

Math/Stat 341: Probability: Fall '21 (Williams)

Professor Steven J Miller: sjm1@williams.edu

Homepage:

[https://web.williams.edu/Mathematics/sjmiller/
public_html/341Fa21](https://web.williams.edu/Mathematics/sjmiller/public_html/341Fa21)

Lecture 23: 11-10-21: <https://youtu.be/fY7teGfgxsY> ([slides](#))

Lecture 24: 11/04/19: Poisson Random Variables, Exponential Function, Stirling's Formula, Dyadic Decomposition, CLT to Stirling:
https://youtu.be/_aGxDkNLHY

Plan for the day: Lecture 23: November 10, 2021:

https://web.williams.edu/Mathematics/sjmiller/public_html/341Fa21/handouts/341Notes_Chap1.pdf

- Theory of the Exponential Function
- Stirling's Formula (Dyadic Decomposition)
- Poisson Random Variables
- CLT to Stirling

General items.

- Power of differentiating identities
- Ability to use results in multiple ways

Definition 20.2.1 (Normal distribution) *A random variable X is normally distributed (or has the normal distribution, or is a Gaussian random variable) with mean μ and variance σ^2 if the density of X is*

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

We often write $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ to denote this. If $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$, we say X has the standard normal distribution.

Theorem 20.2.2 (Central Limit Theorem (CLT)) *Let $|X_1, \dots, X_N$ be independent, identically distributed random variables whose moment generating functions converge for $|t| < \delta$ for some $\delta > 0$ (this implies all the moments exist and are finite). Denote the mean by μ and the variance by σ^2 , let*

$$\bar{X}_N = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

and set

$$Z_N = \frac{\bar{X}_N - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{N}}.$$

Then as $N \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of Z_N converges to the standard normal (see Definition [20.2.1](#) for a statement).

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

$$\cos(x) = \frac{1}{\sin(x)}$$

$$e^x e^y = e^{x+y}$$

$$e^x e^y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} \frac{y^m}{m!}$$

split by sum of powers

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^k \frac{x^l y^{k-l}}{l! (k-l)!} \frac{k!}{k!} \quad \text{want } k = n+m$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \underbrace{\sum_{l=0}^k \binom{k}{l} x^l y^{k-l}}_{\text{Binomial Thm}}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x+y)^k}{k!} = e^{x+y} \quad \square$$

The Gamma function. The Gamma function $\Gamma(s)$ is

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n! \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\Gamma(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{s-1} dx, \quad \Re(s) > 0. \quad \left(x^s \frac{dx}{x} \right)$$

Stirling's formula: As $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$n! \approx n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n};$$

by this we mean

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n}} = 1.$$

More precisely, we have the following series expansion:

$$n! = n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{12n} + \frac{1}{288n^2} - \frac{139}{51840n^3} - \dots \right).$$

Crude upper/lower bounds for $n!$.

$$0 \leq 1 \leq n \leq n! \leq n^n$$

Then: $\underbrace{1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

$$n \leq S(n) \leq n^2$$

Lower bound: $\frac{n}{2} \cdot \frac{n}{2} = \frac{n^2}{4}$

have $\frac{n}{2} + (\frac{n}{2} + 1) + \dots + n$: $\frac{n}{2}$ terms, each is $\frac{n}{2}$

$$\frac{1}{4} n^2 \leq S(n) \leq n^2$$

Note $(n+1)!/n! = n+1$; let's see what Stirling gives:

$$n! \approx n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n}$$

$$(n+1)! \approx (n+1)^{n+1} e^{-(n+1)} \sqrt{2\pi(n+1)}$$

$$\frac{(n+1)!}{n!} \approx \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^n} \frac{e^{-n-1}}{e^{-n}} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi(n+1)}}{\sqrt{2\pi n}}$$

$$\approx (n+1) \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n}_{e \cdot \gamma e} e^{-1} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \approx (n+1)$$

