

data generating process

Let  $X$  be a random variable (r.v.)

Let  $x$  be a realization (data)

$$x \in \text{Supp}(X)$$

support of  $X$

set of all possible unique/different values of  $x$ .

## 2 Types of Random Variables

$|\cdot|$  = cardinality

### I Discrete

$$|\text{Supp}[X]| \leq |\mathbb{N}|$$

The number of unique values of  $x$  is at most countably infinite.

$$p(x) := P(X=x)$$

↑ probability mass function (pmf)

$$p : \text{Supp}[X] \rightarrow (0, 1]$$

(\* if its possible it has a nonzero probability so its noninclusive. 0)

$$F(x) := P(X \leq x)$$

↑ cumulative distribution function (CDF)

$$= \sum p(y)$$

$$\text{if } x \uparrow \text{ discrete } \{ y \in \text{Supp}(X) \& y \leq x \}$$

$$\sum_{x \in \text{Supp}(X)} p(x) = 1$$

$$x \in \text{Supp}(X)$$

Empty Empty Theorem

## II Continuous r.v.'s

$$|\text{Supp}[X]| = |\mathbb{R}|$$

↑ uncountably  $\infty$

$F(x)$  is the same

probability density function (PDF)  $\rightarrow f(x) := F'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(F)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x \in [a, b]) &= P(x \leq b) - P(x \leq a) \\ &= F(b) - F(a) \\ &= \int_a^b f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

probability is in some you can integrate

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx &= F(\infty) - F(-\infty) \\ &= P(X \leq \infty) - P(X \leq -\infty) \\ &= P(X \in (-\infty, \infty)) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

what's the probability that  $x$  is anything

$$f : \text{Supp}(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$$

$f(x)$  is not a probability.

$f(x)$  is not  $P(X=x) = p(x)$

$$\text{Supp}(X) = \{x : f(x) > 0\}$$

PDF is defined as the derivat of the CDF as  $x$  gets bigger the CDF doesn't.

Discrete  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x} \rightarrow p(x=1) = p(1) = p \\ X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p) = \binom{n}{x} p^x(1-p)^{n-x} \rightarrow p(x=0) = p(0) = 1-p \end{array} \right.$

Distributed as

Continuous  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda) := \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \\ X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2} \end{array} \right.$

Exponential      Normal

$p$  is a parameter which is a sort of "turning knob".  
What are the allowable values of  $p$ ?  $p \in [0, 1]$

$$p = 0, X \sim \text{Bern}(0) = 0^x 1^{1-x} = 1$$

$$p(1) = 0$$

$$p(0) = 1$$

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

if you remove 0 and 1 you're removing the degenerative cases.

$$p \in (0, 1)$$

parameter space: a set of values of the parameter that yield non-degenerative r.v.

Let  $\theta$  denote an unknown parameter

Let  $\vec{\theta}$  denote an unknown parameter discrete

$\Theta$  denote the parameters space.

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(\theta) = \theta^x (1-\theta)^{1-x}$$

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta) = \binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x} - \text{Supp}(X) = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$$

fixed or unknown      unknown      counting successes

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta_2, \theta_1) = \binom{\theta_2}{x} \theta_1^x (1-\theta_1)^{\theta_2-x}$$

## Parametric Model

$$\mathcal{F} := \{p(x; \theta) : \theta \in \Theta\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \dim[\Theta] < \infty.$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Bern}} = \{\theta^x (1-\theta)^{1-x} : \theta \in (0, 1)\}$$

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n; \theta) \stackrel{\text{if independent}}{=} \prod_{i=1}^n P_i(X_i; \theta) \stackrel{\text{if iid}}{=} \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i; \theta)$$

(jmf) joint mass function -or-  
joint density function (jdf)

IF  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\rightarrow}$  independent & identically distributed

In the real world, you observe data eg  $\langle 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0 \rangle$   
We say  $n = 6$  (# of observation)

First assumption: pick a parametric model,  $\mathcal{F}$

Beyond the scope of Math 341. Pretend  $\mathcal{F} = \text{Bernoulli}$  function

infer the value of  $\theta \Rightarrow \text{Raison D'être}$