

# Chapter 6) Discrete Probability Distributions (1)

(Chpt 7: Continuous Prob. Dist.)

In chpt 6 and 7 we will introduce the popular distributions of data that we see in stats.

## 6.1 Random Variables

In algebra we use  $x$  to represent a variable

ex Solve for  $x$ :  $3x + 2 = 4(x - 1)$

In statistics our variables are a numerical outcome of an probability experiment.

ex Let  $X$  = the number of heads that appear after tossing 5 coins on the table

$X$  is a random variable

### ex Examples of random variables

- Numbers from the roll of a die
- Height of a randomly chosen male
- Number of siblings in a randomly chosen family
- Values of electricity bills in your neighborhood

Def:

Discreet Random Var s represent data

that comes in chunks, or quanta

ex: the number of eggs gathered in the morning

Continuous Random Var represents data

that allows further refinement in a value

ex gallons of milk from the Cow

Def

Probability distribution for a discreet

random var specifies the probability that a variable's value has of being selected

$8.14 \approx \bar{x}$

$\frac{5130}{12}$

$1.3$



**EX** Sum of two dice

Red and Blue dice

• Sample space

S =

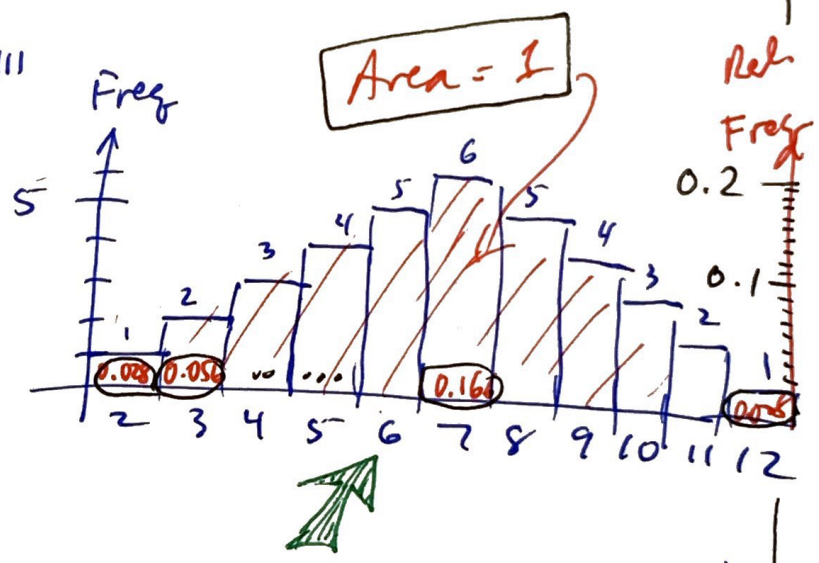
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	11	21	31	41	51	61
2	12	22	32	42	52	62
3	13	23	33	43	53	63
4	14	24	34	44	54	64
5	15	25	35	45	55	65
6	16	26	36	46	56	66

9      10      11      12

• Prob. Distribution Tally

$\Sigma$ Sum	Outcomes	Freq.
2	1,1	$1/36 = 0.028$
3	1,2, 2,1	$2/36 =$
4	1,3, 2,2, 3,1	$3/36 =$
5	1,4, 2,3, 3,2, 4,1	$4/36 = 0.111$
6	1,5, 2,4, 3,3, 4,2, 5,1	$5/36 =$
7	1,6, 2,5, 3,4, 4,3, 5,2, 6,1	$6/36 =$
8	2,6, 3,5, 4,4, 5,3, 6,2	$5/36 =$
9	3,6, 4,5, 5,4, 6,3	$4/36 =$
10	4,6, 5,5, 6,4	$3/36 =$
11	5,6, 6,5	$2/36 =$
12	6,6	$1/36 =$

• Prob. Histogram



• Probabilith Distribution for the sum of two dice (table)

$\Sigma$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
P( $\Sigma$ )	0.028	0.056	0.083	0.111	0.138	0.166	0.138	0.111	0.083	0.056	0.028

Sum = 100

# ⊗ Properties

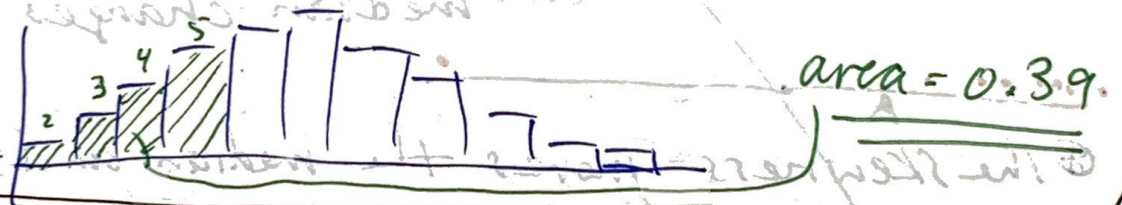
$$\sum P(X) = 1.0$$

**EX** sum of two dice  
 $0.028 + 0.056 + 0.083 + 0.111 + 0.138 + 0.166$   
 $+ 0.138 + 0.111 + 0.083 + 0.054 + 0.028 = 1.0$

