



STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Bernoulli Distribution

Prof. Uma D

Prof. Suganthi S

Prof. Silviya Nancy J

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Bernoulli Distribution

Prof. Uma D

Prof. Suganthi S

Prof. Silviya Nancy J

- **Discrete Probability Distributions**
- **Bernoulli Distribution**
- **Examples**
- **Mean and Variance of Bernoulli Distribution**

STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Discrete Distribution



A **Discrete Probability Distribution** relates to **discrete data**.

It is often used to **model uncertain events** where the possible values for the variable are either **attribute** or **countable**.

The common discrete probability distributions are **Bernoulli**, **Binomial** and **Poisson**.

- Discrete random variables take on only a finite or countable number of values.
- A discrete probability distribution is a table (or a formula) listing all possible values that a discrete variable can take on, together with the associated probabilities.



Jacob Bernoulli
(Swiss mathematician of the 17th
century.) (1654 – 1705)
Discovered constant e

Boy? Girl? Heads? Tails? Win? Lose?

Do any of these sound familiar?

When there is the possibility of only two outcomes occurring during any single event, it is called a Bernoulli Trial.

[Jacob Bernoulli](#), a profound mathematician of the late 1600s, from a family of mathematicians, spent 20 years of his life studying probability. During this study, he arrived at an equation that calculates probability in a Bernoulli Trial.

His proofs are published in his 1713 book *Ars Conjectandi* (Art of Conjecturing).

STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Bernoulli Distribution

Many real-life events can only have two possible outcomes:

- A **tossed coin** can either have a **head or a tail**.
- A student can either **pass or fail** in an **exam**.
- A **product** can either **pass or fail** in an **inspection test**.



How do you model the given scenario ?

- Its a **Single Trial**.
- The trial can result in one of the two possible outcomes, labelled success and failure.

- $P(\text{success}) = p$

The term "success" in this sense consists in the result meeting specified conditions

- $P(\text{failure}) = 1 - p$

More generally, given any probability space, for any event (set of outcomes), one can define a Bernoulli trial, corresponding to whether the event occurred or not.

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

For any Bernoulli Trial,

A Random Variable X is defined as :

- $X = 1$ if success occurs, where probability of success is denoted by p
- $X = 0$ if Failure occurs, where probability of failure is $(1 - p)$
- then X is said to have a Bernoulli distribution with probability p .

Note: A Bernoulli Random Variable can only take values 0 and 1.

Approximately 1 in 200 Indian adults are Doctors. One Indian adult is randomly selected. What is the distribution of the number of doctors?

Solution:

X – represents the Indian adult is a doctor.

$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1/200)$

Probability Distribution of X

X	$p(x)$
0	$199/200$
1	$1/200$

A coin has probability 0.5 of landing heads when tossed.

Let $X = 1$ if the coin comes up heads, and $X = 0$ if the coin comes up tails. What is the distribution of X ?

Solution:

- Since $X = 1$ when heads comes up, heads is the success outcome.
- The success probability, $P(X = 1)$, is equal to 0.5.
- Therefore $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)$.

A die has probability $1/6$ of coming up 6 when rolled. Let $X = 1$ if the die comes up 6, and $X = 0$ otherwise. What is the distribution of X ?

Solution:

- The success probability is $p = P(X = 1) = 1/6$.
- Therefore $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1/6)$.

Suppose that a student takes a multiple choice test.

The test has 10 questions, each of which has 4 possible answers (**only one is correct**).

If the student blindly guesses the answer to each question, do the questions form a sequence of Bernoulli trials? If so, identify the trial outcomes and the parameter p .

Solution:

For each question, Either the answer chosen is correct or incorrect

$$P(\text{Answer is correct}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(\text{Answer is incorrect}) = \frac{3}{4}$$

- Hence there are **only 2 possible outcomes** for each question. Hence each question is a **Bernoulli trial**.
- Since there are in total 10 questions, we have a sequence of Bernoulli trials.

Ten percent of the components manufactured by a certain process are defective. A component is chosen at random. Let $X = 1$ if the component is defective, and $X = 0$ otherwise. What is the distribution of X ?

Solution:

- The success probability is $p = P(X = 1) = 0.1$.
- Therefore $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.1)$.

Examples – Joining two Bernoulli Random Variables



At a certain fast-food restaurant, 25% of drink orders are for a small drink
35% for a medium drink, 40% for a large drink

$X = 1$ if a randomly chosen order is for a small drink and 0 otherwise.

$Y = 1$ if a randomly chosen order is for a medium drink and 0 otherwise.

$Z = 1$ if a randomly chosen order is for a small or a medium drink and 0 otherwise.

1. Find Probability distribution of X , Y , Z .
2. Is it possible for both X and Y to be equal to 1?
3. Does $p_Z = p_X + p_Y$?
4. Does $Z = X + Y$?

Solution:

1. $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.25)$, $Y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.35)$, $Z \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.60)$

2. Is it possible for both X and Y to be equal to 1?

No. If the order is for small drink, it cannot also be for a medium drink. Orders are mutually exclusive.

3. Yes. $p_z = 0.60 = 0.25 + 0.35 = p_x + p_y$

Mutually exclusive events. For one order if X occurs Y cannot occur and vice versa.

4. No $Z \neq X + Y$.

Mean and Variance of a Bernoulli Random Variable

It is easy to compute the mean and variance of a Bernoulli random variable. If $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$, then, using Equations (2.29) and (2.30) (in Section 2.4), we compute

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_X &= (0)(1-p) + (1)(p) \\ &= p\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{\sigma_X^2} &= (0-p)^2(1-p) + (1-p)^2(p) \\ &= p(1-p)\end{aligned}$$

Summary

If $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$, then

$$\mu_X = p \quad (4.1)$$

$$\sigma_X^2 = p(1-p) \quad (4.2)$$

STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Bernoulli Distribution



X	p(X)
0	1-p
1	p

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Mean} &= \sum xp(x) \\ &= 0(1-p) + 1 * p \\ &= p\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Variance} &= \sum (x-\text{mean})^2 * p(x) \\ &= (0-p)^2 (1-p) + (1-p)^2 * p \\ &= p*(1-p)\end{aligned}$$

Example - Mean and Variance of a Bernoulli Random Variables

Ten percent of the components manufactured by a certain process are defective. A component is chosen at random. Let $X = 1$ if the component is defective, and $X = 0$ otherwise. What is the distribution of X ? find the mean and variance.

Example - Mean and Variance of a Bernoulli Random Variables

Solution

Since $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.1)$, the success probability p is equal to 0.1. Using Equations (4.1) and (4.2), $\mu_X = 0.1$ and $\sigma_X^2 = 0.1(1 - 0.1) = 0.09$.

For all its simplicity, the Bernoulli random variable is very important. In practice, it is used to model generic probabilistic situations with just two outcomes, such as:

- (a) The state of a telephone at a given time that can be either free or busy.
- (b) A person who can be either healthy or sick with a certain disease.
- (c) The preference of a person who can be either for or against a certain political candidate.



THANK YOU

Prof. Uma D

Prof. Suganthi S

Prof. Silviya Nancy J

Department of Computer Science and Engineering