

Theorem 2: Moments of Z_n

- ▶ Let $\mu = E(Z_1)$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(Z_1)$.
- ▶ Then

$$E(Z_n) = \mu^n$$

and

$$\text{Var}(Z_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{\mu^{n-1}(\mu^n - 1)\sigma^2}{n\sigma^2 \mu^{n-1}}, & \mu \neq 1 \\ n\sigma^2, & \mu = 1 \end{cases}$$



Since you know μ and σ^2 using the theorem 1 you can find out the moments of Z_n first and the second order moment, expectation of Z_n and the variance of Z_n . Since μ is equal to 1 the expectation of Z_n will be 1, variance of Z_n will be n times σ^2 . In this problem the σ^2 is $2/5$ therefore mean of Z_n is 1 variance of Z_n is $2n/5$.

Example 2.

- ▶ Consider the Galton - Watson process $\{Z_n, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ with offspring distribution $\{p_k\}$.
- ▶ Assume that $p_0 = 1/5$, $p_1 = 3/5$ and $p_2 = 1/5$.
- ▶ Then $\mu = E(Z_1) = 1$.
- ▶ Hence, this process is a critical Galton - Watson process.
- ▶ $E(Z_1^2) = 7/5$, then $\sigma^2 = 2/5$.
- ▶ Hence, for $n = 1, 2, \dots$

$$E(Z_n) = 1 \text{ and } \text{Var}(Z_n) = \frac{2n}{5}$$



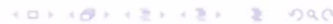
Now we are going to discuss the very important concept called the probability of extinction. If Z_n is equal to 0 for some value for n is greater or equal to 1 then Z_m will be 0 for all m greater or equal to n and also the conditional probability of Z_m is equal to 0 given Z_n is equal to 0 that'll be 1 for all m greater or equal to 1. We say that the branching process is extinguished when probability of Z_n is equal to 0 will be 1 for some value of n .

Probability of Extinction

- ▶ If $Z_n = 0$ for some value $n \geq 1$, then $Z_m = 0$ for all $m \geq n$ and also

$$P(Z_m = 0 \mid Z_n = 0) = 1, \text{ for all } m \geq n$$

- ▶ We say that a branching process is extinguished when $P(Z_n = 0) = 1$, for some value of $n = 1, 2, \dots$



Now we discussed the probability of extinction in theorem 3. If μ is less than or equal to 1 then the probability of extinction is 1. If μ is greater than 1 then the probability of extinction is the positive root less than unity of the equation H of s equal to s where H of s is the probability generating function of Z_1 . Here we consider Galton-Watson branching process Z_n with the offspring distribution P_k . The P_k forms a probability mass function for the random variable Z_1 . If μ is less than or equal to 1 then the probability of extinction is 1. If μ is greater than 1 then the probability of extinction is the positive root less than unity of the equation H of s equal to s ; that means we have to solve the equation H of s equal to s from that you can get the probability of extinction.

Theorem 3: Probability of Extinction

1. If $\mu \leq 1$, then the probability of extinction is one.
2. If $\mu > 1$, then the probability of extinction is the positive root less than unity of the equation $H(s) = s$.

► **Proof:** Let d_n be the probability that extinction occurs at or before the n -th generation, i.e., $d_n = P(Z_n = 0)$.

► We know that, $d_0 = 0$.

► Now,

$$\begin{aligned}d_{n+1} &= P(Z_{n+1} = 0) \\&= P(Z_{n+1} = 0 \mid Z_n = 0)P(Z_n = 0) \\&\quad + P(Z_{n+1} = 0 \mid Z_n \neq 0)P(Z_n \neq 0) \\&= 1 \times P(Z_n = 0) \\&\quad + P(Z_{n+1} = 0 \mid Z_n \neq 0)P(Z_n \neq 0) \\&\geq P(Z_n = 0) = d_n\end{aligned}$$



