

**Example 2.12 (Computing expected values for discrete random variables)** Suppose  $p = 2$  and  $n = 1$ , and consider the random vector  $\mathbf{X}' = [X_1, X_2]$ . Let the discrete random variable  $X_1$  have the following probability function:

|            |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|
| $x_1$      | -1 | 0  | 1  |
| $p_1(x_1)$ | .3 | .3 | .4 |

$$\text{Then } E(X_1) = \sum_{\text{all } x_1} x_1 p_1(x_1) = (-1)(.3) + (0)(.3) + (1)(.4) = .1.$$

Similarly, let the discrete random variable  $X_2$  have the probability function

|            |    |    |
|------------|----|----|
| $x_2$      | 0  | 1  |
| $p_2(x_2)$ | .8 | .2 |

$$\text{Then } E(X_2) = \sum_{\text{all } x_2} x_2 p_2(x_2) = (0)(.8) + (1)(.2) = .2.$$

Thus,

$$E(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{bmatrix} E(X_1) \\ E(X_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .1 \\ .2 \end{bmatrix}$$

