

[Homework] IID coin flips

1. The joint PMF of X and Y are given by

y_j				
3	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	
2	$\frac{1}{10}$	0	$\frac{1}{10}$	
1	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	0	
0	0	$\frac{1}{10}$	0	
	0	1	2	x_i

- (a) Find the marginal PMF of X .

Sol.

i	0	1	2	
$P(X = i)$	$\frac{5}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	1

- (b) Find the marginal PMF of Y .

Sol.

i	0	1	2	3	
$P(Y = i)$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$	1

- (c) Find the conditional PMF of X given $Y = 1$.

Sol.

$$P(X = 0|Y = 1) = \frac{P(x = 0, Y = 1)}{P(Y = 1)} = \frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{3}{10}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$P(X = 1|Y = 1) = \frac{P(x = 1, Y = 1)}{P(Y = 1)} = \frac{\frac{1}{10}}{\frac{3}{10}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X = 2|Y = 1) = \frac{P(x = 2, Y = 1)}{P(Y = 1)} = \frac{0}{\frac{3}{10}} = 0$$

- (d) Find the conditional PMF of Y given $X = 2$.

Sol.

$$P(Y = 0|X = 2) = \frac{P(x = 2, Y = 0)}{P(X = 2)} = \frac{0}{\frac{2}{10}} = 0$$

$$P(Y = 1|X = 2) = \frac{P(x = 2, Y = 1)}{P(X = 2)} = \frac{0}{\frac{2}{10}} = 0$$

$$P(Y = 2|X = 2) = \frac{P(x = 2, Y = 2)}{P(X = 2)} = \frac{\frac{1}{10}}{\frac{2}{10}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(Y = 3|X = 2) = \frac{P(x = 2, Y = 3)}{P(X = 2)} = \frac{\frac{1}{10}}{\frac{2}{10}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

2. The CDF F is given by

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ 0.2 & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0.5 & \text{for } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 0.9 & \text{for } 2 \leq x < 3 \\ 1 & \text{for } 3 \leq x \end{cases}$$

Compute the corresponding PMF, i.e., calculate $p_i = P(X = i)$, $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$.

Sol.

i	0	1	2	3	
$P(X = i)$	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	1

3. Two balls are chosen randomly from an urn containing 8 white, 4 black, and 2 orange balls. Suppose that we win \$2 for each black ball selected and we lose \$1 for each white ball selected. Let X denote our winnings.

(a) What are the possible values of X ?

Sol. The possible results of the experiment are

$$\{W, W\}, \{W, B\}, \{W, O\}, \{B, B\}, \{B, O\}, \{O, O\}$$

Then X can take the values:

−2 for $\{W, W\}$, 1 for $\{W, B\}$

−1 for $\{W, O\}$, 4 for $\{B, B\}$

2 for $\{B, O\}$, 0 for $\{O, O\}$

(b) What are the probabilities associated with each value?

Sol.f

$$P(X = -2) = P(\{W, W\}) = \frac{\binom{8}{2}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{28}{91}$$

$$P(X = 1) = P(\{W, B\}) = \frac{\binom{8}{1} \cdot \binom{4}{1}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{32}{91}$$

$$P(X = -1) = P(\{W, O\}) = \frac{\binom{8}{1} \cdot \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{16}{91}$$

$$P(X = 4) = P(\{B, B\}) = \frac{\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{6}{91}$$

$$P(X = 2) = P(\{B, O\}) = \frac{\binom{4}{1} \cdot \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{8}{91}$$

$$P(X = 0) = P(\{O, O\}) = \frac{\binom{2}{2}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{1}{91}$$

	-2	-1	0	1	2	4	
p	$\frac{28}{91}$	$\frac{16}{91}$	$\frac{1}{91}$	$\frac{32}{91}$	$\frac{8}{91}$	$\frac{6}{91}$	1

4. A salesman has scheduled two appointments to sell encyclopedias. His first appointment will lead to a sale with probability 0.3, and his second will lead independently to a sale with probability 0.6. Any sale made is equally likely to be either for the deluxe model, which costs \$1000, or the standard model, which costs \$500. Determine the probability mass function of X , the total dollar value of all sales.

Sol. For $i = 1, 2$ consider the events $S_i := \{\text{sale on the } i\text{th appointment}\}$. We know that S_1 and S_2 are independent, $P(S_1) = 0.3, P(S_2) = 0.6$. Let $D_i := \{\text{deluxe on } i\text{th}\}$, also. We know that $P(D_i|S_i) = P(D_i^c|S_i) = \frac{1}{2}$. Consequently, $P(S_i \cap D_i) = \frac{P(S_i)}{2}$ and $P(S_i \cap D_i^c) = \frac{P(S_i)}{2}$.

