

Section 3.2.

Expectation.

↳ expected value, mean (very rarely: average)

Inspiration: N tickets

N_1 w/ payoff x_1

N_2 w/ payoff x_2

:

N_m w/ payoff x_m

Money in → Lottery → Money Out

$N \cdot P$

↑
price of
one ticket

=====

$N_1 \cdot x_1 + N_2 \cdot x_2 + \dots + N_m \cdot x_m$

↑
if all is "fair"
("break-even price")

$$P = \left(\frac{N_1}{N} \right) x_1 + \left(\frac{N_2}{N} \right) x_2 + \dots + \left(\frac{N_m}{N} \right) \cdot x_m$$

for every $i=1..m$, p_i ... the probability of getting a ticket w/ payoff x_i (if all tickets are equally likely)

$$P = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i \cdot x_i$$

... a weighted average of payoffs

Note: We already talked about the "mean" of the binomial distribution $\text{Binomial}(n, p)$.
We had

$$\mu = np$$

Def'n. The mean (expectation, expected value) of a probability distribution $P(x)$ over a finite set Ω of values x is

$$\mu = \sum_{\text{all } x} P(x) \cdot x$$

Def'n. Let X be a random variable on a finite Ω .

The expectation (expected value, mean) of X is denoted by $E[X]$ and it is defined as

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i p_X(x_i)$$

where $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ is the support of X

and p_X is the pmf of X .

Addition Rules for Expectation.

Let X and Y be r.v.s on the same Ω , and let k be any constant (a real number).

Then,

- $E[k \cdot X] = k \cdot E[X]$ homogeneity
- $E[X + k] = E[X] + k$ translativity
- $E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$ additivity

$$E[k \cdot X + Y] = k \cdot E[X] + E[Y] \quad \text{linearity}$$

More generally, for random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n on the same Ω and constants k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n , we have

$$E[k_1 X_1 + k_2 X_2 + \dots + k_n X_n] = k_1 E[X_1] + k_2 E[X_2] + \dots + k_n E[X_n].$$

Example. Indicator Random Variables.

A... an event in Ω ($A \subseteq \Omega$)

Define: $I_A(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega \in A \\ 0 & \text{if } \omega \notin A \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } A \text{ happened} \\ 0 & \text{if } A \text{ did not happen} \end{cases}$

$$\mathbb{E}[I_A] = ?$$

1° $\text{Support}(I_A) = \{0, 1\}$

2° pmf = ? $p_{I_A}(0) = \mathbb{P}[A^c]$, $p_{I_A}(1) = \mathbb{P}[A]$

3° Use the def'n of \mathbb{E} :

$$\mathbb{E}[I_A] = 0 \cdot \mathbb{P}[A^c] + 1 \cdot \mathbb{P}[A]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[I_A] = \mathbb{P}[A]$$

Example.

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

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = 0 \cdot \underbrace{(1-p)}_q + 1 \cdot p = p$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = p$$

Example.

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

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = ?$$

Method I. By def'n

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

Method II. X... # of successes in i.i.d. Bernoulli trials

Introduce n indicator r.v.s (one for each trial)

$$j = 1 \dots n : I_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j^{\text{th}} \text{ trial success} \\ 0 & \text{if } j^{\text{th}} \text{ trial is failure} \end{cases}$$

$$X = I_1 + I_2 + \dots + I_n$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[I_1 + I_2 + \dots + I_n] \quad \text{linearity of } \mathbb{E}$$

$$= \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[I_1]}_{P} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[I_2]}_{P} + \dots + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[I_n]}_{P}$$

$$= n \cdot p$$

□

Whenever two r.v.s are identically dist'n, they have the same expectation.

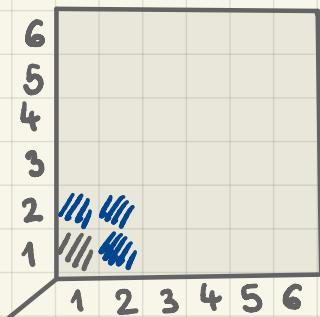
Example. We toss two dice independently.

Let X denote the maximum outcome on the two dice.
What is the expectation of X ?

→: $\text{Support}(X) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

Find the pmf $p_X(i)$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$

fix i : $p_X(i) = \text{Pr}[X=i]$



$$p_X(1) = \frac{1}{36}$$

$$p_X(2) = \frac{3}{36}$$

⋮

max equal to i

both dice are i

of element. outcomes

1

+

$$\frac{(i-1)}{+}$$

$$\frac{(i-1)}{+}$$

$$2i-1$$

one is i ,
the other one
is smaller

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^6 i \cdot p_X(i) = \sum_{i=1}^6 i \cdot \frac{2i-1}{36} = \dots = \frac{161}{36}$$

□