

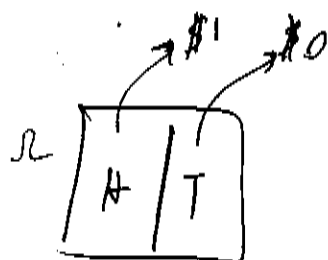
Lecture 3/10/15

1

Random Variable Theory: just the vocabulary (nothing hard)

Prob: used to make calculations of chance/odds

What if you want to model an outcome's results? There's an outcome for each result...



$P(H) = \frac{1}{2}$  and gets \$1  
 $P(T) = \frac{1}{2}$  " " \$0

This can be modeled with a random variable (r.v.)

$X \sim \begin{cases} \$1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \$0 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$   
 Capital letter "X" → random variable  
 "distr." → distribution  
 "w.p." → with probability  
 "H, T not here!"  
 "resulting outcome" → pointing to the outcomes \$1 and \$0  
 "chance of getting a" → pointing to the probabilities  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $P(X = \$1) = \frac{1}{2}$   
 $P(X = \$0) = \frac{1}{2}$

H, T not here because we don't care if they happen, because we just see the resulting outcomes

$X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 domain:  $\Omega$  (sample space)  
 range:  $\mathbb{R}$  (real numbers)  
 $X(\omega) \in \mathbb{R}$   
 not allowed:  $X(\omega) \in \mathbb{N}$

$$X(H) = \$1, X(T) = \$0$$

Remember  $P$  is a set function  $P: 2^\Omega \rightarrow [0,1]$   
 How is it defined for  $X$ ?

pull:

$$\sum_{x \in \text{supp}} P(X=x) = 1$$

$$P(X=1) := P(\{\omega: X(\omega) = \$1\}) = P(\{H\}) = \frac{|\{H\}|}{|\{H,T\}|} = \frac{1}{2}$$

wrong for now

How many  $\omega$ 's give us this outcome?

Process  $\omega \in \Omega$  chosen  $\Rightarrow X(\omega) \Rightarrow \#$   
 dynas switchboard  
 all we see is  $\$1, \$0, \$1, \$1, \dots$

$$\text{Supp}[X] := \{X(\omega): \omega \in \Omega\} = \{x: P(X=x) > 0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

"all results that can happen" (pp over)



$$X(\text{Red}) = \$1$$

$$X(\text{Green}) = \$0$$

$$\Rightarrow X \sim \begin{cases} \$1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \$0 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

There are many  $\Omega$ 's that can make the same r.v.  
 $\Rightarrow$  We don't care about the underlying  $\Omega$ .

This  $X$  is called Bernoulli

$$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\frac{1}{2}) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

What is  $\text{Supp}[X] = \{0, 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

Generally,

$$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } p \\ 0 & \text{w.p. } 1-p \end{cases}$$

← a parameter

$$X \sim \text{Deg}(c) = \begin{cases} c & \text{w.p. } 1 \end{cases}$$

What are the valid values of  $p$ ?

$$p \in (0,1) \text{ the parameter space}$$

Why no  $p \in \{0,1\}$ ?

↑ degenerate r.v.'s are technically r.v.'s but not interesting.

If  $|\text{Supp}(X)| \leq |\mathbb{N}|$  i.e. finite or cdy. infinite,  
 $X$  is called a "discrete r.v."

let  $p(x) := P(X=x)$  called the prob. mass function (PMF)

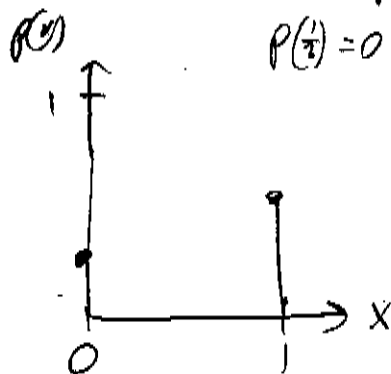
Rules: ①  $p(x) \in [0, 1]$   $\checkmark$  it's a prob's (f course)  
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$  ②  $\sum_{x \in \text{Supp}(X)} p(x) = 1$

