

Random variable

- an assignment of a value (number) to every possible outcome
- Mathematically: A function from the SS Ω to the real number

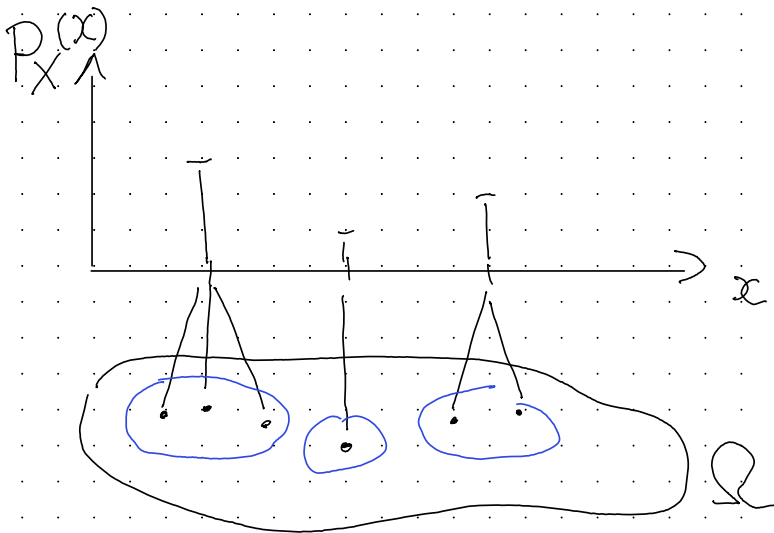
$RV \rightarrow$ discrete
 \rightarrow continuous

if we round height \Rightarrow discrete

if measure in \mathbb{R}^+ \Rightarrow continuous

RV X (function) $\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$
numerical value $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$

(PMF) - probability mass function



$$P_X(x) = P(\{X=x\}) = P(\omega \in \Omega \text{ s.t. } X(\omega)=x)$$

\uparrow
 RV

$$P_X(x) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_x P_X(x) = 1$$

from additivity and normalization axioms

Example

H

$$X = 1$$

T H

$$X = 2$$

TT...T H
k-1

$$X = k$$

X - number of
coin tosses
until first
head

$$P_X = (1-p)^{k-1} \cdot p$$

Bernoulli Random Variable

Bernoulli RV takes values $(1, 0)$

$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if a head} \\ 0 & \text{if a tail} \end{cases}$$

Its PMF is

$$P_X(k) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } k=1 \\ 1-p & \text{if } k=0 \end{cases}$$

Binomial PMF

- X : number of heads in n independent coin tosses
- $P(H) = p$
- let $n = 4$

$$P_X(2) = P(HHTT) + P(HTHT) + P(HTTH) + P(THTH) + P(THTT) + P(TTTH)$$

$$\text{combinations } \binom{4}{2} = \frac{4!}{2! \cdot 2!} = \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2} = 6$$

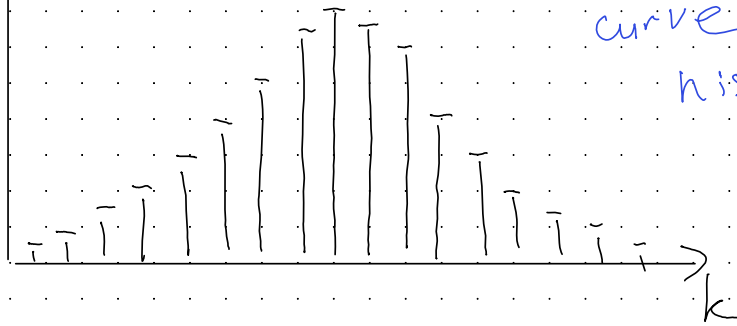
$$= \binom{4}{2} p^2 (1-p)^2$$

General:

