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# **ECE 307 – Techniques for Engineering Decisions**

## **Probability Distributions**

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# OUTLINE OF DISTRIBUTION REVIEWED

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## ☐ Discrete

- ☐ Binomial

- ☐ Poisson

## ☐ Continuous

- ☐ Exponential

- ☐ Normal

# THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ Binomial distributions are used to describe events with only two possible outcomes
- ❑ Basic requirements are
  - *dichotomous outcomes*: uncertain events occur in a sequence with each event having one of two possible outcomes such as

# THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

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success/failure, correct/incorrect, on/off or  
true/false

- *constant probability*: each event has the same probability of success
- *independence*: the outcome of each event is independent of the outcomes of any other event

# BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION EXAMPLE

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- We consider a group of  $n$  identical machines with each machine having one of two states:

$$P \{ \text{machine is on} \} = p$$

$$P \{ \text{machine is off} \} = q = 1 - p$$

- For concreteness, we set  $n = 8$  and define for

$i = 1, 2, \dots, 8$ , the *r.v.s*

# BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION EXAMPLE

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$$\tilde{X}_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{machine } i \text{ is on with prob. } p \\ 0 & \text{machine } i \text{ is off with prob. } q = 1 - p \end{cases}$$

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□ The probability that 3 or more machines are on is determined by evaluating

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$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{X}_i \geq 3 \right\} = P \{ 3 \text{ or more machines are on} \}$$

# BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION EXAMPLE

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$$\begin{aligned} &= P\{3 \text{ machines are on}\} + \\ &\quad P\{4 \text{ machines are on}\} + \\ &\quad \text{cuu duong than cong. com} \\ &\quad \dots + \\ &\quad P\{8 \text{ machines are on}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{X}_i \geq 3\right\} = \sum_{r=3}^8 \frac{8!}{(8-r)!r!} p^r (1-p)^{8-r}$$

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# THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

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- In general, for a *r.v.*  $\tilde{R}$  with dichotomous outcomes of success and failure, the probability of  $r$  successes in  $n$  trials is

$$P \{ \tilde{R} = r \text{ in } n \text{ trials with probability of success } p \}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!} p^r (1-p)^{n-r}$$

the binomial  
distribution



# THE BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

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□ We can show that:

$$E \{ \tilde{R} \} = np$$

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$$\text{var} \{ \tilde{R} \} = np(1-p)$$

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$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{X}_i \geq k \right\} = \sum_{r=k}^n \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!} p^r (1-p)^{n-r}$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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❑ Pretzel entrepreneur can sell pretzels at \$ 0.50 *per unit* with a market potential of 100,000 pretzels within a year; there exists a competing product and so we know he cannot sell that many

❑ Basic model is binomial:

new pretzel is a hit           ⇒   captures 30% of  
(success)                           market in one year

new pretzel is a flop       ⇒   captures 10% of  
(flop)                               market in one year

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- ❑ The probability of these two outcomes is equal
- ❑ Market tests are conducted with 20 pretzels being taste tested against the competition; the result is that 5 out of 20 people prefer the new pretzel
- ❑ We evaluate the conditional probability

$$P\{new\ pretzel\ is\ a\ hit\ |\ 5\ out\ of\ 20\ people\ prefer\ new\ pretzel\}$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- We define the success *r.v.*

$$\tilde{S} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{new pretzel is a hit} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise (a flop)} \end{cases}$$

with

$$P\{\tilde{S} = 1\} = P\{\tilde{S} = 0\} = 0.5$$

and

$$\tilde{X}_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{person } i \text{ prefers new pretzel} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- We evaluate

$$P\{\text{new pretzel is a hit} \mid 5 \text{ out of } 20 \text{ people prefer new pretzel}\}$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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$$P\left\{\tilde{S} = 1 \mid \sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5\right\} = \frac{P\left\{\tilde{S} = 1, \sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5\right\}}{P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5\right\}} =$$

$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 1\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 1\}$$

$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 1\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 1\} + P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 0\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 0\}$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 1 \right\}$$

**0.179 from the  
binomial table**

is the binomial probability

that 5 out of 20 people prefer

the new pretzel with  $p = 0.3$

$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 0 \right\}$$

**0.0032 from the  
binomial table**

is the binomial probability

that 5 out of 20 people prefer

the new pretzel with  $p = 0.1$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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□ Therefore,

$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 1\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 1\}$$

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$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 1\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 1\} + P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{20} \tilde{X}_i = 5 \mid \tilde{S} = 0\right\} P\{\tilde{S} = 0\}$$

$$= \frac{(0.179)(0.5)}{(0.179)(0.5) + (0.032)(0.5)}$$

$$= 0.848$$

# THE POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ The binomial distribution is good for representing successes in repeated trials
- ❑ The Poisson distribution is appropriate for representing specific events over time or space:  
e.g., number of customers who are served by a butcher in a meat market, or number of chips judged unacceptable in a production run



# REQUIREMENTS FOR A POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ Events can happen at any of a large number of values within the range of measurement (time, space, etc.) and possibly along a continuum
- ❑ At a specific point  $z$ ,  $P \{ \text{an event at } z \}$  is very small and so events do not happen *too frequently*

