# FOUNDATIONS OF PROBABILITY IN R



**David Robinson** Chief Data Scientist, DataCamp



## Flipping a coin

## 50% chance of heads

50% chance of tails









## Flipping a coin in R

rbinom(1, 1, .5) # [1] 1



rbinom(1, 1, .5) # [1] 0





## Flipping multiple coins

```
rbinom(10, 1, .5)
# [1] 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 0
```

```
rbinom(10, 1, .5)
# [1] 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0
```

```
rbinom(1, 10, .5)
# [1] 4
```

```
rbinom(10, 10, .5)
# [1] 3 6 5 7 4 8 5 6 4 5
```





## Unfair coins

rbinom(10, 10, .8) # [1] 6 7 9 10 7 7 8 9 9 8

rbinom(10, 10, .2) # [1] 2 2 1 2 2 4 3 1 0 2



## **Binomial distribution**

 $X_{1\ldots n} \sim \operatorname{Binomial}(\operatorname{size}, p)$ 



# Let's practice!



# Density and cumulative density

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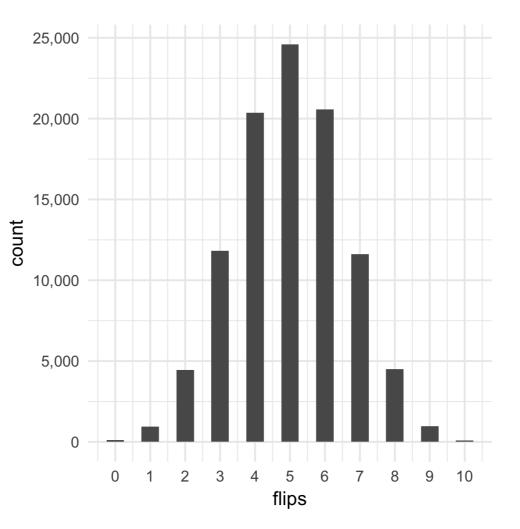


## Simulating many outcomes

 $X \sim \operatorname{Binomial}(10, .5)$ 

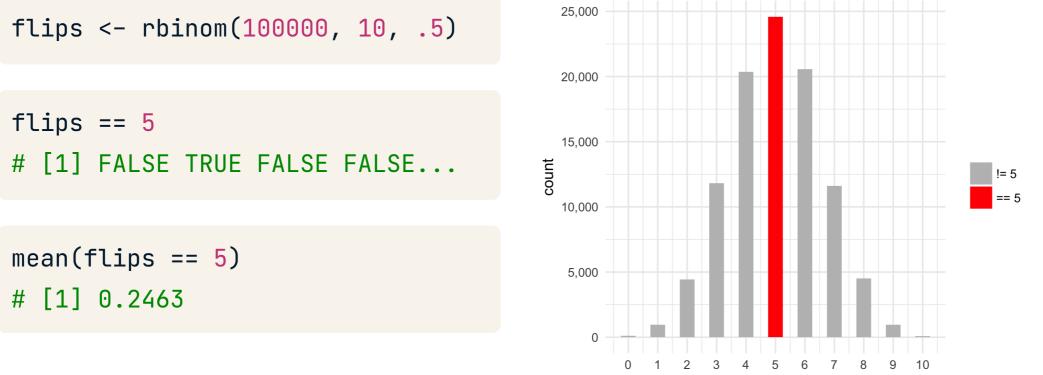
 $\Pr(X=5)$ 

flips <- rbinom(100000, 10, .5)





