

Lecture 19

Random Variables II

Plan for Today:

- Poisson Distribution (continued)
- Joint Distributions
- Linearity of Expectation
- Independence

Lecture 18 Summary

- A r.v. is a function $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- A r.v. induces a partition on the sample space to events $X^{-1}(a) = \{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) = a\}$
- A distribution of a r.v. is the collection of values $\{(a, \Pr[X=a]) : a \in \text{range}(X)\}$
- The expectation of a r.v. X is defined as
$$E[X] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} a \cdot \Pr[X=a]$$
- $\text{Ber}(p)$ - one trial, success probability p .
- $\text{Bin}(n, p)$ - n trials, success probability p
- $\text{Geom}(p)$ - number of trials upto first success, suc. prob. p .
- uniform distribution, Poisson distribution

Poisson Distribution

Q: How many customers arrive to McDonalds in 1 hour?

Suppose you know: the average is λ .

Assumption: Arrivals in disjoint time intervals are independent.

Idea: Cut 1 hour to equal intervals of length $\frac{1}{n}$ for n extremely large.

Average arrivals per interval $\frac{\lambda}{n}$.

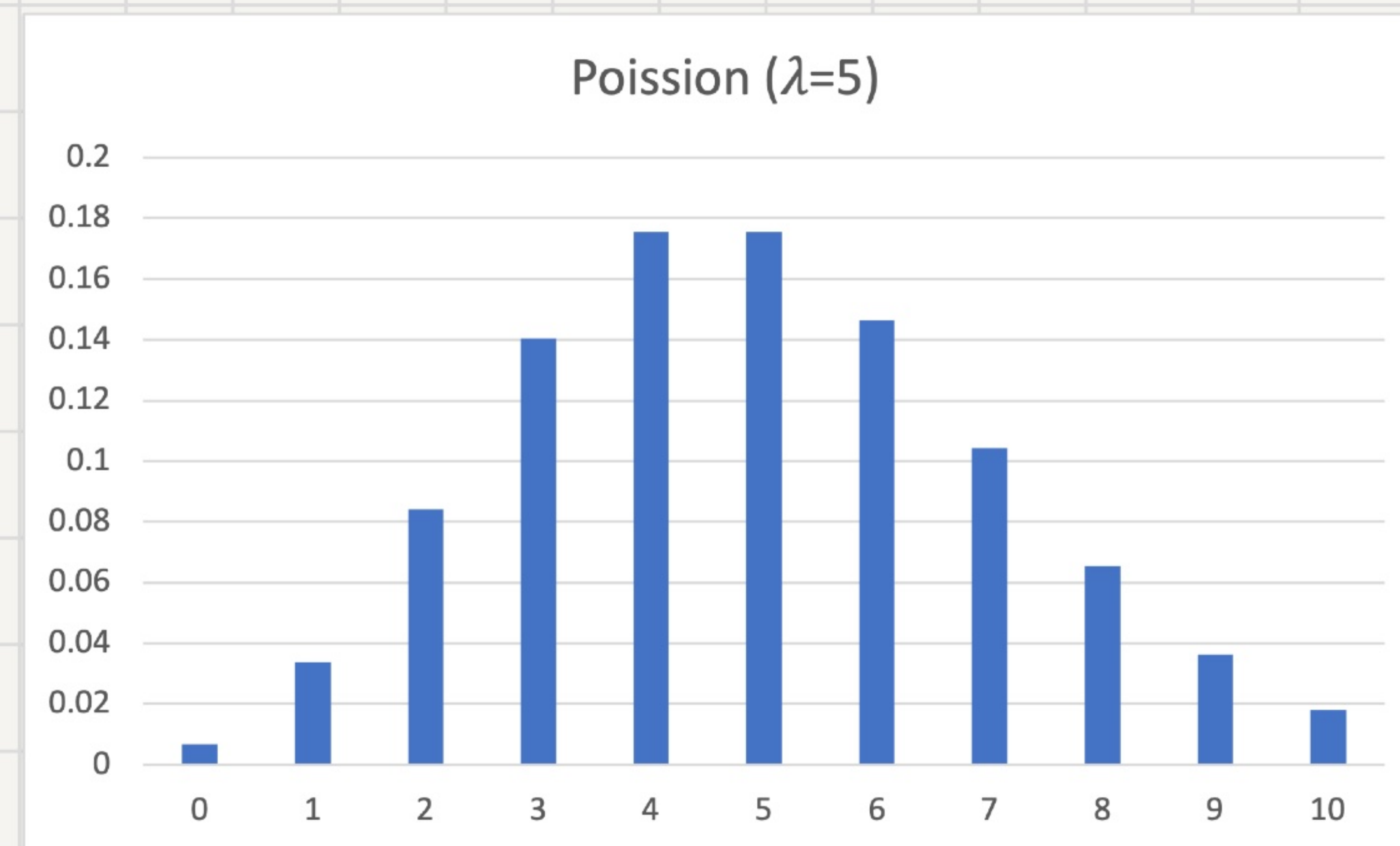
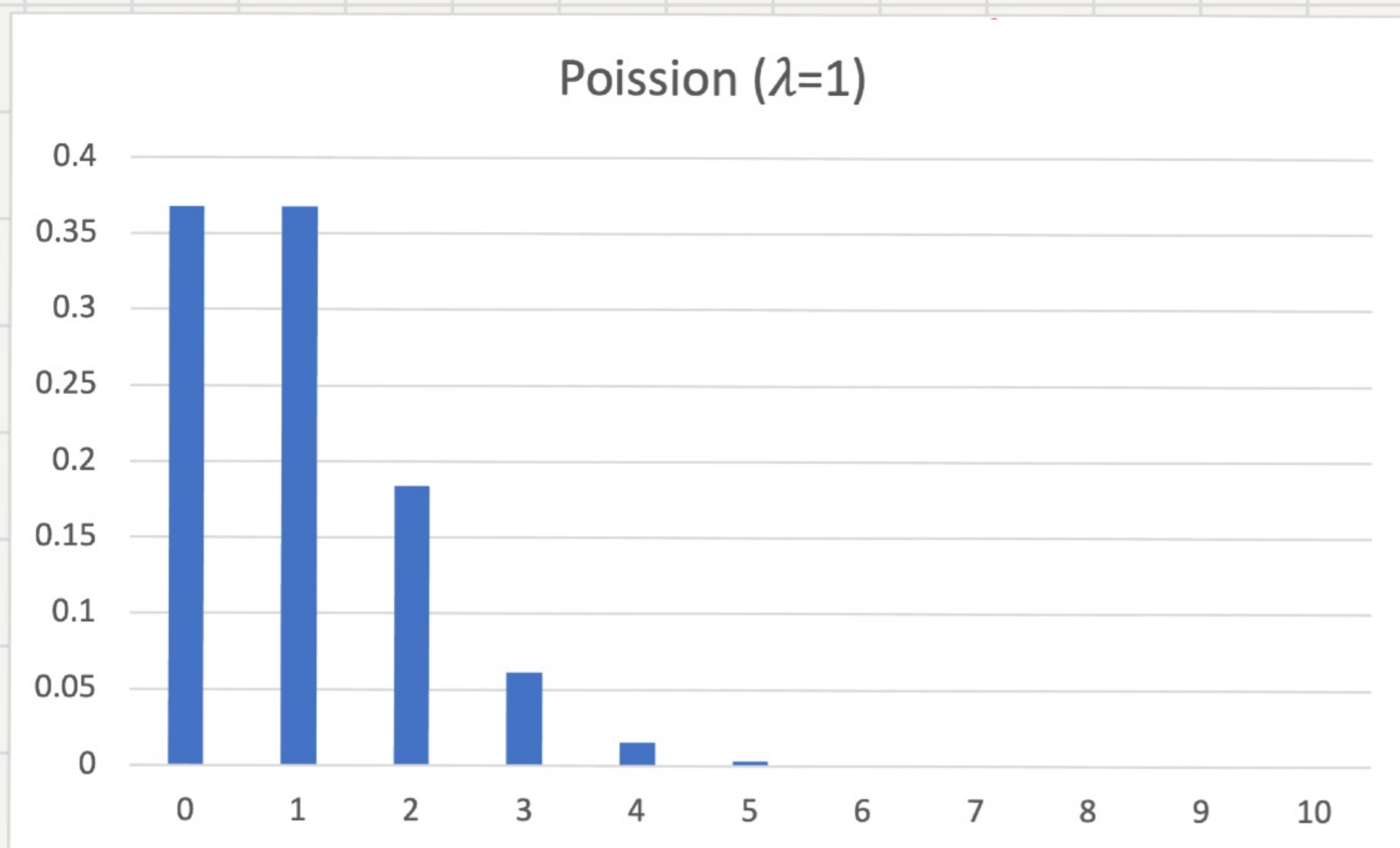
Assumption 2: no two arrivals in the same interval.

