

**ENGG 2430 / ESTR 2004: Probability and Statistics**  
Spring 2019

# **5. Conditioning and Independence**

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# Conditional PMF

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Let  $X$  be a random variable and  $A$  be an **event**.

The **conditional PMF** of  $X$  given  $A$  is

$$P(X = x \mid A) = \frac{P(X = x \text{ and } A)}{P(A)}$$

What is the PMF of a 6-sided die roll given that the outcome is **even**?  $\rightarrow E$

$$P_X(x) = \frac{1}{6} \quad \text{FOR } x = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$$

$$P(X=x | E) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{FOR } x = 2, 4, \text{ OR } 6$$

PMF

$x$	<del>1</del>	2	<del>3</del>	4	<del>5</del>	6
$P_X(x)$	<del><math>\frac{1}{6}</math></del>	$\frac{1}{6}$	<del><math>\frac{1}{6}</math></del>	$\frac{1}{6}$	<del><math>\frac{1}{6}</math></del>	$\frac{1}{6}$
$x$		2		4		6
$P(X=x E)$		$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$

You flip 3 coins. What is the PMF number of heads given that there is **at least one**?

A

UNCONDITIONAL PMF

Binomial  $(3, \frac{1}{2})$

x	0	1	2	3
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
$P(X=x A)$	0	$\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{1}{7}$

$$x = 1, 2, \text{ OR } 3: P(X=x|A) = \frac{P(X=x \text{ AND } A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(X=x)}{P(X=1) + P(X=2) + P(X=3)}$$

# Conditioning on a random variable

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Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be random variables.

The **conditional PMF** of  $X$  given  $Y$  is

$$\mathbf{P}(X = x \mid Y = y) = \frac{\mathbf{P}(X = x \text{ and } Y = y)}{\mathbf{P}(Y = y)}$$

JOINT

MARGINAL

$$p_{X|Y}(x \mid y) = \frac{p_{XY}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)}$$

For **fixed**  $y$ ,  $p_{X|Y}$  is a PMF as a function of  $x$ .  $\sum_x p_{X|Y}(x|y) = 1$   
FOR ALL  $y$

Roll two 4-sided dice. What is the PMF of the sum given the first roll?

$X = \text{FIRST ROLL}$

$S = \text{SUM}$

$$P(S=s | X=x) = \frac{P(S=s, X=x)}{P(X=x)}$$

$\frac{1}{4}$

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	0
2	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	0
3	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
4	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

$P_{S|X}(s|x)$

Roll two 4-sided dice. What is the PMF of the sum given the first roll?

JOINT

		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
F	1	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
	2	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
	3	0	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
	4	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

MARGINAL  
 $P(F=f)$

COND. PSIF

		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
F	1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$			
	2		$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$		
	3			$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	
	4				$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

Roll two 4-sided dice. What is the PMF of the first roll given the sum?

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
2	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
3	0	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
4	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

MARGINAL  
 $P(F=f)$

$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{2}{16}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	$\frac{2}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$
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$P(S=s)$

	1	2	3	4
2	1	0	0	0
3	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0
4	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	0
5	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
6	0	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
7	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
8	0	0	0	1



# Conditional Expectation

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The **conditional expectation** of  $X$  given event  $A$  is

$$\mathbf{E}[X \mid A] = \sum_x x \mathbf{P}(X = x \mid A)$$

The **conditional expectation** of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$\mathbf{E}[X \mid Y = y] = \sum_x x \mathbf{P}(X = x \mid Y = y)$$

You flip 3 coins. What is the **expected** number of heads given that there is at least one?

$x$	1	2	3
$P(X=x A)$	$\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{1}{7}$


$$E[X|A] = 1 \cdot \frac{3}{7} + 2 \cdot \frac{3}{7} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{7} = \frac{12}{7}$$

# Total Expectation Theorem

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$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{E}[X|A] \mathbf{P}(A) + \mathbf{E}[X|A^c] \mathbf{P}(A^c)$$

