

# Random Variable

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Random experiment

Sample Space = Set of possible  
outcomes of Random experiment.

Motivation: We are not interested

in the whole experiment, but

Value of a numerical quantity

which comes out of random experiment.

Random Variable  $\rightarrow$  A function which  
takes input from Sample Space  
and map it to Real Numbers.

Or Real Valued Function defined on  
Sample Space.

Random experiment.

E.g.: Rolling a dice twice.

Q1 What is the probability that sum is 5.

Q2 What is the probability that the smaller of the outcomes is 3.

$$S = \{(1,1), (1,2), \dots, (1,6), (2,1), \dots, (2,6) \\ \dots, (6,1), \dots, (6,6)\}$$

$X$  — Sum of outcomes of two rolls.

$$X: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$X \in \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$$

$y =$  Minimum of outcome of a roll.

$$y \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$



X  
2  
3  
5  
12

Events

$$\{(1,1)\}$$

$$\{(1,2), (2,1)\}$$

$$\{(1,3), (2,2), (3,1)\}$$

Probability.

$$\frac{1}{36}$$

$$\frac{2}{36}$$

$$\frac{3}{36}$$

$$\frac{1}{36}$$

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

Y

Events

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

$\frac{11}{36}$

2

$\{(2,2), \dots, (2,6), (3,2), (4,2), (5,2), (6,2)\}$

$\frac{9}{36}$

3

$\frac{7}{36}$

5

$\frac{5}{36}$

6

$\frac{3}{36}$

1

$\frac{1}{36}$

Probability

Random experiment.

E.g.:

Tossing a Coin three times.

$$S = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTH, THT, THH, TTH, TTT\}.$$

Q1 of three tosses, how many times will be head?

Q2. Of three tosses, which toss results in a head first?

$X$ — No. of heads that appears.	$X$	$Y$
HHH	3	1
HHT	2	1
HTH	2	1
HTT	1	1
THH	2	2
THT	1	2
TTH	1	3
TTT	0	Nil

$$P(X=0) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$P(X=1) = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P(X=2) = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P(X=3) = \frac{1}{8}$$


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$$P(Y=1) = \frac{4}{8}$$

$$P(Y=2) = \frac{2}{8}$$

$$P(Y=3) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$X \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

$Y$  — Toss in  
which  
head  
appears

first.  
 $Y \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

Discrete Random Variable  $\rightarrow$  A random

Variable is called Discrete Random Variable if it takes only Countably finite or infinite Values.

## Apartments Complex data

- There are 12 apartments in a apartment Complex.
- Each floor has 3 apartments:  
One bedroom, two bedroom, three  
bedroom.

Apartment  
No.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

Floor No.

No. of  
bedrooms.

Size of  
apartment

900.23

1175.11

1785.09

900.12

:

:

:

1786.30

[900, 1800]

Distance of  
apartment  
from lift -

500.23

325.3

:

:

:

455.37

Random Experiment - Choosing Random

apartment out of 12 apartments.

X - Floor no. —  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

W - Distance of  
apartment

Y - No. of bedrooms -  $\{1, 2, 3\}$

from lift

Z - Size of apartment -  $[900, 1800]$

$[300, 50]$

## Discrete Random Variables.

- ① Maximum from a set of finite numbers.
- ② Outcome of rolling a die.
- ③ No. of students in class.
- ④ No. of spelling mistakes in a paragraph.

## Continuous Random Variable

- ① Area of apartment -
- ② Height and weight of students.
- ③ Temperature in a room.

Continuous Random Variable's

A Random Variable Which takes  
Values in an interval.

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Discrete RV.

Probability mass function: Let  $X$  be a random variable which takes values  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$ , then probability mass function (pmf) is defined as

$$p(x_i) = P(X=x_i)$$

Properties of pmf.

①  $p(x_i) \geq 0$

②  $\sum_{i=1}^N p(x_i) = 1$ .

E.g X takes Values			
X	0	1	2
$p(x_i)$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
↓			
Is it pmf?			
Yes.			

E.g. D

X	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	
$p(x_i)$	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	— Not a pmf

E.g.

X	1	2	3	4	5	
$p(x_i)$	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	Not a pmf.

Example.

$X$

$x_0 \quad x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3 \quad \dots$

$b > 0$

$$p(x_i) = P(X=x_i)$$

$$\frac{c x^0}{0!} \quad \frac{c x^1}{1!} \quad \frac{c x^2}{2!} \quad \frac{c x^3}{3!}$$

Can you find  $c$  such that  $p(x_i)$

①  $p(x_i) \geq 0 \Rightarrow c \geq 0.$

$$c \frac{\lambda^0}{0!} + c \frac{\lambda^1}{1!} + c \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} + \dots = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( 1 + \frac{\lambda}{1!} + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} + \dots \right) = 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} e^\lambda = 1 + \lambda \\ \quad + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} + \dots \end{array}$$