Model: Binomial distribution with params $(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$.

Theorem: Fix λ, i . Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$. Then,

$$\Pr[X=i] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$$

↑
these define
the Poisson distribution



Theorem: Fix λ, i . Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$. Then,

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Proof:

Theorem: Fix λ, i . Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$. Then,

$$\Pr[X=i] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$$

Proof:

$$\Pr[X=i] = \binom{n}{i} \cdot p^i \cdot (1-p)^{n-i}$$

$$= \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdots (n-i+1)}{i!} \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-i}$$

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$$= \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdots (n-i+1)}{n \cdot n \cdots n} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i}$$

$\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty}$

Theorem: Fix λ, i . Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$. Then,

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$$= \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdots (n-i+1)}{n \cdot n \cdots n} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^i}$$

$$\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda}}{1}$$

In the last line we used $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n = e^{-\lambda}$. ■

Expectation

If X is a r.v. then

$$E[X] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} a \cdot P_r[X=a]$$

Theorem: If $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a r.v. then

$$E[X] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} X(\omega) \cdot P_r[\omega]$$

Example:

Toss three coins. $X = \#$ of heads
- $\#$ of tails

$$\Omega = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, THH, TTH, THT, HTT, TTT\}$$

Expectation

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Example: Toss three coins. $X = \#$ of heads - $\#$ of tails

$$\Omega = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, THH, TTH, THT, HTT, TTT\}$$

$$X = 3, 1, 1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -3$$

$$E[X] = 3 \cdot \frac{1}{8} + 1 \cdot \frac{3}{8} + (-1) \cdot \frac{3}{8} + (-3) \cdot \frac{1}{8} = 0$$

$$E[X] = \frac{3 + 1 + 1 + 1 + (-1) + (-1) + (-1) + (-3)}{8} = 0$$

Expectation of a Poisson R.V.

If X is a r.v. then

$$E[X] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} a \cdot \Pr[X=a]$$

Theorem: If $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a r.v. then

$$E[X] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} X(\omega) \cdot \Pr[\omega]$$

X is a Poisson r.v. with parameter λ . ($X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$)

For any $i=0, 1, \dots$ $\Pr[X=i] = e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$

$$E[X] = ?$$

Expectation of a Poisson R.V.

If X is a r.v. then

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X is a Poisson r.v. with parameter λ . ($X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$)

For any $i=0, 1, \dots$ $\Pr[X=i] = e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i \cdot \Pr[X=i] = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i \cdot e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^i}{(i-1)!} \\ &= \lambda \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{i-1}}{(i-1)!} = \lambda \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} = \lambda \end{aligned}$$

Multiple Random Variables

Experiment: toss 2 coins

$$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$$

$$X(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if coin \#1 is heads} \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Y(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if coin \#2 is heads} \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

X and Y are two different r.v.s
on the same sample space.

