

# PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS

## Lecture 5 – Discrete distributions

# LAST TIME

- Discrete random variables
  - PMF
  - CDF
  - Expectation and variance
- Practice problems

# TODAY

- Two random variables
- More on expected value and variance
- Standard discrete distributions and their properties

# PROBLEM FROM YESTERDAY

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$$EX = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} k \cdot P(X = k) = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \frac{k}{2^k} = \dots = 2$$

# STANDARD DISCRETE DISTRIBUTIONS

Part I

# Bernoulli distribution

# BERNOULLI DISTRIBUTION

- Consider a random experiment with two possible outcomes:  
“success” (with probability  $p$ ) or “failure” (with probability  $1 - p$ )
  - tossing a coin: H or T;
  - a new child: a boy or a girl;
  - you take an exam: pass or fail.

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  - you take an exam: pass or fail.
- Consider a random variable  $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x)$	$1 - p$	$p$

# A TOURIST

- An English-speaking tourist visits a country in which 30% of the population speaks English. He needs to ask someone directions.

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$$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.3) \rightarrow P(X = 1) = p = 0.3$$

# BERNOULLI

- Consider  $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ . What is  $EX = ?$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x)$	$1 - p$	$p$

$$EX =$$

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$$EX = 0 \cdot (1 - p) + 1 \cdot p = p$$

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Example: algorithm finds a correct solution with  $p = 0.8$ . If we run it very many times, what % of the trials, on average, be successful?

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Example: algorithm finds a correct solution with  $p = 0.8$ . If we run it very many times, what % of the trials, on average, be successful?

Each trial: success or fail (Bernoulli random variable  $X$ )  $\rightarrow EX = 0.8$



# BERNOULLI

- Consider  $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ . What is  $\text{Var}[X] = ?$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x)$	$1 - p$	$p$

$$EX = 0 \cdot (1 - p) + 1 \cdot p = p$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = EX^2 - (EX)^2 =$$

# BERNOULLI

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$x$	0	1
$P(X = x)$	$1 - p$	$p$

$$EX = 0 \cdot (1 - p) + 1 \cdot p = p$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = EX^2 - (EX)^2 = p - p^2 = p(1 - p)$$