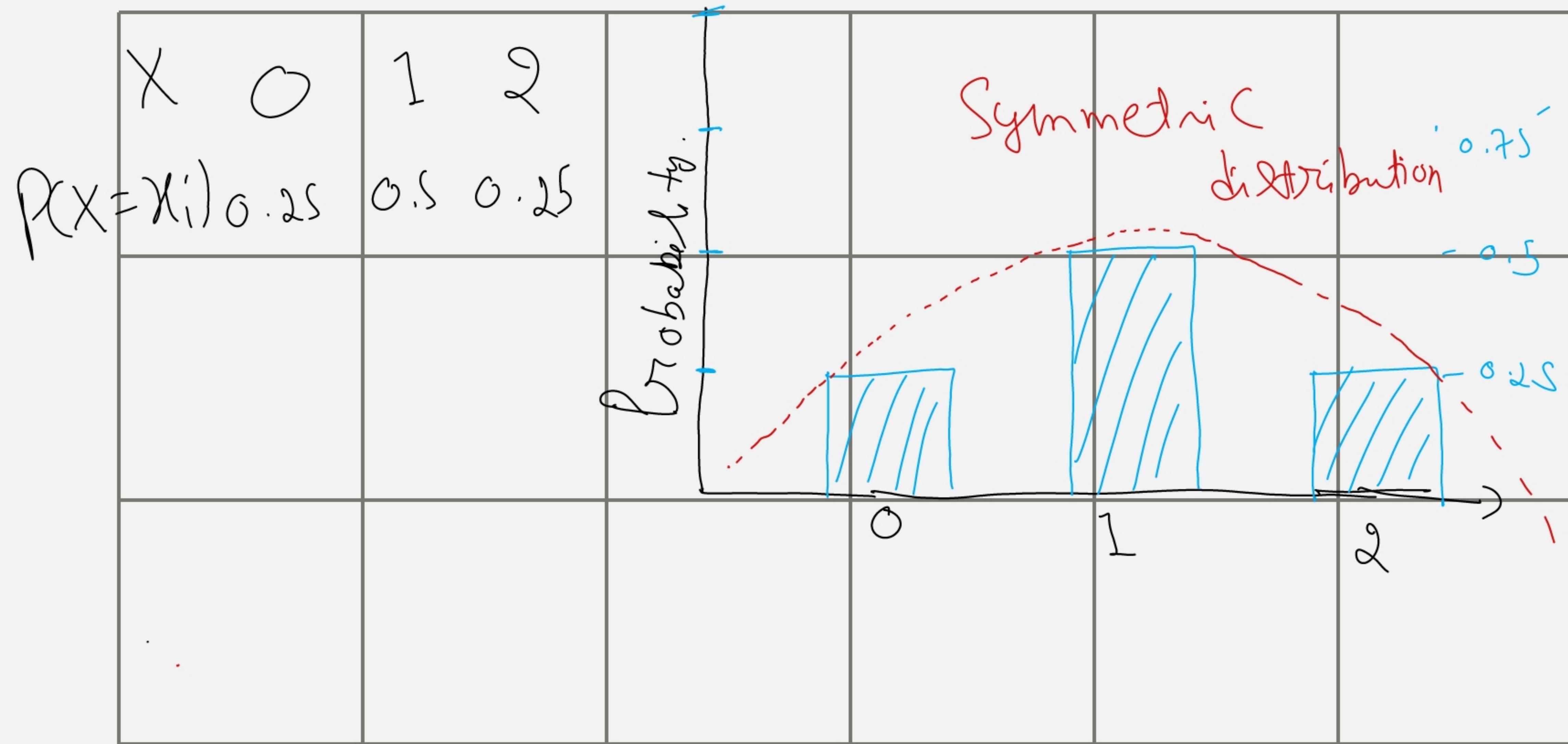
$$\Rightarrow e^\lambda = 1$$

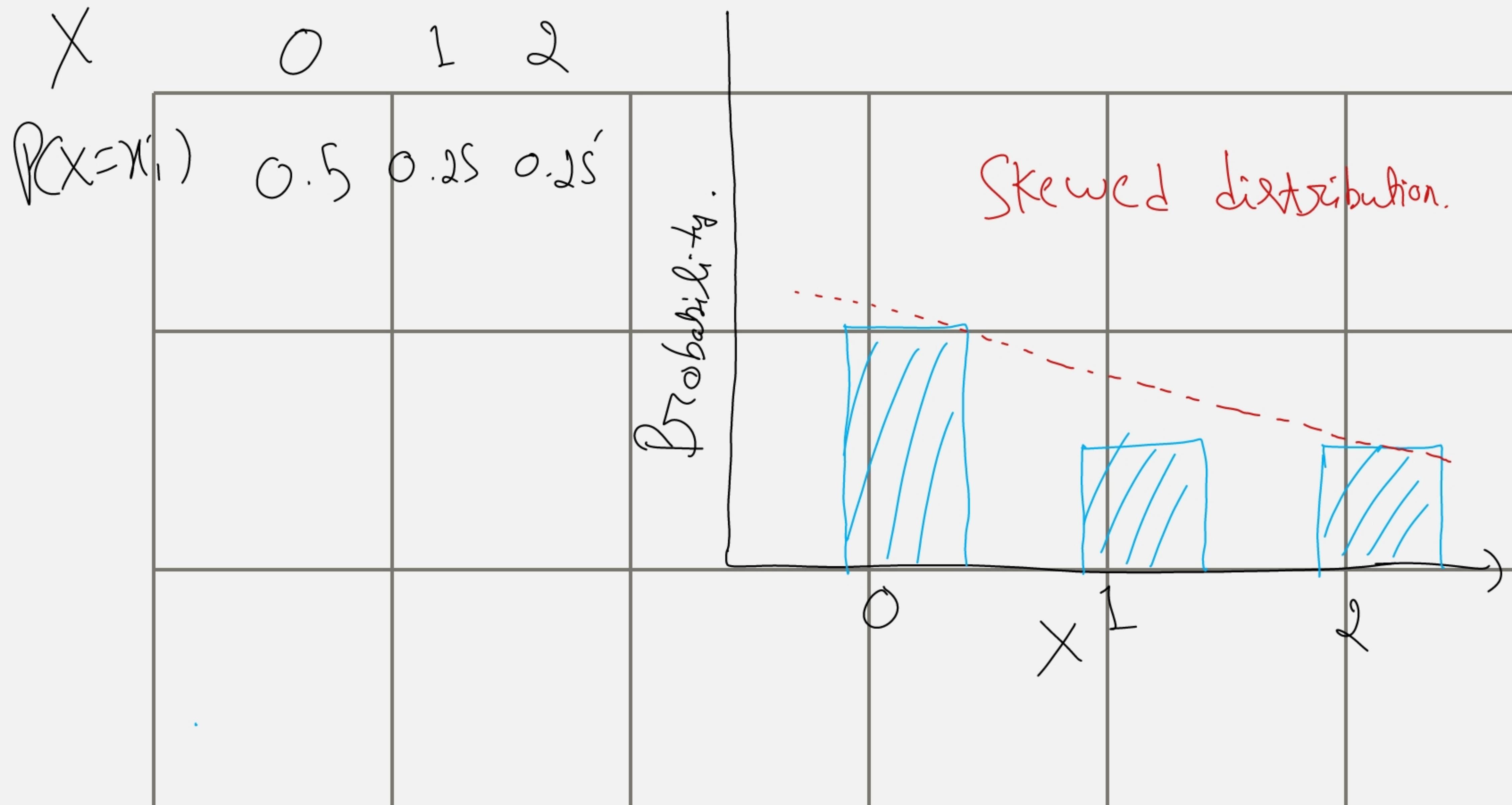
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c = e^\lambda}$$