# REQUIREMENTS FOR A POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ Each event is independent of any other event and

so

$$P \{event\ at\ any\ point\}$$

is fixed and *independent* of all other events

- ❑ Average number of events over a unit of measure

is constant

# THE POISSON DISTRIBUTED *r.v.*

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- $\tilde{X}$  is the *r.v.* representing the number of events in a unit of measure

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P\{\tilde{X} = k\} &= \frac{e^{-m} m^k}{k!} \\ E\{\tilde{X}\} &= m \quad \text{var}\{\tilde{X}\} = m \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} m \text{ is the} \\ \text{Poisson distribution} \\ \text{parameter} \end{array}$$

- Interpretation: the Poisson distribution parameter is the mean or the variance of the distribution

# EXAMPLE: POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ Consider an assembly line for manufacturing a particular product
  - 1024 units are produced
  - based on past experience, a flawed product is manufactured every 197 units and so, on average, there are that  $\frac{1024}{197} \approx 5.2$  flawed units in the 1024 products are produced

# EXAMPLE: POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ Note that the Poisson conditions are satisfied
  - the sample has 1024 units
  - there are only a few flawed units in the 1024 sample
  - the probability of a flawed unit is small
  - each flawed unit is *independent* of every other flawed unit

# EXAMPLE: POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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- Poisson distribution is appropriate representation with  $m = 5.2$  and so,

$$P\{X = k\} = \frac{e^{-5.2} (5.2)^k}{k!}$$

- If we want to determine the probability of 4 or more flawed units, we compute

# EXAMPLE: POISSON DISTRIBUTION

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$$P\{X > 4\} = 1 - P\{X \leq 4\} = 1 - 0.406 = 0.594$$

lookup Poisson table for  $k = 4, m = 5.2$

□ The Poisson table states that

$$P\{X \leq 12\} = 0.997$$

and therefore

$$P\{X > 12\} = 1 - P\{X \leq 12\} = 0.003$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- ❑ The pretzel enterprise is going well: several retail outlets and a street vendor sell the pretzels
- ❑ A vendor in a new location can sell, on average, 20 pretzels per hour; the vendor in an existing location sells 8 pretzels per hour



# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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❑ A decision is made to try to set up a second street vendor at a different, new location

❑ New location is considered to be

*“good”* if 20  $p/h$  are sold with probability 0.7

*“bad”* if 10  $p/h$  are sold with probability 0.2

*“dismal”* if 6  $p/h$  are sold with probability 0.1

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- ❑ After the first week, long enough to make a mark, a 30 – minute test is run and 7 pretzels are sold during the 30 – minute test period

- ❑ We define

$$\tilde{L} = \begin{cases} \text{"good"} & 10 \text{ } p \text{ sold during test period} \\ \text{"bad"} & 5 \text{ } p \text{ sold during test period} \\ \text{"dismal"} & 3 \text{ } p \text{ sold during test period} \end{cases}$$

and assume Poisson distribution applies

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- We determine the conditional probabilities of the new location conditioned on the test outcomes

$$P\{\underline{L} = \text{"good"} | \underline{X} = 7\}, P\{\underline{L} = \text{"bad"} | \underline{X} = 7\} \text{ and}$$

$$P\{\underline{L} = \text{"dismal"} | \underline{X} = 7\}$$

- We compute

$$P\{\underline{X} = 7 | \underline{L} = \text{"good"}\} = \frac{e^{-10} (10)^7}{7!} = 0.09$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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$$P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"bad"}\} = \frac{e^{-5} (5)^7}{7!} = 0.104$$

$$P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"dismal"}\} = \frac{e^{-3} (3)^7}{7!} = 0.022$$

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$$P\{L = \text{"good"} \mid X = 7\} =$$

$$P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"good"}\} \cdot P\{L = \text{"good"}\}$$

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$$\left[ \begin{aligned} &P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"good"}\} \cdot P\{L = \text{"good"}\} + P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"bad"}\} \\ &P\{L = \text{"bad"}\} + P\{X = 7 \mid L = \text{"dismal"}\} \cdot P\{L = \text{"dismal"}\} \end{aligned} \right]$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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$$P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"good"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = \frac{(0.09)(0.7)}{(0.09)(0.7) + (0.104)(0.2) + (0.022)(0.1)}$$