Multiple Random Variables

Joint Distribution: If X and Y are two r.v.s over the same probability space then their joint distribution is defined as

$$\{(a, b, \Pr[X=a, Y=b]) : a \in \text{range}(X), b \in \text{range}(Y)\}$$

Multiple Random Variables

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Example

Flip two coins

$X=1$ iff first coin is heads
 $Y=1$ iff second coin is heads

$X \backslash Y$	0	1
0	$1/4$	$1/4$
1	$1/4$	$1/4$

Multiple Random Variables

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$$\{(a, b, \Pr[X=a, Y=b]) : a \in \text{range}(X), b \in \text{range}(Y)\}$$

Example

Flip two biased coins with heads prob. p

$X=1$ iff first coin is H
 $Y=1$ iff second coin is H

		Y	
		0	1
X	0	$(1-p)^2$	$(1-p) \cdot p$
	1	$p \cdot (1-p)$	p^2

Multiple Random Variables

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Marginal Distributions

Marginal for X : $\Pr[X=a] = \sum_{b \in \text{range}(Y)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

Marginal for Y : $\Pr[Y=b] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

Multiple Random Variables

Joint Distribution:

$$\{(a, b, \Pr[X=a, Y=b]) : a \in \text{range}(X), b \in \text{range}(Y)\}$$

Marginal for X: $\Pr[X=a] = \sum_{b \in \text{range}(Y)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

Marginal for Y: $\Pr[Y=b] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

Example:

X \ Y	1	2	3
1	0	0.1	0.2
2	0.3	0	0
3	0.1	0.2	0.1

$$\Pr[X=1] =$$

$$\Pr[Y=3] =$$

Multiple Random Variables

Joint Distribution:

$$\{(a, b, \Pr[X=a, Y=b]) : a \in \text{range}(X), b \in \text{range}(Y)\}$$

Marginal for X: $\Pr[X=a] = \sum_{b \in \text{range}(Y)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

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Example:

X \ Y	1	2	3
1	0	0.1	0.2
2	0.3	0	0
3	0.1	0.2	0.1

$$\Pr[X=1] =$$

$$\Pr[Y=3] =$$

$$\Pr[X=1 | Y=3] =$$

Recap

Independence

Definition: We say that events A and B are independent if

$$Pr[A \cap B] = Pr[A] \cdot Pr[B].$$

or equivalently
"

