





Session 6 –Introduction to Statistics





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### **Statistics**



- > Statistics is the science of collecting, organizing, presenting, analyzing, and interpreting data to help in making more effective decisions.
- > Statistical Analysis is implemented to manipulate, summarize and investigate data, so that useful decision-making information results are obtained.

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### Types of Statistics



- > Descriptive Statistics is a method of organizing, summarizing, and presenting data in an informative way.
- ➤ Inferential Statistics is a method which is used in determining something about a population on the basis of a sample.
  - Population The entire set of individuals or objects of interest or the measurements obtained from all individuals or objects of interest.
  - Sample –A portion, or part, of the population of interest.

### Introduction to Basic Terms



- > Population A collection/ set of individuals/ objects/ events whose properties are to be analyzed. There are two kinds:
  - Finite
  - Infinite
- ➤ Sample A population subset.

### Introduction to Basic Terms



- ➤ Variable A characteristic about each individual element of a population/sample.
- ➤ Data (singular) A value of the associated variable with one element of a population/ sample. This value may be a number, a word, or a symbol.
- ➤ Data (plural) A set of values collected for the variable from each of the elements belonging to the sample.
- > Experiment A planned activity whose results yield a set of data.
- ➤ Parameter A numerical value which summarizes the entire population data.
- > Statistics A numerical value which summarizes the sample data.

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#### Two Kinds of Variables



Qualitative, or Attribute, or Categorical, Variable

> A variable that categorizes or describes a population element.

Note: Arithmetic operations such as addition and averaging, are not meaningful for data resulting from a qualitative variable.

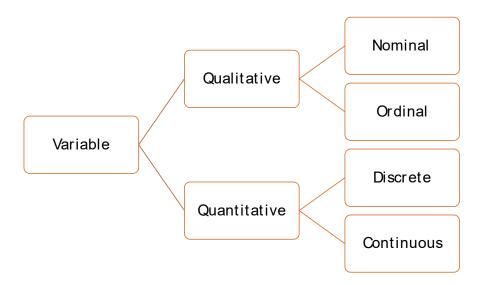
Quantitative, or Numerical, Variable

> A variable that quantifies a population element.

Note: Arithmetic operations such as addition and averaging, are meaningful for data resulting from a quantitative variable.

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#### Two Kinds of Variables



- > Nominal Variable A qualitative variable that categorizes (or describes, or names) a population element.
- > Ordinal Variable A qualitative variable that incorporates an ordered position or ranking.
- ➤ Discrete Variable A quantitative variable that can assume a countable number of values.
  - This can assume values corresponding to the isolated points along a line interval.
  - There is a gap between any two values
- ➤ Continuous Variable A quantitative variable that can assume an uncountable number of values.
  - This can assume any value along a line interval
  - Including every possible value between any two values

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### The Mean



➤ Let x1, x2, x3,..., xn be the realized values of a random variable 'X', from a sample of size 'n'.

The sample arithmetic mean is defined as:

$$\overline{x} = \frac{1}{n} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\Sigma}^{n}}_{i=1} x_{i}$$

### Example



#### Example

➤ The systolic blood pressure of seven middle aged men were as follows:

151, 124, 132, 170, 146, 124 and 113.

The Mean is 
$$\overline{x} = \frac{\left(151 + 124 + 132 + 170 + 146 + 124 + 113\right)}{7}$$

$$= 137.14$$

## Median and Mode



- ➤ The median for the sample data arranged in an increasing order is defined as:
  - i. If "n" is an odd number Middle value
  - ii. If "n" is an even number Midway between the two middle values
- ➤ The mode is the most commonly occurring value.

### Median and Mode



Example - n is odd

The re-ordered systolic blood pressure data seen earlier are:

113, 124, 124, 132, 146, 151, and 170.

- ➤ The Median is the middle value of the ordered data, i.e. 132.
- ➤ Two individuals have systolic blood pressure = 124 mm Hg, so the Mode is 124.

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### Median and Mode



Example -n is even

Sx men with high cholesterol participated in a study to investigate the effects of diet on cholesterol level. At the beginning of the study, their cholesterol levels (mg/ dL) were as follows:

366, 327, 274, 292, 274 and 230

Rearrange the data in numerical order as follows:

230, 274, 274, 292, 327 and 366.

- ➤ The Median is half way between the middle two readings, i.e. (274+292) / 2 = 283.
- ➤ The mode between the two men having the same cholesterol level = 274.