$$= 0.733$$

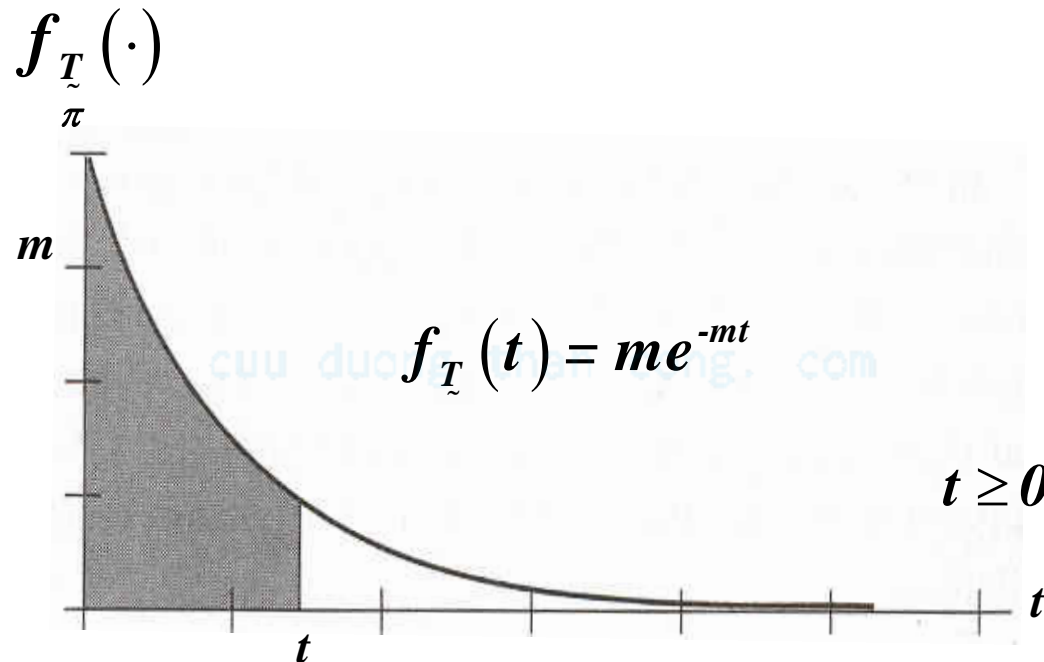
$$P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"bad"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = 0.242$$

$$P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"dismal"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = 0.025$$

# EXPONENTIALLY DISTRIBUTED *r.v.*

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- ❑ Unlike the discrete Poisson or the binomial distributed *r.v.s*, the exponentially distributed *r.v.* is continuous
- ❑ The density function has the form



# EXPONENTIALLY DISTRIBUTED $r.v.$

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- ❑ The exponentially distributed  $r.v.$  is related to the Poisson distribution
- ❑ Consider the Poisson distributed  $r.v.$   $\tilde{X}$  with representing the number of events in a given quantity of measure, e.g., period of time
- ❑ We define  $\tilde{T}$  to be the  $r.v.$  for the uncertain quantity of measure, e.g., time between two sequential events

# EXPONENTIALLY DISTRIBUTED *r.v.*

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□ Then,  $T_{\sim}$  has the exponential distribution with

$$F_{T_{\sim}}(t) = P\{T_{\sim} \leq t\} = 1 - e^{-mt},$$

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$$E\{T_{\sim}\} = \frac{1}{m} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{var}\{T_{\sim}\} = \frac{1}{m^2}$$

□ The exponentially distributed *r.v.* is completely

specified by the  $m$  parameter



# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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- ❑ We know that it takes 3.5 minutes to bake a pretzel and we wish to determine the probability that the next customer will arrive after the pretzel baking is completed, i.e.,  $P\{T > 3.5 \text{ minutes}\}$
- ❑ We also are given that the location types are classified as being

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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**“good” location  $\leftrightarrow m = 20$  pretzels / hour**

**“bad” location  $\leftrightarrow m = 10$  pretzels / hour**

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**“dismal” location  $\leftrightarrow m = 6$  pretzels / hour**

- We compute the probability by conditioning on the location type and obtain**

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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$$\begin{aligned} P\{T_{\sim} > 3.5 \text{ minutes}\} &= P\{T_{\sim} > 3.5 \text{ minutes} \mid m = 20\} P\{m = 20\} + \\ &\quad P\{T_{\sim} > 3.5 \text{ minutes} \mid m = 10\} P\{m = 10\} + \\ &\quad P\{T_{\sim} > 3.5 \text{ minutes} \mid m = 6\} P\{m = 6\} \\ &\equiv 0.0583 \text{ hour} \end{aligned}$$

□ We evaluate

$$P\{T_{\sim} > 3.5m\} =$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

$$e^{-0.0583(20)} P\{m = 20\} + e^{-0.0583(10)} P\{m = 10\} + e^{-0.0583(6)} P\{m = 6\}$$

*ex post probabilities*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P\{m = 20\} = P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"good"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = 0.733 \\ P\{m = 10\} = P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"bad"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = 0.242 \\ P\{m = 6\} = P\{\tilde{L} = \text{"dismal"} \mid \tilde{X} = 7\} = 0.025 \end{array} \right.$$

# EXAMPLE: SOFT PRETZELS

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and so

$$P\{\tilde{T} > 3.5 \text{ minutes}\} = 0.3809$$

□ Therefore,

$$P\{\tilde{T} \leq 3.5 \text{ minutes}\} = 1 - 0.3809 = 0.6191$$

and the interpretation is that the majority of the customers arrives before the pretzels are baked

# THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

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- ❑ The *normal* or *Gaussian* distribution is, by far, the most important probability distribution since the *Law of Large Numbers* implies that the distribution of many uncertain variables are governed by the *normal* distribution, or commonly known as the *bell curve*

- ❑ We consider a normally distributed *r.v.*  $Y_{\sim}$

$$Y_{\sim} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

# THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

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□ The density function is

$$f_{\tilde{Y}}(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the normal distribution density function:

- mean**:  $\mu$  (indicated by a blue arrow pointing to  $(y-\mu)^2$ )
- variance**:  $\sigma^2$  (indicated by a blue arrow pointing to  $\sigma^2$ )
- standard deviation**:  $\sigma$  (indicated by a blue arrow pointing to  $\sigma$  in the denominator)

with

$$E\{\tilde{Y}\} = \mu \quad \text{and} \quad \text{var}\{\tilde{Y}\} = \sigma^2$$