$$Pr[B|A] = Pr[B]$$

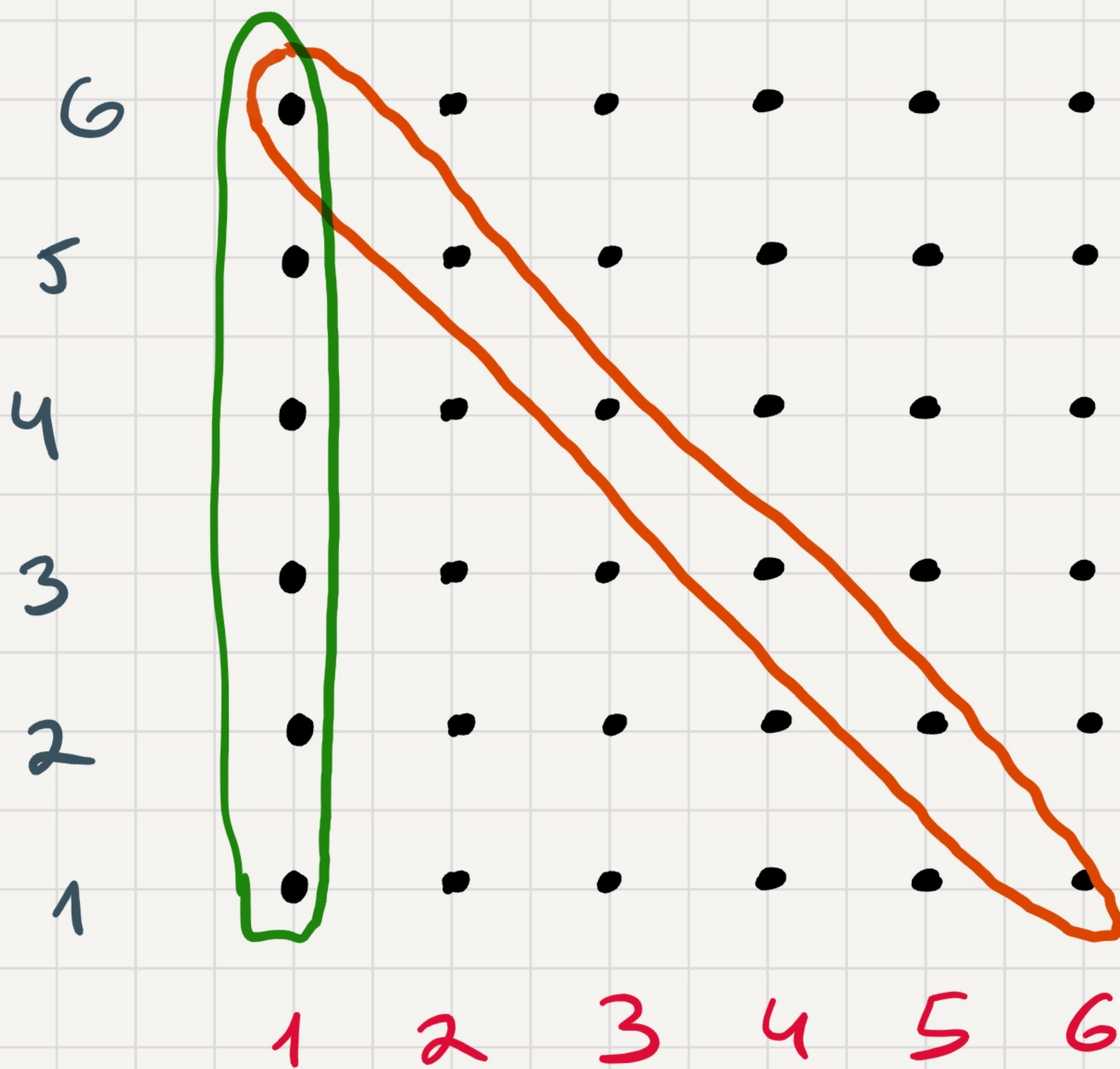
$$Pr[A|B] = Pr[A].$$

Recap

Rolling two dice

A = "sum is 7"

B = "red die is 1"



Pr. of each outcome = 1/36.

$$Pr[A \cap B] = 1/36 = Pr[A] \cdot Pr[B]$$

independent!

Definition Pairwise Independence

We say that events A_1, \dots, A_n are pairwise independent if

$\forall i \neq j$ A_i and A_j are independent.

Definition Mutual Independence

We say that events A_1, A_2, A_3 are **mutually** independent if

they are pairwise indep. and $P_r[A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3] = P_r[A_1] \cdot P_r[A_2] \cdot P_r[A_3]$

Recap

Definition Pairwise Independence

We say that events A_1, \dots, A_n are pairwise independent if

$\forall i \neq j$ A_i and A_j are independent.

Definition Mutual Independence

We say that events A_1, \dots, A_n are **mutually** independent if for each

non-empty subset $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ $\Pr\left[\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i\right] = \prod_{i \in I} \Pr[A_i]$

Independent Random Variables

Def'n: We say that two r.v.s X and Y are independent if

$$\Pr[X=a, Y=b] = \Pr[X=a] \cdot \Pr[Y=b]$$

for all $a \in \text{range}(X)$
 $b \in \text{range}(Y)$.