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#### Mean Vs. Median



- ➤ If the histogram of the data is right-skewed then large sample values tend to inflate the mean.
- ➤ If the distribution is skewed then the median is not influenced by large sample values and is a better measure of centrality.

Note - If mean = median = mode then the data are said to be symmetrical.

For example,

- ➤ In the CK measurement study, the sample mean = 98.28.
- ➤ The median = 94.5, i.e. mean is larger than median indicating that mean is inflated by two large data values 201 and 203.

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### Measures of Dispersion



- ➤ The concept Measures of Dispersion characterize how to spread out the distribution, i.e., how variable the data are.
- > The commonly used dispersion measures include:
  - Range
  - Variance and Standard Deviation

#### Range



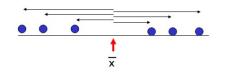
- > The Range is the difference between the largest and the smallest observations in the sample.
- > For example, the minimum and maximum blood pressure is 113 and 170 respectively. Hence the range is 57 mmHg
  - Easy to calculate;
  - Implemented for both "best" or "worst" case scenarios
  - Too sensitive for extreme values

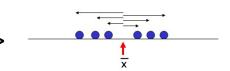
### Sample Variance



➤ The sample variance, s2, is the arithmetic mean of the squared deviations from the sample mean:

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2}{n-1}$$





### Standard Deviation



➤ The sample standard deviation (s) is the square-root of the variance.

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2}{n-1}}$$

➤ The sample standard deviation has an advantage of being in the same units as the original variable (x).

$$\mu = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i}{N} \qquad \text{Vs.} \qquad \overline{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i}{n}$$

Population Mean

Sample Mean



	Population	Sample
Size	Z	n
Mean		

	Population	Sample
Size	N	n
Mean		
Variance		

### Population Vs. Sample



➤ The variance of a population is:

Population Mean  $\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}$  Population Size

➤ The variance of a sample is:

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2}{n-1}$$

Note! the denominator is sample size (n) minus one!

### Population Vs. Sample



➤ The square root of the variance is termed as the Standard Deviation, thus:

- The population Standard Deviation =  $\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$
- The Sample Standard deviation =  $s = \sqrt{s^2}$

### Chebysheff's Theorem



- > A more general interpretation of the standard deviation is derived from Chebysheff's Theorem, which applies to all shapes of histograms (except bell shaped).
- > The proportion of observations in any sample that lie within k standard deviations of the mean is at least:

$$1 - \frac{1}{k^2}$$
 for  $k > 1$ 

For k=2 (say), the theorem states that at least 3/4 of all observations lie within 2 standard deviations of the mean. This is a "lower bound" compared to Empirical Rule's approximation (95%).

## Probability



Set operations

- ➤ Union (A U B)
- ➤ Intersection (A B)

Venn diagrams

> Basic operations on Venn diagrams

Basic probability axioms

$$P(S) = 1$$

$$\rightarrow$$
 P(A) >= 0 for all A S

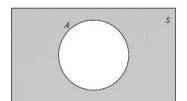
$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B)$$

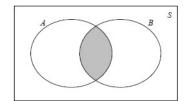
Conditional probability

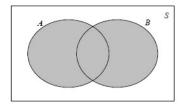
$$P(A|B) = P(A|B)/P(B)$$

Bayes theorem

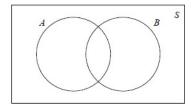








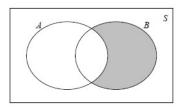
For the Venn diagram below, use shading to identify the following regions:



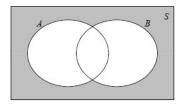
- (i)  $A' \cap B$
- (ii)  $A' \cap B'$
- (iii)  $(A \cap B)'$
- (iv)  $(A \cup B)'$



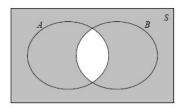
(i)  $A' \cap B$  is everything not in set A and in set B:



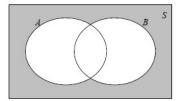
(ii)  $A' \cap B'$  is everything not in set A and not in set B:



(iii)  $(A \cap B)'$  is everything not in set A and set B (ie everything outside of the intersection of A and B).



(iv)  $(A \cup B)'$  is everything not in set A or set B (ie everything outside of the union of A and B).