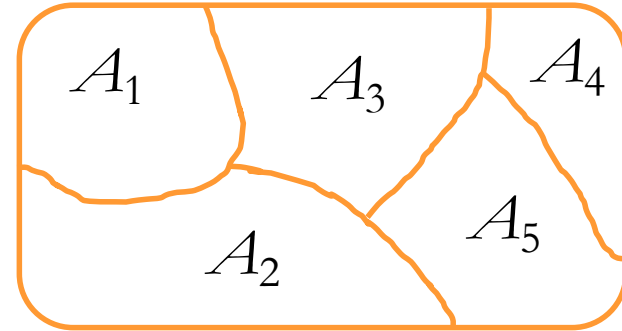
**Proof**


$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_x x P(X=x|A)P(A) + \sum_x x P(X=x|A^c)P(A^c) \\ &= \sum_x x (P(X=x|A)P(A) + P(X=x|A^c)P(A^c)) \\ &= \sum_x x P(X=x) \\ &= E[X] \end{aligned}$$

# Total Expectation Theorem (general form)

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If  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  **partition**  $\Omega$   
then

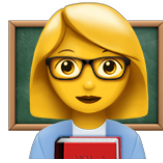


$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{E}[X | A_1] \mathbf{P}(A_1) + \dots + \mathbf{E}[X | A_n] \mathbf{P}(A_n)$$

In particular

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \sum_y \mathbf{E}[X | Y = y] \mathbf{P}(Y = y)$$

type



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average time  
on facebook

30 min

60 min

10 min

% of visitors

60%

30%

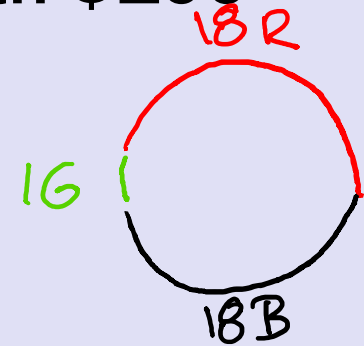
10%

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average visitor time =  $E[X|A]P(A) + E[X|B]P(B)$   
 $+ E[X|C]P(C) = 30 \cdot 60\% + 60 \cdot 30\% + 10 \cdot 10\%$

You play 10 rounds of roulette. You start with \$100 and bet 10% on red in every round.

On average, how much cash will remain?



$X_t =$  CASH AFTER  $t$  ROUNDS

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_1] &= E[X_1 | W_1] P(W_1) + E[X_1 | W_1^c] P(W_1^c) \\ &= 110 \cdot \frac{18}{37} + 90 \cdot \frac{19}{37} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_t] &= E[X_t | W_t] P(W_t) + E[X_t | W_t^c] P(W_t^c) \\ &= E[1.1 X_{t-1}] \frac{18}{37} + E[0.9 X_{t-1}] \frac{19}{37} \\ &= \left( 1.1 \cdot \frac{18}{37} + 0.9 \cdot \frac{19}{37} \right) \cdot E[X_{t-1}] \\ &\approx 0.997 E[X_{t-1}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_{10}] &\approx 0.997^{10} \cdot 100 \\ &\approx 97.3 \end{aligned}$$

You flip 3 coins. What is the **expected** number of heads given that there is at least one?

$X =$  NUMBER OF HEADS

$A =$  AT LEAST ONE

$$E[X] = E[X|A]P(A) + E[X|A^c]P(A^c)$$

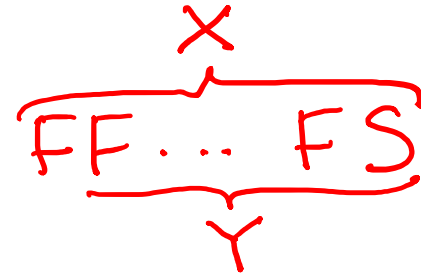
$$\frac{3}{2} = E[X|A] \cdot \frac{7}{8} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{8}$$

$$E[X|A] = \frac{3/2}{7/8} = \frac{12}{7}.$$

# Mean of the Geometric

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$X = \text{Geometric}(p)$  random variable



$$E[X] = p \cdot 1 + (1-p) \cdot p \cdot 2 + \dots$$

$$X = 1 + Y$$

ANOTHER WAY:

$Y$  ALSO  $\text{Geom}(p)$   
GIVEN  $A^c$

$A = \text{TRIAL 1 SUCCEEDS}$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= E[X|A]P(A) + E[X|A^c]P(A^c) \\ &= 1 \cdot p + E[1+Y|A^c] \cdot (1-p) \\ &= p + (1 + E[Y|A^c]) \cdot (1-p) \\ &= p + (1 + E[X]) \cdot (1-p) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{E[X] = 1/p}$$