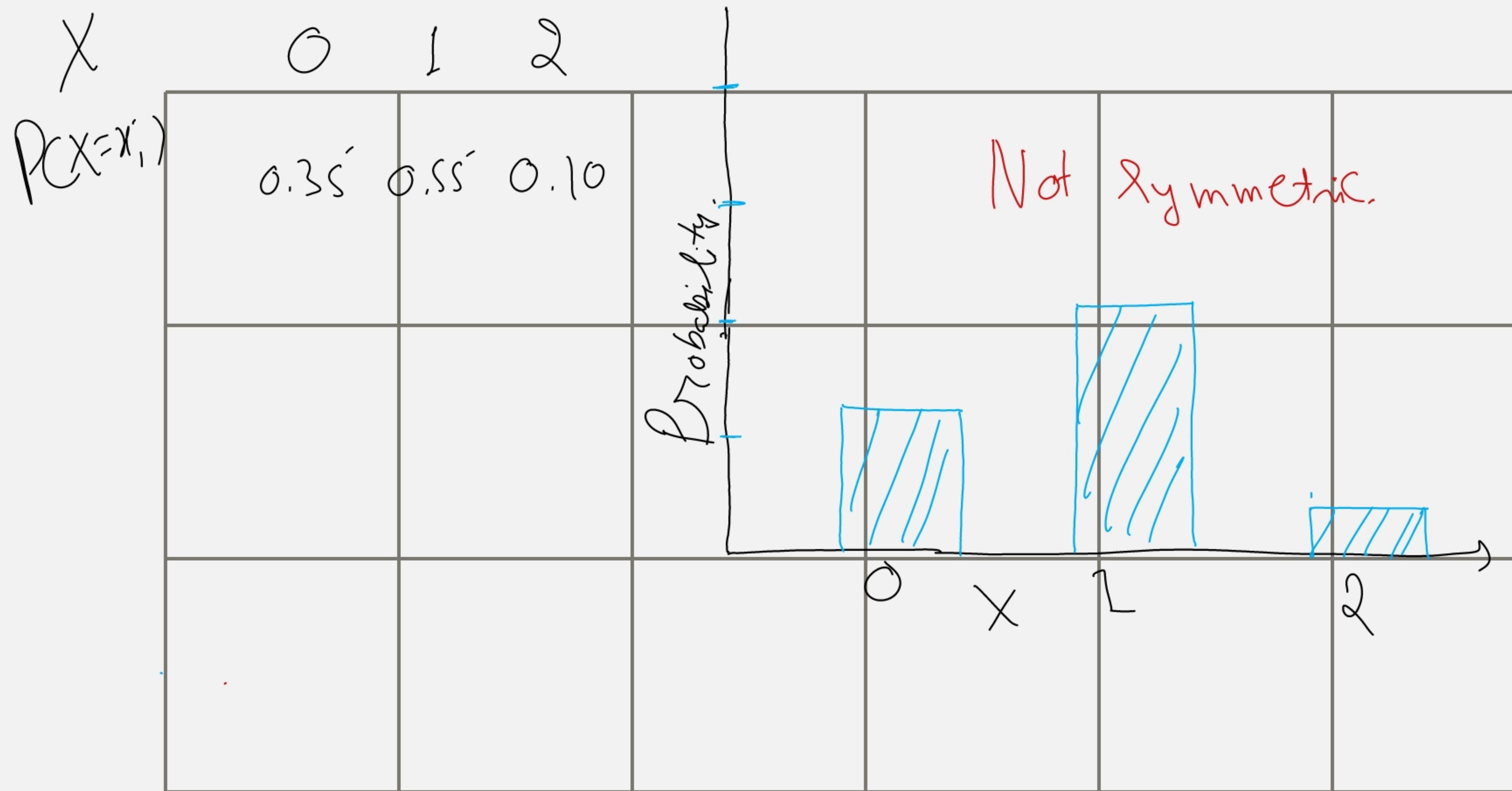
$$p(x_i) = P(X=x_i) = C \cdot \frac{i}{i!}$$

