

Ch 4.5 Poisson Distribution

It is used to describe arrivals of people in lines, planes in airports, cars pulling into gas stations, number of people getting online, etc.

2nd π scroll \rightarrow

It is used over a specific period of time.

Formula: $P(x) = \frac{\text{mean}^x \cdot e^{-\text{mean}}}{x!}$

$$\frac{\mu^x \cdot e^{-\mu}}{x!}$$

x = # occurrences

-it must be random

-independent

-uniformly distributed

e = 2.71828
approx.

*calculator

May 9-8:24 AM

Ex 1a) Average number of school closings is 4 due to snowstorms.

What is the P(6 snow days)

$$P(x) = \frac{\mu^x \cdot e^{-\mu}}{x!}$$

May 9-8:32 AM

Ex1b) A baseball club owner knows about 6 games, on average, will be postponed because of rain.

Find the P(3 postponed by rain)

Find P(none will be)

May 9-8:34 AM

Ex 2a) On the first day of a summer clearance sale, the store makes an average rate of \$4/minute.

During a 5 min period find the p(the store makes \$25 - \$27)

May 9-8:35 AM

Ex 2b) On a radio talk show, they receive an average of 72 calls per hour at the switch board.

Find the P(they receive more than 2 calls during a 4 minute period)

$\mu > 2$

May 9-8:37 AM

Ex 3) V-I bombs during WWII were divided into 576 regions. Each region covered .25 km². The total number of bombs hit were 535.

Find the expected value for the regions that didn't get hit.

see p. 212 to see how accurate the formula is.

May 9-8:39 AM