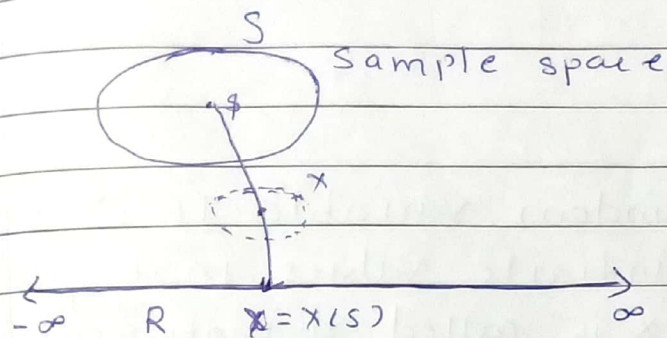


## ① Random variable -

Let  $E$  be an experiment and  $S$  be the sample space associated with it. A function  $x$  assigning to every element  $s$  of  $S$  one & only one real number  $x = x(s)$  of  $R$  is called a random variable



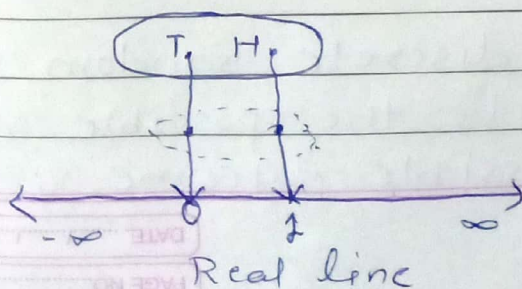
Since  $x$  is a function whose domain is the set of outcomes of an experiment and whose range is a part ~~of~~ or the whole of  $R$  line  $(-\infty < x < \infty)$

The random variable  $x$  can be discrete or continuous depending upon the nature of its domain

e.g. Tossing of coin getting head or tail

② Tossing of

then  $S = \{H, T\}$  If  $x$  is the random variable denoting the number of heads then we have  $x(H) = 1$  &  $x(T) = 0$





### ① Definition

Let  $X$  be a random variable. If  $X$  takes finite or countably infinite values  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  then  $X$  is called a discrete random variable.

eg. Tossing of coin

$$S = \{H, T\}$$

② Let  $X$  be a random variable if  $X$  takes uncountably infinite values in a given interval then  $X$  is called a continuous random variable.

eg. Height of person or weight of person  
Here  $X$  takes continuously all values between a specified interval.

### \* Probability Distribution of a Discrete Random variable

→ We know that with every possible outcome of an experiment there will be associated its probability.

If  $x_i$  is the value of  $X$  and  $P(x_i)$  is the probability of  $x_i$  then set of pairs  $(x_i, P(x_i))$  is called the probability distribution.

Definition ∴ Let  $X$  be discrete random variable. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be the possible values of  $X$ . With each possible outcome  $x_i$  we



associate a number  $P(x_i) = P(X = x_i)$  called the probability of  $x_i$ . The numbers  $P(x_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \dots$  must satisfy the following conditions

1)  $P(x_i) \geq 0 \forall i$

②  $\sum_{i=1}^n P(x_i) = 1$

The function  $P$  is called the probability function or probability mass function or probability density function

$X$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$\dots$	$x_n$
$P(x_i)$	$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$\dots$	$P_n$

e.g. ① A random variable  $X$  takes values 0, 1, 2 and 3 then  $P(X=x) = \frac{x-1}{2}$  can be its probability distribution

Sol<sup>n</sup>:  $P(x_i) \geq 0 \forall i$

putting  $x = 0, 1, 2, 3$  We get

$$P(0) = -\frac{1}{2}, P(1) = 0, P(2) = \frac{1}{2}, P(3) = 1$$

Since the probability cannot be negative  $P(X=x) = \frac{x-1}{2}$  cannot be a probability distribution.



eg. ② A random variable takes values 0, 1, 2 & 7  
 $P(x) = \frac{x+1}{3}$  is its probability distribution

→ putting  $x = 0, 1, 2$  in  $P(x)$  we get

$$P(0) = \frac{1}{3}, P(1) = \frac{2}{3}, P(2) = 1$$

Although all probabilities are positive  
the sum of all the probabilities is 2  
Hence  $P(x=x) = \frac{x+1}{3}$  also cannot be  
a probability distribution

Ex. ① From the past experience it was found  
that the daily demand at an autog garage  
was as under

Daily demand	:	5	6	7
probability	:	0.25	0.65	0.10

check whether if this is a probability  
distribution. Find also the probability  
that over a period of two days the  
number of demands would be 11 or 12

Sol. Since the sum of all probabilities  
 $= 0.25 + 0.65 + 0.10 = 1$ , it is a probability  
distribution

$P(11 \text{ requests over two days})$

$= P(5 \text{ requests on first day and } 6 \text{ on the second})$   
 $+ P(6 \text{ requests on first day and } 5 \text{ on the second})$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (0.25 \times 0.65) + (0.65 \times 0.25) \\
 &= 0.1625 + 0.1625 \\
 &= 0.325
 \end{aligned}$$

$P(12 \text{ requests over two days})$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P(5 \text{ requests on the first day and } 7 \text{ on the second}) \\
 &\quad + P(6 \text{ requests on the first day and } 6 \text{ on the second}) \\
 &\quad + P(7 \text{ requests on the first day and } 5 \text{ on the second})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (0.25 \times 0.10) + (0.65 \times 0.65) + (0.10 \times 0.25) \\
 &= 0.025 + 0.4225 + 0.025 = 0.4725
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex. The probability mass function of a random variable  $X$  is zero except at the points  $X = 0, 1, 2$ . At these points it has the values

$$P(0) = 3c^3, \quad P(1) = 4c - 10c^2, \quad P(2) = 5c - 1$$

i) Determine  $c$ , ii) Find  $P(X < 1)$ ,  
 $P(1 < X \leq 2)$ ,  $P(0 < X \leq 2)$

Sol<sup>n</sup>: since  $\sum P_i = 1$  we have

$$P(0) + P(1) + P(2) = 1$$

$$3c^3 - 10c^2 + 4c + 5c - 1 = 1$$

$$\therefore 3c^3 - 10c^2 + 9c - 2 = 0$$

$$(3c-1)(c-2)(c-1) = 0$$

$$\therefore c = 1/3$$

the other values are not admissible

∴ The probability distribution is

x	0	1	2
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{9}$	$\frac{2}{9}$	$\frac{2}{3}$

$$\therefore P(X < 1) = P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$P(1 < X \leq 2) = P(X = 2) = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(0 < X \leq 2) &= P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) \\ &= \frac{2}{9} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{8}{9} \end{aligned}$$