

Sept 20<sup>th</sup>

## Today Gambler's Ruin

2 players  $\rightarrow$  A & B compete until one person has all the money ( $T = \text{total}$ )

each round players A & B bet \$1

each round one player wins \$2

Let  $P = \text{prob of player A winning round}$

$$q = 1 - p = " " " " B " "$$

$T$  is total amt of \$

$K$  be the current amt A has ( $B$  would have  $T-K$ )

$\Rightarrow$  We want the prob player A will win all  $T$  amt of \$ starting from \$ $K$

let  $P(K) = P_K = \text{prob that A wins the game starting from } \$K$

either A OR B wins  $\rightarrow$  Total Law of Prob

$P_{K+1}$

$P$

$$P(K) = P(A \text{ wins} | A \text{ wins next round}) \cdot P(A \text{ wins next round})$$

$$+ P(A \text{ wins} | A \text{ loses next round}) \cdot P(A \text{ loses next round})$$

$P_{K-1}$

$q$

$$\Rightarrow P_K = P \cdot P_{K+1} + q \cdot P_{K-1} \quad \text{difference eq'n}$$

Solve this for  $P_K$

Step 1 make a guess :  $P_K = (r)^K$  ← power  
 & plug in &  
 check  
 constant → solve for r

$$\frac{r^K}{r^{K-1}} = P \cdot \frac{r^{K+1}}{r^{K-1}} + q \cdot \frac{r^{K-1}}{r^{K-1}}$$

$$\frac{r}{r} = P \cdot r^{K+1-(K-1)} + q \cdot r^{(K-1)-(K-1)} \\ r = P \cdot r^2 + q$$

$$Pr^2 - r + q = 0$$

$$r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4pq}}{2p}$$

$$1-4pq$$

$$1-4p(1-p)$$

$$1-4p+4p^2$$

$$(1-2p)(1-2p)$$

$$(1-2p)^2$$

$$r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{(1-2p)^2}}{2p}$$

$$= \frac{1 \pm (1-2p)}{2p}$$



$$r_1 = \frac{1+1-2p}{2p}$$

$$r_2 = \frac{1-(1-2p)}{2p}$$

$$= \frac{2-2p}{2p}$$

$$= \frac{1-1+2p}{2p} = \frac{2p}{2p} = 1$$

$$= \frac{1-p}{p} = \frac{q}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{General sol'n: } r = \frac{q}{p} \quad r=1$$

$\Rightarrow$  Guess:  $P_K = r^K$ , two roots

$$P_K = C_1 (1)^K + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^K$$

$$P(K) = P_K = C_1 + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^K$$

(2)  $C_1, C_2$ ? use "extremes"/defaults /boundary condition

$$\hookrightarrow K=0 \rightarrow P_0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P_0 = C_1 + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^0 = 0$$

1

$$C_1 + C_2 = 0 \rightarrow C_1 = -C_2$$

$$\hookrightarrow K=T \text{ (total)} \quad P_T = 1$$

$$P_T = C_1 + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T = 1$$

$$-C_2 + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T = 1$$

$$C_2 \left( \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T - 1 \right) = 1$$

$$C_2 = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T - 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = -C_2 = \frac{-1}{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T - 1}$$

system  
of eq'n's

Plug

③ Plug  $C_1$  &  $C_2$  back into  $P_K$ :

$$P_K = C_1 + C_2 \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^K$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T - 1} + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T - 1} \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^K$$

$$P(K) = P_K = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^K}{1 - \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^T}$$

↑ chance of winning  
each round

if  $p \neq q$   
(unfair game)

Total amt of \$

$$P_K = \frac{K}{T} \quad \text{if } p = q \quad (\text{fair game})$$

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ex Olivia & James are rolling a fair die. If the roll results in an even #, James gives Olivia \$1.

$$\hookrightarrow 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \quad P = \frac{1}{2} = .5$$

Otherwise, odd  $\rightarrow$  Olivia gives James \$1

The game continues until one of them loses their money.

a) James starts with \$4 and Olivia has \$6.