Independent Random Variables

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$$\Pr[X=a, Y=b] = \Pr[X=a] \cdot \Pr[Y=b]$$

for all $a \in \text{range}(X)$
 $b \in \text{range}(Y)$.

Fact: If X & Y are indep.

$$\Pr[X=a \mid Y=b] = \Pr[X=a]$$

Independence - Examples

Example 1: Roll two dice. X - result of first die
 Y - " " " second "

Example 2: Roll two dice. X - result of first die
 Y - sum of two dice.

Example 3: Flip a fair coin 10 times
 X - number of heads in first 5 flips
 Y - " " " " last 5 flips.

Independence - Examples

Example 1: Roll two dice. X - result of first die
 Y - " " second "

Are X & Y independent?

Independence - Examples

Example 1: Roll two dice. X - result of first die
 Y - " " second "

Are X & Y independent? Yes.

for $a, b \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$: $\Pr[X=a, Y=b] = \frac{1}{36} = \Pr[X=a] \cdot \Pr[Y=b]$

Example 2: Roll two dice. X - result of first die
 Y - sum of two dice.

Are X & Y Independent?

Example 3: Flip a fair coin 10 times

X - number of heads in first 5 flips

Y - " " " " last 5 flips.

Are X & Y independent?

Example 3: Flip a fair coin 10 times

X - number of heads in first 5 flips

Y - " " " " last 5 flips.

Are X & Y independent? Yes

for $a, b \in \{0, 1, \dots, 5\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[X=a, Y=b] &= \binom{5}{a} \binom{5}{b} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{10}} = \binom{5}{a} \frac{1}{2^5} \cdot \binom{5}{b} \cdot \frac{1}{2^5} \\ &= \Pr[X=a] \cdot \Pr[Y=b] \end{aligned}$$

Linearity of Expectation

Theorem: If X and Y are r.v.s (over the same prob. space)

$$\text{then } E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

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Note: No need for X & Y to be independent!

Linearity of Expectation

Theorem: If X and Y are r.v.s (over the same prob. space)

then
$$\mathbb{E}[X+Y] = \mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y]$$

Note: No need for X & Y to be independent!

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X+Y] &= \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} (X+Y)(\omega) \cdot P_r[\omega] \\ &= \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} (X(\omega) + Y(\omega)) \cdot P_r[\omega] \\ &= \left(\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} X(\omega) \cdot P_r[\omega] \right) + \left(\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} Y(\omega) \cdot P_r[\omega] \right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y].\end{aligned}$$

Theorem: If X_1, \dots, X_n are r.v.s

$a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$$E[a_1 X_1 + \dots + a_n X_n] = a_1 E[X_1] + \dots + a_n E[X_n]$$

Proof: Induction on n .

Rolling two dice

X - the sum of the two dice

6	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	•	•	•	•	•	•
4	•	•	•	•	•	•
3	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	•	•	•	•	•	•
1	•	•	•	•	•	•
	1	2	3	4	5	6



Pr. of each outcome
= $1/36$.

Dist. of X

$$\Pr[X=a] = \begin{cases} 1/36, & a=2 \\ 2/36, & a=3 \\ \vdots & \\ 1/36, & a=12 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{36} + 3 \cdot \frac{2}{36} + 4 \cdot \frac{3}{36} + \dots + 12 \cdot \frac{1}{36} \\ &= 7. \end{aligned}$$

Rolling two dice

X_1 - result of first die

X_2 - " " second die

$$X = X_1 + X_2$$

6	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	•	•	•	•	•	•
4	•	•	•	•	•	•
3	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	•	•	•	•	•	•
1	•	•	•	•	•	•
	1	2	3	4	5	6



Pr. of each
outcome
= $1/36$.

$$E[X] =$$

Rolling two dice

X_1 - result of first die

X_2 - " " second die

$$X = X_1 + X_2$$

6	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	•	•	•	•	•	•
4	•	•	•	•	•	•
3	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	•	•	•	•	•	•
1	•	•	•	•	•	•



Pr. of each outcome
= $1/36$.

