

RANDOM VARIABLES:

A **random variable** on a sample space S is an assignment of numbers to the elements of S . Each element of S has one number assigned to it by the random variable.

A random variable is a function on a sample space.

EXAMPLE: A hat holds 2 green slips of paper, G_1 and G_2 , and 3 red slips, R_1, R_2, R_3 . Two slips are removed, one after the other, without replacement. The color and order are recorded and nothing else. Set $S = \{(R,R), (R,G), (G,R), (G,G)\}$.

Comments:

- 1) Notation for elements in S : (G,R) indicates, for example, that a green was selected then a red.
- 2) You are being told specifically what S is. In previous problems it was your choice. Here it is not.

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EXAMPLE: A hat holds 2 green slips of paper, G_1 and G_2 , and 3 red slips, R_1, R_2, R_3 . Two slips are removed, one after the other, without replacement. The color and order are recorded and nothing else. Set $S = \{(R,R), (R,G), (G,R), (G,G)\}$.

Now define a function X on S by the following:

$$\begin{aligned} X(R,R) &= 20 \\ X(R,G) &= 30 \\ X(G,R) &= 30 \\ X(G,G) &= 40 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that this is how much money you would get (in \$) if the red slips were replaced by \$10 bills and the green by \$20 bills.

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$$X(R,R) = 20 \quad X(R,G) = 30 \quad X(G,R) = 30 \quad X(G,G) = 40$$

NOTATION:

- $(X = 20)$ stands for the event that after the procedure is run, the value of X is 20.
- $$(X = 20) = \{(R,R)\} \subset S$$

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$$\begin{aligned} (X = 20) &= \{(R,R)\} \subset S \\ (X = 30) &= \{(R,G), (G,R)\} \subset S \\ (X = 40) &= \{(G,G)\} \subset S \end{aligned}$$

the set of outcomes for which X has the value 40

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PROBLEM: If the slips are drawn at random, find $\Pr[(X=20)] = \Pr[\{(R,R)\}]$

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$$= \frac{C(3,2)}{C(5,2)} = 3/10$$



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PROBLEM: If the slips are drawn at random, find $\Pr[(X=20)] = 3/10$

$$\Pr[(X=30)] = \Pr[\{(R,G), (G,R)\}] = \frac{3 \cdot 2}{C(5,2)} = 6/10$$



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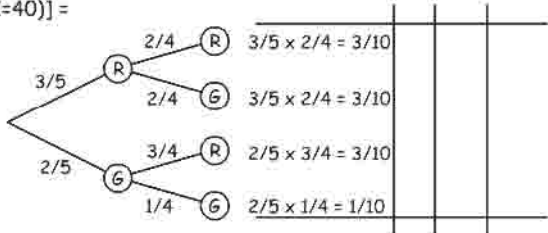
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Alternate Method: Draw a tree



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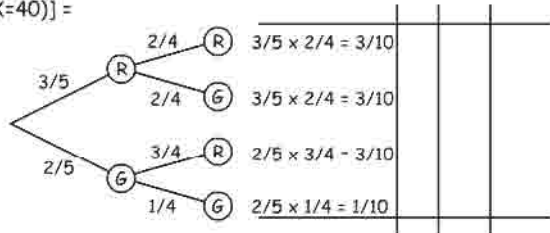
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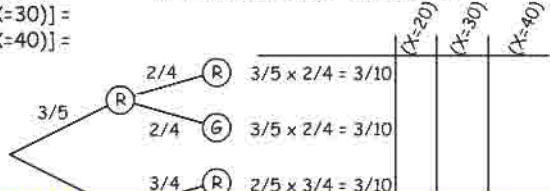
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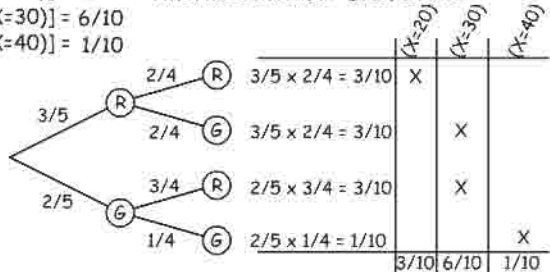
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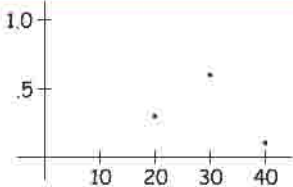


