

Independence of R.V.'s, Chebyshev's Inequality

- Determine whether each of the following pairs of random variables are independent or not:
 - X = "number of heads," Y = "number of tails," when three fair coins are flipped
 - X = "sum of dice," Y = "value of first die" when two fair dice are tossed
 - X = "sum of dice mod 2", Y = "value of first die" when two fair dice are tossed
- Suppose two professors are co-teaching a course and trying to write a midterm. If they have a bank of k^2 problems to choose from and each (independently) chooses k problems they want to put on the exam, what is the expected number of problems chosen by both professors? Hint: make a r.v.'s X_i, Y_i for whether each professor chose problem i or not.
- Consider the experiment in which you flip a fair coin 3 times. Determine $V(X)$ and $\sigma(X)$ for each of the following:
 - X = "number of heads"
 - X = "longest consecutive run of the same result"
- Suppose you flip a bias- p coin n times. Find an upper bound on the probability that you get more than $\frac{n}{2} + \sqrt{n}$ or less than $\frac{n}{2} - \sqrt{n}$ heads.
- Find an upper bound on the probability that the sum of two fair dice is less than 3 or greater than 4.
- Consider the probability space with 5 possible outcomes, a, b, c , each of which occurs with probability $\frac{1}{3}$. Suppose further that X, Y are random variables such that $X(a) = -1, X(b) = 0, X(c) = 1$ and $Y(a) = 0, Y(b) = 1, Y(c) = 0$.
 - Show that X, Y are not independent
 - Show that $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$. Note this shows that our theorem is not an if and only if.
- Suppose we generate a permutation of n elements uniformly at random.
 - What is the expected number of fixed points?
 - What is the variance of the number of fixed points?
Hint: if X_i, X_j are r.v.'s indicating the i, j are fixed by a certain permutation, what is $E[X_i X_j]$?
 - Find an upper bound on the probability that there are at least 3 fixed points.

More Probability

- Suppose someone offers to pay you 2^n dollars if you can flip a fair coin n times and have your first Heads be on the n th flip. How much money should you be willing to wager on this game?
- Suppose you repeatedly roll two dice until the sum is 6. What is the expected number of rolls?
- Suppose Alice has n pieces of chocolate that she randomly distributes between two bins. Bob then takes the bin with more chocolate in it. What is the expected amount of chocolate that Bob takes?
- Suppose you have an infinite supply of balls which you toss randomly into k bins. What is the expected number of tosses before each bin has at least one ball?
Hint: let X_i be a r.v. to denote the number of tosses after $i - 1$ bins have balls until an i th bin gets a ball and find $E(\sum X_i)$