1 2 3 4 5 6

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= E[X_1 + X_2] = E[X_1] + E[X_2] = \frac{1+2+\dots+6}{6} + \frac{1+\dots+6}{6} \\ &= 3.5 + 3.5 = 7 \end{aligned}$$

Rolling 100 dice

X - total sum of dice.

Q: Calculate $E[X]$.

Rolling 100 dice

X - total sum of dice.

Q: Calculate $E[X]$.

X_1 - result of first die

X_2 - " " second die

⋮

X_{100} - " " 100th die

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{100}$$

$$E[X] = E[X_1 + \dots + X_{100}] = E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_{100}]$$

$$= 3.5 \cdot 100 = 350.$$

Indicator Random Variable

Def'n: Let A be an event. The r.v. X defined as

$$X(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \omega \in A \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is called the indicator of A .

Usually we denote X by $\mathbb{1}_A$.

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Usually we denote X by $\mathbb{1}_A$.

$$\Pr[X=1] = \Pr[A], \quad \Pr[X=0] = 1 - \Pr[A]$$

$$E[X] = 1 \cdot \Pr[X=1] + 0 \cdot \Pr[X=0] = \Pr[A].$$

Recap

Binomial Distribution

Random Experiment: Flip n biased coins with heads prob. p .

Random Variable: X - number of heads $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

$$\Omega = \{ HHH \dots H, HHH \dots HT, \dots, TTT \dots T \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_r [X = i] &= (\# \text{ of sequences with } i \text{ heads}) \cdot p^i \cdot (1-p)^{n-i} \\ &= \binom{n}{i} \cdot p^i (1-p)^{n-i} \end{aligned}$$

$$E[X] = ?$$

Binomial Distribution

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Random Variable: X - number of heads $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

$$\Omega = \{HHH\dots H, HHH\dots HT, \dots, TTT\dots T\}$$

Define r.v.s X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{i'th coin flip is heads} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$$

Binomial Distribution

Random Experiment: Flip n biased coins with heads prob. p .

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Define r.v.s X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{i'th coin flip is heads} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$$

$$\mathbb{E} X = \mathbb{E} X_1 + \dots + \mathbb{E} X_n = n \cdot \mathbb{E} X_1 = n \cdot p.$$

Using Linearity of Expectation

Handout assignment at random to n students

X = number of students who got their own assignment.

$$E[X] = ?$$

Using Linearity of Expectation

Handout assignment at random to n students

X = number of students who got their own assignment.

$$X = X_1 + \dots + X_n \quad X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if student } i \text{ got} \\ & \text{their assignment} \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$E[X] = E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_n]$$

$$\forall i \quad E[X_i] = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\text{Thus, } E[X] = 1$$

n balls in n bins

X - number of empty bins.

$$E[X] = ?$$

n balls in n bins

X - number of empty bins.

X_i - indicator for bin i being empty.

$$X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$$

$$\Pr[X_i = 1] = \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = n \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$$

Summary

- Joint distribution for r.v.s X and Y

$$\{(a, b, \Pr[X=a, Y=b]) : a \in \text{range}(X), b \in \text{range}(Y)\}$$

- Marginal for X : $\Pr[X=a] = \sum_{b \in \text{range}(Y)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

- Marginal for Y : $\Pr[Y=b] = \sum_{a \in \text{range}(X)} \Pr[X=a, Y=b]$

- X and Y are independent r.v.s if for all a, b

$$\Pr[X=a, Y=b] = \Pr[X=a] \Pr[Y=b]$$

- Linearity of expectation: for any two r.v.s X, Y

$$E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y].$$

- X is an indicator r.v. for event A if $X(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \omega \in A \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$