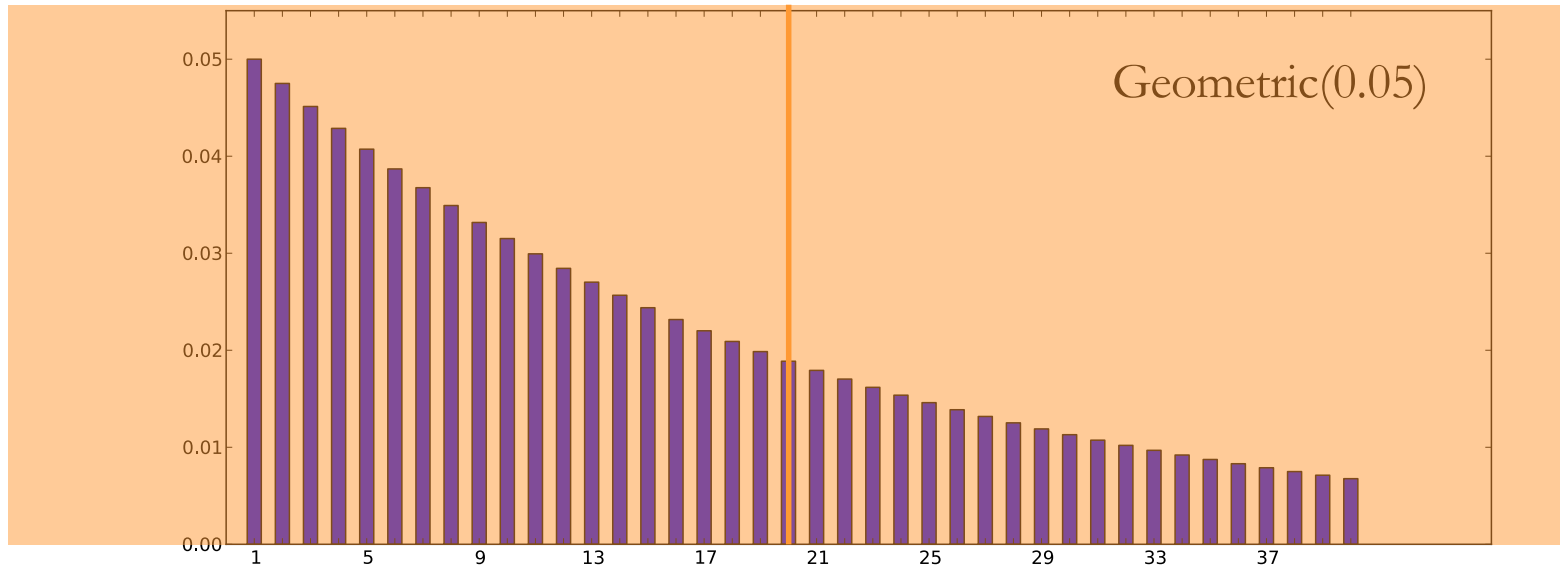
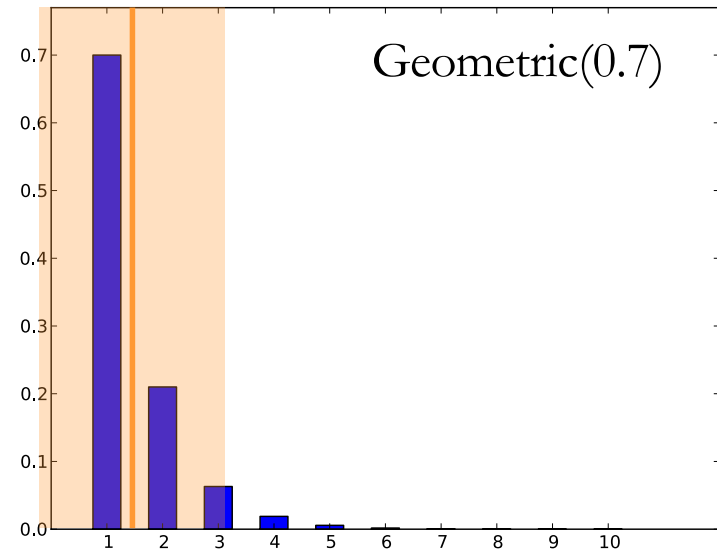
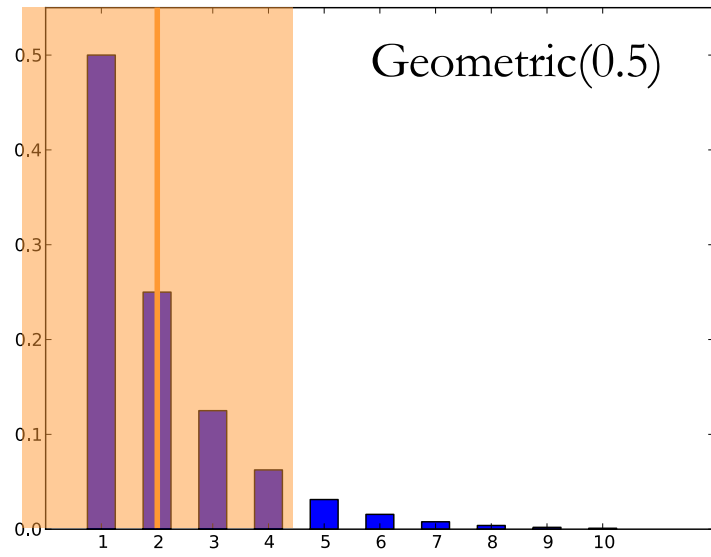
# Variance of the Geometric