$$P_X(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

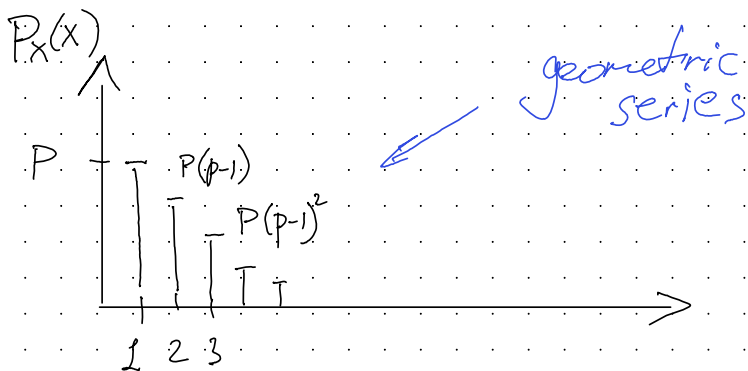
$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} = 1 \quad \sim \text{normalization property}$$

$P_X(k)$



bell
curve
is big

Geometric RV



Geometric random v. is number X of tosses needed for a head to come up for the first time

$$P_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1} p$$

↑ head

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_X(k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1-p)^{k-1} p = p \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1-p)^k = p \frac{1}{1-(1-p)} = 1$$

tosses if just an insight, we can interpret geometric RV as repeated independent trials until success

