

§ Types of Random Variable:

- (a) Discrete random variable
- (b) Continuous random variable.

(a) Discrete random variable :- If a r.v X takes a finite number or countably infinite number of values, then X is a discrete r.v.

The possible values taken by X are denoted by $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$ which terminate in finite case.

A real valued function X defined on a discrete sample space S is called a discrete r.v.

Eg: Let us toss two coins and note the no. of heads appeared.

$X \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 2$

Discrete

(b) Continuous random variable: A r.v X is said to be a continuous random variable if it takes all possible values in a given interval I_x . For eg: age, height, weight etc. are continuous random variable.

$X \in [4, 10]$
continuous
r.v

Example :- A pair of die is thrown & the sum is noted.

✓
Discrete
r.v

$X \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 5 \quad 6 \quad 7 \quad 8 \quad 9 \quad 10 \quad 11 \quad 12$

✓ $S = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), \dots, (6,5), (6,6)\}$ Discrete

$X : S \rightarrow \{2, 3, \dots, 12\}$

↳ Discrete r.v.

§ Probability mass function of discrete r.v :-

Let X be a discrete R.V which takes values x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots and let $P(X=x_i) = p_i$. Then, p_i is called the probability (mass) function if it satisfies the following conditions :-

(i) $p_i \geq 0 \forall i$, and

(ii) $\sum p_i = 1$.

p.f or p.m.f

§ Probability distribution of the discrete R.V :-

The collection of pairs (x_i, p_i) , $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$X \quad x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3 \quad \dots$$

$P(X=x_i) \quad p_1 \quad p_2 \quad p_3 \quad \dots$

is called the probability distribution or the discrete prob-dist. of r.v X .

p.d d.p.d

Ex: 3 coins are tossed simultaneously & $X = \text{no. of tails appeared}$. Write the probability distribution of X .

Soln: $S = \{ \underbrace{\text{HHH}, \text{HHT}, \text{HTH}}, \underbrace{\text{THH}, \text{HTT}, \text{THT}}, \underbrace{\text{TTH}, \text{TTT}} \}$

| | | | | | | |
|------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|
| $\{$ | X | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | $\}$ |
| $\{$ | $P(X=x_i)$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\frac{3}{8}$ | $\frac{3}{8}$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\}$ |

$p_1 = \frac{1}{8}, p_2 = \frac{3}{8}, p_3 = \frac{3}{8}, p_4 = \frac{1}{8}$

$p_i \geq 0$

& $\sum p_i = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = 1$

Q From a lot of 12 items containing 3 defective items, a sample of 4 items are drawn at random without replacement. Let a random var X denote the no. of defective items in the sample. Find the prob. distribution of X .

Now we are going to discuss how to compute the probability distribution of X .

Sol: 12 - items
 3 - defective

$$\text{For } x=0, \quad p(x) = \frac{^9C_4}{^{12}C_4} = \frac{\frac{9!}{4!5!}}{\frac{12!}{8!4!}} = \frac{9!}{5!} \times \frac{8!}{12!} = \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{12 \cdot 11 \cdot 10 \cdot 5} = \frac{14}{55}$$

$$\text{For } x=1, \quad p(x) = \frac{^9C_3 \times ^3C_1}{^{12}C_4} = \frac{28}{55}$$

$$\text{For } x=2, \quad p(x) = \frac{^9C_2 \times ^3C_2}{^{12}C_4} = \frac{12}{55}$$

$$\text{For } x=3, \quad p(x) = \frac{^9C_1 \times ^3C_3}{^{12}C_4} = \frac{1}{55}$$

\therefore The prob. distribution is -

| X, x | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| $p(X=x), p(x)$ | $\frac{14}{55}$ | $\frac{28}{55}$ | $\frac{12}{55}$ | $\frac{1}{55}$ |

$$F(2.5) = P(X \leq 2.5) = P(X=0) + P(X=1) + P(X=2) \\ = \frac{14}{55} + \frac{28}{55} + \frac{12}{55} = \frac{54}{55}$$

3 Distribution function: Let X be a random variable. Then, the function

$F(x)$ defined by -

$F(x) = P(X \leq x)$ is called the distribution func of X .

It has the foll' properties:-

- (i) $0 \leq F(x) \leq 1$
- (ii) If $x_1 < x_2$, then $F(x_1) \leq F(x_2)$
- (iii) $P(a \leq X \leq b) = F(b) - F(a)$.

• $p(x_i) = P(X=x_i) = F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})$.

$F(x)$ is also called the cumulative distribution of X .

• $p(x_i) = r(x - x_1) = r(x_1) - r(x_{i-1})$

fun^c

$F(x)$ is also called the cumulative distribution of X .

Q A random variable X has the following prob. distribution:

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----|------|------|-------|--------|
| ✓ | X | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | $P(X=x_i)$ | c | $2c$ | $2c$ | c^2 | $5c^2$ |

Find the value of c ?

- Ⓐ $-\frac{1}{6}$ Ⓑ 1 Ⓒ -1 Ⓓ ~~1~~ $\frac{1}{6}$

Solⁿ: $c + 2c + 2c + c^2 + 5c^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow 6c^2 + 5c - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 6c^2 + 6c - c - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 6c(c+1) - 1(c+1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (6c-1)(c+1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{6}, \quad c = -1 \quad \text{Not possible}$$

Since p_i cannot be $-ve$, so $c = \frac{1}{6}$

| | | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| X | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | } |
| $P(X=x_i)$ | $\frac{1}{6}$ | $\frac{1}{3}$ | $\frac{1}{3}$ | $\frac{1}{36}$ | $\frac{5}{36}$ | |

Find $P(X < 3)$ and $P(1 < X < 4)$.

Ⓐ $\frac{5}{6}, \frac{13}{36}$

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

$$= \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{3}$$

$$= \frac{5}{6}$$

✗ (b) $\frac{5}{36}, \frac{13}{36}$

✗ (c) $\frac{13}{36}, \frac{15}{36}$

✗ (d) $\frac{5}{6}, \frac{5}{36}$

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

$$= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{36} = \frac{13}{36}$$