

Binomial(stats)

R Documentation

## The Binomial Distribution

### Description

Density, distribution function, quantile function and random generation for the binomial distribution with parameters `size` and `prob`.

### Usage

```
dbinom(x, size, prob, log = FALSE)
pbinom(q, size, prob, lower.tail = TRUE, log.p = FALSE)
qbinom(p, size, prob, lower.tail = TRUE, log.p = FALSE)
rbinom(n, size, prob)
```

### Arguments

`x`, `q` vector of quantiles.  
`p` vector of probabilities.  
`n` number of observations. If `length(n) > 1`, the length is taken to be the number required.  
`size` number of trials (zero or more).  
`prob` probability of success on each trial.  
`log`, `log.p` logical; if TRUE, probabilities `p` are given as  $\log(p)$ .  
`lower.tail` logical; if TRUE (default), probabilities are  $P[X \leq x]$ , otherwise,  $P[X > x]$ .

### Details

The binomial distribution with `size = n` and `prob = p` has density

$$p(x) = \text{choose}(n,x) p^x (1-p)^{(n-x)}$$

for  $x = 0, \dots, n$ .

If an element of `x` is not integer, the result of `dbinom` is zero, with a warning.  $p(x)$  is computed using Loader's algorithm, see the reference below.

The quantile is defined as the smallest value  $x$  such that  $F(x) \geq p$ , where  $F$  is the distribution function.

### Value

`dbinom` gives the density, `pbinom` gives the distribution function, `qbinom` gives the quantile function and `rbinom` generates random deviates.

If `size` is not an integer, `NaN` is returned.

### Source

For `dbinom` a saddle-point expansion is used: see

Catherine Loader (2000). *Fast and Accurate Computation of Binomial Probabilities*; available from <http://www.herine.net/stat/software/dbinom.html>.

`pbinom` uses [pbeta](#).

`qbinom` uses the Cornish–Fisher Expansion to include a skewness correction to a normal approximation, followed by a search.

`rbinom` (for `size < .Machine$integer.max`) is based on

Kachitvichyanukul, V. and Schmeiser, B. W. (1988) Binomial random variate generation. *Communications of the ACM*, **31**, 216–222.

## See Also

[dnbinom](#) for the negative binomial, and [dpois](#) for the Poisson distribution.

## Examples

```
require(graphics)
# Compute P(45 < X < 55) for X Binomial(100,0.5)
sum(dbinom(46:54, 100, 0.5))

## Using "log = TRUE" for an extended range :
n <- 2000
k <- seq(0, n, by = 20)
plot(k, dbinom(k, n, pi/10, log=TRUE), type='l', ylab="log density",
      main = "dbinom(*, log=TRUE) is better than log(dbinom(*))")
lines(k, log(dbinom(k, n, pi/10)), col='red', lwd=2)
## extreme points are omitted since dbinom gives 0.
mtext("dbinom(k, log=TRUE)", adj=0)
mtext("extended range", adj=0, line = -1, font=4)
mtext("log(dbinom(k))", col="red", adj=1)
```

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