What is prob Olivia wins?

$$T = 10$$

$$p = q = \frac{1}{2} \quad T = 10 \quad K = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow P_K = \frac{K}{T} = \frac{6}{10} = .6 \rightarrow 60\%$$

b) James \$4 & Olivia \$200  $P=g=\frac{1}{2}$

$\nwarrow \swarrow$   
 $T=204$

$$\Rightarrow P_K = \frac{K}{T} = \frac{200}{204} = .98 \rightarrow 98\% \leftarrow \text{large increase in chance of winning}$$

c) repeat a - b, they play chess where James each game w/ prob =  $\frac{3}{5} \approx g$   $P=\frac{2}{5}$   $\leftarrow$  slightly less than 50/50 chance of winning

a)  $K=6$  Olivia's \$6, James \$4  $\rightarrow T=10$

$$P_{10} = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{g}{P}\right)^K}{1 - \left(\frac{g}{P}\right)^T} = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{3/5}{2/5}\right)^6}{1 - \left(\frac{3/5}{2/5}\right)^{10}} = .1833 \quad 18.33\%$$

b) Olivia \$200, James \$4  $\rightarrow T=204$

$$P_{200} = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{3/5}{2/5}\right)^{200}}{1 - \left(\frac{3/5}{2/5}\right)^{204}} = .1975 \quad 19.75\%$$

$\nwarrow K=200$

did not increase by a large %!

Gambler's Ruin

So even though Olivia was able to bet a large amount, having the game slightly less fair against her favor, it only increased her chances by ~1.5% (small!)

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end Conditional Ch

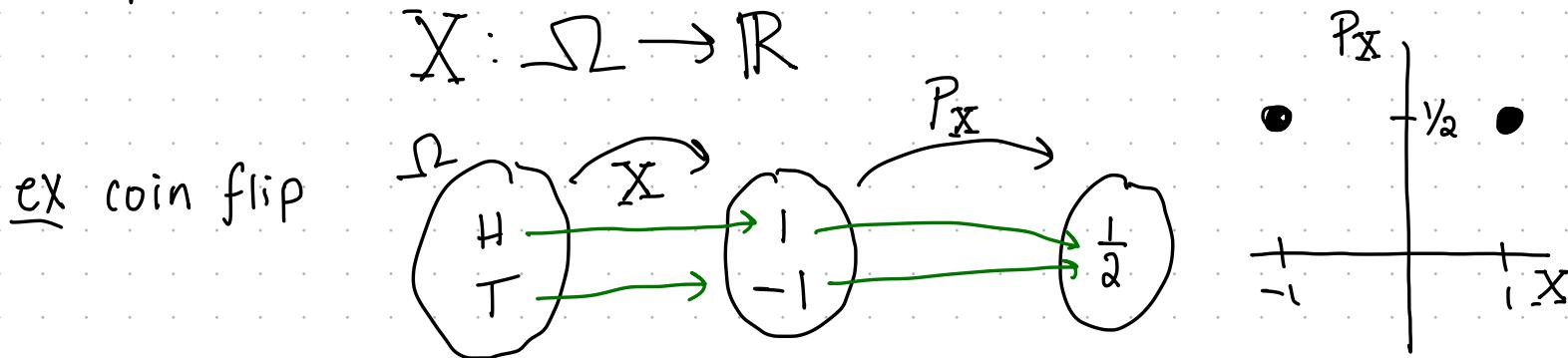
## Random Variables

When an experiment occurs, we are often interested in some function of an outcome, rather than actual outcome.

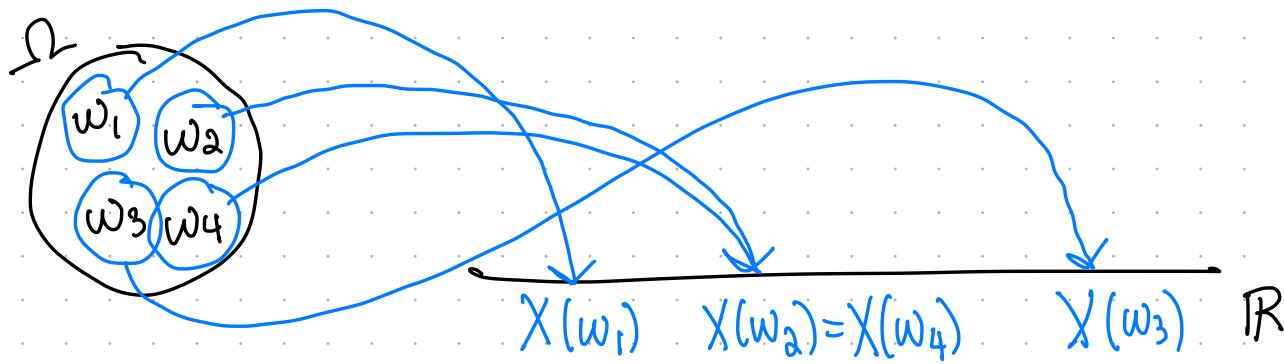
ex tossing 2 die: want the sum is 9, but we don't need all the outcomes  $((3,6), (4,5), (5,4), (6,3))$

