

Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables

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CS22BTECH11046

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10.15.1.25: Question. Which of the following arguments are correct and which are not correct? Give reasons for your answer.

- 1) If two coins are tossed simultaneously, there are three possible outcomes - two heads, two tails, or one of each. Therefore, for each of these outcomes, the probability is $\frac{1}{3}$.
- 2) If a die is thrown, there are two possible outcomes - an odd number or an even number. Therefore, the probability of getting an odd number is $\frac{1}{2}$.

Solution:

- 1) X is a random variable which denotes the number of heads obtained when n coins are tossed simultaneously, p = probability of getting head .

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p) \quad (1)$$

then,

$$p_X(r) = {}^nC_r p^r (1-p)^{n-r} \quad (2)$$

Here $n = 2$ and $p = \frac{1}{2}$,

Therefore,

$$p_X(1) = {}^2C_1 \times \frac{1}{2^2} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (3)$$

Reason: For $X=1$, it contains two mutually exclusive events (H, T), (T, H). Therefore, the probability of getting one of each is $\frac{1}{2}$ and not $\frac{1}{3}$. So, the above statement is incorrect.

- 2) Here, let E be the event 'getting an odd number'.

Sample space $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$E = \{1, 3, 5\}$

$$\Pr(E) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (4)$$

Reason: Event of getting an odd number and Event of getting an even number are equally likely and they together forms an exhaustive event. Hence,

$$\Pr(E) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (5)$$

$$\Pr(E') = \frac{1}{2} \quad (6)$$

So the above statement is correct.