# THE STANDARD NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

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- Consider the *r.v.*  $Z$  which has the standard normal distribution

$$Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$$

- The relationship between the *r.v.s*  $Y$  and  $Z$  is given by

$$Z = \frac{Y - \mu}{\sigma}$$

with

$$P\{Y \leq a\} = P\left\{Z \leq \frac{a - \mu}{\sigma}\right\}$$



# THE STANDARD NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

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□ Note that

$$E\{Z_{\sim}\} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{var}\{Z_{\sim}\} = 1$$

□ In general, all the values of the normal distribution can be obtained from the *standard normal distribution* through the affine transformation

$$Z_{\sim} = \frac{Y_{\sim} - \mu}{\sigma}$$

# EXAMPLE: QUALITY CONTROL

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- ❑ We consider a disk drive manufacturing process in which a particular machine produces a part used in the final assembly; the part must rigorously meet the width requirements within the interval  $[3.995, 4.005] \text{ mm}$  ; else, the company incurs \$10.40 in repair costs
- ❑ The machine is set to produce parts with the width of  $4\text{mm}$ , but in reality, the width is a normally distributed *r.v.*  $\tilde{W}$  with

# EXAMPLE: QUALITY CONTROL

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$$\underline{W} \sim \mathcal{N}(4, \sigma)$$

and

$$\sigma = f(\text{speed of machine}) = \begin{cases} 0.0019 & \text{slow speed} \\ 0.0026 & \text{high speed} \end{cases}$$

□ The corresponding costs (\$) of the disk drive are

20.75      *slow speed*

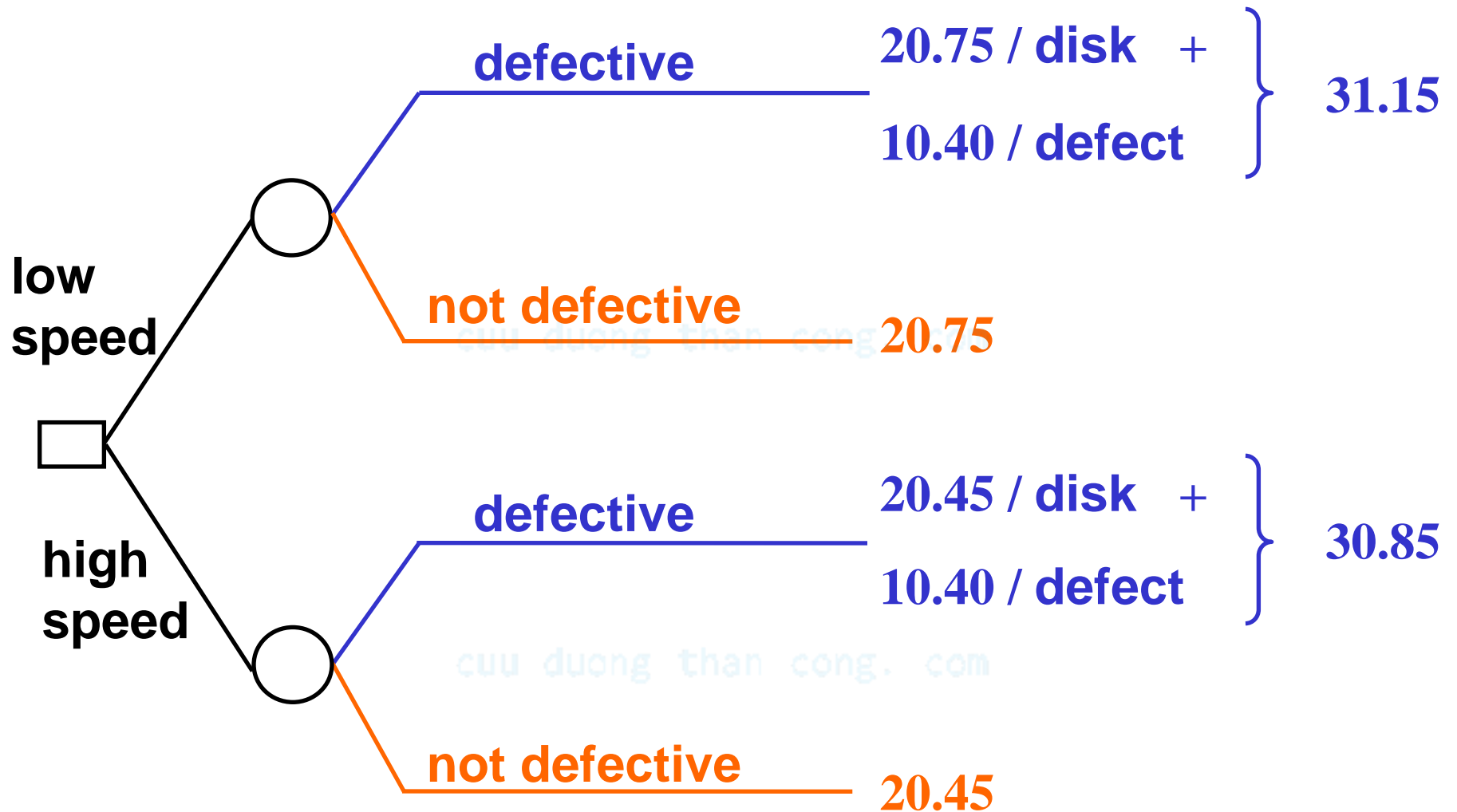
20.45      *high speed*

# EXAMPLE: QUALITY CONTROL

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- ☐ We may interpret the cost data to imply that more disks can be produced at lesser costs at the high speed
- ☐ We need to select the machine speed to obtain the more cost effective result
- ☐ A decision tree is useful in the analysis of the situation

