

# Random Variables. (RV)

Informal definition: RV denotes a value that depends on the result of some random experiment.

Formal definition:  $\Omega$  - sample space (space of all poss. outcomes) of some random exp.

$$X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\omega \quad X(\omega)$$

$\boxed{\text{Ex}}$  We toss a <sup>fair</sup> coin,  $\Omega = \{H, T\}$   $P(H) = \frac{1}{2} = P(T)$

outcomes | H | T |

$X$  - number of heads

$x$	1	0
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

*probability distribution of  $X$*

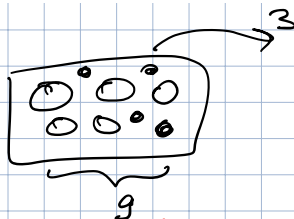
$\boxed{\text{Ex}}$  We toss a fair coin 3 times.  $X$  - number of heads.

$X$	0	1	2	3
Prob.	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

HHH THH  
HTH TTH  
HHT THT  
HTT TTT

$$\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = 1$$

**Problem 1.** Assume that we have a box with 5 white balls and 4 black balls. We take 3 random balls from the box. Let  $X$  be the number of white balls taken. Write probability distribution of  $X$ .



$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

*probability dist.*

$X$	0	1	2	3
prob.	$\frac{4}{84}$	$\frac{30}{84}$	$\frac{40}{84}$	$\frac{10}{84}$

$$P(X=0) = \frac{\binom{4}{3}}{\binom{9}{3}} = \frac{\frac{4!}{3!1!}}{\frac{9!}{3!6!}} = \frac{4}{\frac{7 \cdot 8 \cdot 9 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 3}} = \frac{4}{84}$$

$$P(X=1) = \frac{\binom{5}{1} \cdot \binom{4}{2}}{\binom{9}{3}} = \frac{30}{84}$$

$$P(X=2) = \frac{\binom{5}{2} \cdot \binom{4}{1}}{\binom{9}{3}} = \frac{40}{84}$$

$$P(X=3) = \frac{\binom{5}{3} \cdot \binom{4}{0}}{\binom{9}{3}} = \frac{10}{84}$$



probability mass function  $pmf(x) = P(X=x)$

**Binomial distribution**

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

**Ex** We toss a coin  $n$  times.  $P(H) = p$   $P(T) = 1-p$ .

$X$  - number of heads

$$P(X=k) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot p^k \cdot (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$\underbrace{H H H \dots H}_k \underbrace{T \dots T}_{n-k}$   
 $\underbrace{T H \dots T}_k \underbrace{H \dots H}_{n-k}$

usually we can interpret  $X$  as a number of "successful" outcomes in a series of  $n$  exp.

**Problem 2.** During the transmission of a message each symbol is distorted with probability 0.1. A message consisting of 5 symbols is send.

1. What is the probability that no symbols will be distorted?
2. What is the probability that there will be at least two distorted symbols?
3. What is the probability that there will be more non-distorted symbols than distorted ones?

$\begin{matrix} \square & \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \uparrow & & & & \end{matrix}$

$X$  - number of dist. symb  
 $X \sim \text{Bin}(5, (0,1))$

$$\textcircled{1} P(\text{"FFFFF"}) = (0,9)^5$$

$$p(\text{"success"}) = P(\text{symbol is dist.})$$

$$P(\text{"failure"}) = \overline{P}(\text{symbol is not dist.}) =$$

$$= 1 - 0,1 = 0,9$$

$$\textcircled{2} P(\text{number of dist. symb} \geq 2) =$$

$$= 1 - P(\text{number of dist. symb.} < 2) = 1 - \underbrace{(0,9)^5}_{\text{number of dist.} = 0} - \underbrace{\binom{5}{1} 0,1 (0,9)^4}_{\text{numb of dist} = 1}$$

$$\textcircled{3} P(\# \text{ non-dist.} > \# \text{ dist.}) =$$

$$= P(\# \text{ dist.} \in \{0, 1, 2\}) = P(X \in \{0, 1, 2\}) =$$

$$= (0,9)^5 + \binom{5}{1} (0,9)^4 (0,1)^1 + \binom{5}{2} (0,1)^2 (0,9)^3$$

**Problem 3.** In the evening restaurant accepts only guests who made a reservation beforehand. The owner knows that 10% of people who made a reservation, ultimately don't come. The restaurant has 28 tables and the owner received 30 reservations. Calculate the probability that there will be a problem - the number of clients that made a reservation and came will be greater than the number of tables.

