

EX 3.2.1: Consider the following experiment: Flip two fair coins and observe their top faces.

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Let random variable $Z \equiv$ (Is at least One Tail Observed? (1 = Yes, 0 = No))

- (a) List all the possible outcomes in the sample space Ω for the experiment.

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

- (b) For each outcome in the sample space Ω , determine the associated value of each random variable X, Z .

$$X(HH) = 2, \quad X(HT) = 1, \quad X(TH) = 1, \quad X(TT) = 0$$

$$Z(HH) = 0, \quad Z(HT) = 1, \quad Z(TH) = 1, \quad Z(TT) = 1$$

- (c) Determine the support of each random variable X, Z for the experiment.

$$\text{Supp}(X) = \{0, 1, 2\} \quad \text{Supp}(Z) = \{0, 1\}$$

- (d) Determine the probability mass function (pmf) for each random variable X, Z .

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_X(0) = \mathbb{P}(X=0) = \frac{|\{TT\}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{4} \\ p_X(1) = \mathbb{P}(X=1) = \frac{|\{HT, TH\}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{2} \\ p_X(2) = \mathbb{P}(X=2) = \frac{|\{HH\}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{4} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \text{The pmf of r.v. } X \text{ is } \begin{array}{c|ccc} k & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline p_X(k) & 1/4 & 1/2 & 1/4 \end{array}$$

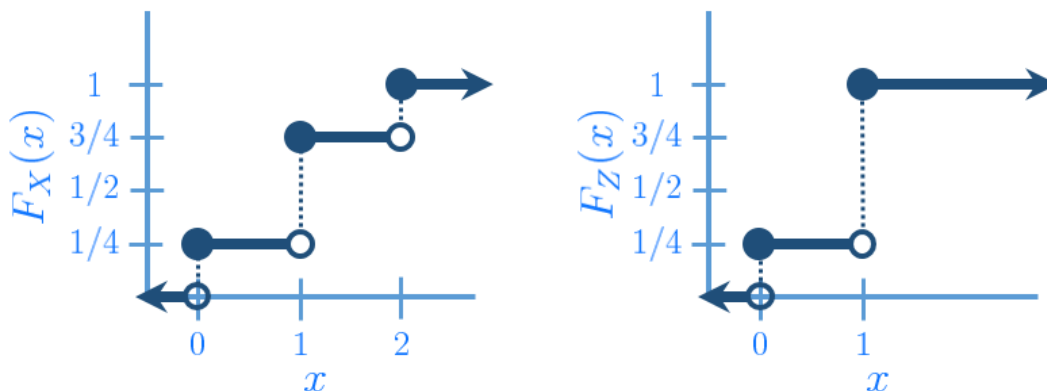
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_Z(0) = \mathbb{P}(Z=0) = \frac{|\{HH\}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{4} \\ p_Z(1) = \mathbb{P}(Z=1) = \frac{|\{HT, TH, TT\}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \text{The pmf of r.v. } Z \text{ is } \begin{array}{c|cc} k & 0 & 1 \\ \hline p_Z(k) & 1/4 & 3/4 \end{array}$$

- (e) Determine the cumulative distribution function (cdf) for each random variable X, Z .

$$p_X(k) = \begin{cases} 1/4 & , \text{ if } k = 0 \\ 1/2 & , \text{ if } k = 1 \\ 1/4 & , \text{ if } k = 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } x < 0 \\ 1/4 & , \text{ if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1/4 + 1/2 & , \text{ if } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 1/4 + 1/2 + 1/4 & , \text{ if } 2 \leq x \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{cdf of } X \text{ is } F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } x < 0 \\ 1/4 & , \text{ if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 3/4 & , \text{ if } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 1 & , \text{ if } 2 \leq x \end{cases}$$

$$p_Z(k) = \begin{cases} 1/4 & , \text{ if } k = 0 \\ 3/4 & , \text{ if } k = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow F_Z(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } x < 0 \\ 1/4 & , \text{ if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1/4 + 3/4 & , \text{ if } 1 \leq x \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{cdf of } Z \text{ is } F_Z(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } x < 0 \\ 1/4 & , \text{ if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & , \text{ if } 1 \leq x \end{cases}$$

- (f) Sketch the cdf for each random variable.



EX 3.2.2:

Consider the following experiment: Repeatedly flip a fair coin and observe its top face until a tail occurs. Moreover, the coins flips are independent of one another.

