

Probability & Random Variables

AI1110

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Question

I toss three coins together. The possible outcomes are no heads, 1 head, 2 heads and 3 heads. So, I say that probability of no heads is $1/4$. What is wrong with this conclusion?

Solution

\Rightarrow Let the coin be fair.

\Rightarrow Random variable X is number of heads

\Rightarrow Let getting heads be success

Then $\Pr(X = r) = {}^nC_r \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^r \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-r}$ where $r=0, 1, 2, 3$

$$\Pr(X = r) = {}^3C_r \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^r$$

the probability of no heads in the outcome i.e $X = 0$ is .

$$\Pr(X = 0) = {}^3C_0 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3$$

$$\Pr(X = 0) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3$$

$$\Pr(X = 0) = \frac{1}{8}$$

According to the narrator $\Pr(X = 0) = \frac{1}{4}$

\therefore The conclusion is wrong .