ex flip a coin 3 times  $\rightarrow$  want the # of heads

A random variable (r.v.), usually written as  $X, Y$ , is a real-valued function whose domain is the sample space of an experiment.



OR imagine



There are 2 types of r.v.s:

discrete      continuous

Discrete rv: can take on at most a countable number of values

)  
finite      infinite but  
can be counted

Probability mass function (pmf) (density of  $X$ )

$$P_X(x) = P(X=x) = P(\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) = x\})$$

↪ a list of numbers in  $[0, 1]$  indexed by possible values  $x$  of  $X$ .

↪ answers "what's the prob I measure a certain value?"

ex coin flip, heads=1, tails=-1

$$P_X(1) = P(X=1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P_X(-1) = P(X=-1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$2^3 = 8$  outcomes

ex toss coin 3 times.  $X$  is the # of heads obtained

$$X = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

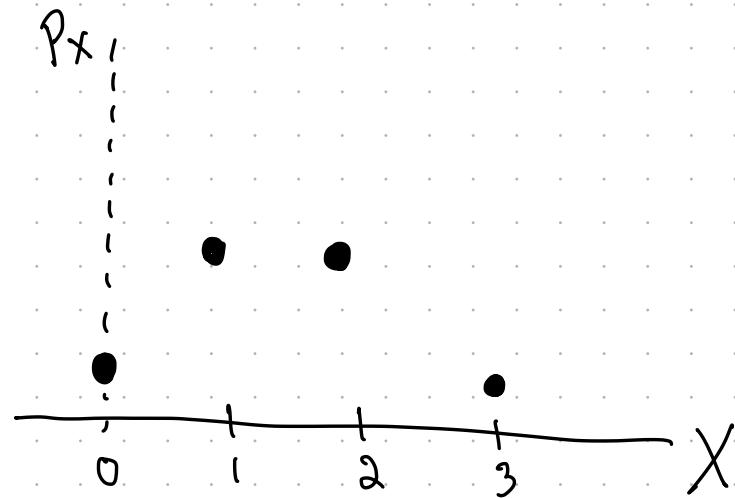
$$P_X(0) = P(X=0) = P(\{\text{TTT}\}) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$P_X(1) = P(X=1) = P(\{\text{HTH, THT, HTH}\}) = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P_X(2) = P(X=2) = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P_X(3) = P(X=3) = \frac{1}{8}$$

\*adds up to 1 ✓



$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

ex suppose that a die is rolled twice.  $6 \cdot 6 = 36$  outcomes

Let  $X$  denote the sum of the values.

