

THE BERNOULLI DISTRIBUTION

BERNOULLI TRIAL

Single experiment that results in one of two possible outcomes:

Success or Failure

- $P(\textit{Success}) = p$
- $P(\textit{Failure}) = 1 - p$

Example: Tossing a fair coin. $P(\textit{Heads}) = p = 0.5$

BERNOULLI DISTRIBUTION

- A **Bernoulli random variable** X assigns $X = 1$ when a success occurs and $X = 0$ when a failure occurs.
- X follows a **Bernoulli distribution**:

$$P(X = 1) = P(\text{Success}) = p$$

$$P(X = 0) = P(\text{Failure}) = 1 - p$$

BERNOULLI DISTRIBUTION

- A **Bernoulli random variable** X assigns $X = 1$ when a success occurs and $X = 0$ when a failure occurs.
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$$p(x) = p^x(1 - p)^{1-x}, \quad \text{for } x \in \{0,1\}$$

$P(X = x)$



$$p(1) = p^1(1 - p)^{1-1} = p \quad \checkmark$$

$$p(0) = p^0(1 - p)^{1-0} = 1 - p \quad \checkmark$$

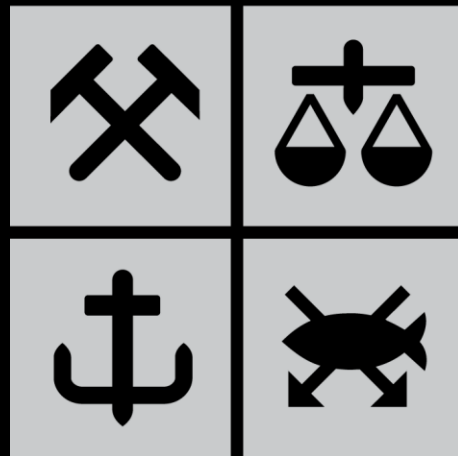
PROPERTIES

Expectation: $E(X) = p$

Variance: $Var(X) = p(1 - p)$

Independent Bernoulli trials are building blocks in the construction of several other probability distributions.

NHH TECH3



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