# EXAMPLE: QUALITY CONTROL



❑ We need to evaluate the probability of each outcome

# LOW – SPEED PROBABILITY EVALUATION


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$$P\{defective\ disk\ is\ produced\} =$$

$$P\{\tilde{W} < 3.995\ or\ \tilde{W} > 4.005\} =$$

$$1 - P\{3.995 \leq \tilde{W} \leq 4.005\} =$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \frac{\tilde{W} - 4}{0.0019}$$


$$1 - P\left\{\frac{3.995 - 4}{0.0019} \leq \tilde{Z} \leq \frac{4.005 - 4}{0.0019}\right\} =$$

# LOW – SPEED PROBABILITY EVALUATION

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$$1 - P \left\{ -2.63 \leq \tilde{Z} \leq 2.63 \right\} =$$

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$$1 - \left[ P \left\{ \tilde{Z} \leq 2.63 \right\} - P \left\{ \tilde{Z} \leq -2.63 \right\} \right] = 0.0086$$

0.9957

0.0043

0.9914

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# HIGH – SPEED PROBABILITY EVALUATION


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$$P\{\textit{defective disk is produced}\} =$$

$$P\{\tilde{W} < 3.995 \textit{ or } \tilde{W} > 4.005\} =$$

$$1 - P\{3.995 \leq \tilde{W} \leq 4.005\} =$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \frac{\tilde{W} - 4}{0.0026}$$


$$1 - P\left\{\frac{3.995 - 4}{0.0026} \leq \tilde{Z} \leq \frac{4.005 - 4}{0.0026}\right\} =$$



# HIGH – SPEED PROBABILITY EVALUATION

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$$1 - P\{-1.92 \leq \tilde{Z} \leq 1.92\} =$$

$$1 - \left[ P\{\tilde{Z} \leq 1.92\} - P\{\tilde{Z} \leq -1.92\} \right] = 0.0548$$

0.9726

0.0274

0.9452

# MEAN VALUE EVALUATION

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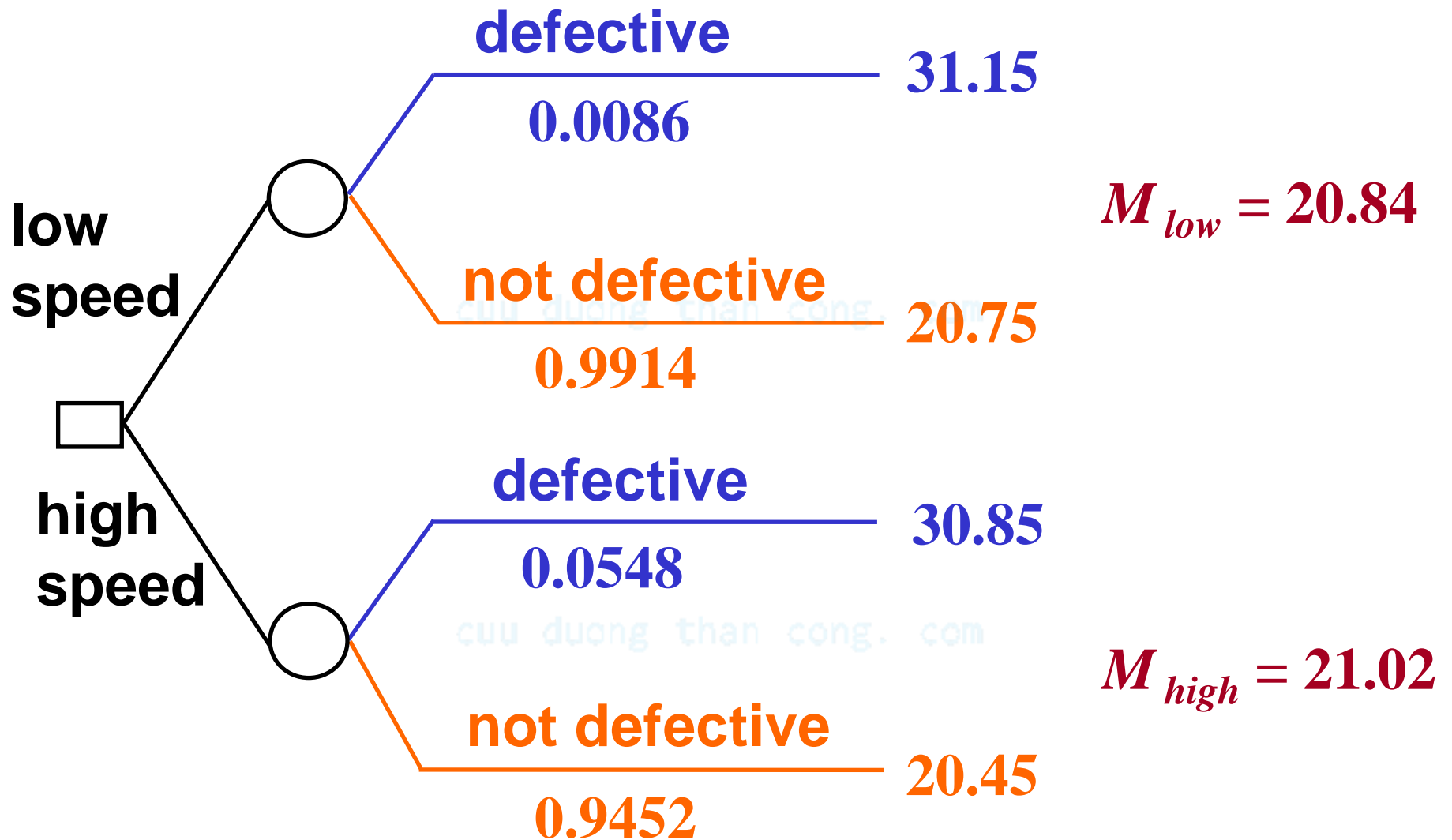
- We next evaluate the mean cost per disk