$$X = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$$

$$P(X=2) = P(\{(1,1)\}) = \frac{1}{36}$$

$$P(X=3) = P(\{(1,2), (2,1)\}) = \frac{2}{36}$$

$$P(X=4) = \frac{3}{36}$$

$$P(X=5) = \frac{4}{36}$$

$$P(X=6) = \frac{5}{36}$$

$$P(X=7) = \frac{6}{36}$$

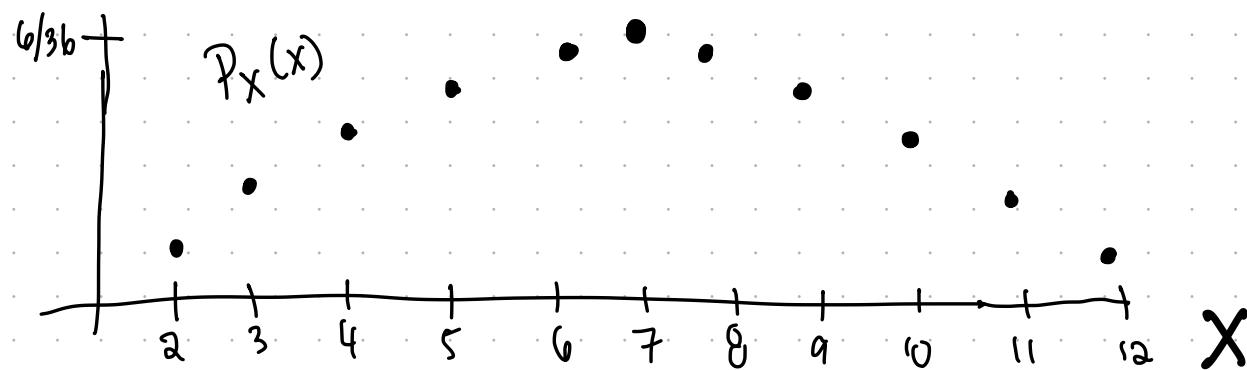
$$P(X=8) = \frac{5}{36}$$

$$P(X=9) = \frac{4}{36}$$

$$P(X=10) = \frac{3}{36}$$

$$P(X=11) = \frac{2}{36}$$

$$P(X=12) = \frac{1}{36}$$



ex two balls randomly from urn/bag    8 white    4 black    2 orange balls    { 14 total

Win \$2 for black, lose \$1 for each white, neutral for orange

Let  $X$  denote the winnings.

$W = \text{white}$ ,  $B = \text{black}$ ,  $O = \text{orange}$

$\Omega = \{\text{WW}, \text{WB}, \text{WO}, \text{BB}, \text{BO}, \text{OO}\} \rightarrow \text{Not equally likely}$

$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$									
-1	-1	-1	+2	-1	+0	+2	+2	+2	+0	+0	+0
$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}$			$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}$			$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}$			$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}$		
-2			1			-1			4		

$$X = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 4\}$$

Order does not matter  
↓  
combination

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

$$P(X=-1) = P(\{\text{WO}\}) = \frac{\binom{8}{1} \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{16}{91}$$

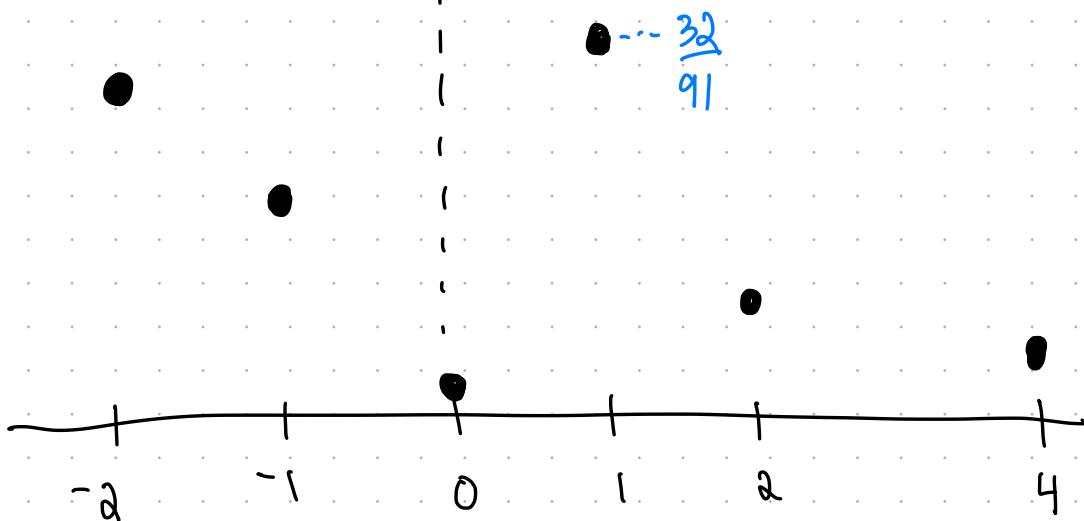
$$P(X=0) = P(\{\text{OO}\}) = \frac{\binom{2}{2}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{1}{91}$$

$$P(X=1) = P(\{\text{WB}\}) = \frac{\binom{8}{1} \binom{4}{1}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{32}{91}$$

$$P(X=2) = P(\{\text{BB}\}) = \frac{\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{14}{2}} = \frac{8}{91}$$

