

Probability Assignment 1

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Question : Suppose X is a binomial distribution $B\left(6, \frac{1}{2}\right)$. Show that $X = 3$ is the most likely outcome. (Hint : $P(X = 3)$ is the maximum among all $P(x_i)$, $x_i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$)

Solution: Given that, X is a binomial distribution with parameters

$$n = 6 \quad p = 0.5 \quad (1)$$

the probability of getting exactly k successes in n trials is given by

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot p^k \cdot (1 - p)^{n-k} \quad (2)$$

From (2), We can conclude that

For $x_i = 0$: (3)

$$P(X = 0) = \binom{6}{0} \cdot (0.5)^0 \cdot (0.5)^6 \approx 0.016 \quad (4)$$

For $x_i = 1$: (5)

$$P(X = 1) = \binom{6}{1} \cdot (0.5)^1 \cdot (0.5)^5 \approx 0.094 \quad (6)$$

For $x_i = 2$: (7)

$$P(X = 2) = \binom{6}{2} \cdot (0.5)^2 \cdot (0.5)^4 \approx 0.234 \quad (8)$$

For $x_i = 3$: (9)

$$P(X = 3) = \binom{6}{3} \cdot (0.5)^3 \cdot (0.5)^3 \approx 0.313 \quad (10)$$

For $x_i = 4$: (11)

$$P(X = 4) = \binom{6}{4} \cdot (0.5)^4 \cdot (0.5)^2 \approx 0.234 \quad (12)$$

For $x_i = 5$: (13)

$$P(X = 5) = \binom{6}{5} \cdot (0.5)^5 \cdot (0.5)^1 \approx 0.094 \quad (14)$$

For $x_i = 6$: (15)

$$P(X = 6) = \binom{6}{6} \cdot (0.5)^6 \cdot (0.5)^0 \approx 0.016 \quad (16)$$

(17)

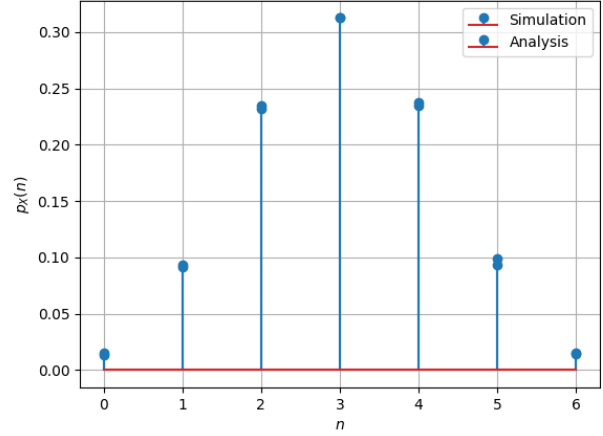


Fig. 0. Figure compares the theoretical and simulation output

Here, we can conclude that $P(X = 3)$ is the highest and hence proved that

$$X = 3 \quad (18)$$

is the most likely outcome.