

Example: Multiple choice quiz. 5 questions

4 possible choices/question  
1 correct answer.

What is the prob we get exactly 3 questions right if we randomly guess?

$$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark XX: \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark X\checkmark X: \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark XX\checkmark: \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2$$

⋮

→  $C(5,3)$  different cases

$$P(3 \text{ correct}) = C(5,3) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2$$

This is an example of a Bernoulli Experiment

Bernoulli Experiment w/  $n$  trials

1. Repeated  $n$  times ( $n$  questions,  $n$  coin flips, etc)
2. Each trial has 2 outcomes: success/failure (right/wrong,  $H/T$ ..)
3. Probability of success is same for each trial
4. Trials are independent
5. We are interested in number of successes, not order

Note: The championship example from is not a Bernoulli experiment, (could play 2 or 3 games)

Example: a) Coin flipped 8 times, count the number of heads

Is Bernoulli

b) 8 cards drawn from deck (without replacement), count number of spades

Not Bernoulli (trials not independent)

c) 8 cards drawn from deck (with replacement), count number of spades

Is Bernoulli

(with replacement)

d) Draw cards from deck until spade is drawn,  
count number of cards drawn.

Not Bernoulli (not repeated a fixed number  
of times)

Example: Roll die 3 times. What is prob of getting two 5's?

Bernoulli experiment? ✓

$$P(\text{Two 5's in 3 rolls}) = C(3,2) \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)$$

ways to reorder  
5's and non-5's.

Get two 5's

Get one non-5

$$= 3 \left(\frac{1}{36}\right) \left(\frac{5}{6}\right) = 0.0694$$

# Probability of Bernoulli Experiment (Binomial)

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$n$ : repeated trials

$k$ : number of success

$p$ : probability of success

$q = 1 - p$ : probability of failure

$$\rightsquigarrow \underbrace{P(k \text{ successes in } n \text{ trials})}_{\text{sometimes written } P(X=k)} = C(n, k) p^k q^{n-k}$$

The sequence of probabilities obtained from a Bernoulli experiment form the binomial distribution

Example: Roll die 3 times, count number of 5's.  
Find binomial distribution for this experiment

X	P(X)
0	$C(3,0) \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^3 = 0.5787$
1	$C(3,1) \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^2 = 0.3472$
2	$C(3,2) \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right) = 0.0694$
3	$C(3,3) \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^3 = 0.0046$

Why is it called the binomial distribution?

Recall: Binomial Theorem

$$1 = (p+q)^3 = C(3,0)p^3q^0 + C(3,1)p^2q + C(3,2)pq^2 + C(3,3)p^0q^3$$

Probabilities of a binomial  
distribution