# Poisson distribution

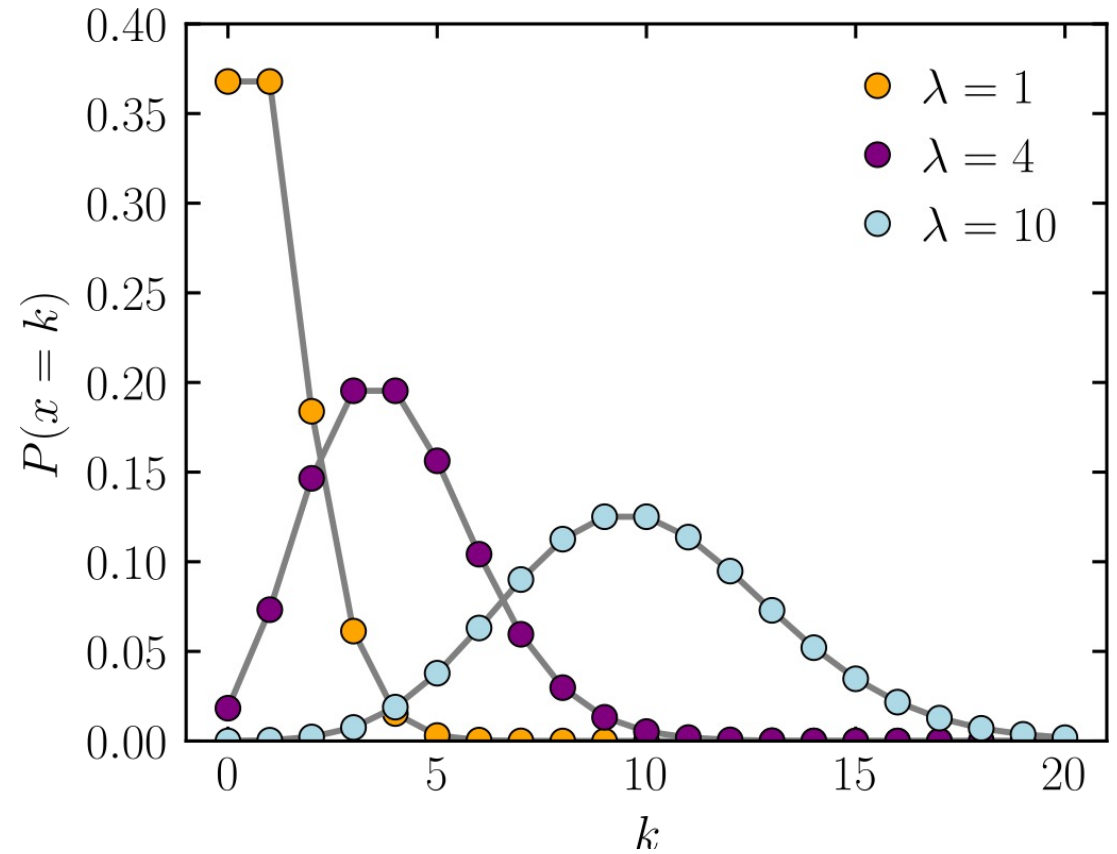
# POISSON DISTRIBUTION

$$X \sim \text{Po}(\lambda), \quad \lambda > 0$$

$$P(X = k) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\lambda} \cdot \lambda^k}{k!}, & k \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$E(X) = ?, \quad \text{Var}(X) = ?$$

- Models number of events occurring in a fixed interval of time.
- Assumptions: events occur
  - with a known constant mean rate;
  - independently of the time since the last event.



# HOW DOES THIS DISTRIBUTION LOOK LIKE?

1. Plot PMF for different values of the parameter  $\lambda > 0$ .
2. What is the expected value of  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ ?

$$EX =$$

3. What is the variance of  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ ?

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3. What is the variance of  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ ?

$$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$$



# POISSON DISTRIBUTION: EXAMPLE

$$P(X = k) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\lambda} \cdot \lambda^k}{k!}, & k \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- A given restaurant receives an average of 100 customers per day.
- Random variable  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(100)$  – number of customers the restaurant will receive today.
- Find the probability that the restaurant receives
  - 110 customers:
  - 90 customers:
  - less than 100 customers:

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$$P(X = 110) = \frac{e^{-100} 100^{110}}{110!} \approx 0.0234$$

- 90 customers:
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- 90 customers:

$$P(X = 90) = \frac{e^{-100} 100^{90}}{90!} \approx 0.025$$

- less than 100 customers:

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- 90 customers:

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- less than 100 customers:

$$P(X < 100) = \sum_{k=0}^{99} \frac{e^{-100} 100^k}{k!} \approx 0.4867$$

# Two random variables

# TWO RANDOM VARIABLES

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.
- **Joint** distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ :  $P_{XY}(x, y) = P(X = x \text{ and } Y = y)$

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$
$X = 0$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
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$$P(X = 1, Y = 1) =$$

$$P(X = 0, Y \leq 1) =$$

$$P(X = 0) =$$

$$P(X = 0 \mid Y = 1) =$$

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$$P(X = 1, Y = 1) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$P(X = 0, Y \leq 1) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(X = 0) =$$

$$P(X = 0 | Y = 1) =$$

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$$P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}$$

$$P(X = 0 | Y = 1) = \frac{1/4}{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6}}$$