Integral Test and the Poor Mathematician's Stirling

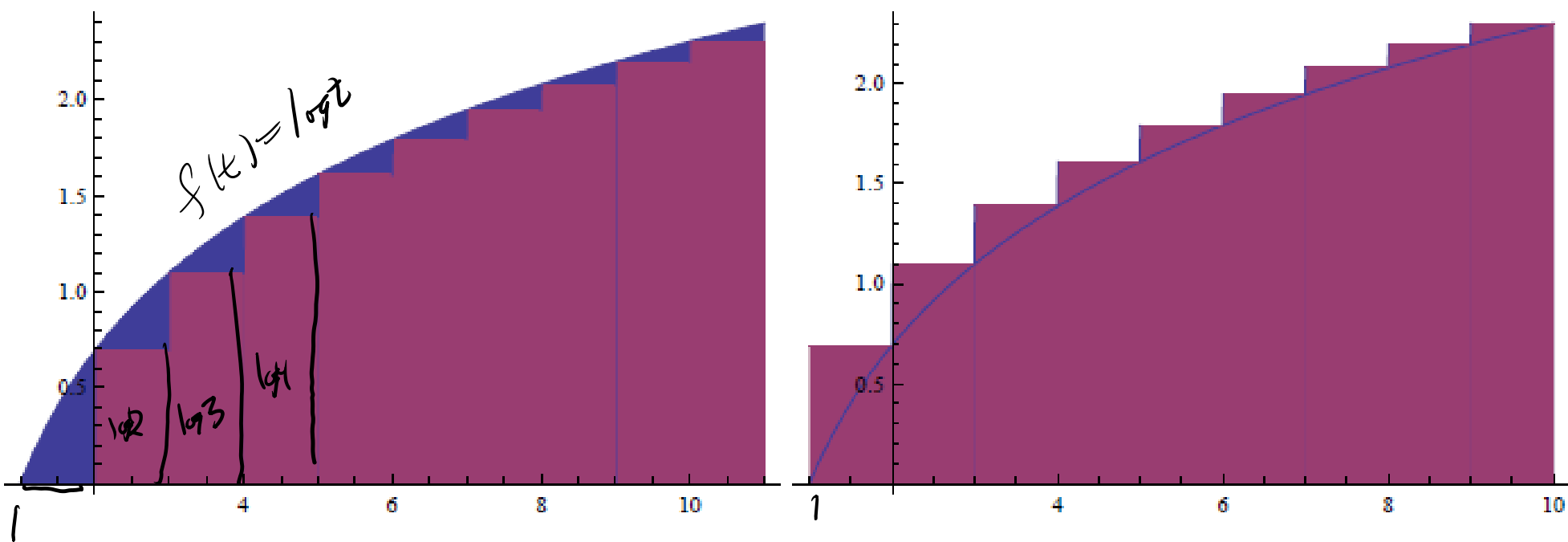
Poor man's Stirling. Let $n \geq 3$ be a positive integer. Then

$$n^n e^{-n} \cdot e \leq n! \leq n^n e^{-n} \cdot en.$$

factors are 1 and n
 $GM(1, n) = \sqrt{1 \cdot n} = \sqrt{n}$

$$\log P = \log n! = \log 1 + \log 2 + \dots + \log n = \sum_{k=1}^n \log k.$$

$$\int_1^n \log t dt \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \log k \leq \int_2^{n+1} \log t dt.$$



Lower and upper bound for $\log n!$ when $n = 10$.

Stirling's Formula: Lower bound from Integral Test:

$$\text{Claim } (t \log t - t)' = \log t$$

$$\begin{aligned} (t \log t - t) \Big|_{t=1}^n &\leq \log n! \leq (t \log t - t) \Big|_{t=2}^{n+1} \\ n \log n - n + 1 &\leq \log n! \leq (n+1) \log(n+1) - (n+1) - (2 \log 2 - 2). \end{aligned}$$

We'll study the lower bound first. From

$$n \log n - n + 1 \leq \log n!,$$

we find after exponentiating that

$$e^{n \log n - n + 1} = n^n e^{-n} \cdot e \leq n!.$$

Euler–Maclaurin formula

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler%E2%80%93Maclaurin_formula

If m and n are natural numbers and $f(x)$ is a real or complex valued continuous function for real numbers x in the interval $[m,n]$, then the integral

$$I = \int_m^n f(x) \, dx$$

can be approximated by the sum (or vice versa)

$$S = f(m + 1) + \cdots + f(n - 1) + f(n)$$

(see rectangle method). The Euler–Maclaurin formula provides expressions for the difference between the sum and the integral in terms of the higher derivatives $f^{(k)}(x)$ evaluated at the endpoints of the interval, that is to say $x = m$ and $x = n$.

