

**POICDF****PURPOSE**

Compute the Poisson cumulative distribution function.

**DESCRIPTION**

The Poisson distribution is the distribution of the number of events in the interval  $(0, \lambda)$  when the waiting time between events is exponentially distributed with mean 1 and standard deviation 1 (there are alternate interpretations as well). The Poisson distribution has the following cumulative distribution function:

$$\text{poicdf}(i, \lambda) = \sum_{i=0}^x \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^i}{i!} \quad (\text{EQ 8-303})$$

where  $x$  is a non-negative integer and  $\lambda$  is a positive real number. The cumulative distribution is computed via a chi-square approximation.

**SYNTAX**

LET <y2> = POICDF(<y1>, <lambda>) <SUBSET/EXCEPT/FOR qualification>  
 where <y1> is a non-negative integer variable, number, or parameter (a warning message is printed if it is not);  
 <y2> is a variable or a parameter (depending on what <y1> is) where the computed Poisson cdf value is stored;  
 <lambda> is a positive number or parameter that specifies the shape parameter of the Poisson distribution;  
 and where the <SUBSET/EXCEPT/FOR qualification> is optional.

**EXAMPLES**

```
LET A = POICDF(3,0.5)
LET Y = POICDF(X1,0.3)
```

**DEFAULT**

None

**SYNONYMS**

None

**RELATED COMMANDS**

POIPDF	=	Compute the Poisson probability density function.
POIPPF	=	Compute the Poisson percent point function.
BINCDF	=	Compute the binomial cumulative distribution function.
BINPDF	=	Compute the binomial probability density function.
BINPPF	=	Compute the binomial percent point function.
NBCDF	=	Compute the negative binomial cumulative distribution function.
NBPDF	=	Compute the negative binomial probability density function.
NBPPF	=	Compute the negative binomial percent point function.
GEOCDF	=	Compute the geometric cumulative distribution function.
GEOPDF	=	Compute the geometric probability density function.
GEOPPF	=	Compute the geometric percent point function.

**REFERENCE**

"Discrete Univariate Distributions," Johnson and Kotz, Houghton Mifflin, 1970 (chapter 4).

"Statistical Distributions," 2nd ed., Evans, Hastings, and Peacock, Wiley and Sons, 1993 (chapter 31).

**APPLICATIONS**

Queueing theory, analysis of count data

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

94/4

## PROGRAM

```
MULTIPLY 2 2; MULTIPLY CORNER COORDINATES 0 0 100 100
YLIMITS 0 1
MAJOR YTIC NUMBER 6
MINOR YTIC NUMBER 1
YTIC DECIMAL 1
XLIMITS 0 50
XTIC OFFSET 0.5 0.5
LINE BLANK
SPIKE ON
SPIKE THICKNESS 0.3
TITLE AUTOMATIC
X1LABEL NUMBER OF SUCCESSES
Y1LABEL PROBABILITY
TITLE SIZE 3
PLOT POICDF(X,5) FOR X = 0 1 50
PLOT POICDF(X,15) FOR X = 0 1 50
PLOT POICDF(X,25) FOR X = 0 1 50
PLOT POICDF(X,35) FOR X = 0 1 50
END OF MULTIPLY
```