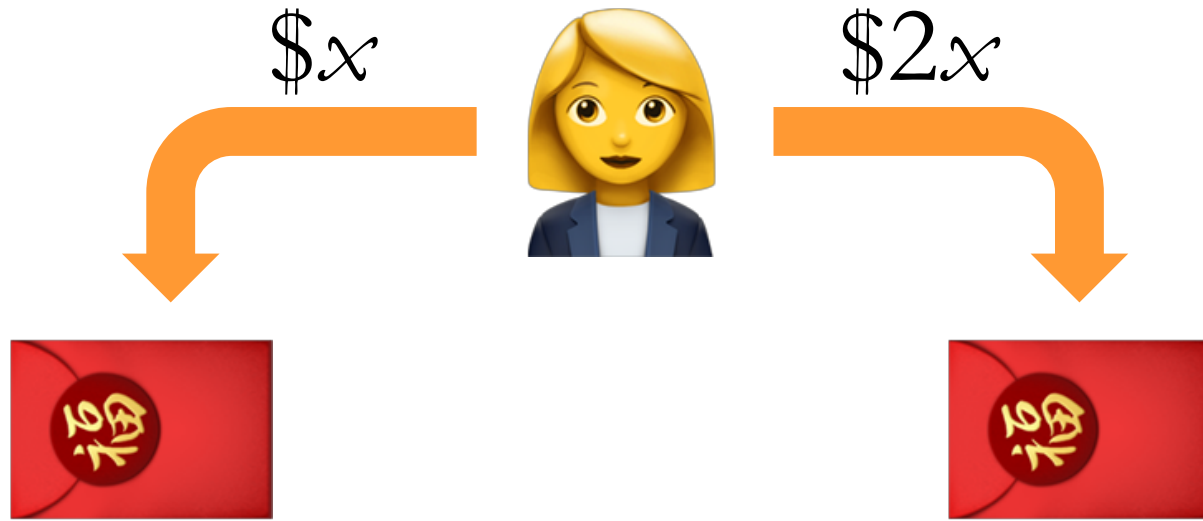
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$X = \text{Geometric}(p)$  random variable

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}[X] &= E[(X - 1/p)^2] \\ &= E[(X - 1/p)^2 | A] \cdot p + E[(X - 1/p)^2 | A^c] \cdot (1-p) \\ &= (1 - 1/p)^2 \cdot p + E[(1 + Y - 1/p)^2 | A^c] \cdot (1-p) \\ &= (1 - 1/p)^2 \cdot p + E[1 + 2(Y - 1/p) + (Y - 1/p)^2 | A^c] \cdot (1-p) \\ &= (1 - 1/p)^2 \cdot p + \underbrace{(1 + 2E[Y - 1/p | A^c])}_0 + \underbrace{E[(Y - 1/p)^2 | A^c]}_{\text{Var}[X]} \cdot (1-p) \\ &= (1 - 1/p)^2 \cdot p + (1 + \text{Var}[X]) \cdot (1-p)\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \left(\frac{1}{p} - 1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{p} - 1\right) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$





stay or switch?