pass exam 50% $p=0.5$

$$P_X(1) = 0.5 \cdot 0.5$$
$$P_X(3) = 0.5^2 \cdot 0.5$$

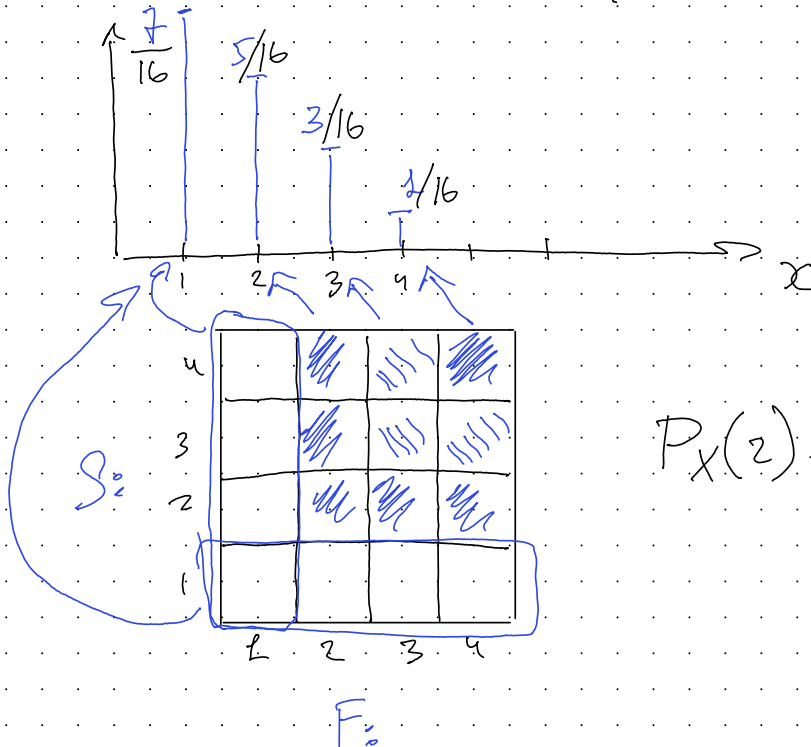
Example 2

Experiment two independent rolls
tetrahedral die

F : outcome of first throw
 S : outcome of second throw

X : $\min(F, S)$

calculate PMF of X

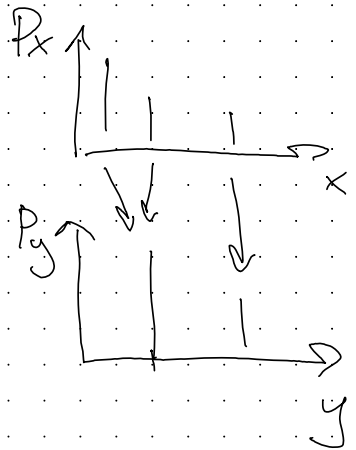


$$P_X(2) = \frac{5}{16}$$

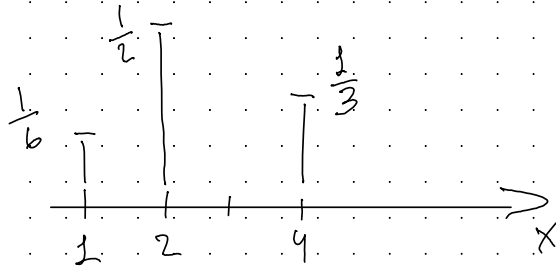
Poisson RV

Function of Random var.

$$P_y(y) = \sum_{\{x | g(x)=y\}} P_x(x)$$



Expected value of RV



Play the game multiple times.
Average pay off if we think of
probability as frequency

$$\frac{1}{6} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 4 = 2.5$$

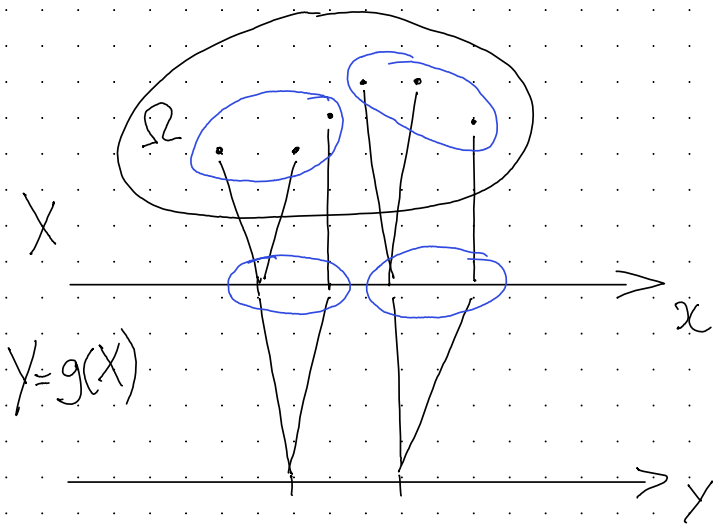
* Expectation is summary of all
PMF values. Weighted (in proportion of
probability) average of the possible
values of X

Expected value of RV X (also mean or expectation)

$$E[X] = \sum_x x P_X(x)$$

Interpretations:

- Center of gravity of PMF
- Average in large number of repetitions of the experiment



$$E[Y] = \sum_y y \cdot P_Y(y)$$

$$E[Y] = \sum_x g(x) P_X(x) \quad (\text{easy})$$

Caution

in general: $E[g(x)] \neq g(E[x])$

caution

if \bar{g} is linear

Properties: if α, β are constants

$$E[\alpha] = \alpha$$

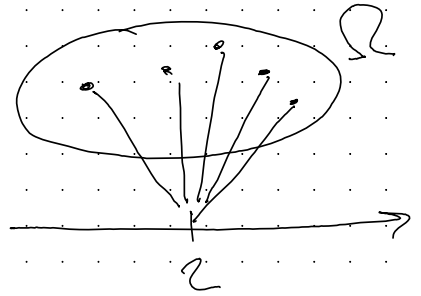
$$E[2] = 2$$

$$E[\alpha X] = \alpha E[X]$$

example

measure student
instead of (in)

in car



The average value
in experiment
that always gives
2 is 2

$$E[\alpha X + \beta] = E[\alpha X] + \beta = \alpha E[X] + \beta$$

linearity

How far away from mean? ^{number}

$$E[X - E[X]] = E[X] - E[E[X]] =$$

$= E[X] - E[X] = 0$
on average,
signed distance
from mean is
zero.