$$E \{ \text{cost / disk} | \text{low speed} \} = (0.9914)(20.75) + (0.0086)(31.15) \\ = 20.84$$

$$E \{ \text{cost / disk} | \text{high speed} \} = (0.9452)(20.45) + (0.0548)(30.85) \\ = 21.02$$

- We summarize the information in the decision tree

# EXAMPLE: QUALITY CONTROL



# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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- ❑ *M Airlines* has a commuter plane capable of flying 16 passengers
- ❑ The plane is used on a route for which *M Airlines* charges \$225
- ❑ The airliner's cost structure is based on

the fixed costs for each flight	\$ 900
the variable costs/passenger	\$ 100
the “no-show” rate	4 %

# CASE STUDY – OVERBOOKING

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- ☐ The refund policy is that unused tickets are refunded only if a reservation is cancelled 24 *h* before the scheduled departure
- ☐ The overbooking policy is to pay \$ 100 as incentive to each bumped passenger and refund the ticket
- ☐ The decision required is to determine how many reservations should the airliner sell on this plane

# SAMPLE CALCULATION FOR SELLING 18 RESERVATIONS

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total revenues :  $R = 225 * 18 = 4050$

passenger fixed and variable costs :

$$C_1 = 900 + 100 * \min\{\text{number of "shows", } 16\} \$$$

bumping costs :

$$C_2 = (225 + 100) * \max\{0, \text{number of "shows"} - 16\} \$$$

refunds to customers



total costs :  $C = C_1 + C_2$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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□ We evaluate

$$P \{ \text{no. of "shows"} > 16 \mid \text{reservations sold} = 18 \}$$

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□ We assume that each reservation is a *r.v.*  $P_i$  :

$$P_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{passenger } i \text{ is a "show" with prob. 0.96} \\ 0 & \text{passenger } i \text{ is a "no show" with prob. 0.04} \end{cases}$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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- If reservations sold = 18 , then we need to evaluate

$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{18} P_{\sim i} > 16 \mid 18 \text{ reservations} \right\}$$

- We first evaluate

$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{17} P_{\sim i} > 16 \mid 17 \text{ res} \right\} = P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{17} P_{\sim i} \geq 17 \mid 17 \text{ res} \right\} = P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{17} P_{\sim i} = 17 \text{ res} \right\}$$

**binomial *r.v.* with  $p = 0.96$**



# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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$$= (.96)^{17} (.04)^0 \leftarrow 0.4996$$

□ Then,

$$\begin{aligned} P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_{\sim i} > 16 \mid 18res\right\} &= P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_{\sim i} \geq 17 \mid 18res\right\} \\ &= P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_{\sim i} = 17\right\} + P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_{\sim i} = 18\right\} \\ &\quad \underbrace{18(.4996)(.04)}_{\text{}} \quad \underbrace{(.4996)(.96)}_{\text{}} \\ &= 0.8359 \end{aligned}$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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- If reservations sold = 19, then we can compute and show that

$$P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{19} P_{\tilde{i}} > 16\right\} = .9616$$

- We next consider the *r.v.*  $\pi_{\tilde{}}$  where

$$\pi_{\tilde{}} = R_{\tilde{}} - C_{\tilde{}} = R_{\tilde{}} - (C_{\tilde{1}} + C_{\tilde{2}})$$

and evaluate  $E\{\pi_{\tilde{}}\}$  for different values of reservations sold

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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□ For reservations = 16

$$E\{\tilde{R}\} = (16)(225) = 3,600$$

$$E\{\tilde{C}_1\} = 900 + 100 \sum_{n=0}^{16} nP \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{16} \tilde{P}_i = n \right\}$$

$$= 900 + 100 \underbrace{E \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{16} \tilde{P}_i \right\}}_{(16)(.96) = 15.36}$$

binomial  
distribution



$$= 900 + 1536$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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$$= 2,436;$$