# **Probability Fundamentals**



- > Strength of belief
- > A number between 0 and1 that expresses an opinion about the likelihood of an event
- > Probability of an event that is certain to occur is 1
- ➤ Probability of an event that is certain to NOT occur is 0

# Summation Principle



Probability that an event will occur plus probability that it will not occur equals 1

Probability of all possible outcomes of a chance event is always equal to 1

- ightharpoonup Blood type: What is p[AB] given p[O]=0.46, p[A]=.40, and p[B]=.10?
- > Fraternal triplets: What is the probability of at least one boy and one girl?

### 3.a. Probability



- > Probability is a numerical way of describing how likely something is to happen.
- > One of the fundamental methods of calculating probability is by using set theory.
- > A set is defined as a collection of objects and each individual object is called an element of that set.
- > Example from number of credit cards data, the distinct number of credit cards owned form a set

```
# Cards = {0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}
```

> Numbers present on a dice form a set:

Dice = 
$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

The sample space (S) is the set of all possible outcomes that might be observed for an event/experiment.

- ➤ If each of the elements in the sample space are equally likely, then we can define the probability of event A as P(A) = (# elements in A)/ (# elements in sample space)
  - e.g. P(# Cards = 1) = (# of customers having 1 card)/ (Total number of customers) = 100/1000 = 0.10 = 10%
  - e.g. Probability of rolling an even number on a dice

```
Sample space (S) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}
```

Event  $(A) = \{2, 3, 4\}$ 

$$P(A) = 3/6 = 0.5 = 50\%$$

Why is it important from analytics perspective?

- > What we do: analyze historical data to find pattern under assumption that past is a reflection of future.
- > By means of probability theory, predict the future using historical patterns.

## 3.a. Probability



#### Find the probability of rolling an even number on an ordinary dice

Solution

We have a sample space of  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ .

Defining "throwing an even number" as event A, we have  $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$ .

So the probability of throwing an even number is given by:

P(A) = [number of elements in A]/[number of elements in S] = 3/6 = 0.5



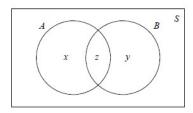
One card is picked from an ordinary pack of 52 playing cards. What is the probability of obtaining:

- (i) a diamond
- (ii) an ace
- (iii) the ace of diamonds
- (iv) a jack, queen or king.



$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

On a Venn diagram we have:



It can be seen that P(A) = x + z, and P(B) = y + z

$$P(A \cup B)$$
 can also be expressed as  $P(A' \cap B) + P(A \cap B') + P(A \cap B)$   
=  $x + y + z$   
=  $(x + z) + (y + z) - z$   
=  $P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$ 

# Conditional Probability



$$P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A \mid B)$$

$$P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A \cap B) + P(A' \cap B)}$$

A and B are independent if  $P(A) = P(A \mid B) = P(A \mid B')$ 

Given that:

$$P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Then if A and B are independent:

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$

# Independence



### Example

Two dice are thrown. Find the probability of rolling a 5 on both dice.

### Solution

$$A = \{\text{roll a 5 on the 1st dice}\} \implies P(A) = \frac{1}{6}$$
  
 $B = \{\text{roll a 5 on the 2nd dice}\} \implies P(B) = \frac{1}{6}$ 

Since these events are independent:

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) = \frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{36}$$

# Conditional Probability Q



Consider our previous example of picking a card from an ordinary pack of cards:

$$A = \{ pick \text{ a spade} \}$$
  $B = \{ pick \text{ an } 8 \}$ 

Calculate the probability of picking a spade given that we have picked an 8, ie calculate  $P(A \mid B)$ .

# Conditional Probability Sol

### Solution

We obtain the same answer as before - but our calculation is much simpler:

$$A \cap B = \{8 \text{ of spades}\}$$
  $\Rightarrow$   $P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{52}$   
 $B = \{\text{pick an } 8\}$   $\Rightarrow$   $P(B) = \frac{4}{52}$   
 $\Rightarrow$   $P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{\frac{1}{52}}{\frac{4}{52}} = \frac{1}{4}$ 

