

Discover Binomial Distribution

Example 1. Let's consider a student taking a multiple choice quiz. Each question has 3 choices. Assume the student is blindly guessing. We will let X be the number of right answers.

1. Let's have the student take a quiz with just one question.

- (a) Fill out the table of individual probabilities and the probability distribution.

sample space outcomes	value of X	probability of individual outcome
Right	1	$1/3$
Wrong	0	$2/3$

2. Now what if the student takes a quiz with three questions.

- (a) Fill out the table of probabilities.

sample space outcomes	probability of individual outcome	probability of individual outcome (rewrite using exponents)	value of X
RRR	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0$	3
RRW	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1$	2
RWR	$\frac{2}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1$	2
RWW	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$	1
WRR	$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{2}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1$	2
WRW	$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$	1
WWR	$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$	1
WWW	$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{8}{27}$	$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$	0

- (b) Fill out the probability distribution (pmf) of X .

value of X	Probability of X
0	$8/27$
1	$4/27 \cdot 3 = 12/27$
2	$2/27 \cdot 3 = 6/27$
3	$1/27$

- (c) Rewrite the probability distribution using exponents and multiplication.

value of X	Probability of X
0	$1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$
1	$3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$
2	$3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1$
3	$1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0$

- (d) What do the exponents always add up to? 3 , number of trials

- (e) Compare the exponent on the $\frac{1}{3}$ to the x value. What do you notice?

- (f) For the value of $X = 2$, why do you need the exponent of 2 on the $\frac{1}{3}$? $x=2$ you need 2 correct, $\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3}$

- (g) Why do we have to multiply the probabilities by 3 for $X = 2$?

There's 3 ways to get 2 correct answers.

3. Now the student has to take a quiz with 10 questions. (Each question still has 3 choices.)

(a) How many possible outcomes are there?

$$2^{10} = 1024 \text{ outcomes}$$

(b) Do you want to fill out a table for all the possible outcomes and probabilities?

no!

(c) Instead we should come up with a formula to find the probabilities.

$$\binom{n}{x} \cdot (p(\text{right}))^x \cdot (1 - p(\text{right}))^{n-x}$$

(d) How do we find the number of ways to get x right answers out of 10 questions? (Hint: think of combinations.)

nCr

(e) Write a formula for the pdf of X .

$$P(X=x) = \binom{10}{x} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{10-x}$$

4. Fill out the probability distribution for the number of correct guesses if 10 students take the taste test.

X	(number of ways to get x correct guesses)	probability of X
0	$\binom{10}{0} = 1$.0173
1	$\binom{10}{1} = 10$.0867
2	$\binom{10}{2} = 45$.1951
3	$\binom{10}{3} = 120$.2601
4	$\binom{10}{4} = 210$.2276
5	$\binom{10}{5} = 252$	$252 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^5 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^5 = .1355$
6	$\binom{10}{6} = 210$	$210 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^6 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4 = .0569$
7	$\binom{10}{7} = 120$	$120 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^7 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 = .0163$
8	$\binom{10}{8} = 45$	$45 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^8 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 = .0031$
9	$\binom{10}{9} = 10$	$10 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^9 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1 = .00034$
10	$\binom{10}{10} = 1$	$1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{10} \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0 = .00002$

3.1: 1 def: 4, 5, 6, 9 + PDF

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3.1

$$a) P(X=3) = \binom{10}{3} \cdot 0.12^3 \cdot (0.88)^7 = 0.0847$$

$$d) P(X \geq 7) = P(X=7) + P(X=8) + P(X=9) + P(X=10) \\ = 3.085 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$e) E(X) = n \cdot p = 10 \cdot 0.12 = 1.2$$

$$f) \text{Var}(X) = np(1-p) = 10 \cdot 0.12 \cdot (0.88) = 1.056$$

4a) indep, $n=9$, success = hit bullseye $p=0.09$.

$$P(X=2) = \binom{9}{2} (0.09)^2 (1-0.09)^7 = 0.1507$$

$$b) P(X \geq 2) = 1 - (P(X=0) + P(X=1)) = 0.1912$$

$$E(X) = 9(0.09) = 0.81$$

5a) indep, $n=8$, success = even #'s, $p=.5$

$$P(X=5) = \binom{8}{5} (0.5)^5 (1-0.5)^3 = 0.2187$$

b) $p = \frac{1}{6}$, success = 1 "6

$$P(X=1) = \binom{8}{1} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^1 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^7 = 0.3721$$

c) Success = no 4's, $p = \frac{1}{6}$

$$P(X=0) = \binom{8}{0} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^0 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^8 = 0.2326$$

6) indep, $n=10$, success = correct, $p = \frac{1}{5}$

$$P(X \geq 7) = P(X=7) + P(X=8) + P(X=9) + P(X=10) = 0.0009$$

$$p = 0.5$$

$$P(X \geq 7) = P(X=7) + P(X=8) + P(X=9) + P(X=10) = 0.1719$$

9a) $p = 0.6$, indep, success = placed over internet, $n=18$

$$P(8 \leq X \leq 10) = P(X=8) + P(X=9) + P(X=10) =$$

$$= \binom{18}{8} (0.6)^8 (1-0.6)^{10} + \binom{18}{9} (0.6)^9 (1-0.6)^9 + \binom{18}{10} (0.6)^{10} (1-0.6)^8 = 0.3789$$

$$b) P(X \leq 4) = P(X=0) + P(X=1) + P(X=2) + P(X=3) + P(X=4)$$

$$= 0.0013$$