

## 10. Binomial Distribution

- **Binomial distribution:** For binomial distribution  $B(n, p)$ , the probability of  $x$  successes is denoted by  $P(X = x)$  or  $P(X)$  and is given by  $P(X = x) = {}^nC_x q^{n-x} p^x$ ,  $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n, q = 1 - p$ . Here,  $P(X)$  is called the probability function of the binomial distribution.

### Example:

An unbiased coin is tossed 5 times. Find the probability of getting atleast 4 heads.

### Solution:

Let the random variable  $X$  denotes the number of heads.

Here,  $n = 5$  and  $P(\text{getting a head}) = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\therefore p = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } q = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(X = r) = {}^nC_r p^r q^{n-r} = {}^5C_r \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^r \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{5-r} = {}^5C_r \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$$

$P(\text{getting at-least 4 heads})$

$$= P(X \geq 4)$$

$$= P(X = 4) + P(X = 5)$$

$$= {}^5C_4 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + {}^5C_5 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$$

$$= (5 + 1) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$$

$$= 6 \times \frac{1}{32}$$

$$= \frac{3}{16}$$

### Normal Distribution

A continuous random variable  $X$  with parameter  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  is said to follow normal distribution if its probability density function is given as

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x-\mu}{2\sigma^2}}; -\infty < x < \infty, -\infty < \mu < \infty, \sigma > 0; \quad ; \text{ Otherwise}$$

A random variable  $X$  that follows normal distribution with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  is represented as  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . The normal probability distribution or the normal curve is bell-shaped. The curve is symmetric about the mean,  $\mu$  and the flatness of the curve is determined by its standard deviation,  $\sigma$ .

If  $f(x)$  is a probability density function, then  $P(x_1 < X < x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f(x) dx$ . This is same as the area bounded by the probability density curve  $f(x)$ ,  $x$ -axis,  $x = x_1$  and  $x = x_2$ .

The total area under the normal distribution curve is 1. Since the normal distribution curve is symmetric about the mean  $\mu$ , therefore,  $P(X < \mu) = P(X > \mu) = \frac{1}{2}$ .



## Standard Normal Variable

Let  $Z$  be a random variable defined as  $Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$ . The distribution of  $Z$  is normal distribution with parameters  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$  and is represented as  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . The distribution with mean,  $\mu = 0$  and standard deviation  $\sigma = 1$  is called the standard normal distribution and the random variable  $Z$  is called the standard normal variable.

A continuous random variable  $Z$  is said to be standard normal variable if its probability density function is

$$f_Z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} \quad ; \quad -\infty < z < \infty \quad ; \quad \text{Otherwise}$$