$$p(x_i) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$$

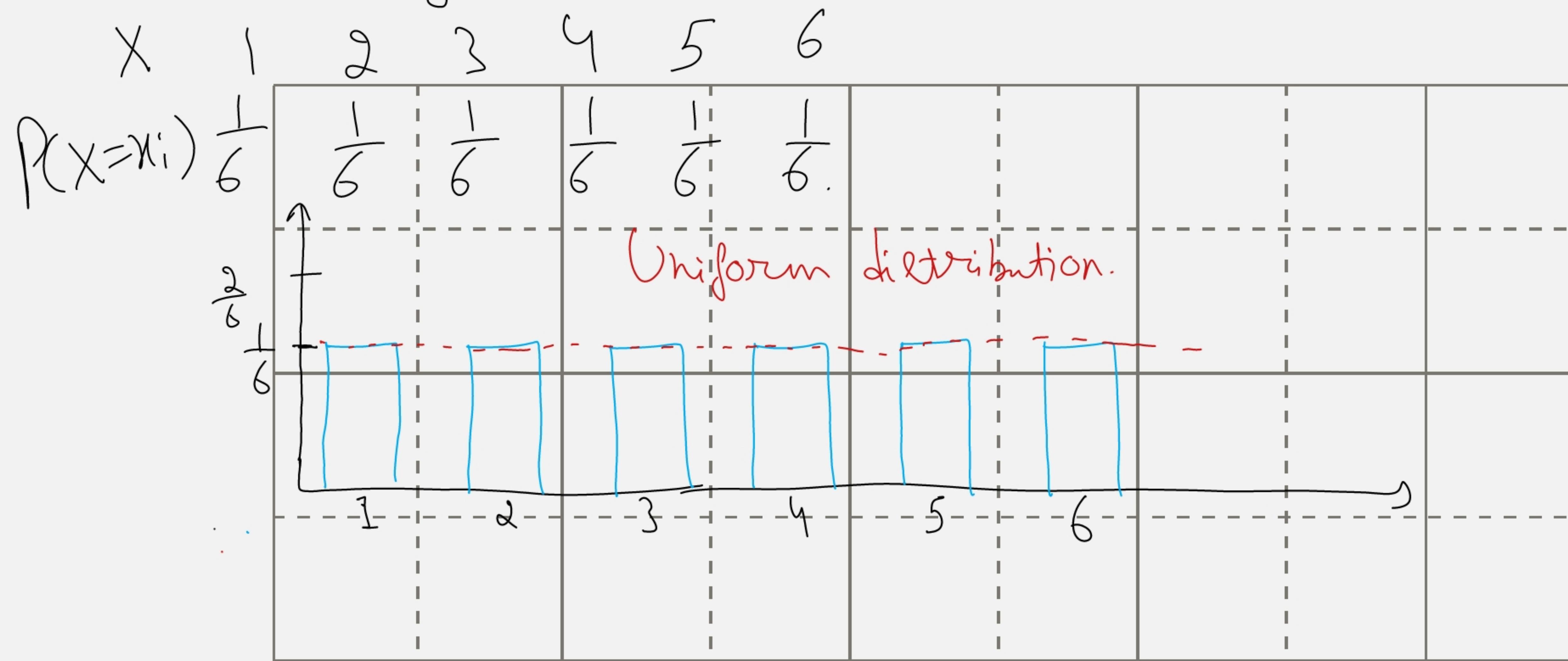
# Graph of probability mass function







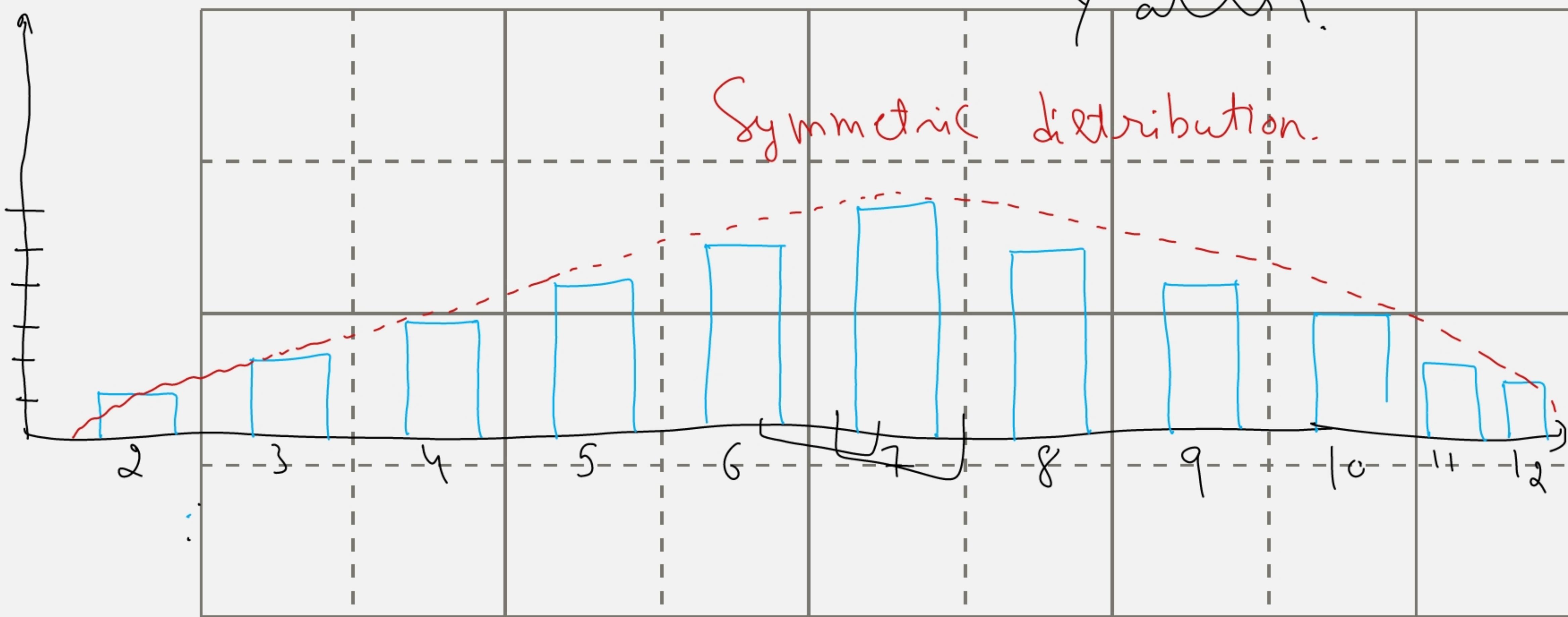
E.g. Rolling a die

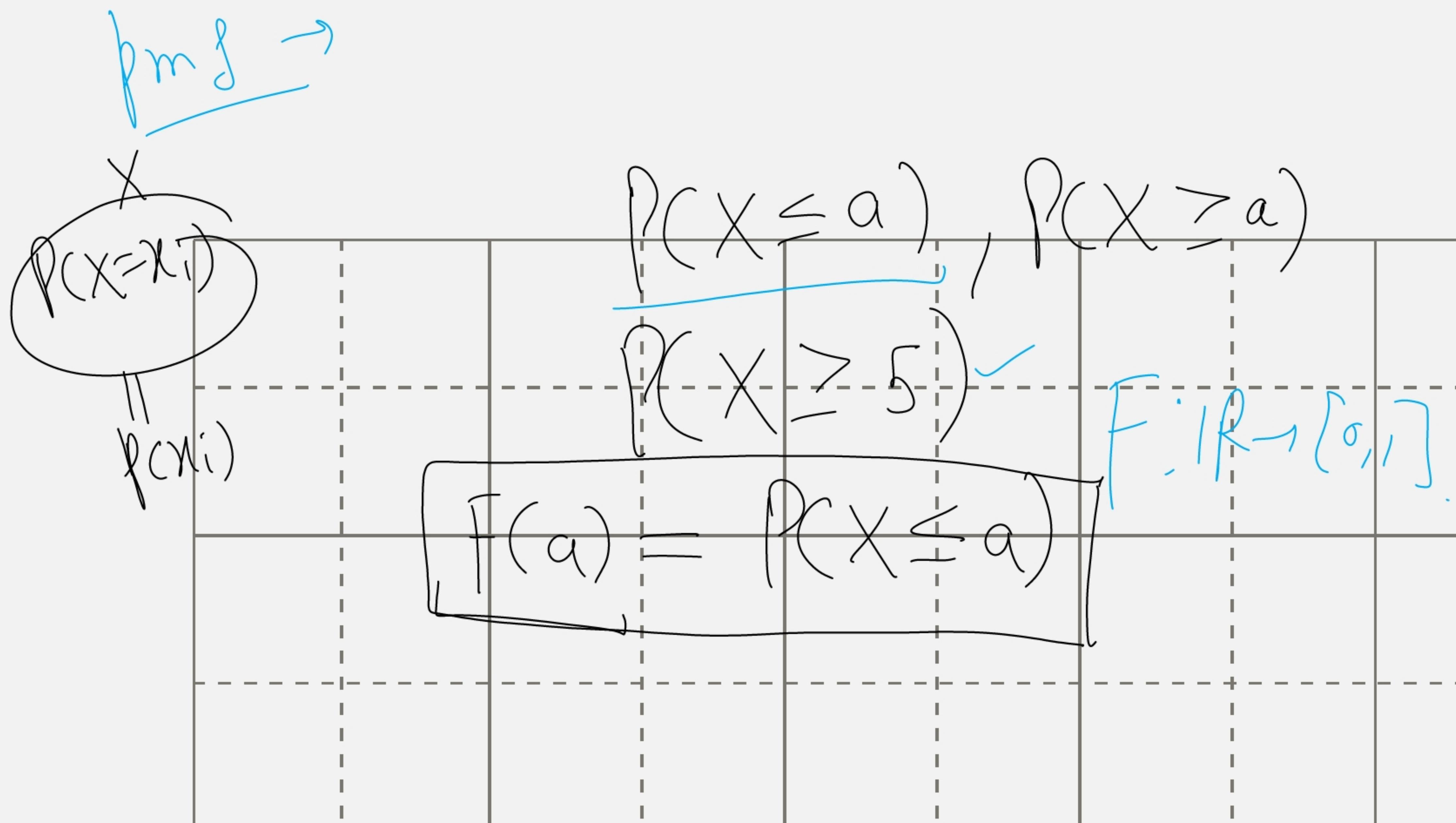


$$E[X] = 7$$

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

Try it for  
Y also?





Cdf.  
 Cumulative distribution function

$F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by

$$\boxed{F(a) = P(X \leq a)} \quad \text{— Cdf.}$$

E.g.