## Finding density with simulation



Number of heads



## Calculating exact probability density

dbinom(5, 10, .5) # [1] 0.2460938

dbinom(6, 10, .5) # [1] 0.2050781

dbinom(10, 10, .5)# [1] 0.0009765625





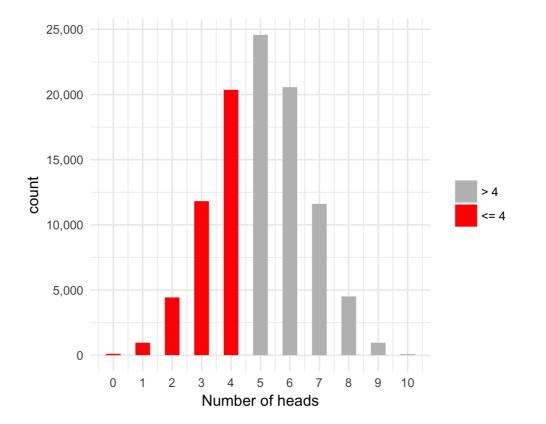
## **Cumulative density**

 $X \sim \mathrm{Binomial}(10,.5)$ 

 $\Pr(X \leq 4)$ 

flips <- rbinom(100000, 10, .5)
mean(flips <= 4)
# [1] 0.37682</pre>

pbinom(4, 10, .5)
# [1] 0.37695



## R datacamp

# Let's practice!



# Expected value and variance

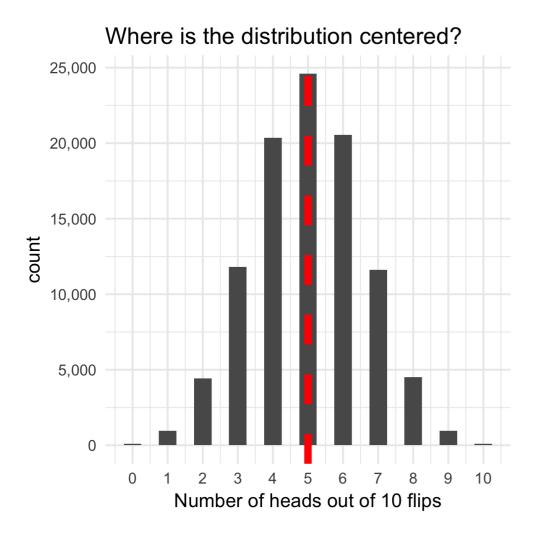
#### FOUNDATIONS OF PROBABILITY IN R

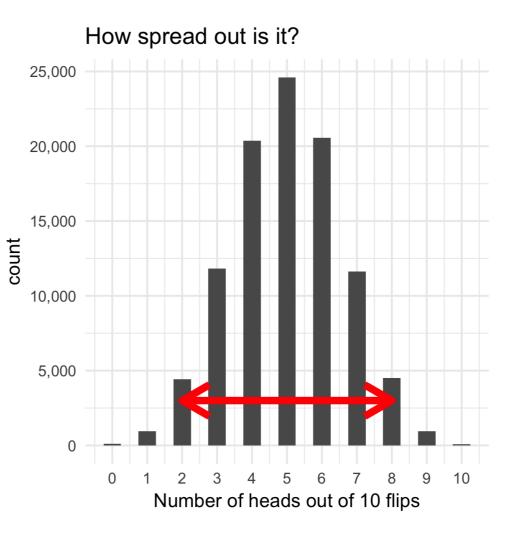


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## **Properties of a distribution**



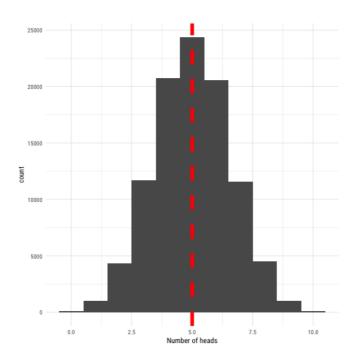


## R datacamp

## **Expected value**

 $X \sim \operatorname{Binomial}(\operatorname{size}, p)$ 

 $E[X] = \text{size} \cdot p$ 



flips <- rbinom(100000, 10, .5)

mean(flips) # [1] 5.00196

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mean(rbinom(100000, 100, .2)) # [1] 19.99053



## Variance

## $X \sim \mathrm{Binomial}(10,.5)$

X <- rbinom(100000, 10, .5) var(X) # [1] 2.503735

$$\operatorname{Var}(X) = \operatorname{size} \cdot p \cdot (1-p)$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(X) = 10 \cdot .5 \cdot (1 - .5)$$

$$= 2.5$$

 $Y \sim \mathrm{Binomial}(100,.2)$ 

Y <- rbinom(100000, 100, .2) var(Y) # [1] 16.05621

$$\operatorname{Var}(Y) = \operatorname{size} \cdot p \cdot (1-p)$$

$$\mathrm{Var}(Y) = 100 \cdot .2 \cdot (1-.2)$$

= 16



## **Rules for expected value and variance**

 $X \sim \operatorname{Binomial}(\operatorname{size}, p)$ 

 $E[X] = \text{size} \cdot p$ 

 $\operatorname{Var}(X) = \operatorname{size} \cdot p \cdot (1-p)$ 





# Let's practice!

