Gamma–Poisson distribution (from http://www.math.wm.edu/~leemis/chart/UDR/UDR.html) The shorthand $X \sim \text{gamma-Poisson}(\alpha, \beta)$ is used to indicate that the random variable X has the gamma–Poisson distribution with positive parameters α and β . A gamma–Poisson random variable X has probability mass function

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(x+\beta)\alpha^x}{\Gamma(\beta)(1+\alpha)^{\beta+x}x!} \qquad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

for any $\alpha, \beta > 0$. A gamma–Poisson random variable is a Poisson random variable with a random parameter μ which has the gamma distribution with parameters α and β . The probability mass function for three different parameter settings is illustrated below.



The cumulative distribution function on the support of *X* is

$$F(x) = \sum_{w=0}^{x} \frac{\Gamma(w+\beta)\alpha^{w}}{\Gamma(\beta)(1+\alpha)^{\beta+w}w!} \qquad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

The moment generating function of X is

$$M(t) = E[e^{tx}] = (1 + \alpha - \alpha e^t)^{-\beta} \qquad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

The characteristic function of X is

$$\phi(t) = E[e^{itx}] = (1 + \alpha - \alpha e^{it})^{-\beta} \qquad -\infty < t < \infty$$

The population mean, variance, skewness, and kurtosis of X are

$$E[X] = \alpha\beta \qquad V[X] = \alpha\beta + \alpha^{2}\beta$$
$$E\left[\left(\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^{3}\right] = \frac{1+2\alpha}{\sqrt{\alpha\beta(1+\alpha)}} \qquad E\left[\left(\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^{4}\right] = \frac{3\alpha^{2}\beta + 6\alpha^{2} + 3\alpha\beta + 6\alpha + 1}{\alpha\beta(1+\alpha)}.$$