

Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

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12.13.4.1: Question. State which of the following are not the probability distributions of a random variable:

A

X	0	1	2
P(x)	0.4	0.4	0.2

B

X	0	1	2	3	4
P(x)	0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.3

C

X	-1	0	1
P(x)	0.6	0.1	0.2

D

X	3	2	1	0	-1
P(x)	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.05

Solution:

A :Answer

As we know the sum of all probabilities of a probability distribution must be one. i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1 \quad (1)$$

Hence the sum of probabilities of the given table = $0.4 + 0.4 + 0.2 = 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 p_i = 0.4 + 0.4 + 0.2 = 1 \quad (2)$$

Hence the given table is probability distributions of a random variable.

B :Answer

As we know the sum of all probabilities of a probability distribution must be one. i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1 \quad (3)$$

But $P(X) = -0.1$ for $X=3$ As probability of any observation must be positive.

Hence the given table is not probability distributions of a random variable.

C :Answer

As we know the sum of all probabilities of a probability distribution must be one. i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 p_i = 0.6 + 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.9 \quad (4)$$

The sum of probabilities of the given table is not equal to 1.

Hence the given table is not probability distributions of a random variable.

D :Answer

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 p_i = 0.3 + 0.2 + 0.4 + 0.1 + 0.05 = 1.05 \quad (5)$$

The sum of probabilities of the given table is greater than 1.

Hence the given table is not the probability distributions of a random variable.