### **Bayes Theorem**

Most common form:

$$P(F \mid E) = \frac{P(E \mid F)P(F)}{P(E)}$$

Expanded form (using law of total probability):

$$P(F \mid E) = \frac{P(E \mid F)P(F)}{P(E \mid F)P(F) + P(E \mid F^c)P(F^c)}$$

Proof:

$$P(F \mid E) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(E)} = \frac{P(E \mid F)P(F)}{P(E)}$$

```
Suppose an HIV test is 98% effective in detecting HIV, i.e., its "false negative" rate = 2%. Suppose furthermore, the test's "false positive" rate = 1%.

0.5% of population has HIV

Let E = you test positive for HIV

Let F = you actually have HIV

What is P(F|E)?
```

```
Suppose an HIV test is 98% effective in detecting HIV, i.e., its "false negative" rate = 2%. Suppose furthermore, the test's "false positive" rate = 1%.

0.5% of population has HIV

Let E = you test positive for HIV

Let F = you actually have HIV

What is P(F|E)?

Solution:
P(F \mid E) = \frac{P(E \mid F)P(F)}{P(E \mid F)P(F) + P(E \mid F^c)P(F^c)}
= \frac{(0.98)(0.005)}{(0.98)(0.005) + (0.01)(1 - 0.005)}
\approx 0.330
```

# 3.b. Random Variables

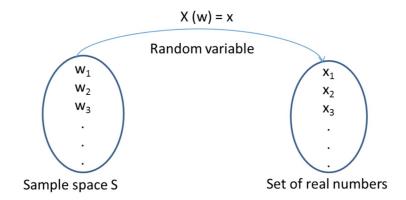


- I. Definition
- II. Types of Random Variables
  - 1. Discrete
  - 2. Continuous
- III. Distribution and Probability Density functions of Random Variables
- IV. Expected value (or Mean) of Random Variables
- V. Variance of Random Variables
- VI. Coefficient of skewness of Random Variables

## 3.b. Random variables- Definition



> A random variable is a function or a rule which maps each event in a sample space to real numbers.



- $\succ$  So, if w is an element of the sample space S (i.e. w is one of the possible outcomes of the experiment concerned) and the number x is associated with this outcome, then X(w) = x.
- ➤ Convention:
  - ➤ Denote random variable by capital letter "X"
  - $\triangleright$  Denote the outcome or possible values by small letter "x" i.e. X(w) = x

## 3.b. Random variables- Definition



### Example:

> Suppose there are 8 balls in a bag. The random variable X is the weight, in kg, of a ball selected at random.

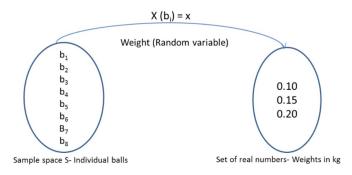
Balls 1, 2 and 3 weigh 0.1kg, balls 4 and 5 weigh 0.15kg and balls 6, 7 and 8 weigh 0.2kg. Using the notation above, write down this information.

#### Solution:

$$> X(b1) = 0.10 \text{ kg},$$
  $X(b2) = 0.10 \text{ kg},$   $X(b3) = 0.1 \text{ kg}$ 

$$X(b4) = 0.15 \text{ kg},$$
  $X(b5) = 0.15 \text{ kg}$ 

$$X(b6) = 0.2 \text{ kg}, X(b7) = 0.2 \text{ kg}$$



# 3.b. Types of Random variables



There are two types of Random Variables

- 1. Discrete Random Variables
- 2. Continuous Random Variables

### 3.b. Discrete Random variables



#### Definition:

- > The set of all possible values of the outcome (or x) takes discrete values
  - $\triangleright$  e.g. Outcome of rolling a dice= {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}
  - $\rightarrow$  Or # credit cards owned by an individual =  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$

#### Probabilities:

> Probabilities are defined on events (subsets of the sample space S).

So what is meant by "P(X = x)"?

- ightharpoonup Suppose sample space consists of eight events  $\{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_6, s_7, s_8\}$
- ➤ Let the outcome for
  - ightharpoonup E1 = {s<sub>1</sub>, s<sub>2</sub>, s<sub>3</sub>} be associated with number x1
  - ightharpoonup E2 = {s<sub>4</sub>, s<sub>5</sub>} be associated with number x2
  - ightharpoonup E3 = {s<sub>6</sub>, s<sub>7,</sub> s<sub>8</sub>} be associated with number x3
- ightharpoonup P(X = x1) is meant P(E1)
- > P(X = x2) is meant P(E2)
- > P(X = x3) is meant P(E3)

## 3.b. Discrete Random variables



### Probability functions

- ightharpoonup The function  $f_X(x) = P(X = x)$  for each x in the range of X is the probability function (PF) of X
- > It specifies how the total probability of 1 is divided up amongst the possible values of X
- ➤ Thus, gives the probability distribution of X.
- ➤ Also known as "probability distribution functions" (pdf)

Following are the requirements for a function to qualify as the probability function of a discrete random variable:

- $> f_X(x) >= 0$  for all x within the range of X
- $> \sum f_x(x) = 1$

Cumulative distribution functions

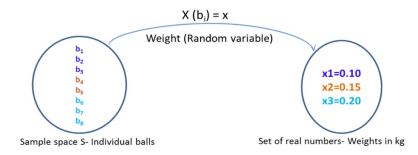
- ➤ Gives the probability that X assumes a value that does not exceed x.
- ightharpoonup Denoted as  $F_X(x) = P(X \le x)$  where max  $(F_X(x)) = 1$

## 3.b. Discrete Random variables- Probability



#### Example:

- ➤ Suppose there are 8 balls in a bag. The random variable X is the weight, in kg, of a ball selected at random. Balls 1, 2 and 3 weigh 0.1kg, balls 4 and 5 weigh 0.15kg and balls 6, 7 and 8 weigh 0.2kg. Write down the different probability distribution functions.
- $\rightarrow$  f<sub>x</sub>(0.10) = P(X=0.10) = probability the ball b1 or b2 or b3 is selected out of 8 balls = 3/8
- $> f_X(0.15) = P(X=0.15) = probability the ball b4 or b5 is selected out of 8 balls = 2/8$
- $> f_X(0.20) = P(X=0.20) = probability the ball b6 or b7 or b8 is selected out of 8 balls = 3/8$
- ightharpoonup  $F_X(0.10) = P(X \le 0.10) = P(X=0.10) = 3/8$
- $F_X(0.15) = P(X \le 0.15) = P(X = 0.10) + P(X = 0.15) = 2/8 + 3/8 = 5/8$
- $> F_X(0.20) = P(X <= 0.20) = P(X = 0.10) + P(X = 0.15) + P(X = 0.20) = 3/8 + 2/8 + 3/8 = 8/8 = 1$



# Discrete Distribution



<b>:</b>	

Value (x <sub>i</sub> )											
Freq		2									
Prob	1	<u>2</u> 36	3	4	_5_	6	5	4	3	2	1
(p i)	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36

# Cumulative Distribution



- > The cumulative distribution represents the summation of the probabilities.
- ➤ The number 2 occurs 1/36 of the time, the number 3 occurs 2/36 of the time.
- ➤ Therefore a number equal to 3 or less will occur 3/36 of the time.

# Cumulative Distribution



Value Prob (p i)											
Cdf	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>21</u>	26	30	33	<u>35</u>	<u>36</u>
	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36

# Probability Distribution Function (pdf)



- ➤ The probabilities form a pdf. The sum of the probabilities must sum to 1.
- > The distribution can be characterized by two variables, its mean and standard deviation

$$p_i = 1$$

# Mean



- ➤ The mean is simply the expected value from rolling the dice, this is calculated by multiplying the probabilities by the possible outcomes (values).
- ➤ In this case it is also the value with the highest frequency (mode)

$$E(x) = \int_{i=1}^{14} p_i x_i = \frac{252}{36} = 7$$

## 3.b. Continuous Random variables



#### Definition:

- > The set of possible values taken by a continuous random variable falls in an interval (or a collection of intervals) on the real line:
  - > e.g. Salary of a set of individuals
  - ightharpoonup Mathematically examples  $\{x: x > 0\}$  or  $\{x: -\infty < x < \infty\}$  or  $\{x: 0 < x < 1\}$

#### Probability Density Function

- > First define the range or the interval in which the probability has to be determined.
- > Savits (a. b)
- ightharpoonup The probability associated is represented as P(a < X < b) or P(a  $\leq$  X  $\leq$  b).
- > Also, it is the area under the curve of the probability density function (PDF) from a to b.
- $\triangleright$  So probabilities can be evaluated by integrating the PDF  $f_X(x)$ .

#### This relationship defines the PDF.

#### Mathematically

> 
$$P(a < X < b) = \int_{a}^{b} f_{X}(x) dx$$

The conditions for a function to serve as PDF are

$$ightharpoonup f_X(x) \ge 0 - \infty \le x \le \infty$$

$$> \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$$

## 3.b. Continuous Random variables



Cumulative distribution function:

➤ The cumulative distribution function (CDF) is defined to be the function:

$$>$$
  $F_X(x) = P(X \le x)$ 

 $\succ$  For a continuous random variable, FX (x) is a continuous, non-decreasing function, defined for all real values of x.

$$ightharpoonup F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x} f_X(t) dt$$