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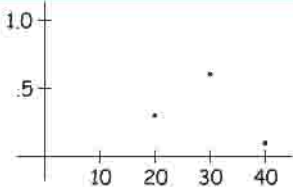


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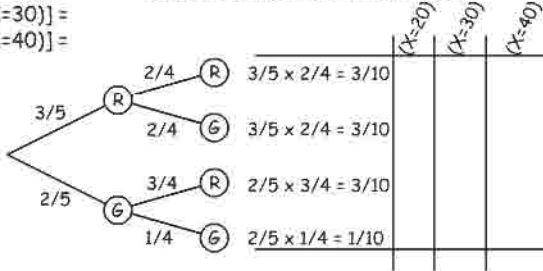
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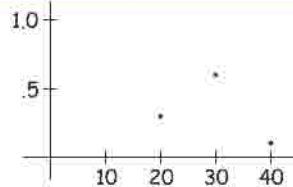
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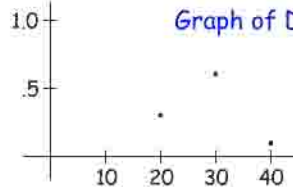


This is the graph of a function D . The values that go into D are 20, 30, and 40. The values that come out are the probabilities that X will take on the value 20, or 30, or 40. D is called the **probability density function for X** .

$D(20) = .3$ $D(30) = .6$ $D(40) = .1$

$\Pr\{X=20\} = 3/10$
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Graph of D

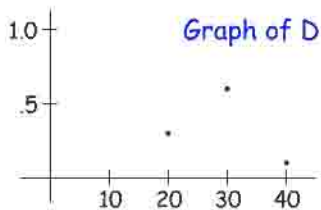


In general, if X takes on the values x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p , then

$D(x_i)$ = probability of getting an outcome s
whose X value is x_i (i.e. $X(s) = x_i$).

$D(20) = .3 \quad D(30) = .6 \quad D(40) = .1$

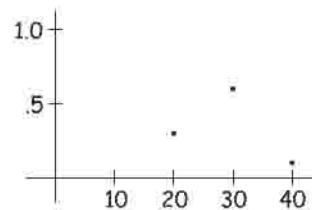
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ERASE

EXAMPLE: If you were to repeat this process repeatedly*, and the 20, 30, and 40 represented your winnings in (\$) on each trial, on average how much money would you make per trial?
*many, many times

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EXAMPLE: If you ran the trial many, many times, you would expect to win \$20 on about 3/10's of the trials, \$30 on 6/10's, and \$40 on 1/10. In calculating what average take per trial should be, you can assume 10 trials that follow the odds exactly:

$\Pr[X=20] = 3/10$
 $\Pr[X=30] = 6/10$
 $\Pr[X=40] = 1/10$

3×20

3 hands will win \$20 each for a total of \$60

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$3 \times 20 + 6 \times 30$

6 hands will win \$30 each for a total of \$180

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$3 \times 20 + 6 \times 30 + 1 \times 40$

1 hand will win \$40 each for a total of \$40

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TOTAL WINNINGS IN 10 REPRESENTATIVE TRIALS

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$\frac{3 \times 20 + 6 \times 30 + 1 \times 40}{10} = 28$

Average amount won per trial.

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$\frac{3}{10} \times 20 + \frac{6}{10} \times 30 + \frac{1}{10} \times 40 = 28$

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Average amount won per trial,

ERASE



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$$\frac{3}{10} \times 20 + \frac{6}{10} \times 30 + \frac{1}{10} \times 40 = 28$$

Average amount won per trial =

$$= \Pr[(X=20)] 20 + \Pr[(X=30)] 30 + \Pr[(X=40)] 40$$

ERASE



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DEFINITION: Let X be a random variable on a sample space that takes on values x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p . The expected value of X , called $E(X)$, is given by:

$$E(X) = \Pr[(X=x_1)] x_1 + \Pr[(X=x_2)] x_2 + \dots + \Pr[(X=x_p)] x_p$$

Average amount won per trial =

$$\Pr[(X=20)] 20 + \Pr[(X=30)] 30 + \Pr[(X=40)] 40$$

ERASE



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Take each value that X takes on, then multiply it by the probability that it will occur. Add up all the numbers you get this way. That is $E(X)$.