Variance
second moment of RV

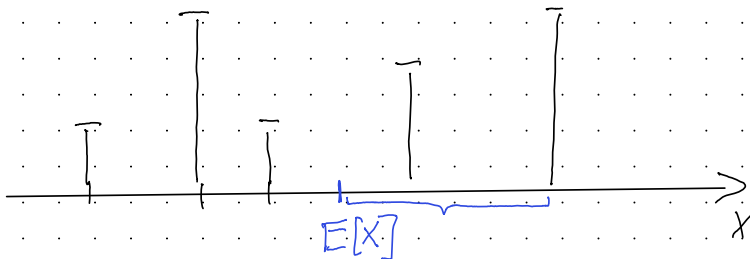
$$E[X^2] = \sum_x x^2 P_X(x)$$

Hence we have
variance

$$\text{var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2] = \sum_x (x - E[X])^2 P_X(x) =$$

$$= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$$

the problem with
units



variance is measure of dispersion
of X around its mean.

Properties

$$\text{var}(X) \geq 0$$

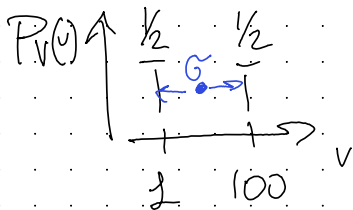
$$\text{var}(\alpha X + \beta) = \alpha^2 \text{var}(X)$$

Standard deviation

$$\sigma(X) = \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$$

Example:

traverse 200 mile distance at constant but random speed V



$$E[V] = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 100 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 50,5$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(V) &= E[V^2] - E[V]^2 = \left(2^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 100^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \right) - (50,5)^2 = \\ &= 5000,5 - 2550,25 = 2450,25 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_V = \sqrt{2450.25} \approx 50$$

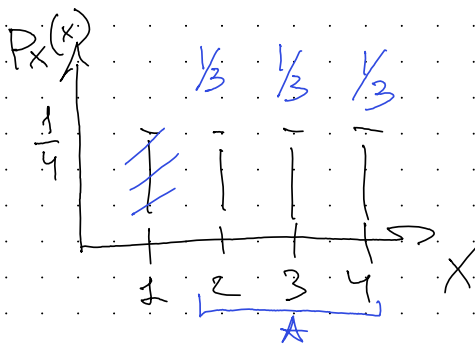
$$T = t(V) = \frac{200}{V}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[T] &= E[t(V)] = \sum_v t(v) P_V(v) = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} 200 - \frac{1}{2} 2 = 101 \end{aligned}$$

$$E[TV] = 200 \neq E[T] \cdot E[V]$$

$$E[200/V] = E[T] \neq 200/E[V]$$

Conditional PMF and expectation



$$P_{X|A}(x) = P(X=x|A)$$

↑
Event happened

* you can argue by gravity $E[XA] = 3$

Let $A = X \geq 2$

$$P_{X|A}(x) = \frac{1}{3} \quad x=2,3,4$$

$$E[X|A] = \sum_x x P_{X|A}(x)$$

$$E[g(x)|A] = \sum_x g(x) P_{X|A}(x)$$

Geometric PMF

first person

Y

count
until Head
appears

TT...TH

$$P_Y(k) = (1-p)^{k-1} \cdot p$$

$k \geq 0$

second person

X

TT TT...TH

x

$X > 2$ (condition)

Memoryless property: Given that $X \geq 2$
the r.v. $X-2$ has same
geometric PMF

Conditional PMF

$$P_{X|A}(x) = P(X=x|A)$$

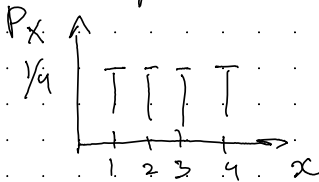
assume
 $P(A) > 0$

Conditional PMF like ordinary PMF \Rightarrow

$$\sum_x P_{X|A}(x) = 1$$

$$E[X|A] = \sum_x x P_{X|A}(x)$$

Example



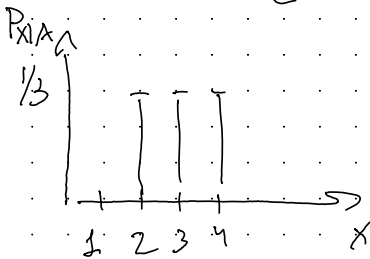
$$E[X] = 2.5$$

! you can apply
formula for uniform
distribution from
lecture

$$\text{var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 =$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}(1+4+9+16) - \frac{25}{4} =$$
$$= \frac{30-25}{4} = \frac{5}{4}$$