Explicitly, for p a positive integer and a function $f(x)$ that is p times continuously differentiable on the interval $[m,n]$, we have

$$S - I = \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{B_k}{k!} \left(f^{(k-1)}(n) - f^{(k-1)}(m) \right) + R_p,$$

where B_k is the k th Bernoulli number (with $B_1 = \frac{1}{2}$) and R_p is an error term which depends on n, m, p , and f and is usually small for suitable values of p .

The formula is often written with the subscript taking only even values, since the odd Bernoulli numbers are zero except for B_1 . In this case we have^{[1][2]}

$$\sum_{i=m}^n f(i) = \int_m^n f(x) \, dx + \frac{f(n) + f(m)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \left(f^{(2k-1)}(n) - f^{(2k-1)}(m) \right) + R_p,$$

or alternatively

$$\sum_{i=m+1}^n f(i) = \int_m^n f(x) \, dx + \frac{f(n) - f(m)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \left(f^{(2k-1)}(n) - f^{(2k-1)}(m) \right) + R_p.$$

The Poisson distribution. Let $\lambda > 0$. Then X is a **Poisson random variable** with parameter λ if

$$\text{Prob}(X = n) = \begin{cases} \lambda^n e^{-\lambda} / n! & \text{if } n \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We write $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$. The mean and the variance are both λ .

Clearly non-neg

Does it sum to 1?

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda} = 1$$

Save:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} = 1 \implies \boxed{e^{\lambda} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!}}$$

Poisson random variable: $\mu_X = \lambda$

$$e^\lambda = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n / n!$$

apply $\lambda \frac{d}{d\lambda}$

$$\lambda e^\lambda = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\frac{\lambda^n}{n!} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n \lambda^n}{n!}$$

$$\lambda = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!}$$

$$= E[X]$$

$$E[X] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n P_{\text{Pob}}(X=n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n!} \lambda^n e^{-\lambda} \quad (\lambda^n = \lambda^{n-1} \lambda)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda \cdot \lambda^{n-1} e^{-\lambda}}{(n-1)!}$$

$$= \lambda \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^m e^{-\lambda}}{m!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} m &= n-1 \\ n: 1 &\rightarrow \infty \\ m: 0 &\rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

$$= \lambda \cdot 1 = \lambda$$

Sums of Poisson random variables. The sum of n independent Poisson random variables with parameters $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ is a Poisson random variable with parameter $\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n$.

$$\left((X_1 + X_2) + X_3 \right) + \dots$$

$$X_1 \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_1) \quad X_2 \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_2)$$

$$X = X_1 + X_2 \quad \text{discrete convolution}$$

$$\text{Prob}(X=n) = \sum_{m=0}^n \text{Prob}(X_1=m) \text{Prob}(X_2=n-m)$$

$$= \sum_{m=0}^n \frac{\lambda_1^m e^{-\lambda_1}}{m!} \frac{\lambda_2^{n-m} e^{-\lambda_2}}{(n-m)!} \quad \frac{n!}{n!}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} \lambda_1^m \lambda_2^{n-m} e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)}$$

$$= \frac{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)}}{n!}$$

Definition 20.2.1 (Normal distribution) *A random variable X is normally distributed (or has the normal distribution, or is a Gaussian random variable) with mean μ and variance σ^2 if the density of X is*

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

We often write $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ to denote this. If $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$, we say X has the standard normal distribution.

Theorem 20.2.2 (Central Limit Theorem (CLT)) *Let $|X_1, \dots, X_N$ be independent, identically distributed random variables whose moment generating functions converge for $|t| < \delta$ for some $\delta > 0$ (this implies all the moments exist and are finite). Denote the mean by μ and the variance by σ^2 , let*

$$\bar{X}_N = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

and set

$$Z_N = \frac{\bar{X}_N - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{N}}.$$

Then as $N \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of Z_N converges to the standard normal (see Definition [20.2.1](#) for a statement).