# TWO RANDOM VARIABLES

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.
- **Marginal distribution**

$$P_X(x) = P(X = x) = \sum_i P(X = x, Y = y_i),$$

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$
$X = 0$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
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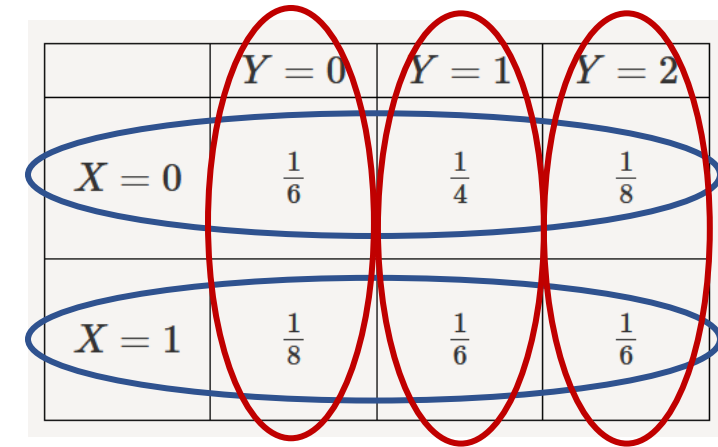
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$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{13}{24} & x = 0 \\ \frac{11}{24} & x = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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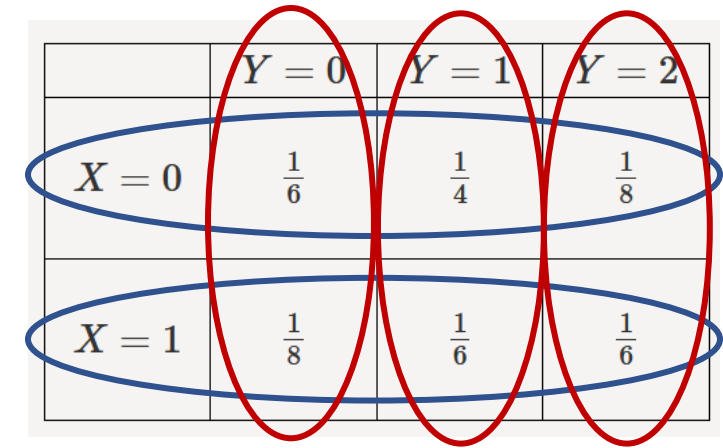
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$$P_X(x) = P(X = x) = \sum_i P(X = x, Y = y_i), \quad P_Y(y) = P(Y = y) = \sum_j P(X = x_j, Y = y)$$

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$$P_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{7}{24} & y = 0 \\ \frac{5}{12} & y = 1 \\ \frac{7}{24} & y = 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# TWO RANDOM VARIABLES

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.
- **Conditional distribution**

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$
$X = 0$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
$X = 1$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$

$$P(X|Y = 0):$$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x   Y = 0)$		



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$X = 1$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$

$$P(X|Y = 0):$$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x   Y = 0)$	$\frac{1/6}{1/6 + 1/8}$	$\frac{1/8}{1/6 + 1/8}$

$$P(Y|X = 1):$$

# TWO RANDOM VARIABLES

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- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.
- **Conditional distribution**

$$P(X|Y = 0):$$

$x$	0	1
$P(X = x   Y = 0)$	$\frac{1/6}{1/6 + 1/8}$	$\frac{1/8}{1/6 + 1/8}$

$$P(Y|X = 1):$$

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$P(X = x   Y = 0)$	$\frac{1/6}{1/6 + 1/8}$	$\frac{1/8}{1/6 + 1/8}$

$$P(Y|X = 1):$$

$x$	0	1	2
$P(X = x   Y = 0)$	$\frac{1/8}{1/8 + 1/6 + 1/6}$	$\frac{1/6}{1/8 + 1/6 + 1/6}$	$\frac{1/6}{1/8 + 1/6 + 1/6}$

# TWO RANDOM VARIABLES

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.
- $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if and only if

$$P(X = x \text{ and } Y = y) = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y) \quad \forall x \in R_x, y \in R_Y$$

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- Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent?