Let $A = \{X \geq 2\}$



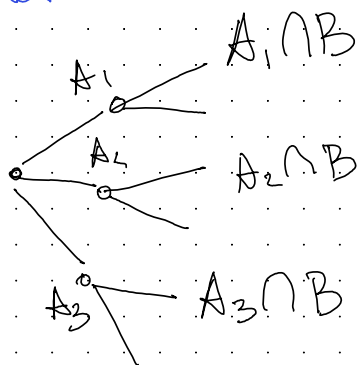
$$E[X|A] = 3$$

$$\text{var}(X|A) = E[X^2|A] - (E[X|A])^2 =$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}(4+9+16) - 9 = \frac{29}{3} - \frac{27}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Total expectation theorem

Reminder of
total prob. theorem



$$P(B) = P(A_1)P(B|A_1) + \dots + P(A_n)P(B|A_n)$$

Let's bring RV to the picture:

$B = \{X=x\}$ total probability theorem
we replaced B to $\{X=x\}$ translated to PMF notation

$$P_X(x) = P(A_1)P_{X|A_1}(x) + \dots + P(A_n)P_{X|A_n}(x)$$

true for all $x \Rightarrow$

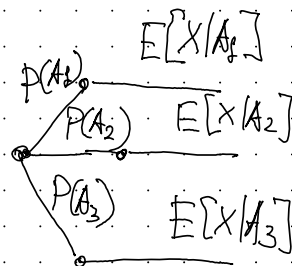
↑ conditional
pmfs

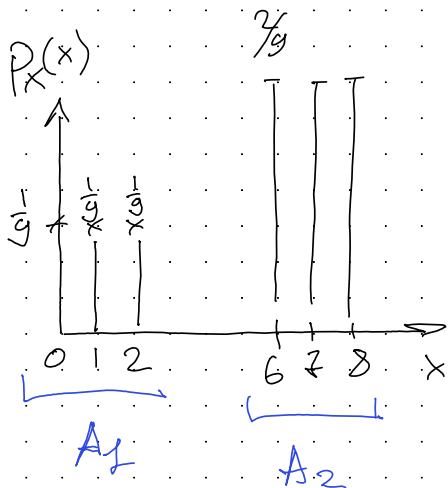
$$\sum_x x P_X(x) = P(A_1) \sum_x x P_{X|A_1}(x) + \dots +$$

$\underbrace{\sum_x x P_{X|A_1}(x)}_{E[X|A_1]}$

$\underbrace{\sum_x x P_X(x)}_{E[X]}$

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{P(A_i) E[X|A_i]}_{\text{weighted linear combination}}$$





$$P(A_1) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(A_2) = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$E[X|A_1] = 1$$

* by middle point

$$E[X|A_2] = 7$$

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 + \frac{2}{3} \cdot 7$$

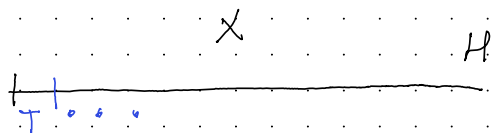
Geometric example

Example

X : number of indep. coin tosses until first Head $P(H) = p$

$$P_X(x) = (1-p)^{x-1} p \quad x = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$$