1. X has a Poisson distribution with parameter λ means

$$\text{Prob}(X = n) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} & \text{if } n \geq 0 \text{ is an integer} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

2. If $X_1, \dots, X_N$ are independent, identically distributed random variables with mean μ , variance σ^2 and a little more (such as the third moment is finite, or the moment generating function exists), then $X_1 + \dots + X_N$ converges to being normally distributed with mean $n\mu$ and variance $n\sigma^2$.

$$\underline{X} = \underline{X}_1 + \dots + \underline{X}_n \sim \text{Poiss}(\lambda)$$

$$E[\underline{X}] = \lambda \quad \text{Var}(\underline{X}) = \lambda$$

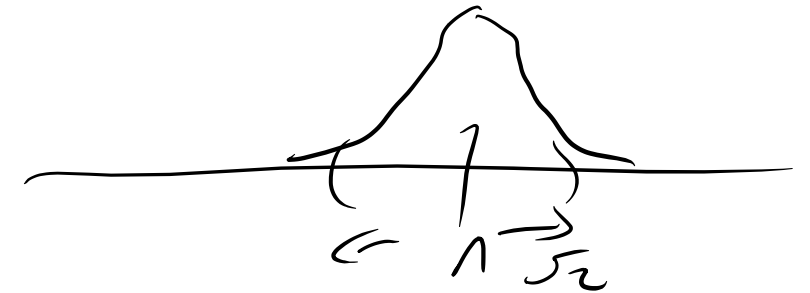
$$\underline{X} \text{ converges to } \mathcal{N}(\lambda, \lambda) = \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\text{Prob}(\underline{X} = n) = \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} = \frac{n^n e^{-n}}{n!}$$

$$\underline{X}_k \sim \text{Poiss}(1)$$

$$E[\underline{X}_k] = 1$$

$$\text{Var}(\underline{X}_k) = 1$$



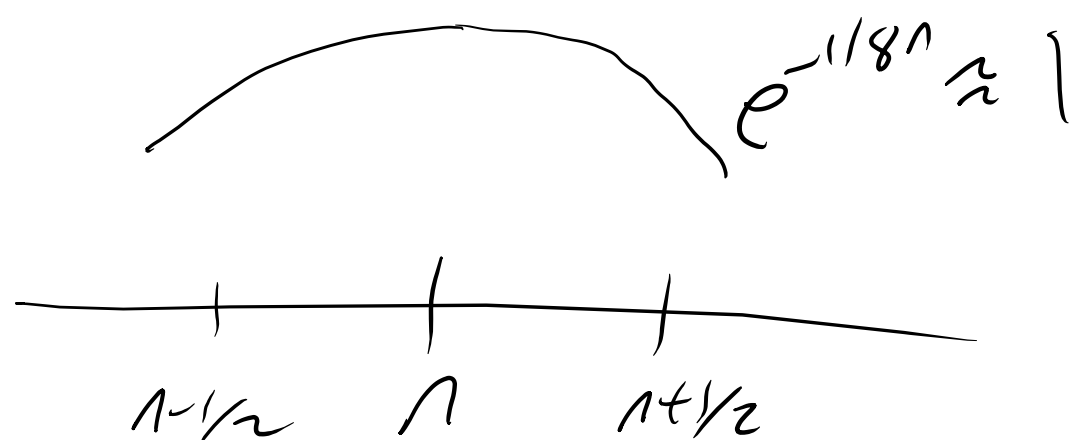
X approx $N(n, n)$

$\text{Prob}(X \in [n-1/2, n+1/2])$

$$\int_{n-1/2}^{n+1/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n}} e^{-(x-n)^2/2n} dx$$