Tossing a Coin thrice

$X$  — No. of Heads in an outcome

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

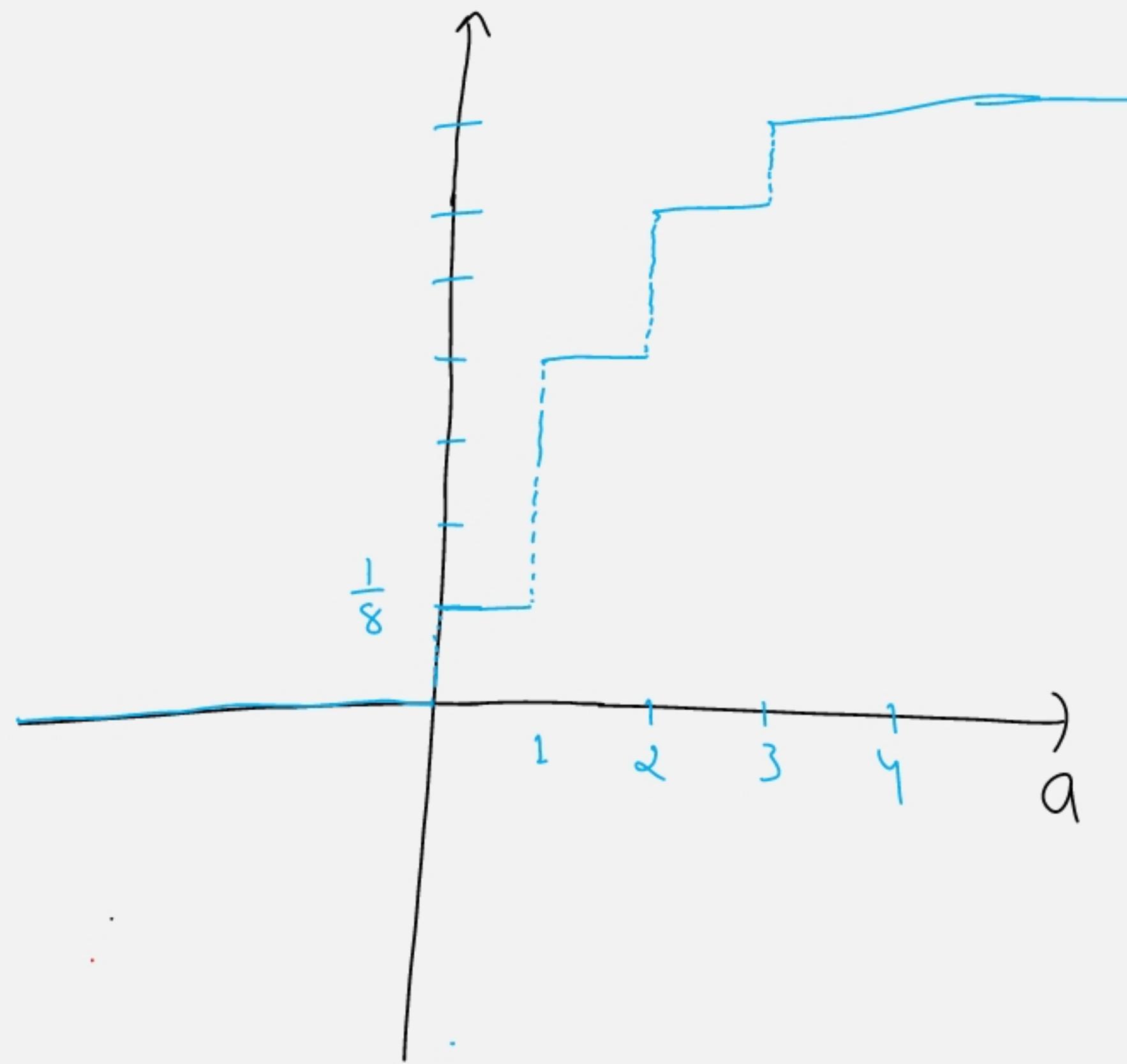
$$F(-1) = P(X \leq -1) = 0$$

$$F(0) = P(X \leq 0) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$a = 1$$

$$F(a) = \begin{cases} 0 & a < 0 \\ \frac{1}{8} & 0 \leq a < 1 \\ \frac{4}{8} & 1 \leq a < 2 \\ \frac{7}{8} & 2 \leq a < 3 \\ 1 & a \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

$$F(a) = \begin{cases} 0 & a < 0 \\ \frac{1}{8} & 0 \leq a < 1 \\ \frac{4}{8} & 1 \leq a < 2 \\ \frac{7}{8} & 2 \leq a < 3 \\ 1 & a \geq 3 \end{cases}$$



taking Values  
 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

Remark: let  $X$  be a discrete Random Variable, then  
 $(\text{dg } F(a))$  will be a step function

## Case Study:-

- [ To analyze No. of Credit Cards owned by a population.
- Collect data:- Ask people how many credit cards they own.

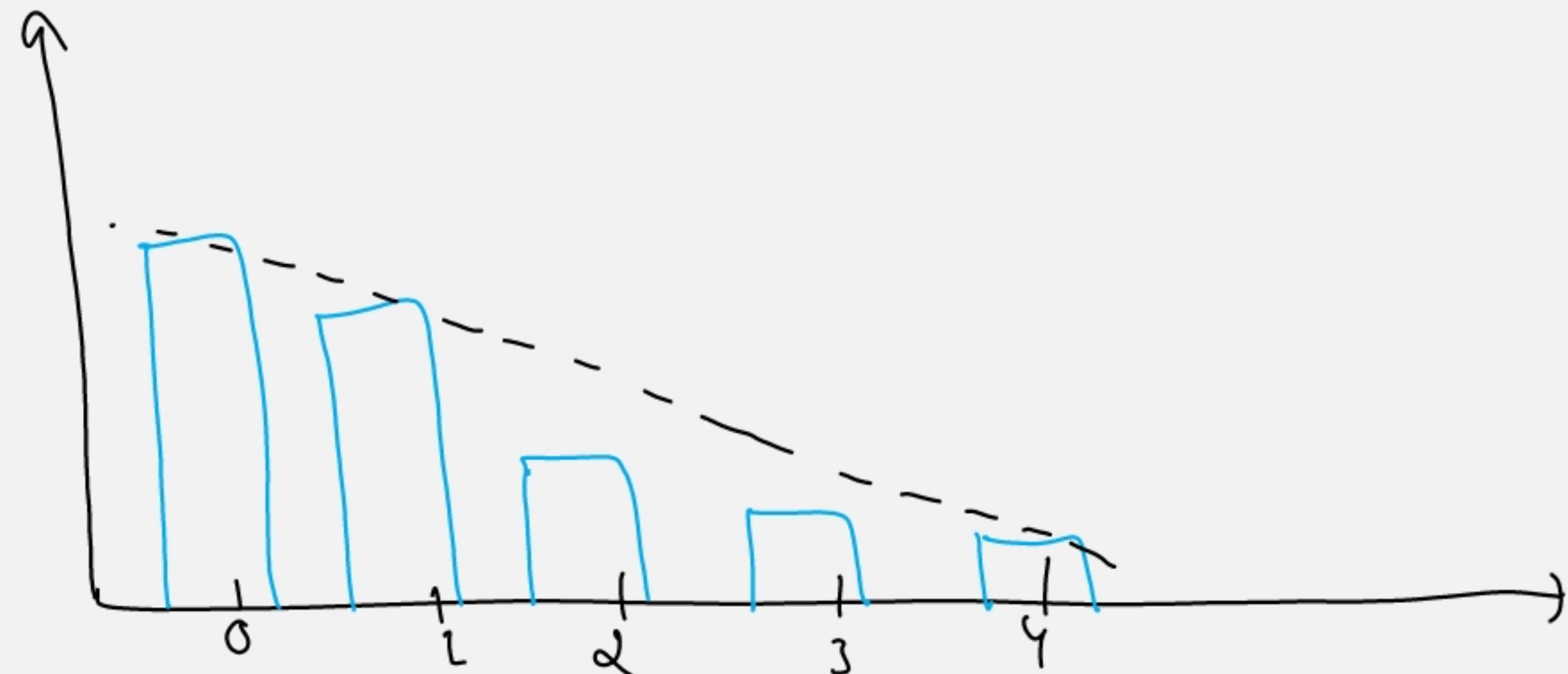
$$S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$$

Random experiment:- Picking a random individual from the population.

