

## 4.4 Functions of a r.v.

(100)

$X$  discrete  $\Rightarrow g(X)$  discrete

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{x \in R(X)} g(x) P(X=x)$$

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

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

$$E[b] = b$$

### **Example 4b**

A product that is sold seasonally yields a net profit of  $b$  dollars for each unit sold and a net loss of  $\ell$  dollars for each unit left unsold when the season ends. The number of units of the product that are ordered at a specific department store during any season is a random variable having probability mass function  $p(i), i \geq 0$ . If the store must stock this product in advance, determine the number of units the store should stock so as to maximize its expected profit.

$X =$  "units ordered"

$X$  is a r.v. w/ mass func.  $p(i)$

$$R(X) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$s =$  "units stocked"

$s$  is a nonnegative integer that we choose

$R =$  "profit in dollars"

$$R = \begin{cases} bX - (s-X)l & \text{if } X \leq s, \\ sb & \text{if } X > s. \end{cases}$$

Goal: find  $s$  that maximizes  $ER$ .

$R$  is a function of  $X$

So  $R = g(x)$  for some func.  $g$ .

What is  $g$ ?

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} bx - (s-x)l & \text{if } x \leq s, \\ sb & \text{if } x > s. \end{cases}$$

This is the whole key to this problem. To compute  $ER$ , we need to use the theorem about a func. of a r.v. To use that then, we need to be able to write down that function.

$$E[R] = E[g(x)]$$

$$= \sum_{i \in R(x)} g(i) P(X=i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} g(i) p(i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^s (bi - (s-i)l) p(i) + \sum_{i=s+1}^{\infty} sb p(i)$$

= ...   
 ↙ lots of algebra (see the book for details)

$$= sb + (b+l) \sum_{i=0}^s (i-s) \varphi(i)$$



call this  $f(s)$

we want to maximize  $f(s)$

The domain of  $f$  is  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

Cannot use  $f'$  to maximize.

Look at differences instead

$$f(s+1) - f(s) = \dots \quad \leftarrow \text{lots of algebra (see book)}$$

$$= b - (b+l) \sum_{i=0}^s \varphi(i)$$

So...

$$f(s+1) > f(s) \iff \frac{b}{b+l} > \underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^s \varphi(i)}$$

$$= P(X \leq s) = F_X(s)$$

Find the largest  $s$  with  $F_X(s) < \frac{b}{b+l}$   
and call it  $s^*$ .

We should stock  $s^* + 1$  units.

## 4.5 Variance

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2] \quad (\text{definition})$$

$\mu = E[X]$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \quad (\text{alternate formula})$$

$$\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$$

*read the pts/derivations in book*

$$\text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}$$

↑  
standard deviation of  $X$

### Expl 5a

Roll a fair die.

$X$  = "the number rolled"

$$\text{Var}(X) = ?$$

$$E[X] = 3.5 = \frac{7}{2} \quad (\text{computed earlier})$$

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{n=1}^6 n^2 P(X=n) = \frac{1}{6} (1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + 6^2)$$
$$= \dots = \frac{91}{6}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{91}{6} - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{91}{6} - \frac{49}{4} = \frac{182 - 147}{12}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{25}{12}}$$

## 4.6 Bernoulli/Binomial r.v.s

$$0 \leq p \leq 1$$

$$X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p) \text{ means } \begin{aligned} P(X=1) &= p \\ P(X=0) &= 1-p \end{aligned}$$

$$n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$X \sim \text{Binom}(n, p) \text{ means}$$

$$P(X=k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}, \quad k=0, 1, \dots, n$$

### **Example 6b**

It is known that screws produced by a certain company will be defective with probability .01, independently of one another. The company sells the screws in packages of 10 and offers a money-back guarantee that at most 1 of the 10 screws is defective. What proportion of packages sold must the company replace?

$A =$  "The package must be replaced."

$N =$  the # of defective screws in the package.

$$N \sim \text{Binom}(10, 0.01)$$

$$A = \{N > 1\}$$

$$P(A) = ?$$

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$$N \sim \text{Binom}(10, 0.01)$$

$$P(N=k) = \binom{10}{k} 0.01^k 0.99^{10-k}, \quad k=0, 1, \dots, 10$$

$$P(A) = P(N > 1) = \sum_{k=2}^{10} \binom{10}{k} 0.01^k 0.99^{10-k}$$

too much to calculate

$$P(N > 1) = 1 - P(N \leq 1)$$

$$= 1 - (P(N=0) + P(N=1))$$

$$= 1 - \binom{10}{0} 0.01^0 0.99^{10} - \binom{10}{1} 0.01^1 0.99^9$$

$$= 1 - 0.99^{10} - 0.1(0.99^9)$$

$$= 1 - 0.99^9 (0.99 + 0.1)$$

$$= \boxed{1 - 1.09(0.99^9)} \approx 0.004266$$

### Example

4j

### The problem of the points

Independent trials resulting in a success with probability  $p$  and a failure with probability  $1 - p$  are performed. What is the probability that  $n$  successes occur before  $m$  failures? If we think of  $A$  and  $B$  as playing a game such that  $A$  gains 1 point when a success occurs and  $B$  gains 1 point when a failure occurs, then the desired probability is the probability that  $A$  would win if the game were to be continued in a position where  $A$  needed  $n$  and  $B$  needed  $m$  more points to win.

