# 1 Probability

### Probability theorems

Union:	$\Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A \cap B)$
Multiplication theorem:	$\Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A B) \times \Pr(B)$
Conditional:	$\Pr(A B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)}$
Law of total probability:	$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A B) \cdot \Pr(B) + \Pr(A B') \cdot \Pr(B')$

Mutually exclusive  $\implies \Pr(A \cup B) = 0$ 

Independent events:

 $Pr(A \cap B) = Pr(A) \times Pr(B)$ Pr(A|B) = Pr(A)Pr(B|A) = Pr(B)

### Discrete random distributions

Any experiment or activity involving chance will have a probability associated with each result or *outcome*. If the outcomes have a reference to **discrete numeric values** (outcomes that can be counted), and the result is unknown, then the activity is a *discrete random probability distribution*.

#### Discrete probability distributions

If an activity has outcomes whose probability values are all positive and less than one ( $\implies 0 \le p(x) \le 1$ ), and for which the sum of all outcome probabilities is unity ( $\implies \sum p(x) = 1$ ), then it is called a *probability distribution* or *probability mass* function.

- Probability distribution graph a series of points on a cartesian axis representing results of outcomes. Pr(X = x) is on y-axis, x is on x axis.
- Mean  $\mu$  or expected value E(X) measure of central tendency. Also known as *balance point*. Centre of a symmetrical distribution.

$$\overline{x} = \mu = E(X) = \frac{\sum [x \cdot f(x)]}{\sum f} \qquad \text{(where } f = \text{absolute frequency)}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} [x_i \cdot \Pr(X = x_i)] \qquad \text{(for } n \text{ values of } x)$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x \cdot f(x)) \, dx \qquad \text{(for pdf } f)$$

- Mode most popular value (has highest probability of X values). Multiple modes can exist if > 1 X value have equal-highest probability. Number must exist in distribution.
- Median m the value of x such that  $Pr(X \le m) = Pr(X \ge m) = 0.5$ . If m > 0.5, then value of X that is reached is the median of X. If m = 0.5 = 0.5, then m is halfway between this value and the next. To find m, add values of X from smallest to alrest until the sum reaches 0.5.

$$m = X$$
 such that  $\int_{-\infty}^{m} f(x)dx = 0.5$ 

• Variance  $\sigma^2$  - measure of spread of data around the mean. Not the same magnitude as the original data.

For distribution  $x_1 \mapsto p_1, x_2 \mapsto p_2, \ldots, x_n \mapsto p_n$ :

$$\sigma^{2} = \operatorname{Var}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}(x_{i} - \mu)^{2}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x - \mu)^{2} \times \operatorname{Pr}(X = x)$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} x^{2} \times p(x) - \mu^{2}$$
$$= \operatorname{E}(X^{2}) - [\operatorname{E}(X)]^{2}$$

• Standard deviation  $\sigma$  - measure of spread in the original magnitude of the data. Found by taking square root of the variance:

$$\sigma = \operatorname{sd}(X)$$
$$= \sqrt{\operatorname{Var}(X)}$$

### Expectation theorems

For some non-linear function g, the expected value E(g(X)) is not equal to g(E(X)).

$E(X^n) = \Sigma x^n \cdot p(x)$	(non-linear function)
$\neq [E(X)]^n$	
$E(aX \pm b) = aE(X) \pm b$	(linear function)
E(b) = b	(for constant $b \in \mathbb{R}$ )
E(X+Y) = E(X) + E(Y)	(for two random variables)

Variance theorems

$$\operatorname{Var}(aX \pm bY \pm c) = a^2 \operatorname{Var}(X) + b^2 \operatorname{Var}(Y)$$

# 2 Binomial Theorem

$$(x+y)^{n} = \binom{n}{0} x^{n} y^{0} + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y^{1} + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} x^{1} y^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} x^{0} y^{n}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} x^{n-k} y^{k}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} x^{k} y^{n-k}$$

Patterns

- 1. powers of x decrease  $n \to 0$
- 2. powers of y increase  $0 \to n$
- 3. coefficients are given by *n*th row of Pascal's Triangle where n = 0 has one term
- 4. Number of terms in  $(x+a)^n$  expanded & simplified is n+1

#### Combinatorics

Binomial coefficient:  ${}^{n}\mathbf{C}_{r} = \begin{pmatrix} N \\ k \end{pmatrix}$ 

- Arrangements  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)}$
- Combinations  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$
- Note  $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{k-1}$

On CAS: (soft keyboard)  $\square \rightarrow [Advanced] \rightarrow nCr(n,cr)$ 

#### Pascal's Triangle

n =													
0							1						
1						1		1					
2					1		2		1				
3				1		3		3		1			
4			1		4		6		4		1		
5		1		5		10		10		5		1	
6	1		6		15		20		15		6		1

# 3 Binomial distributions

(aka Bernoulli distributions)

Defined by 
$$X \sim \operatorname{Bi}(n, p)$$
  
 $\implies \operatorname{Pr}(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$   
 $= \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$ 

where:

 $\boldsymbol{n}$  is the number of trials

There are two possible outcomes: S or F

 $\Pr(\text{success}) = p$ 

 $\Pr(\text{failure}) = 1 - p = q$ 

## Conditions for a binomial variable/distribution

- 1. Two possible outcomes: success or failure
- 2. Pr(success) is constant across trials (also denoted p)
- 3. Finite number n of independent trials

## Solve on CAS

 $\begin{array}{l} {\rm Main} \rightarrow {\rm Interactive} \rightarrow {\rm Distribution} \rightarrow {\tt binomialPDf} \\ {\rm Input \ x \ (no. \ of \ successes), \ numtrial \ (no. \ of \ trials), \ pos \ (probbability \ of \ success)} \end{array}$ 

**Properties of**  $X \sim \operatorname{Bi}(n, p)$ 

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{Mean} & \mu(X) = np \\ \mathbf{Variance} & \sigma^2(X) = np(1-p) \\ \mathbf{s.d.} & \sigma(X) = \sqrt{np(1-p)} \end{array}$$

## Applications of binomial distributions

 $\Pr(X \ge a) = 1 - \Pr(X < a)$ 

# 4 Continuous probability

## Continuous random variables

• a variable that can take any real value in an interval

## Probability density functions

- area under curve = 1  $\implies \int f(x) dx = 1$
- $f(x) \ge 0 \forall x$
- pdfs may be linear
- must show sections where f(x) = 0 (use open/closed circles)

$$Pr(a \le X \le b) = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx$$

On CAS: Interactive  $\rightarrow$  Distribution  $\rightarrow$  normCdf. For function in domain  $a \le x \le b$ :

$$\mathbf{E}(X) = \int_a^b x f(x) \, dx$$
$$\mathrm{sd}(X) = \sqrt{\mathrm{Var}(X)} = \sqrt{\mathbf{E}(X^2) - [\mathbf{E}(X)]^2}$$