• area under the probability histogram is 1

**EX** •  $P(\text{sum} = 5) = 0.111$  from the  $X$  vs.  $P(X)$  table  
•  $P(\text{sum} \leq 5) = P(2 \text{ or } 3 \text{ or } 4 \text{ or } 5)$   
 $= P(2) + P(3) + P(4) + P(5)$   
 $= 0.028 + 0.056 + 0.08 + 0.111 = 0.389$   
 $\approx \boxed{0.39}$

So 39% chance of rolling a sum of 5 or less



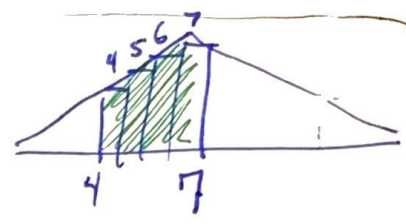
**EX** •  $P(\text{sum} > 5)$   
 $= 1 - P(\text{sum} \leq 5)$   
 $= 1 - 0.39 = \boxed{0.61}$



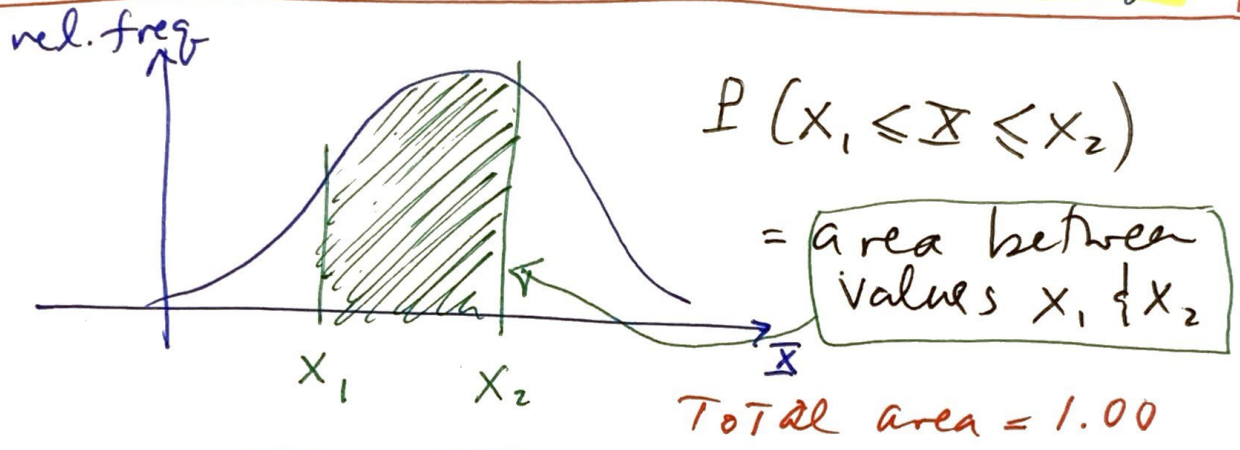


EX

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P(4 \leq \text{sum} \leq 7) \\
 &= P(4) + P(5) + P(6) + P(7) \\
 &= 0.083 + 0.111 + 0.138 + 0.166 = \boxed{0.498}
 \end{aligned}$$



\* The probability of a Random Variable having a certain range of values is the area under the prob. distribution between those ranges

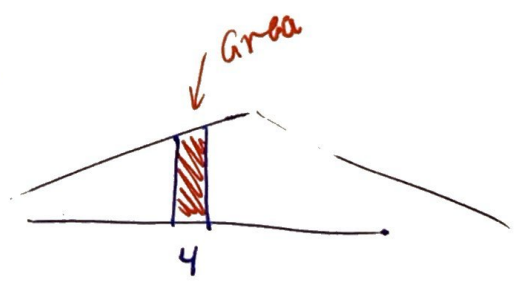


\* Again, the probability of a random variable tells us how frequently we can expect that outcome  $X$