# 3.b. Random variables- Expected values



#### Definition:

- ➤ Expected values are numerical summaries of important characteristics of the distributions of random variables.
- ➤ Expected values of a Random Variable "X" is denoted as E[X]
- ➤ Important Expected values are
  - ➤ Mean
  - > Variance and Standard deviation

#### Mean:

- > ⊟X is a measure of central location
- $\succ$  For discrete case calculated as E[X] =  $\sum (x_i * P_i)$  OR E[X] =  $(\sum x * f_X(x))$
- > For continuous case calculated as  $E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x * f_X(x) dx$
- > Usually denoted by μ

#### Variance:

- $ightharpoonup Var[X] = E[\{X E[X]\}^2]$
- $ightharpoonup Var[X] = E[X^2] E^2[X]$

## 3.b. Random variables- Mean and Variance



### Population mean (or expectation)

$$\mu = E(X) = \sum_{x} x P(X = x) \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) \, dx$$

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{x} g(x) P(X = x) \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) \, dx$$

### Population variance

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

## 3.b. Random variables- Expected values



### Example:

➤ Suppose there are 8 balls in a bag. The random variable X is the weight, in kg, of a ball selected at random. Balls 1, 2 and 3 weigh 0.1kg, balls 4 and 5 weigh 0.15kg and balls 6, 7 and 8 weigh 0.2kg. Find mean and variance of weight.

#### Solution:

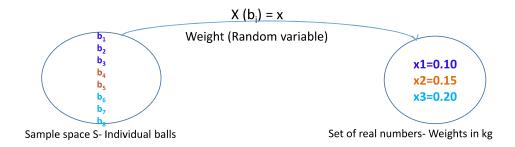
$$> f_X(0.10) = P(X=0.10) = 3/8$$

$$> f_X(0.15) = P(X=0.15) = 2/8$$

$$> f_X(0.20) = P(X=0.20) = 3/8$$

$$ightharpoonup$$
  $\equiv \sum_{i} x_{i} = 3/8 \times 0.10 + 2/8 \times 0.15 + 3/8 \times 0.20 = 1.2/8 = 0.15 kg$ 

$$ightharpoonup Var[X] = E[X^2] - E^2[X] = 0.024375 - 0.0225 = 0.001875 \text{ kg}^2$$



## Two Types of Random Variables



#### Discrete Random Variable

- ➤ Takes on a countable number of values
- ➤ For example, values on the roll of dice: 2, 3, 4, .., 12

### Continuous Random Variable

- > Values are not discrete, not countable
- ➤ For example, time (30.1 minutes? 30.10000001 minutes?)

### Analogy

➤ Integers are discrete, while Real Numbers are Continuous

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## Laws of Expected Value



- > E(C) = C
  - The expected Value of a Constant is just the value of the constant.

$$\rightarrow$$
 E (X + C) = E(X) + C

$$>$$
 E(CX) = cE(X)

• We can "pull" a constant out of the expected value expression (either as part of a sum with a random variable X or as a coefficient of random variable X).

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### Laws of Variance



- > V(c) = 0
  - The Variance of constant (c) is zero.

$$>V(X + c) = V(X)$$

• The Variance of random variable and a constant is just the variance of the random variable (per 1 above).

$$> V(cX) = c^2 V(X)$$

• The Variance of a random variable and a constant co-efficient is the co-efficient squared times in the variance of the random variable.

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## Probability Density Functions



Unlike a discrete random variable, a continuous random variable is one that can assume an uncountable number of values.

- > We cannot list the possible values because there is an infinite number of them.
- > The probability of each individual value is virtually 0 as there is an infinite number of values

### Point Probabilities are Zero



If the probability of each individual value is virtually 0 then there is an infinite number of values.

Thus, we can determine the probability of a range of values only.

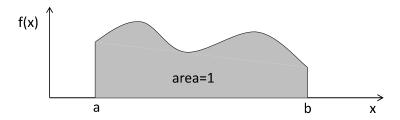
- ➤ For example, with a discrete random variable like tossing a die, it is meaningful to talk about P(X=5)
- ➤ In a continuous setting (e.g. with time as a random variable), the probability the random variable of interest say task length, takes exactly 5 minutes is infinitely small, hence P(X=5) = 0.

# Probability Density Function



A function f(x) is called a Probability Density Function over the range  $a \le x \le b$  if it meets the following requirements:

1.  $f(x) \ge 0$  for all x between a and b, and



2. The total area under the curve between a and b is 1.0





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