Here μ is mean of the random variable Z_1 . Let us see the proof. Let d_n be the probability that extinction occurs at or before the n th generation. Hence, d_n is nothing but the probability of Z_n is equal to 0. We know that d_0 will be 0 because we made the assumption Z_0 is equal to 1. Now we will find out d_{n+1} . d_{n+1} is nothing but by the definition d_{n+1} is nothing but probability of Z_{n+1} equal to 0. We can write a probability of Z_{n+1} equal to 0 using conditional probabilities. That is same as probability of Z_{n+1} is equal to 0 given that Z_n was 0 multiplied by probability of Z_n is equal to 0 plus probability of Z_{n+1} is equal to 0 given Z_n is not equal to 0 multiplied by probability of Z_n is not equal to 0. We know that probability of Z_{n+1} is equal to 0 given Z_n is equal to 0 that is equal to 1 therefore this will be 1 times the probability of Z_n is equal to 0 plus probability of Z_{n+1} is equal to 0 given Z_n is not equal to 0 multiplied by probability of Z_n not equal to 0.

Theorem 3: Probability of Extinction . . .

► Hence,

$$0 = d_0 \leq d_1 \leq \dots \leq 1$$

► $\{d_n, n = 0, 1, \dots\}$ is an increasing and upper bound sequence, there exists $d = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_n$, $d \in [0, 1]$ and d is the probability of extinction of the process.

►

$$\begin{aligned} d_m &= P(Z_m = 0) \\ &= \sum_j P(Z_m = 0 \mid Z_1 = j)P(Z_1 = j) \\ &= \sum_j P(Z_m = 0 \mid Z_1 = j)p_j \end{aligned}$$



Obviously this will be greater or equal to probability of Z_n is not equal to 0 because you are adding some probability plus probability multiplied by probability of Z_n is not equal to 0 therefore this quantity will be greater than or equal to probability of Z_n not equal to 0. This quantity will be this is same as 1 times probability of Z_n is equal to 0 plus probability of Z_n plus 1 equal to 0 given probability of Z_n is not equal to 0 multiplied by probability of Z_n is not equal to 0 obviously this quantity will be greater than or equal to 0 the second term therefore the whole result will be greater than or equal to probability of Z_n equal to 0. You know that probability of Z_n is equal to 0 is nothing but d_n therefore d_n plus 1 will be greater than or equal to d_n . This is true for n is equal to 1, 2 and so on. Hence, the d_0 will be 0, d_0 is less than or equal to d_1 . d_1 will be less than or equal to d_2 and so on and since the d_n 's are the probability of extinction therefore that will be less than or equal to 1. Hence, d_n is a sequence and upper bound sequence d_n is a increasing and upper bound sequence there exists d that is nothing but the limit n tends to infinity of d_n and the d is belonging to the closed interval 0 to 1 and d is the probability of extinction of the process.

Theorem 3: Probability of Extinction ...

► We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(Z_m = 0 \mid Z_1 = j) &= P(Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_j = 0) \\
 &= P(Y_1 = 0)P(Y_2 = 0) \dots P(Y_j = 0) \\
 &= [P(Z_{m-1} = 0)]^j \\
 &= d_{m-1}^j
 \end{aligned}$$

► Hence,

$$d_m = \sum_j d_{m-1}^j p_j = H(d_{m-1})$$

► Since $d_m \rightarrow d$ when $m \rightarrow \infty$, the value d satisfies the equation $s = H(s)$.

► Note that the solutions to equation $s = H(s)$ represent intersections of the graphs of $y = s$ and $y = H(s)$.

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Now we will find out what is the d . You know that d_m is nothing but probability of Z_m equal to 0 that is nothing but summation over j probability of Z_m is equal to 0 given Z_1 is equal to j multiplied by probability of Z_1 is equal to j . You know that probability of Z_1 is equal to j is nothing but p_j therefore the d_m is nothing but summation over j probability of Z_m is equal to 0 given Z_1 is equal to j multiplied by p_j . We know that probability of Z_m is equal to 0 given Z_1 is equal to j is nothing but probability of Y_1 plus Y_2 and so on Y_j is equal to 0. Since Y_i 's are iid random variables that is nothing but probability of Y_1 is equal to 0, Y_2 is equal to 0 and so on probability of Y_j is equal to 0. That is same as the probability of Z_{m-1} equal to 0 whole power j that is nothing but d_{m-1} power j . Hence, you can substitute this result in this equation. This conditional probability is nothing but d_{m-1} power j therefore d_m will be summation over j d_{m-1} power j p_j and that is nothing but the probability generating function of d_{m-1} . So hence we get a d_m is equal to $H(d_{m-1})$. Since d_m tends to d as m tends to infinity the value d satisfies the equation s is equal to $H(s)$ because a d_m is equal to $H(d_{m-1})$ therefore the value d satisfies the equation s is equal to $H(s)$.

