

Geometric number of failures, i.e. consider infinite sequence of independent trials, let Y denote the # of failures that occur before the first success (do not include the success itself!).

Assume all trials have probability p of succeeding.

Notice $Y+1$ is a geometric random variable.

$$\text{So } E(Y) = E((Y+1) - 1) = E(\underline{Y+1}) - 1 = \frac{1}{p} - 1 = \frac{1}{p} - \frac{p}{p} = \frac{1-p}{p} = \frac{q}{p}$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(\underline{(Y+1) - 1}) = \text{Var}(\underline{Y+1}) = \frac{q}{p^2}$$

The constant doesn't affect the variance.