\*  $\frac{28+16+1+32+8+6}{91} = 1$  ✓

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



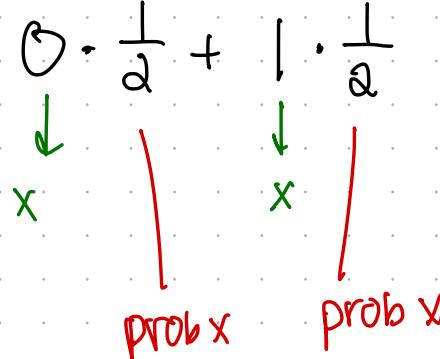
If  $X$  is a discrete r.v. with pmf  $P_X(x)$   
 then the expectation of  $X$  (expected value)  
 denoted by  $E[X]$  or  $EX$  or  $\mu$  is

$$\mu = E[X] = \sum_{x: p(x) > 0} x \cdot p(x) \quad \text{weighted avg}$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\text{values} \\ \text{of } x}} (\text{value of } x) \cdot P_X(\text{value of } x)$$

(provided this sum converges absolutely)

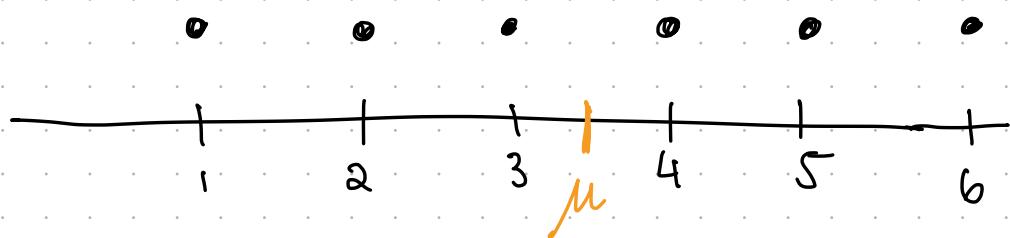
ex given  $P_X(0) = \frac{1}{2} = P_X(1)$  (coin flip)  
 $\frac{1}{2} \dots$

$$E[X] = 0 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 0 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$


$\mu = \frac{1}{2}$

ex  $X = \text{the } \# \text{ rolled die face} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 6 \cdot \frac{1}{6} \\ &= \frac{7}{2} = 3.5 \end{aligned}$$



ex  $X = \text{the value (in \$) of the } \# \text{ of the die cubed.}$

$$X = \{1^{\$}, 8^{\$}, 27^{\$}, 64^{\$}, 125^{\$}, 216^{\$}\}$$

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  equally likely  
 $\mu$

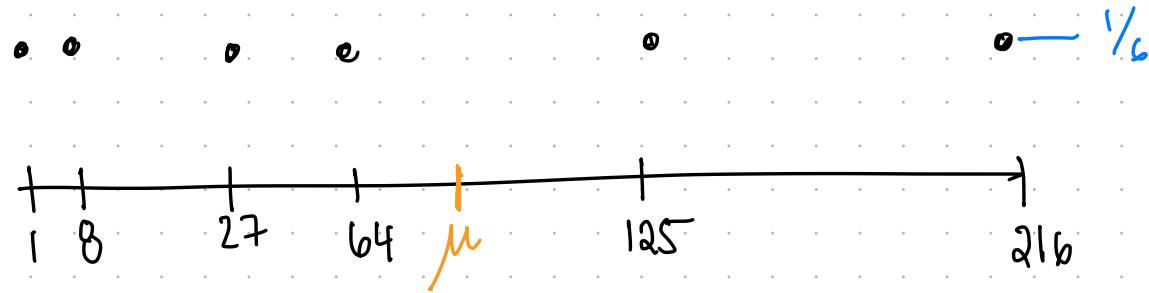
$$E[X] = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 8 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 27 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 64 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 125 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 216 \cdot \frac{1}{6}$$

$$= \frac{441}{6} = 73.5 \quad (\$73.5)$$

↳ "meaningless" in one round since I cannot win \$73.5 exactly in one round



after 100 tries, expect to win  
\$7350



Linearity of Expectation  $X, Y$  r.v. on the  
same sample space and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$   
(constant)

i)  $E[X \pm Y] = E[X] \pm E[Y]$

ii)  $E[cX] = cE[X]$