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Distinguishing between binomial, hypergeometric and negative binomial distributions.

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Summary: Recognizing the differences between three discrete distributions (Binomial, Hypergeometric and Negative Binomial) can be challenging for students. We present an activity designed to help students differentiate among these distributions. In addition, we present assessment results in the form of pre- and post-tests that were designed to assess the effectiveness of the activity. Pilot study results show promise that the activity may help students recognize the differences in these three distributions.

Classification: K65

Keywords: university teaching; stochastics; probability theory; distributions; binomial distribution; hypergeometric distribution; negative binomial distribution; discrete distributions; student activities; worksheets; cards; educational research; pilot studies; analysis of learning outcomes; achievement
<http://www.amstat.org/publications/jse/v21n1/wroughton.pdf>