also,

$$E\{C_2\} = (225 + 100) \max\left\{0, \sum_{i=1}^{16} P_{\tilde{i}} - 16\right\} = 0$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} E\{\pi|16 \text{ res}\} &= E\{R\} - E\{C\} \\ &= E\{R\} - E\{C_1 + C_2\} \\ &= 3,600 - 2,436 \\ &= 1,164 \end{aligned}$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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□ For reservations = 17

$$E\{R\} = (17)(225) = 3,825$$

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$$E\{C_1\} = 900 + 100 \sum_{n=0}^{16} n P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{17} P_{\sim i} = n \right\} + 100.16 \cdot P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{17} P_{\sim i} = 17 \right\}$$

$$= 900 + 782.70 + 799.34$$

$$= 2,482.04$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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also,

$$\begin{aligned} E\{C_2\} &= 325P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{17} P_i = 17\right\} \\ &= 325(0.4996) \\ &= 162.37 \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} E\{\pi|17 \text{ res}\} &= 3,825 - 2,482.04 - 162.37 \\ &= 1,180.59 > 1,164 \end{aligned}$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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□ For reservations = 18

$$E\{R\} = (18)(225) = 4,050$$

$$E\{C_1\} = 900 + 100 \sum_{n=0}^{16} nP\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_i = n\right\} + 1,600 \cdot P\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_i > 16\right\}$$

$$= 900 + 253.22 + 1,342.89$$

$$= 2,496.11$$

# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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$$E\{C_2\} = 325 P\left\{\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_i = 17}_{.3597}\right\} + 650 P\left\{\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{18} P_i = 18}_{.4796}\right\} = 428.65$$

and

$$E\{\pi|18 \text{ res}\} = 4,050 - 2,496.11 - 428.65$$

$$= 1,125.24$$

$$< 1,180.59$$



# CASE STUDY: OVERBOOKING

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□ We can show that for reservations = 19

$$E\{\pi \mid 19 \text{ res}\} < 1180.59$$

cuu duong than cong. com

□ We conclude that the profits are maximized if

reservations = 17 and so any greater

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overbooking is at the sacrifice of lower profits

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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- ❑ This case concerns the “risks” posed by constructing an incinerator for disposal of a city’s solid waste
- ❑ There is no question of “whether” to construct an incinerator since landfill was to be full within 3 years and no other choices are apparent

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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❑ Of particular interest are the *residual* emissions

that need to be *estimated* for

○ *dioxins*

○ *furans* (organic compounds)

○ *particulate matter*

○  $SO_2$  (represents acid gases)

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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❑ The specifications for a *250 ton/day* incinerator –  
borderline between the EPA – classified small and  
medium plants – have to meet the EPA's  
proposed emission levels for the three key  
pollutants

○ *dioxins/furans* – denoted by  $\tilde{D}$

○ *particulate matter* – denoted by  $\tilde{PM}$

○ *sulphur dioxide* – denoted by  $\tilde{SO_2}$

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

pollutant	plant capacity in <i>tons of waste per day</i>	
	small ( <i>below 250</i> )	medium ( <i>above 25</i> )
<i>dioxins/furans</i> <i>mg/nm<sup>3</sup></i>	500	125
<i>PM</i> ( <i>mg/dscm</i> ) ~	69	69
<i>SO<sub>2</sub></i> ( <i>ppmdv</i> ) ~	–	30

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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- ❑ The typical approach in environmental risk analysis is a “worst case” scenario assessment which fails to capture the *uncertainty* present in both the amount of waste and the contents of the waste