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$
$X = 0$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
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$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{13}{24} & x = 0 \\ \frac{11}{24} & x = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$P_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{7}{24} & y = 0 \\ \frac{5}{12} & y = 1 \\ \frac{7}{24} & y = 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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$$P(X = x \text{ and } Y = y) = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y) \quad \forall x \in R_x, y \in R_Y$$

- Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent? **No!**

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$
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$$\text{E.g., } P(X = 0, Y = 0) = \frac{1}{6} \neq P_X(0) \cdot P_Y(0) = \frac{13}{24} \cdot \frac{7}{24}$$

# Expected value and variance

# EXPECTED VALUE

- Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable that takes values from  $R_X$ .
- Expected value of  $X$  is defined as

$$EX = \sum_{x_k \in R_X} x_k \cdot P(X = x_k)$$

- Let  $a$  and  $b$  be some numbers. Then

$$E(aX + b) = aEX + b$$



# EXAMPLE

- Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $EX = 10$ .
- Let  $Y = 5X + 1$

$$E(Y) =$$

- Let  $Z = 3X - 2$

$$E(Z) =$$

# EXAMPLE

- Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $EX = 10$ .
- Let  $Y = 5X + 1$

$$E(Y) = 5 \cdot 10 + 1 = 51$$

- Let  $Z = 3X - 2$

$$E(Z) =$$

# EXAMPLE

- Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $EX = 10$ .
- Let  $Y = 5X + 1$

$$E(Y) = 5 \cdot 10 + 1 = 51$$

- Let  $Z = 3X - 2$

$$E(Z) = 3 \cdot 10 - 2 = 28$$

# EXPECTED VALUE

- Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be some random variables such that  $EX_i = \mu_i$ .
- It is *always* true that

$$E[X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n] = EX_1 + \dots + EX_n = \mu_1 + \dots + \mu_n$$

# VARIANCE

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# VARIANCE OF A LINEAR COMBINATION

- $X$  is a random variable,  $a$  and  $b$  are some numbers.

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(aX + b) &= \\ &= E(aX + b - E(aX + b))^2 = \\ &= E(aX + b - aEX - b)^2 = E(aX - aEX)^2 = \\ &= a^2 E(X - EX)^2 = \\ &= a^2 \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Var(-5X + 10) &= \\ 25 \cdot Var(X) &= 25 \end{aligned}$$

# VARIANCE OF A SUM

- Let's consider two random variables,  $X$  with variance  $Var(X)$  and  $Y$  with variance  $Var(Y)$ .

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$$E[(X - EX)^2 - 2(X - EX)(Y - EY) + (Y - EY)^2] =$$

$$Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2E(X - EX)(Y - EY) =$$

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- Let's consider two random variables,  $X$  with variance  $Var(X)$  and  $Y$  with variance  $Var(Y)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} Var(X + Y) &= \\ E[X + Y - E(X + Y)]^2 &= \\ E[(X - EX) - (Y - EY)]^2 &= \\ E[(X - EX)^2 - 2(X - EX)(Y - EY) + (Y - EY)^2] &= \\ Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2E(X - EX)(Y - EY) &= \\ Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2Cov(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

# COVARIANCE

- **Covariance** is a measure of *joint variability* between two random variables.

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - EX)(Y - EY)]$$



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- There is also a shortcut formula

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - EX \cdot EY$$

# COVARIANCE AND INDEPENDENCE

- When random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,

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# COVARIANCE AND INDEPENDENCE

- When random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - EX \cdot EY = EX \cdot EY - EX \cdot EY = 0$$

- Therefore, when  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,

$$\text{Var}(X, Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y).$$

# CORRELATION

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables with variances  $Var(X)$  and  $Var(Y)$ .
- Correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined as

$$Corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var(X) \cdot Var(Y)}} = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{std(X) \cdot std(Y)}$$

- What is the difference between covariance and correlation?
- Covariance is scale-dependent. Correlation isn't.

# Programming exercise

Google classroom -> Day 5