Bob should **stay** because...

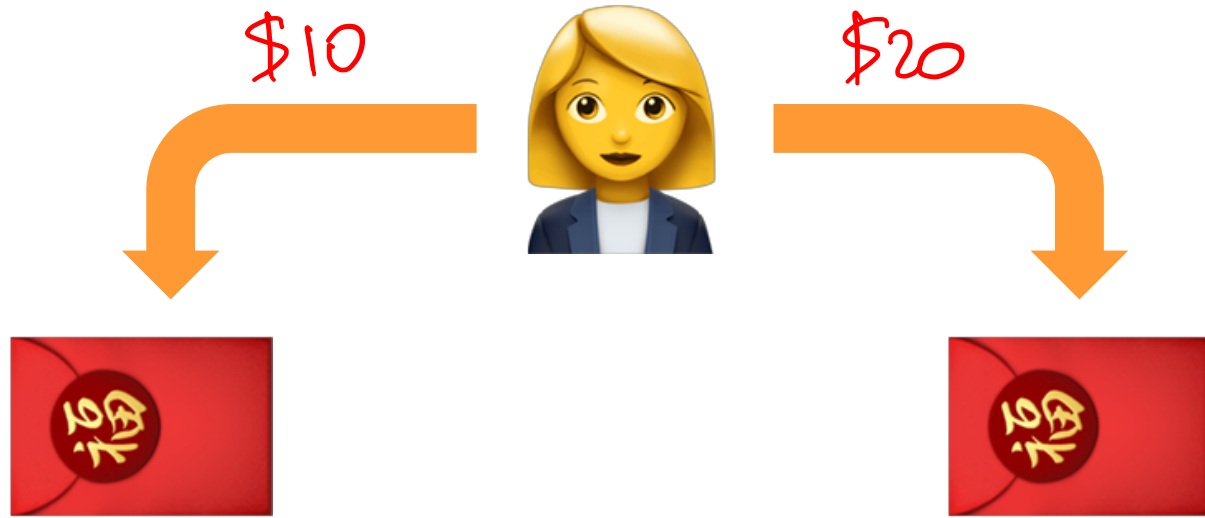
DON'T LOSE WHAT YOU HAVE  
DOESN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bob should **switch** because...

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= \frac{1}{2} E[2X] + \frac{1}{2} E[X/2] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2E[X] + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} E[X] \\ &= \frac{5}{4} E[X] \end{aligned}$$

X  
STAY

Y  
SWITCH



	X	Y
1/2	\$10	\$20
1/2	\$20	\$10

$$E[X] = 15$$

$$E[Y] = 15$$

SWITCH IF \$10  
STAY IF \$20

\$20 ALWAYS!



$\frac{1}{2}$       \$10  
 $\frac{1}{2}$       \$20

\$20  
\$40

JOINT PMF

X	Y	$P(X=X, Y=Y)$
10	20	$\frac{1}{4}$
20	10	$\frac{1}{4}$
20	40	$\frac{1}{4}$
40	20	$\frac{1}{4}$

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y|X=20] &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot 10 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 40 \\ &= 25 \quad \text{SWITCH!} \end{aligned}$$

# Independent random variables

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Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be **discrete** random variables.

$X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if

$$\mathbf{P}(X = x, Y = y) = \mathbf{P}(X = x) \mathbf{P}(Y = y)$$

for all possible values of  $x$  and  $y$ .

In PMF notation,  $p_{XY}(x, y) = p_X(x) p_Y(y)$  for all  $x, y$ .

# Independent random variables

---

$X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if

$$\mathbf{P}(X = x \mid Y = y) = \mathbf{P}(X = x)$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $\mathbf{P}(Y = y) > 0$ .

In PMF notation,  $p_{X|Y}(x \mid y) = p_X(x)$  if  $p_Y(y) > 0$ .



Alice tosses 3 coins and so does Bob. Alice gets \$1 per head and Bob gets \$1 per tail.

Are their earnings independent?