The possible values of X are:

2000 dollars. In this case, we have

$$P\{X = 2000\} = P(S_1 \cap D_1)P(S_2 \cap D_2) = \frac{0.3}{2} \cdot \frac{0.6}{2} = 0.045$$

1500 dollars. In this case, we have

$$P\{X = 1500\} = P(S_1 \cap D_1)P(S_2 \cap D_2^c) + P(S_1 \cap D_1^c)P(S_2 \cap D_2) = 0.09$$

1000 dollars. In this case, we have

$$P\{X = 1000\} = P(S_1 \cap D_1)P(S_2^c) + P(S_1^c)P(S_2 \cap D_2) + P(S_1 \cap D_1^c)P(S_2 \cap D_2^c) = 0.315$$

500 dollars. In this case, we have

$$P\{X = 500\} = P(S_1 \cap D_1^c)P(S_2^c) + P(S_1^c)P(S_2 \cap D_2^c) = 0.27$$

0 dollars. In this case, we have

$$P\{X = 0\} = P(S_1^c)P(S_2^c) = 0.28$$

5. Five distinct numbers are randomly distributed to players numbered 1 through 5. Whenever two players compare their numbers, the one with the higher one is declared the winner. Initially, players 1 and 2 compare their numbers; the winner then compares her number with that of player 3, and so on. Let X denote the number of times player 1 is a winner. Find $P(X = i)$, $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$.

Sol. Let Y_j denote the number distributed to player j . Note that (Y_1, \dots, Y_5) is a random permutation of $(1, \dots, 5)$, all permutations being equally likely. Therefore, $p(0) = P\{X = 0\} = P(Y_1 < Y_2)$. But half of all permutations of $(1, \dots, 5)$ have $Y_1 < Y_2$, whereas half have $Y_1 > Y_2$. Therefore,

$$p(0) = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot 5!}{5!} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Next note that $p(1) = P\{Y_2 < Y_1 < Y_3\}$. The number of ways to end up with $Y_2 < Y_1 < Y_3$ is the same as the number of ways to get $Y_1 < Y_2 < Y_3$. This is the same as \dots . Therefore, the number of ways to get $Y_2 < Y_1 < Y_3$ is $\frac{1}{3!}$ times the total number of permutations. That is,

$$p(1) = \frac{\frac{1}{3!} \cdot 5!}{5!} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(2) &= P\{Y_2 < Y_1, Y_3 < Y_1, Y_4 > Y_1\} \\ &= P\{Y_1 = 3, Y_2 = 1, Y_3 = 2\} + P\{Y_1 = 3, Y_2 = 2, Y_3 = 1\} \\ &\quad + P\{Y_1 = 4, Y_2 = 1, Y_3 = 2, Y_4 = 5\} + P\{Y_1 = 4, Y_2 = 2, Y_3 = 1, Y_4 = 5\} \\ &\quad + P\{Y_1 = 4, Y_2 = 1, Y_3 = 3, Y_4 = 5\} + \dots \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{5!} + \frac{2}{5!}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5!} + \frac{1}{5!} + \dots\right) \\ &= \left(2 \cdot \frac{2}{5!}\right) + \left(6 \cdot \frac{1}{5!}\right) = \frac{1}{12} \end{aligned}$$

Next we note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(3) &= P\{Y_2 < Y_1, Y_3 < Y_1, Y_4 < Y_1, Y_5 > Y_1\} \\
 &= P\{Y_1 = 4, Y_1 = 1, Y_2 = 2, Y_3 = 3, Y_4 = 4, Y_5 = 5\} + \cdots \\
 &= \frac{3!}{5!} = \frac{1}{20}
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$p(4) = P\{Y_1 = 5\} = \frac{1}{5}$$

6. On a multiple-choice exam of 20 questions with 4 possible answers for each question, let S be the number of correct answers obtained just by guessing and let X_i , $1 \leq i \leq 20$, be the indicator of choosing the correct answer for the problem i .

- (a) Represent S in terms of X_i .

Sol.

$$S = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_{20} = \sum_{i=1}^{20} X_i$$

- (b) What is the distribution of X_i ?

Sol. X_i : Bernoulli distribution with $p = \frac{1}{4}$. $X_i \sim B(\frac{1}{4})$

- (c) Discuss the independence, pairwise independence, or dependence of X_i .

Sol. Since

$$P(X_i = 1, X_j = 1) = P(X_i = 1)P(X_j = 1)$$

$$P(X_i = 1, X_j = 0) = P(X_i = 1)P(X_j = 0)$$

$$P(X_i = 0, X_j = 1) = P(X_i = 0)P(X_j = 1)$$

$$P(X_i = 0, X_j = 0) = P(X_i = 0)P(X_j = 0)$$

So, pairwise independence.

Since

$$P(X_1 = a_1, X_2 = a_2, \cdots, X_{20} = a_{20}) = P(X_1 = a_1)P(X_2 = a_2) \cdots P(X_{20} = a_{20})$$

where $a_1, \cdots, a_{20} = 0$ or 1

independet.

- (d) Can we declare the distribution of S is binomial? Why or why not.

Sol.

$$S = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_{20} = \sum_{i=1}^{20} X_i \sim B(20, \frac{1}{4})$$

7. We flip the fair coin 5 times independently and let X be the number of heads. Let D be the number of heads minus the number of tails.

- (a) Represent D in terms of X .

