

# Probability Distributions

①

## Random variables

set of all possible outcomes of an experiment is called sample space.

denoted by  $S$

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{no. of favourable outcomes}}{\text{no. of possible outcomes}}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{n(A)}{n(S)}$$

eg. coin is tossed probability of head obtained

$$S = \{H, T\}$$

$$n(S) = 2$$

$$A = \text{Head obtained} = H$$

$$n(A) = 1$$

$$P(A) = \frac{n(A)}{n(S)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$$

the variable may take discrete values.

it is called random variables.



Variables used to denote the <sup>②</sup> numerical values of the outcome of an experiment is called random variable r.v.

$$X = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

① Let  $X$  be a r.v. If  $X$  takes finite or countably infinite values  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  then  $X$  is called discrete r.v.

② Let  $X$  be a r.v. If  $X$  takes uncountably infinite values in a given interval then  $X$  is called continuous r.v.

Probability distribution of a d. r.v.

Let  $X$  be a d. r.v. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be the possible values of  $X$  with each possible outcome  $x_i$  we associate a number  $p(x_i) = P(X=x_i)$  called probability of  $x_i$ .

The numbers  $p(x_i)$   $i=1, 2, \dots, n$  must satisfy the conditions



(3)

$$(i) \quad p(x_i) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } i$$

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i) = 1$$

The function  $p$  is called the probability function or P.m.f. or P.d.f. of a r.v.  $X$ . Set of pairs

$(x_i, p_i)$  is called the probability distribution of  $X$ .

$X :$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$\dots$	$x_n$
$p(x_i) :$	$p(x_1)$	$p(x_2)$	$\dots$	$p(x_n)$	

$X :$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$\dots$	$x_n$
$p(x_i) :$	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$\dots$	$p_n$

Ex(1) Find the probability distribution of number of heads ( $X$ ) obtained when a fair coin is tossed 4 times



(4)

Soln: Coin is tossed 4 times

$$= 2^4 = 16$$

$$n(S) = 16$$

$$S = \{ \text{HHHH, HHHT, HHTH, HHTT,} \\ \text{HTHH, HTHT, HTTH, HTTT,} \\ \text{THHH, THTT, THTH, THTT,} \\ \text{TTHH, TTHT, TTTH, TTTT} \}$$

$$n=4$$

~~prob~~

$$P(X) = \frac{nCr}{R(S)}$$

probability distribution of X

$$\begin{array}{c} X: \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \\ P(X=x): \quad \frac{{}^4C_0}{16} \quad \frac{{}^4C_1}{16} \quad \frac{{}^4C_2}{16} \quad \frac{{}^4C_3}{16} \quad \frac{{}^4C_4}{16} \\ P(X=x): \quad \frac{1}{16} \quad \frac{4}{16} \quad \frac{6}{16} \quad \frac{4}{16} \quad \frac{1}{16} \end{array}$$

$X:$	0	1	2	3	4
$P(X=x):$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$	$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$



Ex ② Write down the probability distribution of the sum of numbers appearing on the basis of two unbiased dice

Soln: Two dice are thrown

$$n(S) = 6^2 = 36$$

$$S = \{ (1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (1,5), (1,6), \\ (2,1), (2,2), (2,3), (2,4), (2,5), (2,6), \\ (3,1), (3,2), (3,3), (3,4), (3,5), (3,6), \\ (4,1), (4,2), (4,3), (4,4), (4,5), (4,6), \\ (5,1), (5,2), (5,3), (5,4), (5,5), (5,6), \\ (6,1), (6,2), (6,3), (6,4), (6,5), (6,6) \}$$

Sum	2	appears	once
Sum	3	appears	two times
	4	appears	3 times
	5		4
	6		5
	7		6
	8		5
	9		4
	10		3
	11		2
	12		1



P. D. 13

(6)

$x$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{3}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$



The p.d.f. of r.v.  $X$  is

(1)

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$P(X=x)$	$k$	$3k$	$5k$	$7k$	$9k$	$11k$	$13k$

Find  $k$ ,  $P(X < 4)$ ,  $P(3 \leq X \leq 6)$ 

10, 15

Since  $X$  is d.r.v.  
 $\sum P(X_i) = 1$

$$k + 3k + 5k + 7k + 9k + 11k + 13k = 1$$

$$49k = 1$$

$$k = \frac{1}{49}$$

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{49}$	$\frac{3}{49}$	$\frac{5}{49}$	$\frac{7}{49}$	$\frac{9}{49}$	$\frac{11}{49}$	$\frac{13}{49}$

$$P(X < 4) = P(0) + P(1) + P(2) + P(3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{49} + \frac{3}{49} + \frac{5}{49} + \frac{7}{49} = \frac{16}{49}$$

$$P(3 < X \leq 6) = P(4) + P(5) + P(6)$$

$$= \frac{9}{49} + \frac{11}{49} + \frac{13}{49}$$

$$= \frac{33}{49}$$

(11) The probability function of d.r.v.  $X$ 

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$P(X=x)$	0	$c$	$2c$	$2c$	$3c$	$c^2$	$2c^2$	$7c^2$

Find  $c$ ,  $P(X > 6)$ ,  $P(X \leq 6)$