Introduce memorylessness property. Past coin tosses doesn't affect future tosses



Remaining number of tosses $X-1$

$x > 1$ \rightarrow geometric with param p $X-1$

$$P_{X-1|X>1}(k) = P(X-1=3|X>1) = P(T_2 T_3 H_4 | T_1) = P(T_2 T_3 H_4) = (1-p)^2 p = P_X(3)$$

Conditioned on $X > n$, $X - n$ is geometric with parameter p

$$P_{X-1|X>1}(k) = P_X(k) = P_{X-n|X>n}(k)$$

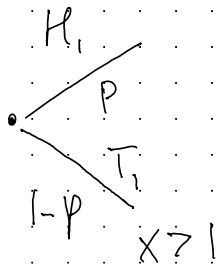
$$E[X] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k P_X(k) = \sum k (1-p)^{k-1} p$$

$$A_1 = \{X=1\} \quad A_2 = \{X>1\} \quad (1-p)$$

$$E[X] = P(A_1)E[X|A_1] + P(A_2)E[X|A_2]$$

Expected value of remaining coin flips given first was H_1 \rightarrow if known $X=1$ then X become a number \rightarrow first toss \rightarrow num of remaining tosses \rightarrow That's $E[X]$

$$E[X|X>1] = E[X-1|X-1>0] + 1$$



$$E[X] = p + (1-p)(E[X] + 1)$$

$$E[X] = \cancel{p} + E[X](1-p) + 1 - \cancel{p}$$

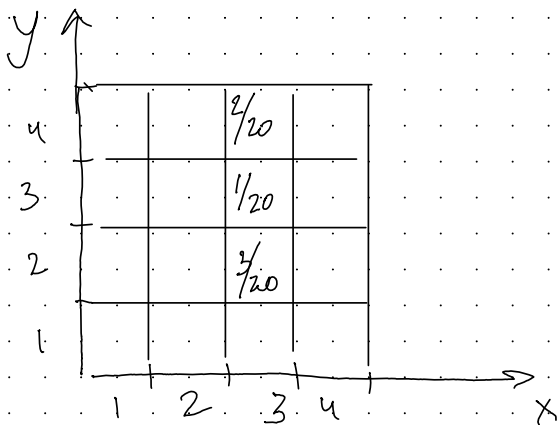
$$E[X](1 - (1-p)) = 1$$

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{p}$$

Joint PMFs

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X=x \text{ and } Y=y)$$

association between two R.V



$$\bullet \sum_x \sum_y P_{X,Y}(x,y) = 1$$

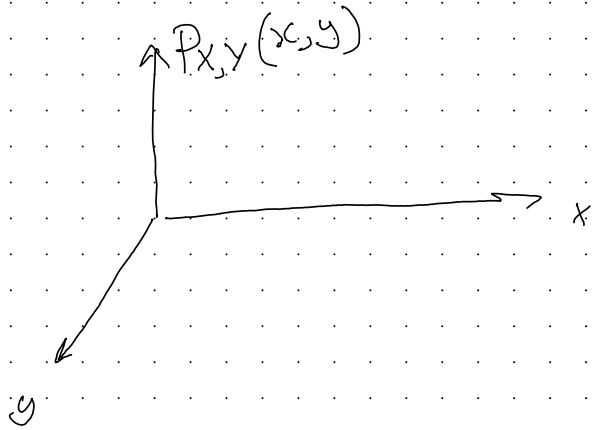
$$\bullet P_X(x) = \sum_y P_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

$$\bullet P_{X|Y}(x|y) = P(X=x|Y=y) = \frac{P_{X,Y}(x,y)}{P_Y(y)}$$

Example

transmitter sending messages
 X - travel time y : message length

$$P_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 5/6 & \text{if } y = 10^2 \\ 1/6 & \text{if } y = 10^4 \end{cases}$$



$$P_X(x) = \sum_y P_{X,Y}(x,y) = \sum_y P_Y(y) P_{X|Y}(x,y)$$

Lecture 7 Conclude Ch 2

$$P_X(x) = P(X=x) \quad \text{Marginal}$$

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X=x, Y=y) \quad \text{joint}$$

$$P_{X|Y}(x|y)$$

$$P_X(x) = \sum_y P_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_X(x) P_{Y|X}(y|x)$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B|A) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{From} \\ \text{multiplication} \\ \text{rule} \end{array}$$

