## Random variables

- A random variable is a function  $X : \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$ .
- (Since  $\Omega$  is countable, so is range X)
- For any k, we define

$$\mathbb{P}(X=k) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega: X(\omega)=k} p(\omega).$$

• The collection  $(k, \mathbb{P}(X = k))$  where k ranges over range X is called the **probability distribution** of X.