EX

For discrete data, toss two dice

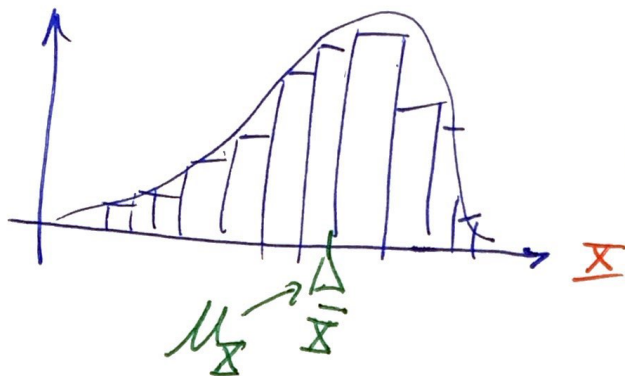
$$P(\text{sum} = 4) = 0.083$$



((For continuous data we do not address like  $P(\text{Bessy has } 4 \text{ gal. of milk today})$  only ranges 3.8-4.2g))

# ⊗ mean value of a Random Variable

5



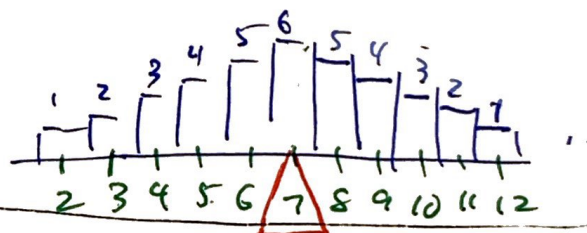
$$\mu_{\bar{X}} = \sum_1^N \bar{X} \cdot P(\bar{X})$$

EX Two dice Problem : Find the mean

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\bar{X}} &= 2 \cdot (0.028) + 3(0.055) + 4(0.083) + 5(0.111) \\ &+ 6(0.138) + 7(0.166) + 8(0.138) + 9(0.111) + 10(0.083) \\ &+ 11(0.055) + 12(0.028) \end{aligned} \quad \boxed{2^{nd}} \quad \boxed{\Sigma x}$$

So

$$\mu_{\bar{X}} = \underline{\underline{7.00}}$$



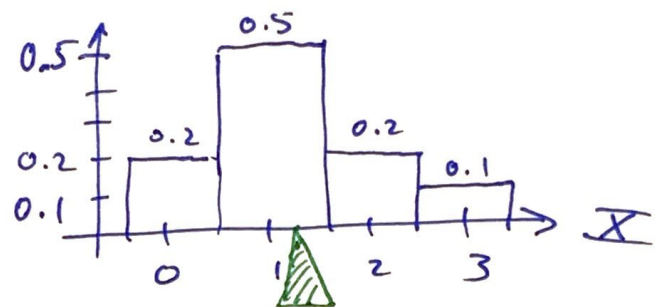
**EX** A Computer Monitor is rarely perfect as there are over a million pixels on the screen.

The following sampling process yielded the

- prob. table

$X$	0	1	2	3	← # of defective pixels out of factory
$P(X)$	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	

- Prob. Histogram

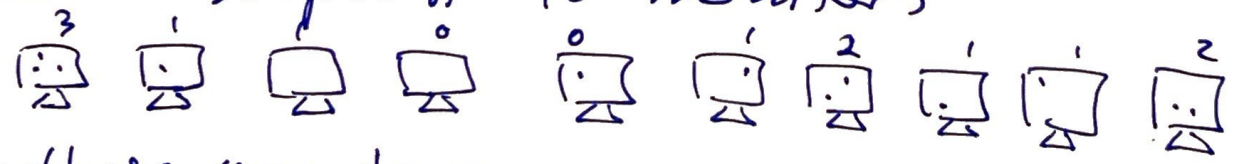


- mean of X = mean defective pixels

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_X &= \sum X \cdot P(X) \\ &= 0(0.2) + 1(0.5) + 2(0.2) + 3(0.1) \\ &= \boxed{1.2 \text{ def. pixels}} \quad \text{Law of Large numbers} \end{aligned}$$

\* This is also called the Expected Value,  $E_X$

Consider a sample of 10 monitors



Order these monitors



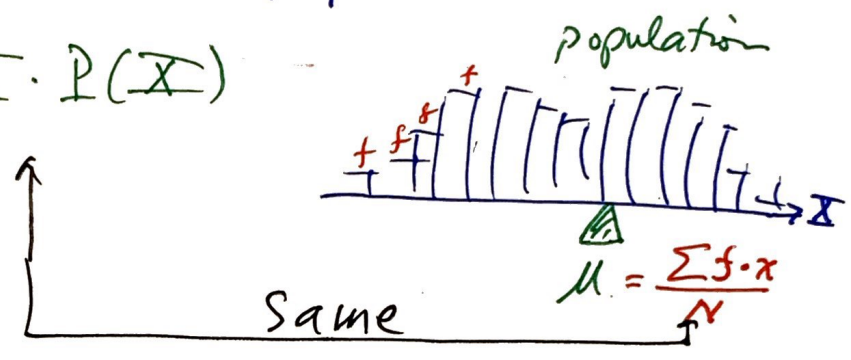
▲  
 $\mu_X = 1.2$



\* The Law of Large Numbers tells us that the larger the sample the closer our actual numbers are to the expected (mathematical) numbers

