1

ASSIGNMENT 3

CS21BTECH11053

Abstract—From NCERT Mathematics Class 11, Chapter 16 (Probability), Exercise 16.3

Problem (Ex:16.3, Question:2). A coin is tossed twice, what is the probability that atleast one tail occurs?

Solution:

1 SOLUTION

We will use binomial distribution here as we are repeating a Bernoulli trial with two possible outcomes *Heads* or *Tails*. We will consider getting *Tails* as a success and *Heads* as a failure. We will define random variable X representing the number of successes. Given we have a total of n=2 trials, $X \in \{0,1,2\}$.

Assuming a fair coin, the probability of success (gettings Tails) in a single trial p = 0.5.

The probability that X = i is given by

$$P(X=i) = {}^{n}C_{i} \times p^{i} \times (1-p)^{n-i}$$
 (1)

One can define cumulative probability $P(X \le i)$ as

$$P(X \le i) = \sum_{r=i}^{n} {}^{n}C_{i} \times p^{i} \times q^{n-i}$$
 (2)

Let us define another random variable Y where Y=0 when X<1 and Y=1 when $X\geq 1$. Random variable Y represents a Bernoulli distribution. Hence

$$P(Y = 0) + P(Y = 1) = 1 (3)$$

Note that

$$P(Y = 0) = P(X < 1) = P(X = 0)$$
 (4)

From (1) and (4)

$$P(Y=0) = P(X=0) = {}^{n}C_{0} \times p^{0} \times (1-p)^{n}$$
(5)

Substituting n=2 and p=0.5 into (5)

$$P(Y=0) = {}^{2}C_{0}(0.5)^{0}(1-0.5)^{2} = 0.25$$
 (6)

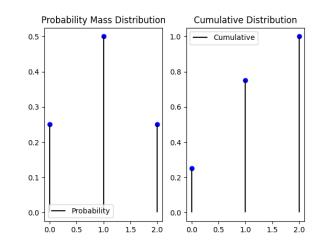
Using (4) and (6)

$$P(Y = 1) = 1 - P(Y = 0) = 1 - 0.25 = \boxed{0.75}$$
(7)

... The probability of getting at least one Tail while tossing a coin twice is **0.75**.

2 Graph and Code Output

Graph: The probability mass and cumulative distribution are plotted below.



Code Output:

Required Probability = 0.75
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