YES

$$P(B=b | A=a) = P(B=b) = \binom{3}{b} \cdot \frac{1}{8}.$$

Now they toss the same coin 3 times. Are their earnings independent?

$$A + B = 3$$

$$P(B = 3 | A = 3) = 0$$

$$P(B = 3) = \frac{1}{8}$$

DEPENDENT

# Expectation and independence

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$X$  and  $Y$  are independent if and only if

$$\mathbf{E}[f(X)g(Y)] = \mathbf{E}[f(X)] \mathbf{E}[g(Y)]$$

for all real valued functions  $f$  and  $g$ .

# Expectation and independence

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In particular, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent then

$$E[XY] = E[X] E[Y]$$

**Not true in general!**

# Variance of a sum

---

$$\text{Recall } \text{Var}[X] = \mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X])^2] = \mathbf{E}[X^2] - \mathbf{E}[X]^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X + Y] &= \mathbf{E}[(X+Y)^2] - \mathbf{E}[X+Y]^2 \\ &= \mathbf{E}[X^2 + 2XY + Y^2] - (\mathbf{E}[X] + \mathbf{E}[Y])^2 \\ &= \mathbf{E}[X^2] + \mathbf{E}[2XY] + \mathbf{E}[Y^2] - \mathbf{E}[X]^2 - \mathbf{E}[Y]^2 - 2\mathbf{E}[X]\mathbf{E}[Y] \\ &= \mathbf{E}[X^2] + 2\mathbf{E}[X]\mathbf{E}[Y] + \mathbf{E}[Y^2] - \mathbf{E}[X]^2 - \mathbf{E}[Y]^2 - 2\mathbf{E}[X]\mathbf{E}[Y] \\ &= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] \end{aligned}$$

# Variance of a sum

---

$$\mathbf{Var}[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = \mathbf{Var}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbf{Var}[X_n]$$

if every pair  $X_i, X_j$  is independent.

**Not true in general!**

# Variance of the Binomial

Binomial( $n, p$ )

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$$



1 IF TRIAL SUCCEEDS

0 IF TRIAL FAILS

$$\text{Var}[X] = \text{Var}[X_1] + \text{Var}[X_2] + \dots + \text{Var}[X_n]$$

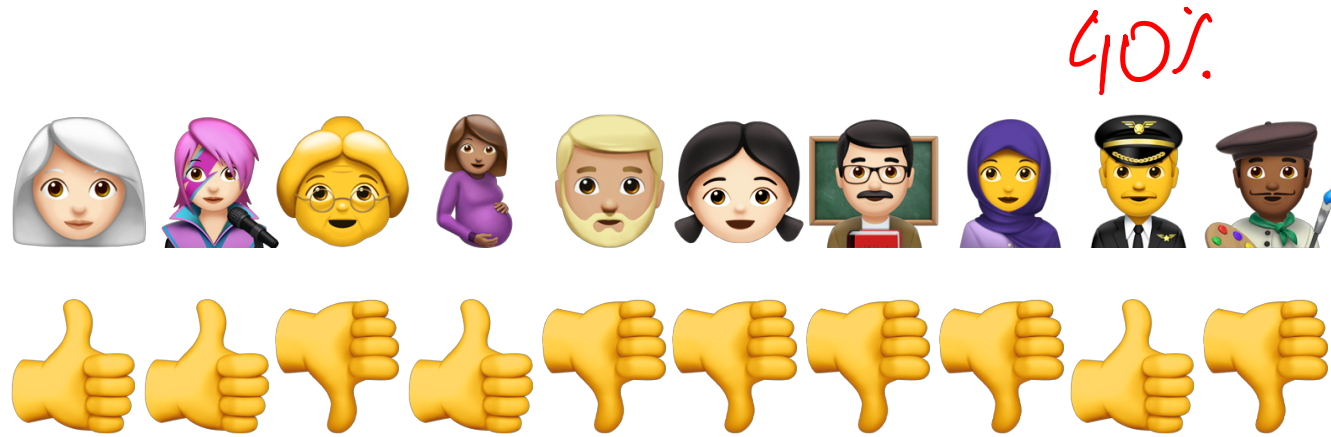
$$\text{Var}[X_1] = E[X_1^2] - E[X_1]^2 =$$

$$= p - p^2$$

$$= p(1-p)$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = n \cdot p \cdot (1-p)$$