$X$ — No. of Credit Cards owned by a person.

$X$	0	1	2	3	4
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$P(X=x_i)$	0.42	0.36	0.14	0.06	0.02
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Question: Choose an individual at random.

Is he/she more likely to have 0 Credit Cards or 2 or more Credit Cards?

$$\text{pmf} \leftarrow P(X=0) = 0.42 = 42\%$$

$$\text{cdf} \rightarrow P(X \geq 2) = 0.14 + 0.06 + 0.02 = 0.22 = 22\%$$
$$1 - P(X < 2) = 0.22$$

Question: Random sample of 1000 individuals, we ask those 1000 individuals, how many Credit Cards they own?

- Everyone is laying they own a credit card
- There is some problem in sample.

Q

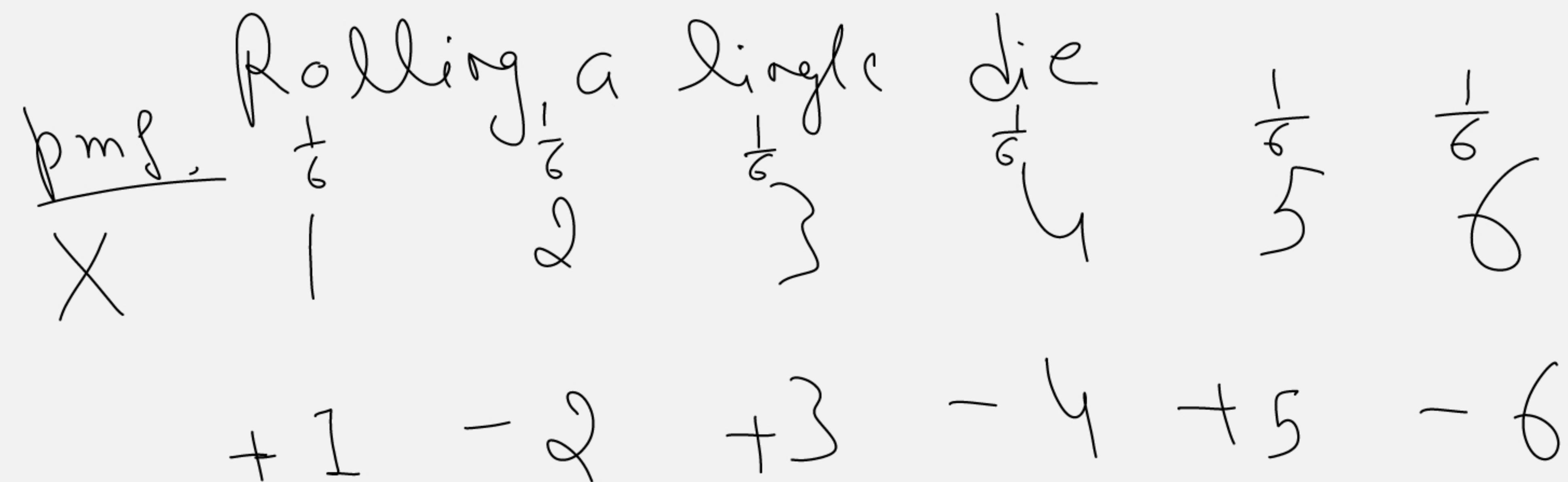
138 people respond that they own  
two credit cards.

$$138 \times 0.14 = 190$$

Choose an individual at Random, how  
many Credit Cards would you  
expect that individual to own?

→ This we will answer with expected  
Value.

Example: let us see one game.



Roll die 100 times

X	Frequency
1	+1
2	-2
3	+3
4	-4
5	+5
6	-6

n = 100

times

Frequency

18

12

20

15

15

20

100

0.18

0.12

0.20

0.15

0.15

0.20

$$\frac{1}{6} - \frac{2}{6} + \frac{3}{6} - \frac{4}{6} + \frac{5}{6} - \frac{6}{6} = \frac{9-12}{6} = \frac{-3}{6}$$

Average winning

$$1 \times 0.18 = 0.18$$

$$-2 \times 0.12 = -0.24$$

$$3 \times 0.20 = 0.60$$

$$-4 \times 0.15 = -0.60$$

$$+5 \times 0.15 = 0.75$$

$$6 \times 0.20 = 1.20 \\ = -0.51$$

$$X \sim \pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n$$

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i P(X=x_i)$$

Expectation of a Random Variable: Let  $X$  be a discrete Random Variable taking Values  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , then expected Value of  $X$  is defined as

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i P(X=x_i)$$

Example:- A player pays \$2 to roll a fair six sided die. The payout rules are

Roll a 3 - Win \$5

Roll a 6 - Win \$3

Any other No. - \$0.

