

# Expectation, Mean, Variance and standard deviation of a probability distribution

## 1) Expectation of D.R.Vs-

Suppose a r.v  $X$  assumes the values  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$  with respective probabilities  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_n$ . Then the Mathematical expectation or mean or expected value of  $X$ , denoted by  $E(X)$ , is defined as the sum of product of different values of  $X$  and the corresponding probabilities.

$$\therefore E(X) = x_1 p_1 + x_2 p_2 + \dots + x_n p_n$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p_i \quad (\text{or}) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p(x_i)$$

$$E(X^\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^\sigma p(x_i).$$

Note :- Expected values of  $X$  is a population mean

If population mean is  $\mu$  then  $E(X) = \mu$ .

### Properties of Expectations :-

i) If  $X$  is a random variable and  $K$  is a constant then

$$a) E(X+K) = E(X) + K$$

$$b) E[KX] = K E[X].$$

ii) If  $X$  is a R.V and  $a, b$  are constant

then  $E[aX+b] = aE[X] + b.$

iii) If  $X, Y$  are two R.V then

$$E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

provided  $E(X), E(Y)$  exists

$$E[XY] = E(X)E(Y)$$

if  $X, Y$  two independent R.V.

Note :-

$E\left[\frac{1}{X}\right]$  and  $\frac{1}{E(X)}$  are not same.

## 2) Mean :-

The mean value  $\mu$  of the discrete distribution function is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \frac{\sum p_i x_i}{\sum p_i} \\ &= \sum p_i x_i \quad (\because \sum p_i = 1) \\ &= E[x]\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore E[x] = \mu$

Note :- If  $E(x) = \mu$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}E[x - \mu] &= E[x] - \mu \\ &= \mu - \mu \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

## 3). Variance :-

Variance of the probability distribution of a r.v  $X$  is the Mathematical expectation of  $[x - E(x)]^2$  then

$$\text{Var}(x) = E[(x - E(x))^2]$$

$$\text{i.e. } \text{Var}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \{[x_i - E(x)]^2 p(x_i)\}$$

## Another form of Variance:

If  $X$  is a r.v., then the mathematical expectation of  $(x - \mu)^2$  is defined to be the variance of the random variable  $X$ . Then

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(x) = E[(x - \mu)^2]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 p_i$$

$$p_i = p(x_i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2 + \mu^2 - 2x_i\mu) p_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 p_i + \mu^2 - 2\mu^2$$

$$= E[x^2] - \mu^2$$

$$= E[x^2] - [E(x)]^2$$

$x$

Note :- The Variance of a R.V.  $x$  is also denoted by  $V(x)$

#### ii) Standard deviation :-

It is the +ve square root of the Variance

$$S.D. = \sigma = \sqrt{\text{Variance}}$$

$$= \sqrt{V(x)}$$

#### Properties of $V(x)$ :-

1) Variance of constant is zero  
i.e  $V(K) = 0$

2) If  $K$  is a constant, then

$$V(Kx) = K^2 V(x)$$

3) If  $x$  is a R.V. and  $K$  is const.  
then  $V(x+k) = V(x)$

4) If  $x$  is a DRV, then  
 $V(ax+b) = a^2 V(x)$

where  $v(x)$  is a variance and  
 $a, b$  are constant

if  $b=0$  then  $V(ax)=a^2$

if  $a=0$  then  $V(b)=0$

if  $a=1$  then  $V(x+b)=V(x)$ .

5) If  $x, y$  are two independent r.v then  
 $V(x+y) = V(x) + V(y)$

Note :-

Probability of events :-

If in a random experiment,  
the event corresponding to a number  
'a' occurs, then the corresponding r.v  $x$  is  
said to assumes the value a and  
probability of the event is denoted by  
 $P(x=a)$

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→ The probability of the event  $X$  assuming any value between  $a$  and  $b$  is denoted by  $P(a < X < b)$

→ The probability of the event  $X$  assumes any value smaller than or equal to  $c$  and denoted by

$$P(X \leq c)$$

— 1  $P(X \leq c) + P(X > c) = P(-\infty < X < \infty)$

2  $P(X > c) = 1 - P(X \leq c)$

3.  $P(X = a \text{ or } X = b)$   
 $= P\{(X = a) \cup (X = b)\}$

4.  $P(X = a \text{ and } X = b)$   
 $= P\{(X = a) \cap (X = b)\}$