

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

In the 2005 Conference USA basketball tournament, Memphis trailed Louisville by two points. At the buzzer, Memphis's Darius Washington attempted a 3-pointer; he missed but was fouled, and went to the line for three free throws. Each made free throw is worth 1 point. Was it smart to foul?

- a) Darius Washington was a 72% free-throw shooter. Find the probability that Memphis will win, lose or go to overtime.

Win	Lose	Overtime
<p>makes all 3 ✓✓✓ <math>(.72)(.72)(.72)</math> <math>= \boxed{0.373248}</math></p>	<p>misses all 3 or makes 1 <math>xxx + xxv + xv x + vxx</math> <math>= (.28)^3 + (.28)^2(.72) + (.28)^2(.72) + (.28)^2(.72)</math> or <math>= (.28)^3 + 3(.28)^2(.72)</math> <math>= \boxed{0.191296}</math></p>	<p>Makes 2 <math>\checkmark\checkmark x + \checkmark x \checkmark + x \checkmark \checkmark</math> <math>= 3(.72)^2(.28)</math> <math>= \boxed{0.435456}</math></p>

- b) Washington is a 40% 3-point shooter. Do you think Louisville was smart to foul? Why or why not?

Maybe → The chance of losing in regulation time goes down, but they may lose in overtime.

**1. Determine whether the conditions for using a binomial random variable are met.**

If we define **X = The number of free throws made in 3 shots**, then we may call this a binomial random variable.

A **binomial setting** arises when we perform several independent trials of the same chance process and record the number of times that a particular outcome occurs. The four conditions for a binomial setting are:

- Binary The possible outcomes of each trial can be classified as "success" or "failure."
- Independent Trials must be independent; that is, knowing the result of one trial must not tell us anything about the result of any other trial.
- Number The number of trials  $n$  of the chance process must be fixed in advance.
- Success There is the same probability  $p$  of success on each trial.

The count  $X$  of successes in a binomial setting is a **binomial random variable**. The probability distribution of  $X$  is a **binomial distribution** with parameters  $n$  and  $p$ , where  $n$  is the number of trials of the chance process and  $p$  is the probability of a success on any one trial. The possible values of  $X$  are the whole numbers from 0 to  $n$ .

BINS

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

**2. Compute and interpret probabilities involving binomial distributions.**

a) The probability of Memphis **winning** would be:  $P(X = 3)$

$$P(X=3) = 1(.72)^3(.28)^0$$

b) The probability of Memphis **Going to Overtime** would be:  $P(X = 2)$

$$P(X=2) = \binom{3}{2} (.72)^2 (.28)^1 = 0.435456 \xrightarrow{\text{OK}} \text{binompdf}(3, .72, 2) = 0.435456$$

c) The probability of Memphis **Losing** would be:  $P(X = 1 \text{ or } X = 0)$

$$P(X \leq 1) = P(X=1) + P(X=0) \xrightarrow{\text{OK}} \text{binomcdf}(3, .72, 1) = 0.191296$$

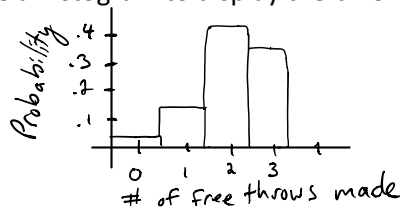
$$= \binom{3}{1} (.72)^1 (.28)^2 + (.28)^3$$

Binomial Probabilities:  $P(X=x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$

Labels: # of Successes (under  $x$ ), Binomial Coefficient (under  $\binom{n}{x}$ ), # of trials (under  $n$ ), Probability of a success (under  $p$ ).

d) Complete the probability model and create a histogram to display the binomial distribution.

X	0	1	2	3
P(X)	.022	.169	.436	.373



**Independent Practice**

1. Determine whether or not the given random variable has a binomial distribution. Justify your answer.

a) Genetics says that children receive genes from each of their parents independently. Each child of a particular set of parents has probability of 0.25 of having type O blood type. Suppose these parents have 5 children. Let **X = the number of children with type O blood.**

- ✓ B - Success "Type O" and failure "Not type O"
- ✓ I - yes, knowing one child's blood type tells us nothing about another child's blood type
- ✓ N -  $n = 5$ ; 5 trials
- ✓ S - Probability of a success is the same for each trial;  $p = 0.25$

b) Shuffle a deck of cards. Turn the first 10 cards over, one at a time. Let **Y = the number of aces you observe.**

No b/c trials are not independent. ✓ x ✓ x  
B I N S

I - If the first card is an Ace, then the next card is less likely to be one.