$X$  - outcome of die

$X$	1	2	3	4	5	6
Amount	5	0	0	0	0	0
Prob.	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6$

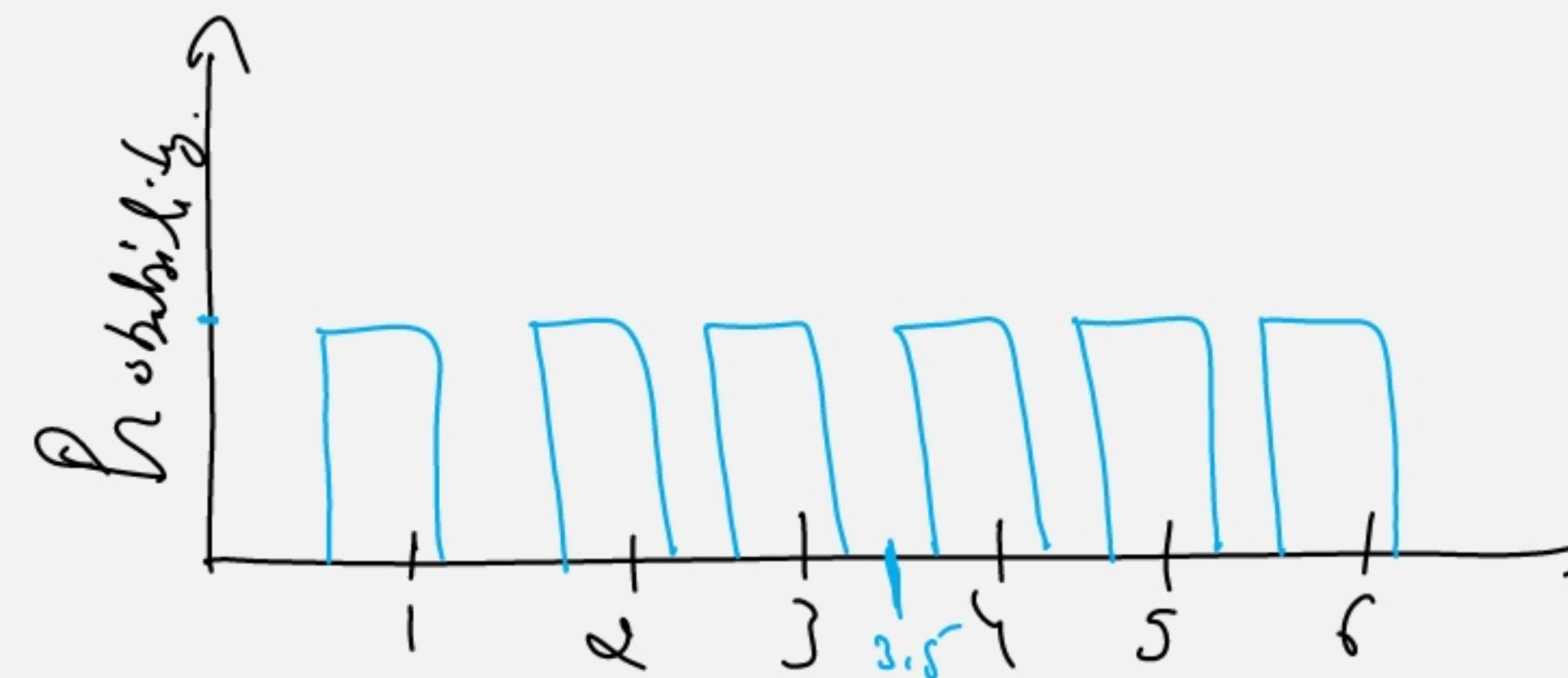
We are also

paying \$2.

$$\text{Profit} = 1.33 - 2 = -0.67$$

$$E[y] = 5 \times \frac{1}{6} + 3 \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{8}{6} = \frac{4}{3} = 1.33$$

$$E[X] = 1 \times \frac{1}{6} + 2 \times \frac{1}{6} + 3 \times \frac{1}{6} + 4 \times \frac{1}{6} + 5 \times \frac{1}{6} + 6 \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{7}{2} = 3.5$$



E.g)

Rolling a die twice

$X$  - Sum of outcomes.

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

$$E[X] = 2 \times \frac{1}{36} + 3 \times \frac{2}{36} + \dots + 12 \times \frac{1}{36} = 7.$$

Example: Tossing a Coin Three.

X	No. of heads in the tosses
X	0
	1
	2
	3
$P(X=x_i)$	$\frac{1}{8}$
	$\frac{3}{8}$
	$\frac{3}{8}$
	$\frac{1}{8}$

$$E[X] = 0 \times \frac{1}{8} + 1 \times \frac{3}{8} + 2 \times \frac{3}{8} + 3 \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{2} = 1.5$$

→ Bernoulli Random Variable.

Example.	X	0	1
	$P(X=x_i)$	$1-p$	$p$
	$E[X] = p$		

$$0 \leq p \leq 1$$

# Properties of expectation.

(1)

$g(X)$   
+

$X$  — Random Variable

$\int aX$  — Random Variable

$a$  in a real NO.

$[aX + b]$  — Random Variable.

$X$	$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
pmf	$p(x_1), p(x_2), \dots, p(x_n)$
$\sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i) = 1$	
$aX$	$ax_1, ax_2, \dots, ax_n$
pmf	$p(ax_1), p(ax_2), \dots, p(ax_n)$

$$E[aX+b] = aE[X] + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (ax_i + b) p(x_i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n ax_i p(x_i) + b \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i)$$

$$= aE[X] + b$$

$$E[X^2] = \underline{(E[X])^2}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 p(x_i) \neq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p(x_i) \right)^2$$

Think of a  
center example.

Example: Bulk purchase discount.

A store offers a discount on bulk purchases

150 - Cost of  
each item.

Buy 1-4 items : No discount

5-9 items : 10% discount

10 or more : 20% discount

X	3	6	10
prob	0.3	0.4	0.3
150	270	400	<hr/>

X - No. of items a customer buys.

$$P(X=3) = 0.3, P(X=6) = 0.4, P(X=10) = 0.3$$

Y = Total Cost after discount.

$$\underline{E[Y]}$$