Note that the solutions to the equation s is equal to $H(s)$ is of a sense intersections of the graphs of Y is equal to s and y is equal to $H(s)$. So the d will be probability of extinction and we are not going to discuss further more about how to solve s is equal to $H(s)$ and finding the probability of extinction.

Example 2.

- ▶ Consider the Galton-Watson process $\{Z_n, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ with offspring distribution $\{p_k\}$.
- ▶ Assume that $p_0 = 1/5$, $p_1 = 3/5$ and $p_2 = 1/5$.
- ▶ Then $\mu = E(Z_1) = 1$.
- ▶

$$H(s) = \sum_k p_k s^k = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{3}{5}s + \frac{1}{5}s^2$$

- ▶ For instance, we find

$$P(Z_2 = 2) = \frac{H_2''(0)}{2!}$$

using

$$H_2(s) = H(H(s)) = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{3}{5}H(s) + \frac{1}{5}[H(s)]^2$$

- ▶ Since $\mu = 1$, by Theorem 3, the probability of extinction is one.

We will consider the third example. Z_n be the sequence of random variable which is a Galton-Watson process with the offspring distribution P_k . Similar to the example 1 and 2 P_0 is equal to 1 by 5, P_1 is equal to 3 by 5 P_2 is equal to 1 by 5. Already we got the mean of a Z_1 that is equal to 1 therefore this is a critical Galton-Watson process.

Now we can find out the probability generating function of Z_1 . Using these one can find the probability of Z is equal to or we can find the distribution of Z_n also. For instant we find a probability of Z is equal to 2 for that you need the probability generating function of Z . That means you should know what is the probability generating function of H_2 of s . Obvious with the help of H_1 of s and H of s one can find H_2 of s . That's what we have proved it in the theorem 2. H_n of s will be H_{n-1} of H of s .

Theorem 1: PGF of Z_n

► $H_n(s) = H_{n-1}(H(s))$ and $H_n(s) = H(H_{n-1}(s))$

► **Proof:** For $n = 1, 2, \dots$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(Z_n = k) &= \sum_i P(Z_n = k \mid Z_{n-1} = i)P(Z_{n-1} = i) \\ &= \sum_i P(Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_i = k)P(Z_{n-1} = i) \end{aligned}$$

► Now,

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(s) &= \sum_k P(Z_n = k)s^k \\ &= \sum_k \left[\sum_i P(Z_n = k \mid Z_{n-1} = i)P(Z_{n-1} = i) \right] s^k \end{aligned}$$



So here we put n is equal to 2 find the probability generating function of Z using the probability generating function of Z_2 we are finding the probability of Z_2 is equal to 2. So probability of Z is equal to 2 will be H_2 double dash of 0 divided by 2 factorial. So first you find out H_2 of s that is nothing but a H_1 of H of s that is same as H of s . So replace s by H of s in the H of s expression that is $1 + 5s + 3s^2 + 5s^3 + s^4$. So replace s by H of s so you will get H_2 of s . Once you know the H_2 of s you differentiate twice then substitute s is equal to 0 then divide by 2 you will get the probability of Z_2 is equal to 2. Since μ is equal to 1 this is a critical Watson process by using the theorem 3 we conclude the probability of extinction is 1.

Theorem 3 says if μ is less than or equal to 1 then the probability of extinction is 1. So since in this problem the μ is equal to 1 hence by theorem 3 the probability of extinction is 1.

So in this lecture we have covered the definition and the examples of branching process. In particular we have discussed Galton-Watson discrete branching process. We have discussed the probability generating function of Z_n . We have discussed the mean and variance of Z_n . Also we have seen three examples through that we found the conditional probability, probability generating function, mean and variance of Z_n . Finally, we have discussed the probability of extinction for the Galton-Watson process.

In the next lecture we are going to cover another important branching process that is a Markov branching process which is a continuous type branching process. In this lecture we have discussed a discrete type branching process that is a Galton-Watson process. In the next lecture we are going to cover continuous type branching process that is a Markov branching process and some more important branching processes. Here is the references.

References

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