
Exercise Set 2

Give your results with 2 significant digits precision e.g. 0.95 or 0.15%, or as a fraction e.g. $1/3$

1 Refresher on probabilities [normal]

When Mr Schmitt has a cold, he always wears his red jumper. When he does not have a cold, there is a 6% chance he will wear his red jumper. On average, Mr Schmitt has a cold on 15 days in one year.

- Draw a probability tree diagram and fill in the probabilities that are given.
- What is the overall probability for Mr Schmitt to wear his red jumper?
- You see Mr. Schmitt *not* wearing his red jumper. What is the probability that he has a cold?
- Mr. Schmitt is wearing his red jumper. What is the probability that he has a cold?
- Are the probabilities for "Mr Schmitt has a cold" and "Mr Schmitt wears his red jumper" independent? Prove your statement.

2 Bonus round [basic]

In a quiz show, you win the chance to play a bonus game. One dice is rolled, and you receive the number of eyes *squared* in 100 CHF bills. For example, if the dice shows the number 2, you win $100 \times 2^2 = 400$ CHF.

- What are the minimal and maximal possible amounts you can win?
- How much can you expect to win on average?
- Why is the result in (b) not 100×3.5^2 CHF

3 The probability distribution of dice [normal]

- Find the probability distribution of rolling a fair, single dice with 6 faces (normal dice). Compute the expectation value, variance and standard deviation.
- Now you throw 2 fair dice in parallel, and you play a game that depends on the sum of the faces. Say, X_1 denotes the result of die 1, and X_2 that of die 2. You are now interested in their sum, $X = X_1 + X_2$. Find the probability of X , and compute its expectation value μ , variance and standard deviation σ .
- Draw the probability mass distribution and cumulative distribution.
- Someone offers you to gamble in the following game: You throw 2 dice. If the sum X is below 10, you have to pay 1 CHF, but if it is 10 or higher, you win 2 CHF. Is it a good idea for you to play this game (is it fair)?

4 Binomial distribution and coin game [normal-advanced]

A fair coin has two possible outcomes, "heads" or "tails", that occur with equal probability ($p = 1/2$). The coin toss is the paradigmatic realization of a binomial experiment. We denote the number of coin tosses by n , and we are interested only in the total number of "heads" and "tails" in the n tosses, not their order. This is described by the random variable $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, where X_j denotes the value assigned to the outcome of the j -th coin throw. You define $X_j = 1$ if the j -th throw shows "heads" and $X_j = 0$ if it shows "tails".

- a) You throw a coin ten times. Compute the probabilities of the following events:
- 1) only "heads" in every throw
 - 2) either only "heads" or only "tails"
 - 3) exactly 5 "heads" and 5 "tails"
- b)
- 1) Express the probability $P(X = k)$ and $P(X \leq k)$ for any integer k with $0 \leq k \leq n$.
 - 2) Compute the expectation value $\mathbb{E}[X]$ and its standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{\mathbb{V}[X]}$ of the Binomial distribution for general n and state the numbers for the example above, with $n=10$.
 - 3) The variance apparently is zero for two special cases, $p = 0$ and $p = 1$. Why is that?
 - 4) Consider now an unfair coin. It has been made to show "heads" with a very low probability, $p = \frac{1}{6}$. On average, how many times do you expect to throw the coin before you find the first "heads"?