$X$  - number of people who came.

$$P(\text{"success"}) = P(\text{person came}) = 0,9 \quad P(\text{"failure"}) = 0,1$$

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(30, 0,9)$$

$$P(X > 28) = P(X \in \{29, 30\}) = P(X=29) +$$

$$+ P(X=30) = \binom{30}{29} (0,9)^{29} (0,1)^{30-29} + \binom{30}{30} (0,9)^{30} (0,1)^0$$

$$P(X=k) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot p^k \cdot (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$= \binom{30}{29} (0,9)^{29} (0,1)^1 +$$

$$+ (0,9)^{30}$$

## Expectation

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p_i = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i P(X=x_i)$$

$x$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$\dots$	$x_n$
prob	$p_1$	$p_2$	$\dots$	$p_n$

$$= x_1 p_1 + x_2 p_2 + \dots + x_n p_n$$

**Problem 4.** Complete the table if we know that  $EX = 0$

$X$	-1	0	<u>2</u> $a$	4
$P$	0,6	$p$	0,1	0,1

$$0,6 + p + 0,1 + 0,1 = 1.$$

$$p = 1 - 0,8 = 0,2.$$

$$EX = (-1) \cdot 0,6 + 0 \cdot 0,2 + a \cdot 0,1 + 4 \cdot 0,1 = 0$$

$$0,1a = 0,6 - 0,4 = 0,2$$

$$a = 2$$

**Problem 5.** We toss 2 dice independently. Let  $X$  be the sum of points on them. Find probability distribution of  $X$  and  $EX$ .

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

36 outcomes

X	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
prob	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{3}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{3}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$

$$EX = \frac{2 + 6 + 12 + 20 + 30 + 42 + 40 + 36 + 30 + 22 + 12}{36}$$

$$= 7$$

**Variance**  $Var(X) = E((X - EX)^2)$

$$\sigma(X) = \sqrt{Var(X)} \text{ standard deviation.}$$

**EX**

X	-1	0	1	2
P	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,4

$$EX = (-1) \cdot 0,1 + 0 \cdot 0,2 + 1 \cdot 0,3 + 2 \cdot 0,4 = 1$$

$X - EX$	-2	-1	0	1
prob	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,4

$(X - EX)^2$	4	1	0	1
Prob	0,1	0,2 + 0,4	0,3	0,1

$$Var(X) = E((X - EX)^2) = 0 \cdot 0,3 + 1 \cdot 0,6 + 4 \cdot 0,1 = 1$$

**Problem 6.** Complete the table if  $EX = 0$ ,  $Var(X) = 5,4$ .

X	-2	-1	0	a	4
P	0,4	0,2	p <sub>1</sub>	0,1	p <sub>2</sub>

$$(1) \quad 0,4 + 0,2 + p_1 + 0,1 + p_2 = 1$$

$$p_1 + p_2 = 0,3$$

$$(2) \quad EX = (-2) \cdot 0,4 + (-1) \cdot 0,2 + 0 \cdot p_1 + a \cdot 0,1 + 4p_2 = 0$$

$$-0,8 - 0,2 + \underline{a} \cdot 0,1 + 4p_2 = 0$$

$$0,1 \cdot a = 1 - 4p_2 \quad (4p_2 = 1 - 0,1a)$$

$$(3) \quad \text{Var}(X) = \underline{E((X - \underset{0}{EX})^2)} = \underline{E(X^2)} =$$

$X^2$	0	1	4	16	$a^2$
$p$	$p_1$	0,2	0,4	$p_2$	0,1

$$= 0,2 + 4 \cdot 0,4 + \underset{4 \cdot 4 p_2}{16 p_2} + a^2 \cdot 0,1 = 5,4$$

$$a^2 - 4a + 4 = 0 \quad | a = 2$$

$$\text{From (2)} \quad 4p_2 = 1 - 0,2 = 0,8 \quad [p_2 = 0,2]$$

$$\text{From (1)} \quad [p_1] = 0,3 - 0,2 = [0,1]$$

(didn't solve at the seminar, try to solve yourself!)

**Problem 7.** In a lottery you choose a three-digit number from 000 to 999. If you guess one digit (for example, the winning number is 366 and your number is 436, then you guessed only the right digit) – you get 5 dollars. If you guessed two digits you get 50 dollars, if you guessed all three digits you get 500 dollars. Let  $X$  be a random variable - your payoff in the lottery. Construct a pmf for  $X$  and write it in tabular form. Calculate an expected payoff and answer the question: how much should a lottery ticket cost?

000 999 [each digit can be 0,1,2,...,9]  
 Probability to guess each digit is 0,1  
 [this is "success"]  
 Probability of failure =  $1 - 0,1 = 0,9$

$Y$  - number of correct digits,  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(3; 0,1)$

$Y$	0	1	2	3
$P$	$(0,9)^3$ 0,729	$\binom{3}{1}(0,9)^2(0,1)$ = 0,243	$\binom{3}{2}(0,9)(0,1)^2$ = 0,027	$(0,1)^3$ 0,001
$X$	0	5	50	500

our payoff  
 (\$)

$$E(X) = 0 + 5 \cdot 0,243 + 50 \cdot 0,027 + 500 \cdot 0,001 = 3,065$$

$\Rightarrow$  a lottery ticket should  
 cost  $> 3,065$  \$.