# Sample mean



#x	
LIKE	DISLIKE
p	(1-p)

$X = \#$  POLLED PEOPLE THAT LIKE  
Binomial  $(n, p)$

$$E[X] = n \cdot p$$

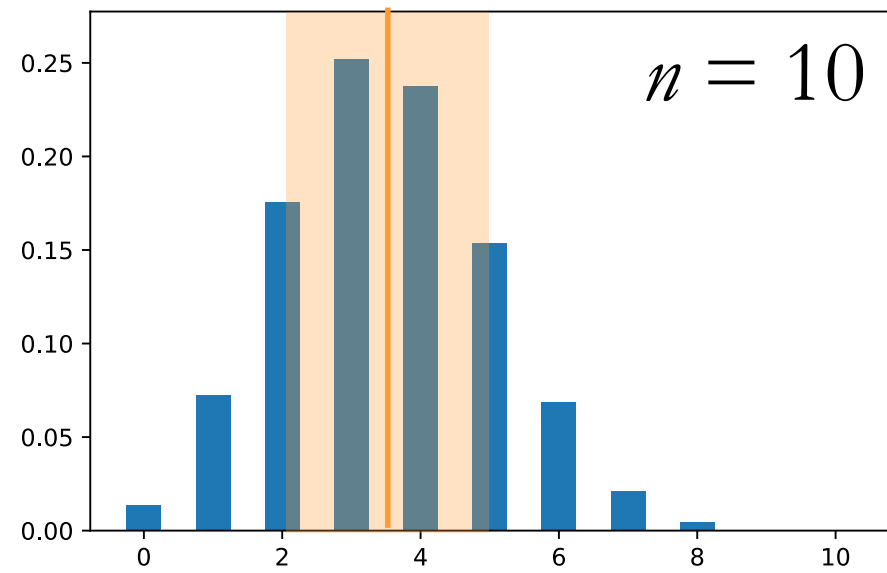
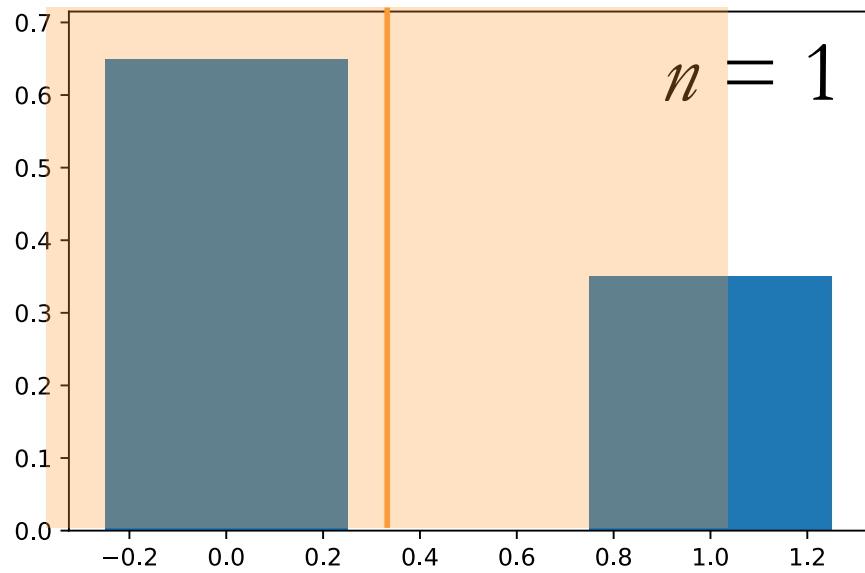
$$\sigma = \sqrt{n \cdot p \cdot (1-p)}$$

