simulation study where we have generated observations i.i.d. observations {X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, ··· , X<sub>n</sub>} of some random phenomenon
- $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$  is a sample from some distribution F
- We can compute the sample mean and sample variance

$$\overline{X}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i \qquad S^2(n) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \overline{X}(n))^2$$

• The random variables  $\overline{X}(n)$  and  $S^2(n)$  satisfy

$$E\left[\overline{X}(n)\right] = \mu$$
  $E\left[S^2(n)\right] = \sigma^2$ 

Where  $\mu$  is the mean of F and  $\sigma^2$  is the variance of F



- Download LLN.xlsx from link Sheet 2 on course website
- Simulate values for three different distributions
  - *Uniform*[1,3]:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}$  for  $1 \le x \le 3$
  - 6 Sided Die:  $P(X = x) = \frac{1}{6}$  for  $x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
  - Normal(5,4):  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi}} e^{-(x-5)^2/8}$  for  $-\infty < x < \infty$
- For each of the examples, we want to compute true mean and true variance to sample mean and sample variance
- As we increase the number of simulated values, the sample mean and variance get closer to the true mean and variance



• For the *Uniform*[1,3]

$$\mu = E[X_1] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x)dx = \int_{1}^{3} \frac{x}{2}dx = \frac{x^2}{4} \Big|_{1}^{3} = \frac{9-1}{4} = 2$$

$$E[X_1^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx = \int_1^3 \frac{x^2}{2} dx = \left. \frac{x^3}{6} \right|_1^3 = \frac{27 - 1}{6} = \frac{13}{3}$$

$$\sigma^2 = E[X_1^2] - (E[X_1])^2$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{13}{3} - (2)^2 = \frac{13 - 12}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

• For the 6 – *Sided Die* 

$$\mu = E[X_1] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} xP(X=x) = \sum_{x=1}^{6} \frac{x}{6} = \frac{1+2+3+4+5+6}{6} = \frac{7}{2}$$
$$E[X_1^2] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} x^2 P(X=x) = \sum_{x=1}^{6} \frac{x^2}{6} = \frac{1+4+9+16+25+36}{6} = \frac{91}{6}$$
$$\sigma^2 = E[X_1^2] - (E[X_1])^2$$
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{91}{6} - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{35}{12}$$

• For the *Normal*(5,4),  $\mu = 5$  and  $\sigma^2 = 4$ 



- For the Uniform sample, n = 44, for the 6-sided die, n = 52, for the Normal sample, n = 53
- Try increasing the sample sizes of all of these to 100, 1000, 10000 in the tabs named Uniform(1,3), 6-sided die, and Normal(5,4)
- By increasing the size of the sample *n*, we can clearly see that

$$\overline{X}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i \approx \mu$$

• Q: How quickly does this convergence happen?



## **Central Limit Theorem**

• One of the most famous results in probability states that if *n* is large, then

$$\sqrt{n}\left(\frac{\overline{X}(n) - \mu}{\sigma}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n\sigma^2}} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)$$

has approximately the same distribution as a *Normal*(0,1) random variable

- This is known as the Central Limit Theorem (CLT)
- This can be also written as

$$\bar{X}(n) \sim Normal\left(\mu, \sigma^2 / \sqrt{n}\right)$$
 (approximately)

• This is true no matter what the distribution of X





- To see what the CLT says using simulation, we can generate *m* samples, each of size *n*, from distribution *F*
- For each of the *m* samples we compute the statistic

$$T = \sqrt{n} \left( \frac{\overline{X}(n) - \mu}{\sigma} \right)$$

- We plot the histogram for the sample  $\{T_1, T_2, \cdots, T_m\}$ , which should look like the histogram of a Normal(0,1)
- See tab named CLT in LLN.xlsx which contains such an example for the case when the distribution *F* corresponds to a *Uniform*[1,3]
- In this example, m = 20 and n = 50





• Histogram for the first sample

• Histogram for  $\{T_1, T_2, \cdots, T_m\}$ 



-1.5

-1

-2

-0.5

0

0.5

1

1.5 2

1 0.5 0

• Ideally, we need a lot larger *m* and need to compare different values of *n* 

1.5









# The End



# Dale