$\uparrow$   
 something must happen kinda like  $P(\Omega) = 1$

$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$

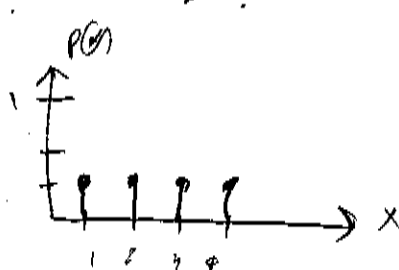
①  $p(0) = 1-p \in [0, 1]$   
 $p(1) = p \in [0, 1]$   
 $p(\frac{1}{2}) = 0$  (not in  $\text{Supp}(X)$ )

②  $\sum_{x \in \text{Supp}(X)} p(x) = \sum_{x=0}^1 p(x) = p(0) + p(1) = (1-p) + p = 1 \checkmark$



Plot of PMF

$X \sim \text{Unif}(\{1, 2, 3, 4\}) := \begin{cases} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{cases}$  w.p.  $\frac{1}{4}$   
 "Discrete Uniform Dist"  
 each element is "equally likely"



Parameter space  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$   
 s.t.  $|A| < |\mathbb{N}|$   
 $|A| \geq 2$

$X \sim \text{Rademacher} := \begin{cases} -1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$

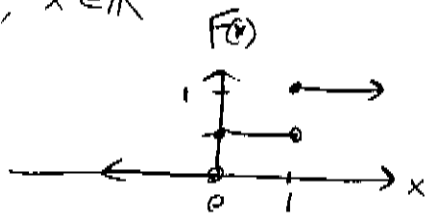
Why is this called the "random walk"?

No parameters!

"distribution function" or "cumulative distribution function"

$$F(x) := P(X \leq x), x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\frac{1}{2})$



$$F(-\infty) = 0$$

$$F(1) = 1$$

$$F(0) = \frac{1}{2}, F(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}, \dots$$

discrete

Rules

$$\textcircled{1} \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F(x) = 1$$

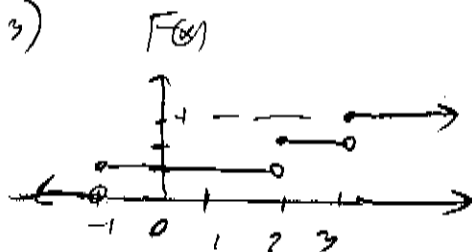
$$\textcircled{3} F(x) \in [0, 1] \quad \forall x$$

$$\textcircled{4} x \leq y \Rightarrow F(x) \leq F(y)$$

monotonically increasing

Consequences

$X \sim \text{Unif}(-1, 2, 3)$



10 cards, 4 R, 6 B

$$P(\text{getting 2 R on a draw of 3}) = \frac{\binom{4}{2} \binom{6}{1}}{\binom{10}{3}}$$

$$P(\text{getting } x \text{ R on a draw of 3}) = \frac{\binom{4}{x} \binom{6}{3-x}}{\binom{10}{3}}$$

$X$  be the r.v. representing the # of R drawn

$$X \sim \text{Hypergeometric}(n=3, K=4, N=10) \quad \text{supp}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\text{parameters: } N \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}, K \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, n \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\} \quad (\text{note } N \neq 0)$$

$$N=0 \Rightarrow K=0 \Rightarrow n=0 \quad X \sim \text{Deg}(0)$$

$$N=10, K=10 \Rightarrow X \sim \text{Deg}(n)$$

"Sampling w/ replacement"

$K$ : # of total successes

$N-K$ : " failures

$N$ : total successes + failures

$n$ : sample size

$$X \sim \text{Hyper}(n, K, N) := \frac{\binom{K}{x} \binom{N-K}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}} = P(x)$$

$F(x)$ ? HARD...