Ex.  $p = 50\%$

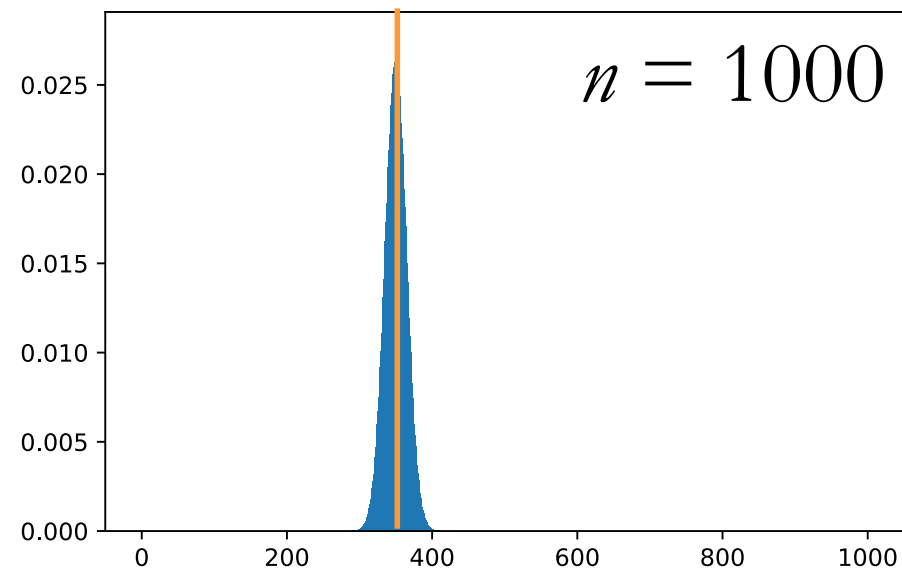
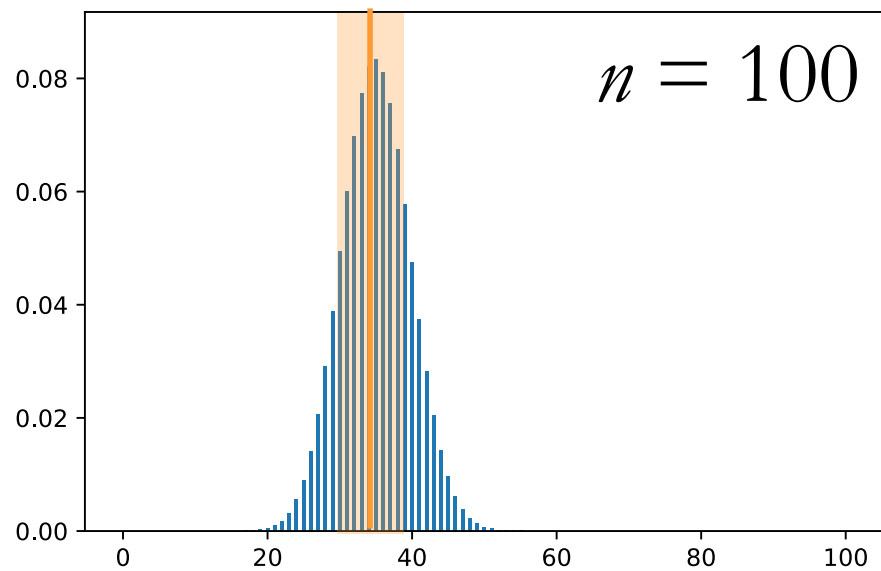
$$\begin{array}{l} n = 100 \\ n = 10000 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{E[X] = \frac{n}{2} \quad \sigma = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}}{\begin{array}{cc} 50 & 5 \\ 5000 & 50 \end{array}}$$





$$p = 0.35$$



# Variance of the Poisson

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Poisson( $\lambda$ ) **approximates** Binomial( $n, \lambda/n$ ) **for large**  $n$

$$p(k) = e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k / k!$$

$$k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{Var} [\text{Binomial}(n, p)] = n \cdot p \cdot (1-p)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot p \cdot (1-p) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot \frac{\lambda}{n} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right) = \lambda \quad \left(p = \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)$$

$$\text{Var} [\text{Poisson}(\lambda)] = \lambda \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\lambda}$$

# Independence of multiple random variables

---

$X, Y, Z$  **independent** if

$$\mathbf{P}(X = x, Y = y, Z = z) = \mathbf{P}(X = x) \mathbf{P}(Y = y) \mathbf{P}(Z = z)$$

for all possible values of  $x, y, z$ .

$X, Y, Z$  independent if and only if

$$\mathbf{E}[f(X)g(Y)b(Z)] = \mathbf{E}[f(X)] \mathbf{E}[g(Y)] \mathbf{E}[b(Z)]$$

for all  $f, g, b$ .

**Usual warnings apply.**