\* The mean of a random variable,  $\mu_X$ , is the mean of the population's variable

$$\mu_X = \sum X \cdot P(X)$$





EX

let  $X$  be the number of boys in a family of 5 children. Theoretically, given a 50:50 chance of a boy being born, we produce the following probability table:

Num of Boys	$X$	0	1	2	3	4	5
	$P(X)$	0.031	0.156	0.313	0.313	0.156	0.031

- Test: is  $\sum P(X) = 1$  yes 1.0 exactly (no rounding errors)
- Q: what is the expected number of boys born in a family w/ 5 children?

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_X &= \sum X \cdot P(X) \\ &= 0 \cdot (0.031) + 1 \cdot (0.156) + 2 \cdot (0.313) + 3 \cdot (0.313) \\ &\quad + 4 \cdot (0.156) + 5 \cdot (0.031) \\ &= \boxed{2.50} \end{aligned}$$

$E(X) = 2.50$ , not unexpected since we have 5 children and a 50:50 chance of a Boy.

# ⊗ Variance of a Random Variable

⑧

Recall variance (std. dev.) shows how spread out data is

Def: The variance of a random var is

$$\sigma_X^2 = \sum [X - \mu_X]^2 \cdot P(X)$$

where  $\mu_X = \sum X \cdot P(X)$

an often easier formula is

$$\sigma_X^2 = \sum X^2 \cdot P(X) - (\mu_X)^2$$

Def: the standard deviation of a random var. is

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{\sigma_X^2}$$

## Ex Defective Pixels Problem revisited

$X$	0	1	2	3
$P(X)$	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1

} previous example  
 $\rightarrow \mu_X = 1.2$

Use a table to compute  $\sigma_X$

$X$	$X - \mu_X$	$(X - \mu_X)^2$	$P(X)$	$(X - \mu_X)^2 \cdot P(X)$
0	$0 - 1.2 = -1.2$	1.44 *	0.2	= 0.288
1	$1 - 1.2 = -0.2$	0.04 *	0.5	= 0.020
2	$2 - 1.2 = 0.8$	0.64 *	0.2	= 0.128
3	$3 - 1.2 = 1.8$	3.24 *	0.1	= 0.324
				0.760

So  $\sigma_X^2 = 0.760$  and the std. dev =  $\sqrt{0.760} = 0.872$



EX

Roulette Table

9



- 38 pockets: 1-36 w/ 18 red, 18 black, plus also a "0" & "00" green

- We bet \$1 on red. If red comes up you get the dollar back + one more dollar. If black or green come up you win "\$-1" (you lose the dollar).

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} \bar{X} & -1 & +1 \\ \hline P(\bar{X}) & \frac{18+2}{38} & \frac{18}{38} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|c} -1 & +1 \\ \hline \frac{20}{38} & \frac{18}{38} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|c} -1 & +1 \\ \hline 0.53 & 0.47 \end{array}$$

So then the expected winnings are

$$E(\bar{X}) = \mu_{\bar{X}} = \bar{X}_1 \cdot P(\bar{X}_1) + \bar{X}_2 \cdot P(\bar{X}_2)$$

$$= (-1) \left( \frac{20}{38} \right) + (+1) \left( \frac{18}{38} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{2}{38} = \underline{\underline{-0.0526}} \text{ House always wins!!!}$$

- We see an expected loss. That is every time we play we expect a 5.26¢ loss

EX

Mineral Economists estimate a mining venture

has a

- 0.4 probability of \$30 million loss
- 0.5 probability of \$20 million profit
- 0.1 prob. of \$40 million profit.

• What is the expected earnings every time they start mining?

$X$	-30M	+20M	+40M
$P(X)$	0.4	0.5	0.1

So the expected profit is

$$E(X) = X_1 P(X_1) + X_2 P(X_2) + X_3 P(X_3)$$

$$E(X) = (-30M)(0.4) + (20M)(0.5) + (40M)(0.1)$$

$$E(X) = \boxed{2M} \text{ profitable, otherwise they would}$$

not start