

A1110 Assignment 3

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Exercise 15.1 Q4: Three coins are tossed simultaneously 200 times with the following frequencies of different items:

Outcome	3 Heads	2 Heads	1 Head	No Head
Frequency	23	72	77	28

TABLE 1

If the three coins are simultaneously tossed again, compute the probability of 2 heads coming up.

Solution: Let the random variable $X \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ denote the number of heads in the coin-tossing experiment. Now,

$$\Pr(X = i) = \frac{n(X = i)}{\sum_{i=0}^3 n(X = i)} \quad (1)$$

where $i \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ and $n(X = i)$ is the frequency of getting i heads. Also,

$$\text{Number of times 3 coins were tossed} = 200 \quad (2)$$

$$\implies \sum_{i=0}^3 n(X = i) = 200 \quad (3)$$

And from Table 1,

$$n(X = 2) = 72 \quad (4)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(X = 2) = \frac{72}{200} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{36}{100} = 0.36 \quad (6)$$

Hence, the probability of 2 heads coming up is 0.36.