

Solution to 12.13.3.82

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Question: Two dice are thrown. If it is known that sum of the numbers on the dice was less than 6, the probability of getting a sum 3, is

A) $\frac{1}{18}$

B) $\frac{5}{18}$

C) $\frac{1}{5}$

D) $\frac{2}{5}$

Solution: Let random variables such that

parameters	value	description
X	$1 \leq X \leq 6$	outcome of the first die
Y	$1 \leq Y \leq 6$	outcome of the second die

Consider a random variable W such that

$$W = X + Y; \quad (1)$$

W can take values from $\{2 \text{ to } 12\}$,

$$p_X(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6}, & 1 \leq k \leq 6 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$p_X(k) = p_Y(k) \quad (3)$$

PMF of W using z -transform:

applying the z -transform on both the sides

$$z\{W\} = z\{X + Y\} \quad (4)$$

$$M_W(z) = M_{X+Y}(z) \quad (5)$$

Using the expectation operator:

$$E[z^{-W}] = E[z^{-X-Y}] \quad (6)$$

$$= E[z^{-X}] \cdot E[z^{-Y}] \quad (7)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^6 p_X(i) \cdot z^{-i} \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^6 p_Y(j) \cdot z^{-j} \right) \quad (8)$$

Extracting the PMF by considering the definition of z -transform

$$M_W(z) = p_W(0) + p_W(1)z + \dots + p_W(k)z^k + \dots \quad (9)$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} (z^{-1} + \dots + z^{-6}) \cdot (z^{-1} + \dots + z^{-6}) \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} (z^{-2} + 2z^{-3} + 3z^{-4} + 4z^{-5} + 5z^{-6} + 6z^{-7} + 5z^{-8} + 4z^{-9} + 3z^{-10} + 2z^{-11} + z^{-12}) \quad (11)$$

Defined for all values $2 \leq k \leq 12$

From (11) ,

$$p_W(k = 3) = \frac{2}{36} \quad (12)$$

$$p_W(k < 6) = p_W(k = 2) + p_W(k = 3) + p_W(k = 4) + p_W(k = 5) \quad (13)$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} + \frac{2}{36} + \frac{3}{36} + \frac{4}{36} \quad (14)$$

$$= \frac{10}{36} \quad (15)$$

We know,

$$p_W(k = 3|k < 6) = \frac{p_W((k = 3)(k < 6))}{p_W(k < 6)} \quad (16)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{2}{36}}{\frac{10}{36}} \quad (17)$$

$$= \frac{2}{10} \quad (18)$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \quad (19)$$

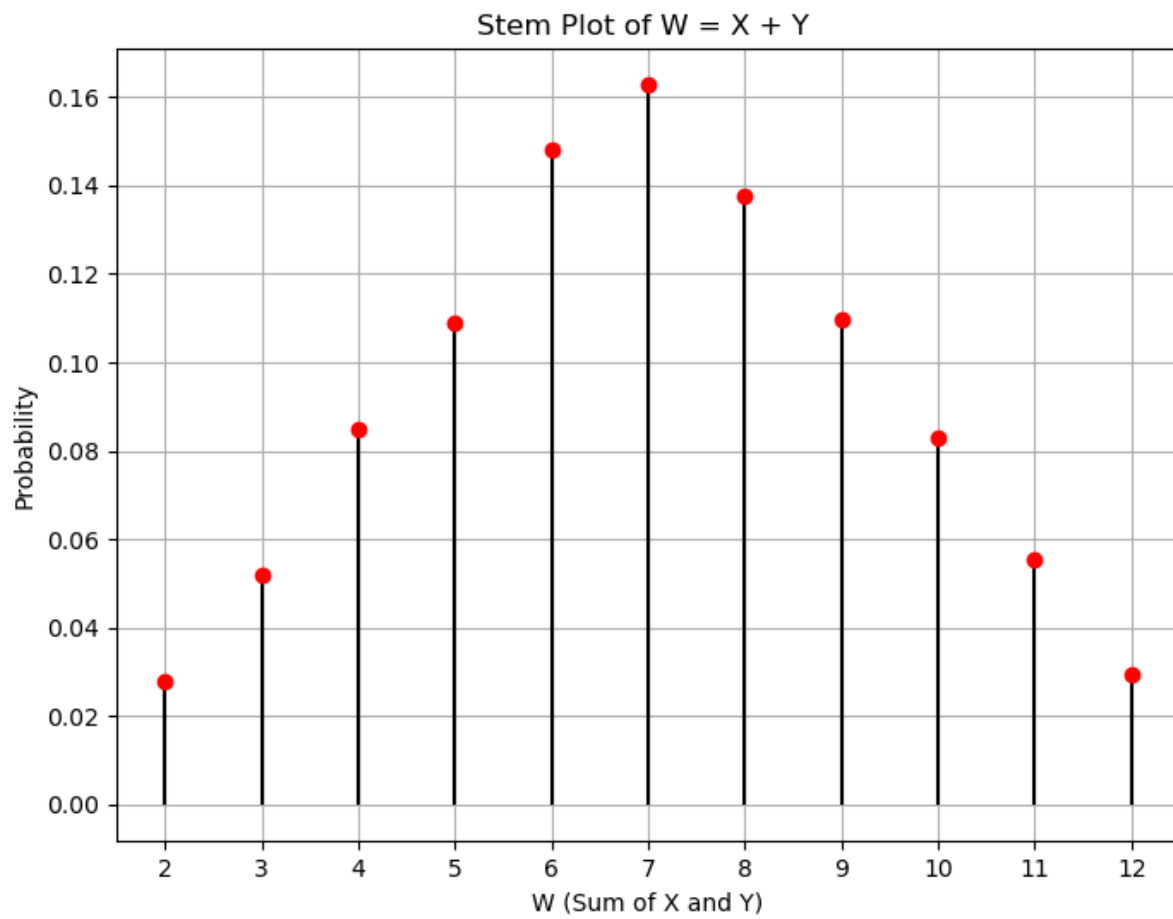


Fig. 4. Stem plot for $P(Z)$