(this example is from Section 3.4)

$A_{n,m}$  = "  $n$  successes occur before  $m$  failures."

$B$  = "First trial is a success."

partial  
SOLN 1

$$P(A_{n,m}) = P(B)P(A_{n,m}|B) + P(B^c)P(A_{n,m}|B^c)$$

$$= pP(A_{n-1,m}) + (1-p)P(A_{n,m-1})$$

$$q_{n,m} := P(A_{n,m})$$

$$\begin{cases} q_{n,m} = p q_{n-1,m} + (1-p) q_{n,m-1} \\ q_{n,0} = 0 \\ q_{0,m} = 1 \end{cases}$$

can solve this recursion, but it's a mess...

SOLN 2

$N =$  trial on which  $n^{\text{th}}$  success occurs  
 $M =$  " "  $m^{\text{th}}$  failure "

$$P(N < M) = ?$$

$X =$  # of successes in 1<sup>st</sup>  $n+m-1$  trials

$Y =$  # of failures " "

$$X + Y = n + m - 1$$

$X \sim \text{Binom}(n+m-1, p)$ ,

$$Y = m - 1 + n - X$$

$$X \geq n \Leftrightarrow N \leq n+m-1$$



$$Y \leq m-1 \Leftrightarrow M > n+m-1$$

$$X \geq n \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} N \leq n+m-1 \\ \text{and} \\ M > n+m-1 \end{array} \Rightarrow N < M$$

$$X < n \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} N > n+m-1 \\ \text{and} \\ M \leq n+m-1 \end{array} \Rightarrow N > M \Rightarrow N \geq M$$

Therefore,

$$X \geq n \Leftrightarrow N < M$$

$$\{X \geq n\} = \{N < M\}$$

$$P(N < M) = P(X \geq n)$$

$$= \sum_{k=n}^{n+m-1} \binom{n+m-1}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n+m-1-k}$$



## Properties of binom. dist.

$$X \sim \text{Binom}(n, p) \Rightarrow E[X] = np$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1-p)$$

$$\text{Stirling's approx. : } k! \sim k^{k+\frac{1}{2}} e^{-k} \sqrt{2\pi}$$

↑ "is asymptotic to"  
 $a_k \sim b_k$  means  $\frac{a_k}{b_k} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 1$ .

### Expl 6g

$n$  = the population of my state

$cn$  = the # of electoral votes my state awards

$N$  = the # of electoral votes I personally award

(Imagine I vote last. If the election is tied before I vote, I award  $cn$  electoral votes. Otherwise, I award 0.)

$$\text{my "power"} \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} E[N]$$

(This is a weird definition of "power", but we're just following the example.)

Assumptions:

- $n = 2k + 1$  (so it's possible for the election to be tied when I go to vote)
- all the other voters choose from among the two candidates by flipping a coin. (kind of a weird assumption, but again, we're just following along)

my "power"  $\approx ?$   
 $E[N] \approx ?$

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$A =$  "Not counting my vote, the election is tied."

$$N = c n \mathbb{1}_A$$

$X =$  the # of other people that voted for the first candidate.

$$X \sim \text{Binom}(2k, \frac{1}{2})$$

$$A = \{X = k\}$$

$$E[N] = E[cn \mathbb{1}_A] = cn E[\mathbb{1}_A]$$

$$= cn P(A) = cn P(X=k)$$

$$= cn \binom{2k}{k} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2k-k}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2k} = \frac{1}{2^{2k}}$$

$$= cn \cdot \frac{(2k)!}{k! k! 2^{2k}}$$

Stirling's  
approx.  
↓

$$\sim cn \cdot \frac{(2k)^{2k+\frac{1}{2}} e^{-2k} \sqrt{2\pi}}{\left(k^{k+\frac{1}{2}} e^{-k} \sqrt{2\pi}\right)^2 2^{2k}}$$

$$= cn \cdot \frac{2^{2k+\frac{1}{2}} \cancel{k^{2k+\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-2k} \sqrt{2\pi}}{k^{2k+\frac{1}{2}} \cancel{e^{-2k}} \sqrt{(2\pi)} 2^{2k}}$$

$$= cn \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{k} \sqrt{2\pi}} = \frac{cn}{\sqrt{\pi k}}$$

But  $k \sim \frac{n}{2}$ , so ...

$$E[N] \sim \frac{cn}{\sqrt{\frac{\pi n}{2}}} = \boxed{c \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \sqrt{n}}$$

This example is supposed to illustrate that voters in larger states have more "power". But it only works if you accept their definition of "power" and you accept their assumptions.

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HW: Ch. 4: 1, 3, 4, 10, 13, 17-19, 20, 23, 27, 30, 31, 32,  
35, 39, 42, 44, 48, 50  
38, 41, 43, 47, 49