



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIT – I PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

AXIOMS OF PROBABILITY

(i) A number of telephone calls received in an office during lunch hour has the probability function given below:

Calls (x): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

$p(x)$: 0.05 0.20 0.25 0.20 0.15 0.10 0.05

Verify that the function is probability distribution:

Soln:

(i) $p(x) \geq 0$

(ii) $\sum_{i=0}^6 p(x_i) = 0.05 + 0.20 + 0.25 + 0.20 + 0.15 + 0.10 + 0.05$
 $= 1.0$

Thus the above two conditions are satisfied.

\Rightarrow the function is probability function.



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

(An Autonomous Institution)

Coimbatore – 35



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIT – I PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

(2) Consider a random experiment of tossing a coin 3 times.

Let x denote the no. of heads and y denote the no. of consecutive heads. Find

(i) probability distribution of x and y .

(ii) Distribution function of x .

(iii) probability distribution of $x+y$ and xy .

Soln:

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

Let x be the no. of heads.

y be the no. of consecutive heads.

Event	HHH	THH	HTH	HHT	TTH	THT	HTT	TTT
x	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	0
y	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
$x+y$	6	4	2	4	1	1	1	0
xy	9	4	0	4	0	0	0	0



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIT – I PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

(i) Probability Distribution of X :

x	0	1	2	3
$p(x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

Probability Distribution of Y :

y	0	2	3
$p(y)$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{2}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

(ii) Distribution Function of X :

x	0	1	2	3
$F(x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{4}{8}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{8}{8} = 1$

$$x \quad F(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

$$0 \quad F(0) = P(X \leq 0) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$1 \quad F(1) = P(X \leq 1) = P(X=0) + P(X=1) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{4}{8}$$

$$2 \quad F(2) = P(X \leq 2) = P(X=0) + P(X=1) + P(X=2) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$3 \quad F(3) = P(X \leq 3) = P(X=0) + P(X=1) + P(X=2) + P(X=3) \\ = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = 1$$



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIT – I PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

If A and B are independent events, prove that

(i) \bar{A} and B are independent (ii) A & \bar{B} are independent

Proof: (iii) \bar{A} and \bar{B} are independent

Since A and B are independent, we have

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B) \quad (\text{By } n)$$

(i) \bar{A} and B are independent

$$B = (A \cap B) \cup (\bar{A} \cap B)$$

Since $(A \cap B)$ & $(\bar{A} \cap B)$ are disjoint

$$P(B) = P(A \cap B) + P(\bar{A} \cap B)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore P(\bar{A} \cap B) &= P(B) - P(A \cap B) \\ &= P(B) - P(A) \cdot P(B) \\ &= P(B) [1 - P(A)] \\ &= P(B) \cdot P(\bar{A}) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \bar{A}$ and B are independent.



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIT – I PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

(ii) A and \bar{B} are independent.

$$A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap \bar{B})$$

$$P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap \bar{B})$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cap \bar{B}) &= P(A) - P(A \cap B) \\ &= P(A) - P(A) \cdot P(B) \\ &= P(A) [1 - P(B)] \\ &= P(A) P(\bar{B}) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore A$ and \bar{B} are independent.

(iii) ~~A~~ \bar{A} and \bar{B} are independent.

We know that, $\overline{AB} = \bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{A} \cap \bar{B}) &= P(\overline{AB}) \\ &= 1 - P(A \cup B) \\ &= 1 - [P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)] \\ &= 1 - P(A) - P(B) + P(A) \cdot P(B) \\ &= [1 - P(A)] P(B) - P(B) [1 - P(A)] \\ &= [1 - P(B)] [1 - P(A)] \\ &= \bar{A} \bar{B} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \bar{A}$ & \bar{B} are independent.