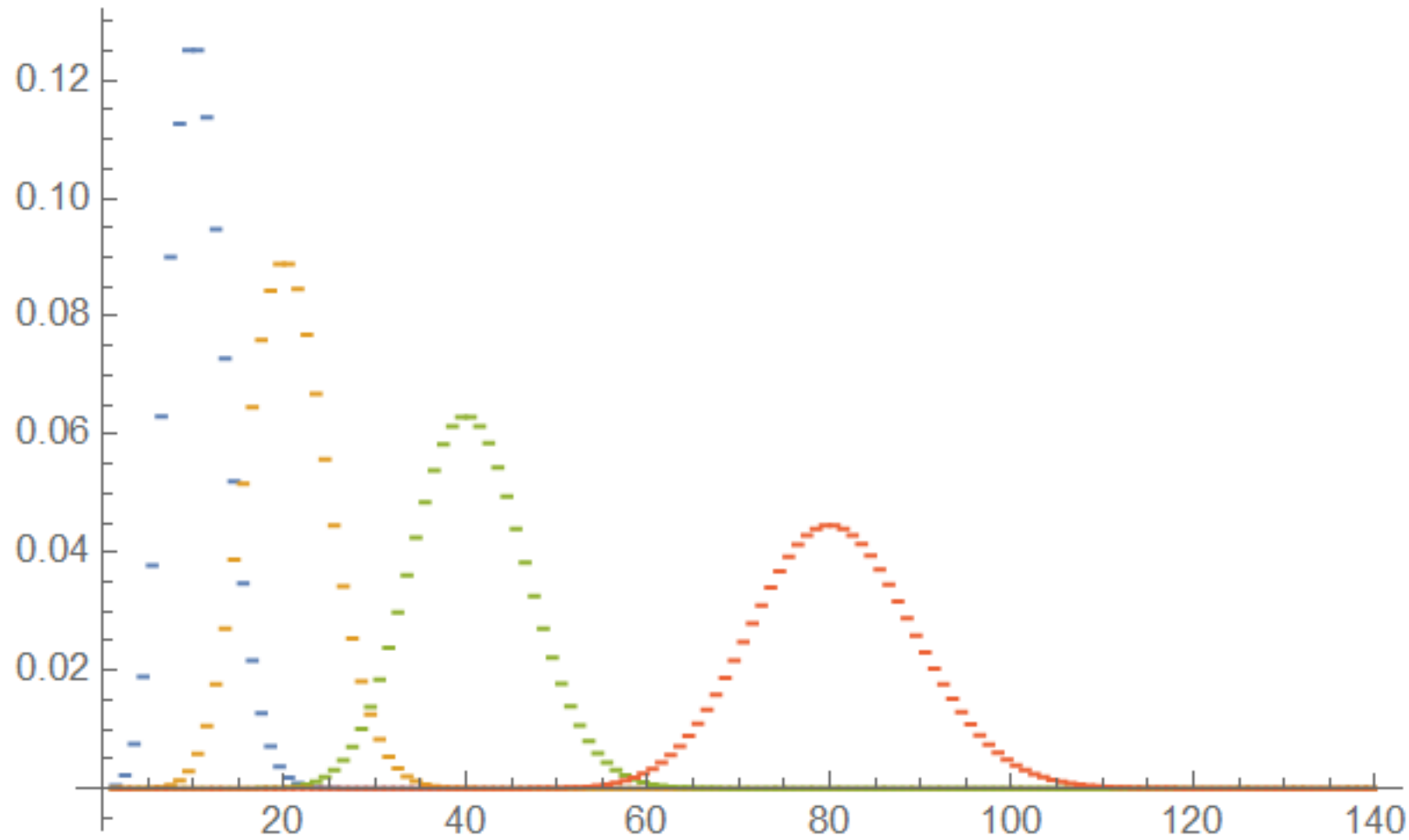
$$\approx \int_{n-1/2}^{n+1/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n}} 1 dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n}}$$

$$\text{so } \frac{n^n e^{-n}}{n!} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi n}} \Rightarrow n! \approx n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n}$$



$$\text{Prob}(X=n) = \frac{n^n e^{-n}}{n!}$$


```
g[x_, Lambda_] := Exp[-Lambda] Lambda^(Floor[x]) / (Floor[x]!)
Plot[{g[x, 10], g[x, 20], g[x, 40], g[x, 80]}, {x, 1, 140}, PlotRange -> All]
```



```
g[x_, lambda_] := Exp[-lambda] lambda^(Floor[x]) / (Floor[x]!)
Plot[{g[x, 10], g[x, 20], g[x, 40], g[x, 80]}, {x, 1, 140}, PlotRange -> All]
```

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \stackrel{\text{L'Hopital}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{1} = 1$$

Check 1: Need $(\sin x)' = \cos x$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(0+h) - \sin(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h}{h} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{n} = 0$$