Sol.

$$D = 2X - 5$$

- (b) What is the distribution of X ?

Sol.

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{head} \\ 0 & \text{tail} \end{cases}$$

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_5$$

$$X_i \sim B(\frac{1}{2}), X \sim B(5, \frac{1}{2})$$

- (c) Calculate the PMF of D .

Sol.

$$P(X = k) = P(D = 2k - 5) = \binom{5}{k} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{5-k}, \quad (k = 0, 1, \dots, 5)$$

d	-5	-3	-1	1	3	5	
$P(D = d)$	$\binom{5}{0}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	$\binom{5}{1}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	$\binom{5}{2}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	$\binom{5}{3}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	$\binom{5}{4}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	$\binom{5}{5}(\frac{1}{2})^5$	1

8. We flip coins n times independently and let X be the number of heads. For the i -th flip we use the p_i -coin which lands on head with probability p_i . Let A_i be the event that the i -coin lands on head and let 1_{A_i} be its indicator.

- (a) Represent X in terms of 1_{A_i} .

Sol.

$$1_{A_i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{ith head } p_i \\ 0 & \text{tail } 1 - p_i \end{cases}$$

$$S = 1_{A_1} + 1_{A_2} + \cdots + 1_{A_n}$$

- (b) What is the distribution of
- 1_{A_i}
- ?

Sol.

$$1_{A_i} \sim B(p_i)$$

- (c) Discuss the independence, pairwise independence, or dependence of
- 1_{A_i}
- .

Sol.

$$P(1_{A_1} \cdots 1_{A_n}) = P(1_{A_1})P(1_{A_2}) \cdots P(1_{A_n})$$

 1_{A_i} is pairwise independence and independent.

- (d) Is the distribution of
- X
- is binomial? Why or why not.

Sol. If all p_i 's are same then $S \sim B(n, p)$.If all p_i 's are different then S is not binomial. 1_{A_i} : Bernoulli distribution, independentBut, $S = \sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i}$: not binomial.

9. A fair coin is tossed thirteen times, independently. Let X be the number of times the coin lands heads in the first ten tosses, and let Y be the number of times the coin lands tails in the last ten tosses. Are X and Y independent?

- (a) Provide an intuitive argument.

Sol. not independent.

$$P(X = 5) = \binom{10}{5} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}$$

$$P(Y = 7) = \binom{10}{7} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}$$

$$P(X = 3, Y = 10) = \frac{1}{2^{13}} \cdot \left\{ \binom{7}{4} \cdot \binom{3}{1} + \binom{3}{2} \cdot \binom{7}{5} \right\}$$

$$P(X = 5)P(Y = 7) \neq P(X = 3, Y = 10)$$

- (b) Provide a mathematical back up.

Sol.

$$P(X = 3) = \binom{10}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}, P(Y = 10) = \binom{10}{10} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}$$

$$P(X = 3, Y = 10) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{13}$$

But,

$$P(X = 3) \cdot P(Y = 10) \neq P(X = 3, Y = 10)$$

Therefore X and Y are not independent

10. Initially a jar contains n red candies and no white candies. A boy successively takes a candy from the jar and put a new white candy. The boy draws a candy until he has a white candy. Let X be the number of draws.

(a) Can we declare the distribution of X is geometric? Why or why not.

Sol. X is not geometric because it is neither independent and identical

(b) Compute the PMF of X .

Sol. Let E_i = the event of not drawing a previous chip on the i th draw.

p_i = probability of stopping on the i th draw

n = the number of chips

X = the number of draws before ending

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x) &= P(\text{probability of not stopping on any previous draws and stopping on the } x\text{th draw}) \\ &= P(E_1 E_2 \cdots E_{x-1} (E_x)^c) \\ &= P(E_x^c | E_{x-1} E_{x-2} \cdots E_1) P(E_{x-1} | E_{x-2} E_{x-3} \cdots E_1) \cdots P(E_2 | E_1) P(E_1) \end{aligned}$$

Now the probability of not drawing a previously seen chip given that there have been no repeat draws is just the number of unseen chips divided by the total number of chips. On draw i , this is just $\frac{n-i+1}{n}$.

Similarly, the probability of drawing a previously seen chip on draw x , given that there have been no repeats thus far, is just $\frac{x-1}{n}$. Thus the above becomes:

$$P(X = x) = \frac{x-1}{n} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{x-1} \frac{n-i+1}{n} = \frac{x-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n-x+1)! \cdot n^{x-1}}$$

Finally, since it is impossible to stop on the first draw, or draw a new one on the $(n+1)$ draw, we can give the following formula that includes the domain information:

$$P(X = x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-1}{n} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{x-1} \frac{n-i+1}{n} & x \in \{2, 3, \dots, n+1\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

[Extra] IID coin flips

- Four buses carrying 148 students from the same school arrive at a football stadium. The buses carry, respectively, 40, 33, 25, and 50 students. One of the students is randomly selected. Let X denote the number of students that were

on the bus carrying the randomly selected student. One of the 4 bus drivers is also randomly selected. Let Y denote the number of students on her bus. Determine the PMFs of X and Y .