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Let random variable $Z \equiv$ (Is at least One Tail Observed? (1 = Yes, 0 = No))

- (a) List four possible outcomes in the sample space Ω for the experiment.

$$\Omega = \{T, HT, HHT, HHHT, \dots\}$$

- (b) For the four outcomes in the sample space Ω listed in part (a), determine the associated value of each rv X, Z .

$$\begin{aligned} X(T) &= 0, & X(HT) &= 1, & X(HHT) &= 2, & X(HHHT) &= 3, & \dots \\ Z(T) &= 1, & Z(HT) &= 1, & Z(HHT) &= 1, & Z(HHHT) &= 1, & \dots \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Determine the support of each random variable X, Z for the experiment.

$$\text{Supp}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \quad \text{Supp}(Z) = \{1\}$$

- (d) Determine the probability mass function (pmf) for each random variable X, Z .

Since the coin is fair, $\mathbb{P}(\text{Heads}) = \mathbb{P}(H) = 1/2$ and $\mathbb{P}(\text{Tails}) = \mathbb{P}(T) = 1/2$

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(0) &= \mathbb{P}(X=0) = \mathbb{P}(T) = & & & & & & & & & & & & 1/2 \\ p_X(1) &= \mathbb{P}(X=1) = \mathbb{P}(HT) = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} & = & 1/4 \\ p_X(2) &= \mathbb{P}(X=2) = \mathbb{P}(HHT) = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} & = & 1/8 \\ p_X(3) &= \mathbb{P}(X=3) = \mathbb{P}(HHHT) = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap H \cap H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} & = & 1/16 \\ & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{The pmf of r.v. } X \text{ is } \begin{array}{c|cccc} k & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots \\ \hline p_X(k) & 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/8 & 1/16 & \dots \end{array}$$

Since $\text{Supp}(Z)$ contains exactly one value, its probability has to be one:

$$\begin{aligned} p_Z(0) &= \mathbb{P}(Z=0) = 0 \\ p_Z(1) &= \mathbb{P}(Z=1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{The pmf of r.v. } Z \text{ is } \begin{array}{c|cc} k & 0 & 1 \\ \hline p_Z(k) & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

- (e) Write the pmf of random variable X in closed-form by means of pattern recognition.

It's easier to recognize a pattern in the intermediate expression for each probability instead of its final value:

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(0) &= \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 \\ p_X(1) &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \\ p_X(2) &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \\ p_X(3) &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \\ & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{The closed-form formula for the pmf of r.v. } X \text{ is } \boxed{p_X(k) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k+1}} \text{ or } \boxed{p_X(k) = 0.5^{k+1}}$$

$$\text{SANITY CHECK: } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_X(k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k+1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \stackrel{(*)}{=} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

(*) Recall from Calculus II the sum of a convergent **geometric series**: If $a \neq 0$ and $|r| < 1$, then $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ar^k = \frac{a}{1-r}$

EX 3.2.3:

Consider the following experiment: Repeatedly flip an unfair coin and observe its top face until a tail occurs.

The coin is unfair because tails occurs twice as often as heads.

Moreover, the coins flips are independent of one another.

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Let random variable $Z \equiv$ (Is at least One Tail Observed? (1 = Yes, 0 = No))

- (a) List four possible outcomes in the sample space Ω for the experiment.

$$\Omega = \{T, HT, HHT, HHHT, \dots\}$$

- (b) For the four outcomes in the sample space Ω listed in part (a), determine the associated value of each rv X, Z .

$$X(T) = 0, \quad X(HT) = 1, \quad X(HHT) = 2, \quad X(HHHT) = 3, \quad \dots$$

$$Z(T) = 1, \quad Z(HT) = 1, \quad Z(HHT) = 1, \quad Z(HHHT) = 1, \quad \dots$$

- (c) Determine the support of each random variable X, Z for the experiment.

$$\text{Supp}(X) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \quad \text{Supp}(Z) = \{1\}$$

- (d) Determine the probability mass function (pmf) for each random variable X, Z .

Since the coin is unfair and tails occurs twice as often as heads:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(T) = 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \\ \mathbb{P}(H) + \mathbb{P}(T) = 1 \end{cases} \implies \mathbb{P}(H) + 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) = 1 \implies 3 \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) = 1 \implies \mathbb{P}(H) = 1/3 \implies \mathbb{P}(T) = 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} = 2/3$$

$$\begin{array}{llllllllll} p_X(0) & = & \mathbb{P}(X=0) & = & \mathbb{P}(T) & = & & & & 2/3 \\ p_X(1) & = & \mathbb{P}(X=1) & = & \mathbb{P}(HT) & = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & 2/9 \\ p_X(2) & = & \mathbb{P}(X=2) & = & \mathbb{P}(HHT) & = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & 2/27 \\ p_X(3) & = & \mathbb{P}(X=3) & = & \mathbb{P}(HHHT) & = & \mathbb{P}(H \cap H \cap H \cap T) & \stackrel{IND}{=} & \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(H) \cdot \mathbb{P}(T) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & 2/81 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \text{The pmf of r.v. } X \text{ is } \begin{array}{c|cccc} k & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots \\ \hline p_X(k) & 2/3 & 2/9 & 2/27 & 2/81 & \dots \end{array}$$

Since $\text{Supp}(Z)$ contains exactly one value, its probability has to be one:

$$\begin{array}{l} p_Z(0) = \mathbb{P}(Z=0) = 0 \\ p_Z(1) = \mathbb{P}(Z=1) = 1 \end{array} \implies \begin{array}{c|cc} k & 0 & 1 \\ \hline p_Z(k) & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

- (e) Write the pmf of random variable X in closed-form by means of pattern recognition.

