

11.16.3.2

EE24BTECH11001 - Aditya Tripathy

Question:

A coin is tossed twice, what is the probability that atleast one tail occurs?

Solution:

The sample space is

$$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\} \quad (0.1)$$

Assuming equally likely outcomes,

$$\Pr(\omega \in \Omega) = \frac{1}{4} \quad (0.2)$$

Define a discrete random variable X = number of tails in the sequence.

Probability Mass Function $\Pr_X(x)$ is given by:

$$\Pr_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & x = 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & x = 1 \\ \frac{1}{4} & x = 2 \end{cases} \quad (0.3)$$

The CDF (Cumulative Distribution Function) is given by:

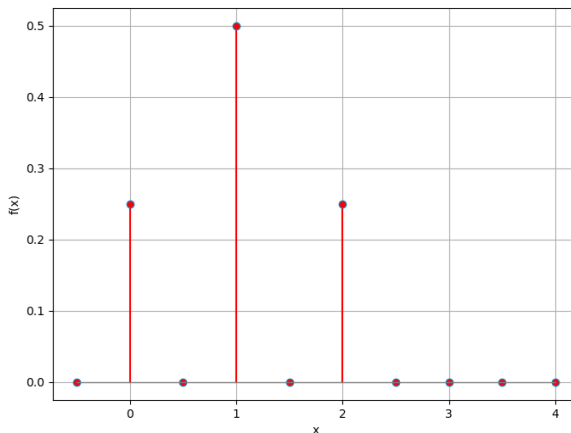


Fig. 0.1: Probability Mass Function

$$F_X(x) = \Pr_X(X \leq x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ \frac{3}{4} & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 1 & x \geq 2 \end{cases} \quad (0.4)$$

$$\Pr(X \geq 1) = 1 - \Pr(X < 1) \quad (0.5)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4} \quad (0.6)$$

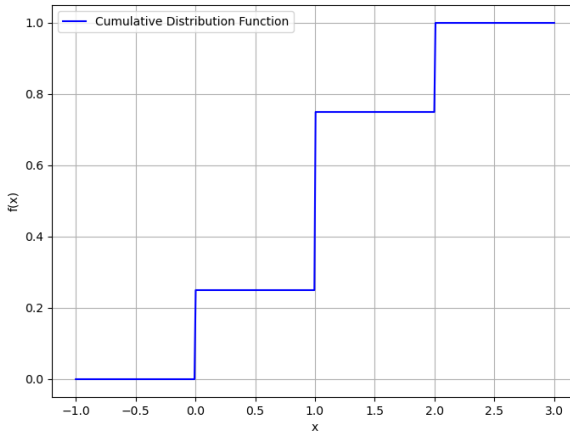


Fig. 0.2: Cumulative Distribution Function

Simulation:

To run a simulation we need to generate random numbers with uniform probability, which is done as shown below (Algorithm taken from OpenSSL's `random_uniform.c`):

- 1) Generate 32 bits of entropy using `/dev/urandom`.
- 2) Treat this as a fixed point number in the range $[0, 1)$
- 3) Scale this to desired range using fixed point multiplication and treat as 64bit number (upper 32 bits integer and rest as fractional part)
- 4) Return the integer part of the fixed point numbers

The following shows how the relative frequency reaches true probability with increasing number of trials of the event.

Approach 2 :

In this approach, we treat our random variable as the sum of outcomes of two bernoulli random variables

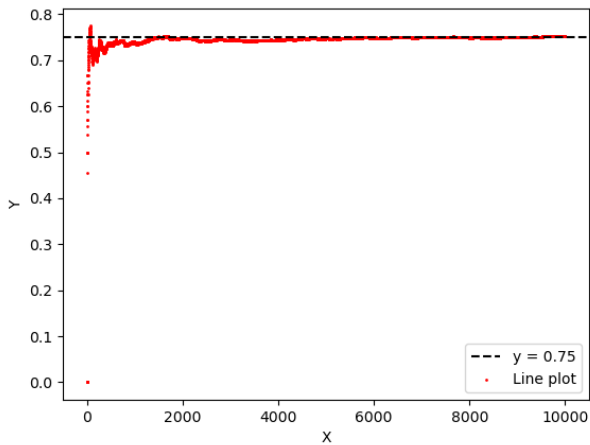


Fig. 4.1: Relative Frequency tends to True Probability

$$X = X_1 + X_2 \quad (4.1)$$

where,

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{Outcome is Heads} \\ 1 & \text{Outcome is Tails} \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

$$\Pr_X(n) = \begin{cases} p = \frac{1}{2} & n = 0 \\ 1 - p = \frac{1}{2} & n = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4.3)$$

Our random variable is a sum of a two bernoulli random variables

$$Y = X_1 + X_2 \quad (4.4)$$

Using properties of Z transform of PMF,

$$M_Y(z) = M_{X_1}(z) M_{X_2}(z) \quad (4.5)$$

$$M_{X_1}(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \Pr_{X_1}(n) z^{-n} = p + (1-p)z^{-1} \quad (4.6)$$

$$M_{X_2}(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \Pr_{X_2}(n) z^{-n} = p + (1-p)z^{-1} \quad (4.7)$$

$$M_Y(z) = \left(p + (1-p)z^{-1}\right)^2 \quad (4.8)$$

$$= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} {}^2C_k p^{2-k} (1-p)^k z^{-k} \quad (4.9)$$

$$P_Y(n) = {}^2C_k p^{2-k} (1-p)^k \quad (4.10)$$

The blue plot is the $n = 2$ case and red plot is the $n = 10$ case.

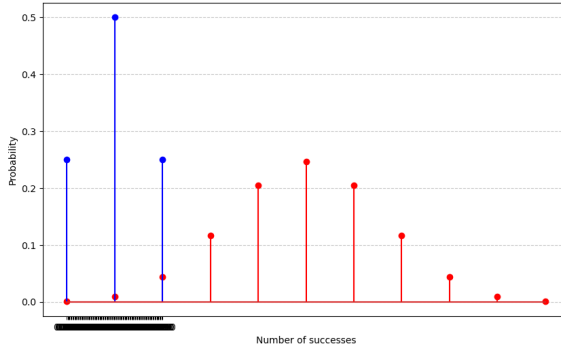


Fig. 4.2: Generating binomial distribution from bernoulli