What happens if we have more R.V.s

$$P_X(x) = \sum_z \sum_y P_{X,Y,Z}(x,y,z)$$

Multiplication rule for 3 RV

$$P_{xyz}(x, y, z) = P_x(x) P_{y|x}(y|x) P_{z|x,y}(z|x, y)$$

Independence

RV x, y, z are independent \Leftrightarrow

$$P_{x,y,z}(x, y, z) = P_x(x) \cdot P_y(y) \cdot P_z(z)$$

$$\forall x, y, z \in X, Y, Z$$

$$P_{x|y}(x|y) = P_x(x)$$

this definition
make sense when
conditional var.
well defined

$$P_y(y) > 0$$

Expectation

shortcut for expectation

$$E[g(x, y)] = \sum_x \sum_y g(x, y) P_{X, Y}(x, y)$$

Exceptions

linearity

$$E[\alpha X + \beta] = \alpha E[X] + \beta$$

$$E[X + Y + Z] = E[X] + E[Y] + E[Z]$$

• if X, Y independent

$$\begin{aligned} E[XY] &= \sum_x \sum_y xy P_{X, Y}(x, y) \\ &= E[X] E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

$$E[g(x) h(y)] = E[g(x)] \cdot E[h(y)]$$

Variance

$$\bullet E[(aX - E[aX])^2] = \text{var}(aX) = a^2 \text{var}(X)$$

$$\bullet \text{var}(X + a) = \text{var}(X)$$

$$\text{Let } Z = X + Y$$

$$\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y)$$

Binomial mean and variance

$X = \#$ of success in n indep. trials

$$E[X] = \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

messy \rightarrow messy and difficult to calc

Let's use indicator RV

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if success in trial } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

\uparrow
ith flip

$$\sum_i X_i = X$$

$$E[X_i] = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1-p) = p$$

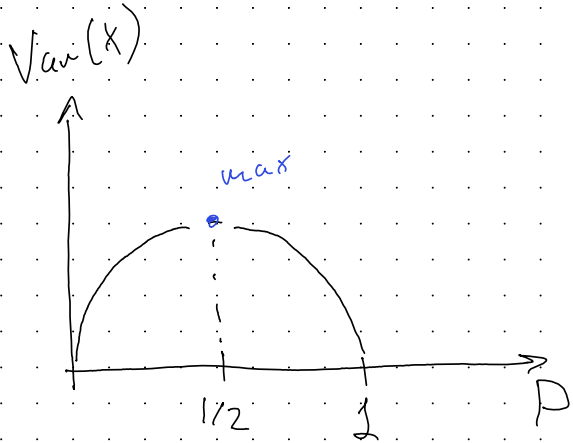
$$E[X] = n \cdot p$$

$$\text{var}(X_i) = (1-p)^2 p + (0-p)^2 (1-p)$$

$$E[X_i^2] - E[X_i]^2 = p - p^2 = p(1-p)$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = n p (1-p)$$

* for indep of
RV variance
of sum is
sum of var-es



coin flips are
more uncertain
when coin is
fair

Example The hat problem

n people throw their hats in
a box and then pick one
at random

X - number of people who get
their own hat

Find $E[X]$

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \text{ person selects own letter} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$$

$$P(X_i = 1) = 1/n$$

$$E[X_i] = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} + 0 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{n}$$

RVs are dependent but

Expectations are linear disregard to dependence of events \Rightarrow

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i] = 1$$

Calculating variance

Sum of variances are not the same to variance of RV for dependent events (what about independent events?)

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = E[X^2] - 1$$

$$X^2 = \left(\sum_i X_i \right)^2 \quad \underbrace{n^2 - n \text{ terms}}$$

$$X^2 = \sum_i X_i^2 + \sum_{i,j \atop i \neq j} X_i X_j$$

$$E[X_i^2] = E[X_i^2] = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 X_2 = 1) &= P(X_1 = 1) P(X_2 = 1 | X_1 = 1) = \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{n-1} = E[X_i X_j]_{i \neq j} \end{aligned}$$

$$E[X^2] = n \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{n-1} \cdot (n^2 - n) = 2$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = 2 - 1 = 1$$

