

# Discrete Random Variable

Thulasy

1. What name is given to a table that lists all the values that a discrete random variable  $x$  can assume and their corresponding probabilities?

**Answer**

Probability Distribution Table

2. Classify each of the following random variables as discrete or continuous.

- (a) The time left on a parking meter

**Answer**

Continuous Variable

- (b) The total pounds of fish caught on a fishing trip

**Answer**

Continuous Variable

- (c) The number of gumballs in a vending machine

**Answer**

Discrete Variable

- (d) The time spent by a physician examining a patient

**Answer**

Continuous Variable

3. A household can watch news on any of the three networks ??? ABC, CBS, or NBC. On a certain day, five households randomly and independently decide which channel to watch. Let  $x$  be the number of households among these five that decide to watch news on ABC. Is  $x$  a discrete or a continuous random variables? Explain.

**Answer**

$x$  = the number of households among these five that decide to watch news on ABC

$x=0,1,2,3,4,5$

$x$  is a discrete random variable because the number of family cannot be a real number

4. The following table gives the probability distribution of a discrete random variable  $x$ .

$x$	$p(x)$
0	0.11
1	0.19
2	0.28
3	0.15
4	0.12
5	0.09
6	0.06

Find the probabilities?

- (a)  $P(x=3)$

**Answer**

$$P(x=3)=0.15$$

- (b)  $P(x \leq 2)$

**Answer**

$$P(x \leq 2) = P(x=0) + P(x=1) + P(x=2) = 0.11 + 0.19 + 0.28$$

- (c)  $P(x \geq 3)$

$$P(x \geq 3) = P(x=3) + P(x=4) + P(x=5) + P(x=6) = 0.15 + 0.12 + 0.09 + 0.06$$

- (d)  $P(1 \leq x \leq 4) = P(x=1) + P(x=2) + P(x=3) + P(x=4)$

e. Probability that  $x$  assumes a value less than 4 f. Probability that  $x$  assumes a value greater than 2 g. Probability that  $x$  assumes a value in the interval 2 to 5 h. Probability that  $x$  assumes a value between 2 to 5