Average amount won per trial =

$$\Pr[(X=20)] 20 + \Pr[(X=30)] 30 + \Pr[(X=40)] 40$$

ERASE



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In practice, it helps to make a probability density table, listing the values of X and their probability of occurrence;

Value of X	Probability
20	3/10
30	6/10
40	1/10

These add up to 1

ERASE



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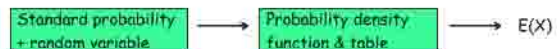


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These add up to 1

$$E(X) = 20 \cdot 3/10 + 30 \cdot 6/10 + 40 \cdot 1/10 = 28$$



ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION: Step 1: What values can X take on?

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION: Step 1: What values can X take on? 0, 1, 2, 3. The 3 tosses can result in 0, 1, 2, or 3 heads.

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION: Step 2: write down a "blank table," and then try to fill it in.

Value of X	Probability
0	—
1	—
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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Lecture 13

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	— $\Pr[(X=0)] =$
1	—
2	—
3	—

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	— $\Pr[(X=0)] = \Pr[0H&3T] =$
1	—
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	— $\Pr[(X=0)] = \Pr[0H&3T] = (.4)^3 = .064$
1	—
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	—
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	—
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	— $\Pr[(X=1)] =$
2	—
3	—

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	— $\Pr[(X=1)] = \Pr[1H\&2T] =$
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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Lecture 13

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	— $\Pr[(X=1)] = \Pr[1H\&2T] = C(3,1)(.6)^1(.4)^2$
2	—
3	— $= 3 \cdot .6(.4)^2 = .288$

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	—
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	— $\Pr[(X=2)] =$
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	— $\Pr[(X=2)] = \Pr[2H\&1T] =$
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	— $\Pr[(X=2)] = \Pr[2H\&1T] = C(3,2)(.6)^2(.4)^1$
3	— $= 3 \cdot (.6)^2(.4)^1 = .432$

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	—

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	.216

$.064 + .288 + .432 = .784$
 $1 - .784$ (ALL OF THE ENTRIES ADD UP TO ONE)

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	.216

This completely describes the probability density function.

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION: Step 3: Calculate $E(X)$.

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	.216

This completely describes the probability density function.

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Lecture 13

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	$x_i \cdot \Pr(X=x_i)$
0	.064	
1	.288	
2	.432	
3	.216	

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	$x_i \cdot \Pr(X=x_i)$
0	.064	0
1	.288	.288
2	.432	.864
3	.216	.648

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

$$E(X) = 0(.064) + 1(.288) + 2(.432) + 3(.216) = 0(.064) + 1(.288) + 2(.432) + 3(.216) = 1.8$$

Value of X	Probability	$x_i \cdot \Pr(X=x_i)$
0	.064	0
1	.288	.288
2	.432	.864
3	.216	.648

$$1.8 = E(X)$$

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Find the probability density function for X and find $E(X)$.

SOLUTION:

$$E(X) = 0(.064) + 1(.288) + 2(.432) + 3(.216) = 0(.064) + 1(.288) + 2(.432) + 3(.216) = 1.8$$

Value of X	Probability	$x_i \cdot \Pr(X=x_i)$
0	.064	0
1	.288	.288
2	.432	.864
3	.216	.648

$$1.8 = E(X)$$

EASY WAY: $3 \times .6 = 1.8$. This works in general for a binomial random variable: $E(X) = np$

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Y = (X - 2)^2$. Find the probability density function for Y and find $E(Y)$.

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	.216

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Y = (X - 2)^2$. Find the probability density function for Y and find $E(Y)$.

QUESTION: What values does Y take on?