S -  $p = \frac{4}{52}$ , but it is not the same for each trial

c) Shuffle a deck of cards. Turn over the top card. Put the card back in the deck, and shuffle again. Repeat this process until you get an ace. Let **W = the number of cards required.**

✓ ✓ x ✓  
B I N S  
N - no set number of trials

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

2. Each child of a pair of parents has probability 0.25 of having type O blood. Genetics says that children receive genes from each of their parents independently. If these parents have 5 children, the count  $X$  of children with type O blood is a binomial random variable with  $n = 5$  trials and probability  $p = 0.25$  of a success on each trial. In this setting, a child with type O blood is a “success” (S) and a child with another blood type is a “failure” (F).

a) Find  $P(X = 2)$

$$P(X=2) = 10 (0.25)^2 (0.75)^3 \quad \text{OR} \quad \text{binompdf}(5, .25, 2)$$

$$= 0.263 \quad \quad \quad = 0.263$$

b) Find the probability that exactly 3 of the children have type O blood.

$$P(X=3) = \binom{5}{3} (0.25)^3 (.75)^2 \quad \text{OR} \quad \text{binompdf}(5, .25, 3)$$

$$P(X=3) = 10 (.25)^3 (.75)^2 \quad \text{OR} \quad = 0.08789$$

$$= \boxed{0.08789}$$

c) Should the parents be surprised if more than 3 of their children have type O blood? To answer this, we need to find  $P(X > 3)$ .

$$P(X > 3) = P(X=4) + P(X=5) \quad \text{OR} \quad 1 - \text{binomcdf}(5, .25, 3)$$

$$= \binom{5}{4} (0.25)^4 (0.75)^1 + \binom{5}{5} (0.25)^5 (0.75)^0$$

$$= 5 (0.25)^4 (0.75)^1 + 1 (0.25)^5 (0.75)^0$$

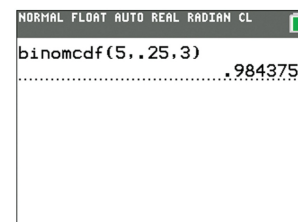
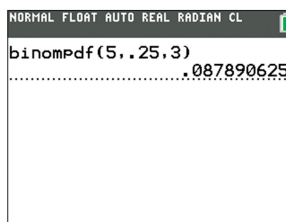
$$= \boxed{0.01563} \quad \quad \quad = 0.015625$$

**Binomial Probability on a Calculator**

- We can also use the calculator to find these probabilities.
- Binompdf( $n, p, x$ ) computes  $P(X = x)$
- Binomcdf( $n, p, x$ ) computes  $P(X \leq x)$

**Key Strokes**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> VARS
- Binompdf(
- Binomcdf(



**What if we want to find  $P(X > x)$ ?**

Use the complement rule:  $1 - P(X \leq x)$

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

- Calculate the mean and standard deviation of a binomial random variable. Interpret these values in context.
- When appropriate, use the Normal approximation to the binomial distribution to calculate probabilities.

In 2013 Skittles changed the flavor of green from lime to sour apple. Mr. McGee takes a small handful of 5 Skittles from a bin of 10,000 Skittles and gets ALL GREEN. If 20% of the Skittles are green, what is the probability of this happening?

- Is this a binomial setting? Explain.  
 ✓ B - success = green ; fail = not green  
 ✗ I - No, sampling without replacement  
 ✓ N - set number of trials is 5  
 ✗ S - Probability of a success changes
- Find the probability of getting 5 green Skittles if this is **NOT a binomial setting**. Think  $P(1^{st} \text{ green AND } 2^{nd} \text{ green AND } 3^{rd} \text{ green...})$ .

$$P(\text{all green}) = \frac{2,000}{10,000} \times \frac{1,999}{9,999} \times \frac{1,998}{9,998} \times \frac{1,997}{9,997} \times \frac{1,996}{9,996} = 0.000319$$

- Find the probability of getting 5 green Skittles if this were a **binomial setting**.

$$P(X=5) = {}_5C_5 (.20)^5 (.80)^0 = 0.000320$$

- How do your answers from #2 and #3 compare? Why do you think this is?

Almost the same. The probabilities change so little because the sample is small relative to the population.

**10% Condition = Independence**

When the population is much larger than the sample, a count of successes in an SRS of size  $n$  has approximately the binomial distribution with  $n$  equal to the sample size and  $p$  equal to the proportion of successes in the population.