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

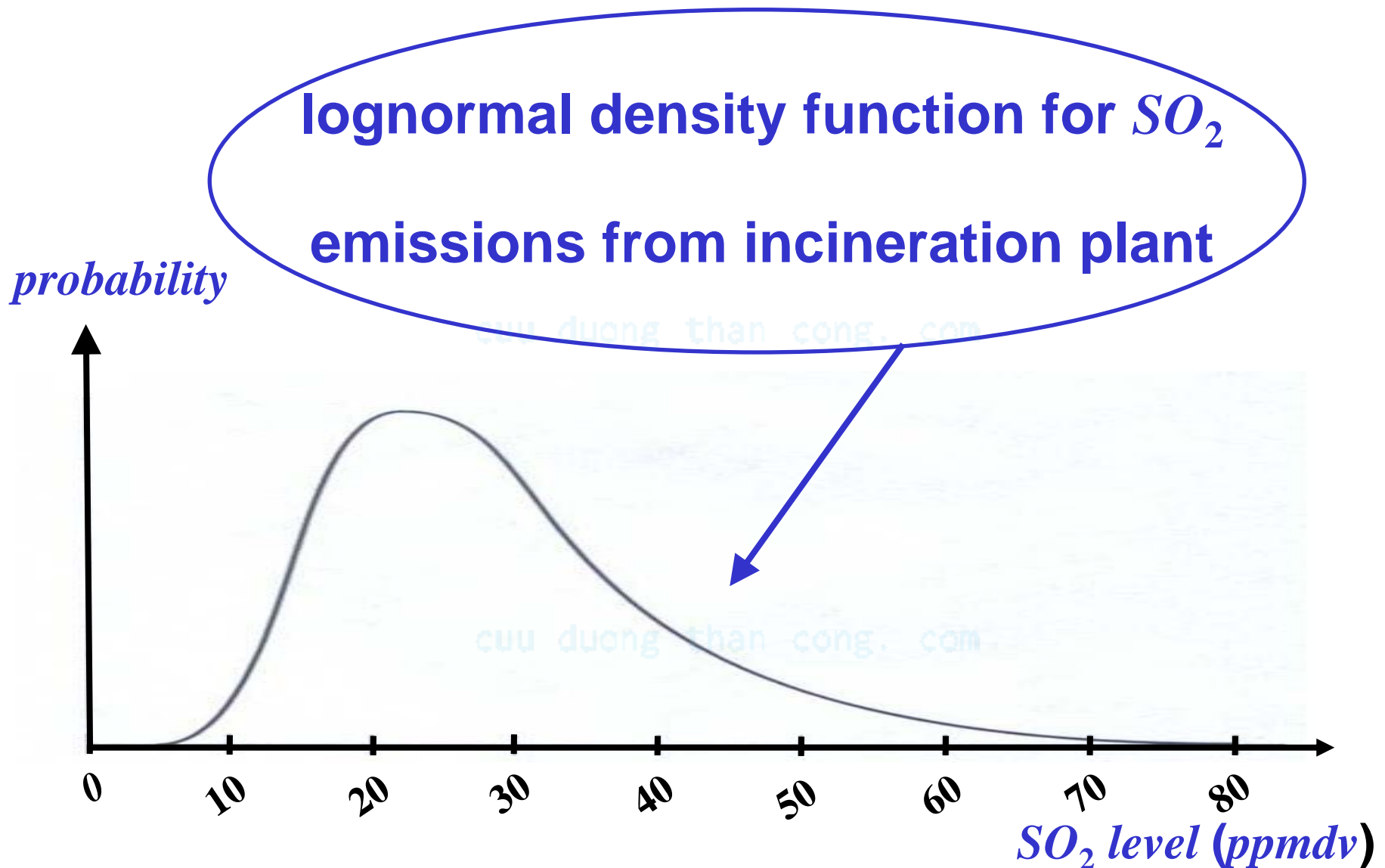
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- ❑ The lognormal distribution is used to represent the distribution for emission levels
- ❑ Lognormal distribution parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  for pollutants

<i>pollutant r.v.</i>	$\mu$	$\sigma$
$\tilde{D}$	3.13	1.20
$\tilde{PM}$	3.43	0.44
$\tilde{SO_2}$	3.20	0.39

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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- We define the *r.v.*  $\underline{X}$ , which is lognormally distributed with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , by

$$\underline{Y} = \ln(\underline{X}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

$$E\{\underline{X}\} = e^{\left(\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\right)} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{var}\{\underline{X}\} = e^{2\mu} \left(e^{\sigma^2} - 1\right) e^{\sigma^2}$$

- We evaluate the probability of exceeding the small plant levels of emissions

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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$$P\{\tilde{D} > 500\} = P\{\tilde{Y} = \ln \tilde{D} > \ln(500)\}$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \frac{\tilde{Y} - 3.13}{1.2}$$

*affine transformation*

$$= P\left\{\tilde{Z} > \frac{\ln(500) - 3.13}{1.2}\right\}$$

$$= P\{\tilde{Z} > 2.57\}$$

0.0051

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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$$P\{P\tilde{M} > 69\} = P\{\tilde{Y} = \ln(P\tilde{M}) > \ln(69)\}$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \frac{\tilde{Y} - 3.43}{0.44} \quad \text{affine transformation}$$

$$= P\left\{\tilde{Z} > \frac{\ln(69) - 3.43}{0.44}\right\}$$

$$= P\{\tilde{Z} > 1.83\}$$

0.0336

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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$$P\left\{\tilde{SO}_2 > 30\right\} = P\left\{\tilde{Y} = \ln\left\{\tilde{SO}_2\right\} > \ln(30)\right\}$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \frac{\tilde{Y} - 3.20}{0.39}$$

*affine transformation*

$$= P\left\{\tilde{Z} > \frac{\ln(30) - 3.20}{0.39}\right\}$$

**0.3015**

$$= P\left\{\tilde{Z} > 0.52\right\}$$

**the probability  
of a single  
observation**

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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- ❑ In practice,  $\tilde{SO}_2$  has to be monitored continuously and the average daily emission level *must remain* below the level specified in the table
- ❑ If we take 24 hourly observations  $\tilde{X}_i$  of  $\tilde{SO}_2$  levels and define the geometric mean

$$\tilde{G} = \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \tilde{X}_i \right]^{\frac{1}{n}}, \quad n = 24$$

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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then, we can show that  $\tilde{G}$  is also lognormal with

parameters  $\left( \mu, \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{24}} \right)$

$$P \left\{ \tilde{G} > 30 \right\} = P \left\{ Y_{\tilde{}} = \ln(\tilde{G}) > \ln(30) \right\}$$

$$Z_{\tilde{}} = \frac{Y_{\tilde{}} - 3.20}{0.39 / \sqrt{24}} \quad \text{affine transformation}$$

$$= P \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{Z_{\tilde{}} - 3.2}{0.39 / \sqrt{24}}}_{0.0057} > 2.53 \right\}$$

**0.0057**

# CASE: MUNI SOLID WASTE

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- ☐ Note that this is a much smaller probability than  
  
for a single observation and leads to a more  
  
realistic assessment of the probability
- ☐ The requirement of a small plant are therefore met