Value of X	Probability
0	.064
1	.288
2	.432
3	.216

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Y = (X - 2)^2$. Find the probability density function for Y and find $E(Y)$.

QUESTION: What values does Y take on?

Value of X	Probability	Value of Y
0	.064	4
1	.288	1
2	.432	0
3	.216	1

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Y = (X - 2)^2$. Find the probability density function for Y and find $E(Y)$.

Value of X	Probability	Value of Y	$y_i \cdot \Pr(Y=y_i)$
0	.064	4	.256
1	.288	1	.288
2	.432	0	0
3	.216	1	.216

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Lecture 13

EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Y = (X - 2)^2$. Find the probability density function for Y and find $E(Y)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Y	$y_i \cdot \Pr(Y=y_i)$
0	.064	4	.256
1	.288	1	.288
2	.432	0	0
3	.216	1	.216
			.770 = $E(Y)$

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Z = (X - 1.8)^2$. Find the probability density function for Z and find $E(Z)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Z	$z_i \cdot \Pr(Z=z_i)$
0	.064		
1	.288		
2	.432		
3	.216		

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Z = (X - 1.8)^2$. Find the probability density function for Z and find $E(Z)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Z	$z_i \cdot \Pr(Z=z_i)$
0	.064	3.24	
1	.288	.64	
2	.432	.04	
3	.216	1.44	

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Z = (X - 1.8)^2$. Find the probability density function for Z and find $E(Z)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Z	$z_i \cdot \Pr(Z=z_i)$
0	.064	3.24	.20736
1	.288	.64	.18432
2	.432	.04	.01728
3	.216	1.44	.31104

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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Z = (X - 1.8)^2$. Find the probability density function for Z and find $E(Z)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Z	$z_i \cdot \Pr(Z=z_i)$
0	.064	3.24	.20736
1	.288	.64	.18432
2	.432	.04	.01728
3	.216	1.44	.31104
			.72 = $E(Z)$

ERASE



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EXAMPLE: An unfair coin has probability of .6 of landing heads on any given toss. Let X = number of heads that result from flipping the coin 3 times. Let $Z = (X - 1.8)^2$. Find the probability density function for Z and find $E(Z)$.

SOLUTION:

Value of X	Probability	Value of Z	$z_i \cdot \Pr(Z=z_i)$
0	.064	3.24	.20736
1	.288	.64	.18432
2	.432	.04	.01728
3	.216	1.44	.31104
			.72 = $E(Z)$

Easy way: For a binomial random variable X :

$$E[(X - E(X))^2] = npq$$

where $q = 1 - p$.

$$E(Z) = 3(.6)(.4) = .72$$

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DEFINITION: Let X be a random variable on a sample space with $E(X) = \mu$. Let $Z = (X - \mu)^2$. Notice that Z is just another random variable. The variance of X is denoted by $\text{var}(X)$ and is given by:

$$\text{var}(X) = E((X - \mu)^2) = E(Z)$$

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DEFINITION: Let X be a random variable on a sample space with $E(X) = \mu$. Let $Z = (X - \mu)^2$. Notice that Z is just another random variable. The variance of X is denoted by $\text{var}(X)$ and is given by:

$$\text{var}(X) = E((X - \mu)^2) = E(Z)$$

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Furthermore, the standard deviation of X is denoted by $\sigma(X)$ and is defined as:

$$\sigma(X) \equiv \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$$

Lecture 13

THEOREM: If X is a binomial random variable for a Bernoulli process with n trials and a probability p of success on each trial, then

$$E(X) = np.$$

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Furthermore, the variance and standard deviation of X are given by:

$$\text{var}(X) = npq$$

$$\sigma(X) = \sqrt{npq}$$

Note: $q = 1 - p$

THEOREM: If X is a binomial random variable for a Bernoulli process with n trials and a probability p of success on each trial, then

$$E(X) = np.$$

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Furthermore, the variance and standard deviation of X are given by:

$$\text{var}(X) = npq$$

$$\sigma(X) = \sqrt{npq}$$

CAUTION: THESE FORMULAS DON'T WORK FOR MOST RANDOM VARIABLES

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