**10 % Condition**

$$5(10) = 500$$

When taking an SRS of size  $n$  from a population of size  $N$ , we can use a binomial distribution to model the count of successes in the sample if

$$n \leq \frac{1}{10} N$$

$n$  = Sample

$N$  = Population

\*  $n=5$  is less than 10% of 10,000. \*

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

**Mean and Standard Deviation of Binomial Distributions**

If a count  $X$  has the binomial distribution with number of trials  $n$  and probability of success  $p$ , the **mean** and **standard deviation** of  $X$  are

$$\mu_X = np$$

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{np(1-p)}$$

Mr. McGee now grabs a huge handful of 100 Skittles from the large bin of 10,000 Skittles. Let  $X =$  **number of green Skittles in a handful of 100 Skittles**.  $X$  can be considered a binomial random variable because the 10% condition is satisfied.

1. Calculate the mean and standard deviation of  $X$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_X &= 100(.2) & \sigma_X &= \sqrt{100(.2)(.8)} \\ \mu_X &= 20 & \sigma_X &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

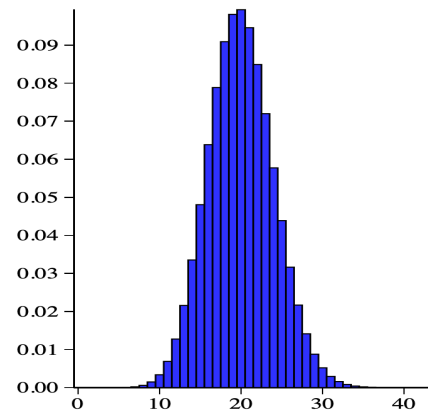
2. What is the probability of getting at most 11 green Skittles?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq 11) &= \text{binomcdf}(100, .2, 11) \\ &= 0.0126 \end{aligned}$$

3. What do you think the shape of the distribution would be?

Normal b/c Normal (Large Counts) Condition

$$\begin{aligned} 100(.2) &= 20 & \leftarrow \text{Both successes and failures} \\ 100(.8) &= 80 & \text{are greater than ten.} \end{aligned}$$



4. Redo problem #2 above with a normal distribution and compare your answers.

$$\begin{aligned} N(20, 4) & \text{ (with a normal curve diagram showing a shaded area to the left of } x=11 \text{)} \\ &= \text{normalcdf}(-\infty, 11, 20, 4) \\ &= 0.0122 \end{aligned}$$

**Normal Condition (Large Counts):**

As a rule of thumb, we will use the Normal approximation when  $n$  is so large that

$$np \geq 10 \text{ and } n(1-p) \geq 10.$$

That is, the expected number of successes and failures are both at least 10.

**Binomial and Geometric Random Variables**

**Independent Practice:**

In a survey of 500 U.S. teenagers aged 14 to 18, subjects were asked a variety of questions about personal finance. One of the questions asked whether teens had a debit card. Suppose that exactly 12% of teens aged 14 to 18 have debit cards. Let  $X$  = the number of teens in a random sample of size 500 who have a debit card.

- a) Explain why  $X$  can be modeled by a binomial distribution even though the sample was selected without replacement?

$500(10) = 5,000 \rightarrow$  it is safe to assume there are more than 5,000 14 to 18 year olds in the population.

Even though trials aren't independent, 500 is less than 10% of the population.

- b) Use a binomial distribution to estimate the probability that 50 or fewer teens in the sample have debit cards.

$$\text{binomialcdf}(500, .12, 50) = 0.093$$

- c) Justify why  $X$  can be approximated by a Normal distribution.

$$500(.12) = 60 \geq 10 \quad \text{Large Counts Condition was met.}$$

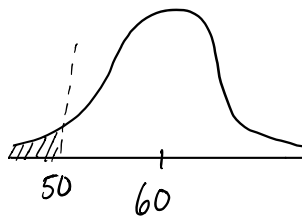
$$500(.88) = 440 \geq 10$$

- d) Use a Normal distribution to estimate the probability that 50 or fewer teens in the sample have debit cards.

$$\mu_x = 500(.12) \quad \sigma_x = \sqrt{500(.12)(.88)}$$

$$\mu_x = 60 \quad \sigma_x = 7.27$$

$$N(60, 7.27)$$



$$= \text{normalcdf}(-\infty, 50, 60, 7.27)$$

$$= 0.08438$$