It's easier to recognize a pattern in the intermediate expression for each probability instead of its final value:

$$\begin{array}{llll} p_X(0) & = & \frac{2}{3} & = & \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 \\ p_X(1) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 \\ p_X(2) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \\ p_X(3) & = & \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} & = & \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \text{The closed-form formula for the pmf of r.v. } X \text{ is } p_X(k) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k$$

$$\text{SANITY CHECK: } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_X(k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k = \frac{2}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k \stackrel{(*)}{=} \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{3}}\right) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{2} = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

(*) Recall from Calculus II the sum of a convergent **geometric series**: If $a \neq 0$ and $|r| < 1$, then $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ar^k = \frac{a}{1-r}$

EX 3.2.4: Consider the following experiment: Flip two fair coins and observe their top faces. (pmf & cdf of X were found in EX 3.2.1)

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Compute the following probabilities in two ways, one way using the pmf of X and the second way using the cdf of X :

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Exactly one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p_X(1) = \boxed{1/2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Exactly one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = F_X(1) - F_X(1-) = F_X(1) - F_X(0) = 3/4 - 1/4 = \boxed{1/2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At most one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq 1) = p_X(0) + p_X(1) = 1/4 + 1/2 = \boxed{3/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At most one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq 1) = F_X(1) = \boxed{3/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At least one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \geq 1) = p_X(1) + p_X(2) = 1/2 + 1/4 = \boxed{3/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At least one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \geq 1) = 1 - F_X(1-) = 1 - F_X(0) = 1 - 1/4 = \boxed{3/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Either no heads or two heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 0 \text{ or } X = 2) = p_X(0) + p_X(2) = 1/4 + 1/4 = \boxed{1/2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Either no heads or two heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 0 \text{ or } X = 2) = [F_X(0) - F_X(0-)] + [F_X(2) - F_X(2-)] = [1/4 - 0] + [1 - 3/4] = \boxed{1/2}$$

EX 3.2.5: Consider the following experiment: Repeatedly flip a fair coin and observe its top face until a tail occurs.

Moreover, the coins flips are independent of one another.

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Compute the following probabilities using the pmf of X : (pmf of X , $p_X(k)$, was found in EX 3.2.2)

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Exactly one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p_X(1) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1+1} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \boxed{1/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At most one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq 1) = p_X(0) + p_X(1) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{0+1} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1+1} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \boxed{3/4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At least one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \geq 1) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X < 1) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X = 0) = 1 - p_X(0) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{0+1} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \boxed{1/2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Between two heads and six heads, inclusive}) = \mathbb{P}(2 \leq X \leq 6) = p_X(2) + p_X(3) + p_X(4) + p_X(5) + p_X(6) = \boxed{31/128} \approx 0.2422$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Between two heads and six heads, exclusive}) = \mathbb{P}(2 < X < 6) = p_X(3) + p_X(4) + p_X(5) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 = \boxed{7/64} \approx 0.1094$$

EX 3.2.6: Consider the following experiment: Repeatedly flip an unfair coin and observe its top face until a tail occurs.

The coin is unfair because tails occurs twice as often as heads.

Moreover, the coins flips are independent of one another.

Let random variable $X \equiv$ (# Heads Observed)

Compute the following probabilities using the pmf of X : (pmf of X , $p_X(k)$, was found in EX 3.2.3)

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Exactly one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p_X(1) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{2/9}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At most one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq 1) = p_X(0) + p_X(1) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^1 = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{9} = \boxed{8/9}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{At least one heads}) = \mathbb{P}(X \geq 1) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X < 1) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X = 0) = 1 - p_X(0) = 1 - \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^0 = 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \boxed{1/3}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Between two heads and six heads, inclusive}) = \mathbb{P}(2 \leq X \leq 6) = p_X(2) + p_X(3) + p_X(4) + p_X(5) + p_X(6) = \boxed{242/2187} \approx 0.1107$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Between two heads and six heads, exclusive}) = \mathbb{P}(2 < X < 6) = p_X(3) + p_X(4) + p_X(5) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^4 + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^5 = \boxed{26/729}$$