

Chapter 13 / Example 8

Finding the parameter from a Poisson distribution

The random variable T is modelled by a Poisson distribution. Given that $P(T > 3) = 0.53$, find the variance of T .

$T \sim Po(\lambda)$. Find $P(T > 3) = P(T \geq 4)$.

Press **MENU** 5 **GRAPH** **Y=** to display the equation entry screen.

Press **OPTN** **F6** \triangleright **F3** STAT **F1** DIST **F6** \triangleright **F1** POISSON **F2** Pcd.

Type 4, 100, x, close the parentheses and press **EXE** to enter the equation as Y1.

Type 0.53 and press **EXE** to enter the second equation as Y2.

Press **SHIFT** **F3** V-WIN.

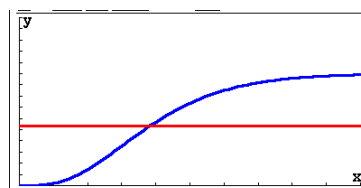
Set the axes to show $0 \leq x \leq 10$ with a scale of 1 and $0 \leq y \leq 1.5$ with a scale of 0.1.

You can leave the other items as they are.

Press **EXIT** when you have finished.

Press **F6** DRAW to display the graph screen.

The GDC now displays the graphs in a suitable window.



To find the intersection press **F5** G-Solv **F5** Intersect.

Press **EXE** to display the coordinates.

The GDC displays the intersection of the curve and the line at the point (3.82, 0.53)

Hence $\lambda = 3.82$.

Variance = 3.82.

