



Probability Methods in Engineering

Dr. Safdar Nawaz Khan Marwat
DCSE, UET Peshawar

Lecture 13



Probability Mass Function

- pmf of a discrete RV X is

$$p_X(x) = P[X = x] = P[\{\zeta : X(\zeta) = x\}]$$

- Properties

$$p_X(x) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{x \in S_X} p_X(x) = 1$$

$$P[X \text{ in } B] = \sum_{x \in B} p_X(x) \text{ where } B \subset S_X$$



Examples (cont.)

- Let X be the number of heads in three independent tosses of a coin. Find the pmf of X . (Binomial RV)



Examples (cont.)

- Let Y be the number of points obtained for each outcome in three independent tosses of a fair coin such that 8 points are awarded for three heads, 1 point for two heads and no point otherwise. Find the pmf of Y .



Examples (cont.)

- Let X be the number 0 (failure) if tails occur and 1 (success) if heads occur in a toss of a fair coin. Find the pmf of X . (Bernoulli RV)



Examples (cont.)

- A fair dice is rolled once. Let X be the outcome of the experiment. Find the pmf of X . (Uniform RV)



Examples (cont.)

- Let X be the number of times a message needs to be transmitted until it arrives correctly at its destination. Find the pmf of X (Geometric RV). Find the probability that X is an even number.