

## 6.2) The binomial distribution

## Worked example

The probability of a lightbulb being faulty is 0.12. A random sample of 34 lightbulbs is taken from the production line.

- a) Define a suitable distribution to model the number of faulty lightbulbs in this sample.
- b) Find the probability that the sample contains fewer than 3 faulty lightbulbs.

## Your turn

The probability of a bolt being faulty is 0.21. A random sample of 43 bolts is taken from the production line.

- a) Define a suitable distribution to model the number of faulty bolts in this sample.
- b) Find the probability that the sample contains fewer than 2 faulty bolts.

a) Let  $X =$  number of faulty bolts.

$$X \sim B(43, 0.21)$$

b) 0.000493 (3 sf)

## Worked example

The random variable  $X \sim B\left(8, \frac{1}{10}\right)$ . Find:

- a)  $P(X = 2)$
- b)  $P(X = 5)$
- c)  $P(X \leq 1)$
- d)  $P(X \geq 7)$

## Your turn

The random variable  $X \sim B\left(12, \frac{1}{6}\right)$ . Find:

- a)  $P(X = 2)$
- b)  $P(X = 9)$
- c)  $P(X \leq 1)$
- d)  $P(X \geq 11)$

a) 0.2961 (4 dp)

b) 0.0000126 (3 sf)

c) 0.3813 (4 dp)

d) 0.0000000280 (3 sf)

## Worked example

A company claims that a third of the lightbulbs sent to them are faulty.

To test this claim the number of faulty lightbulbs in a random sample of 100 is recorded.

Give two reasons why a binomial distribution may be a suitable model for the number of faulty lightbulbs in the sample.

## Your turn

A company claims that a quarter of the bolts sent to them are faulty.

To test this claim the number of faulty bolts in a random sample of 50 is recorded.

Give two reasons why a binomial distribution may be a suitable model for the number of faulty bolts in the sample.

- Two possible outcomes (bolt faulty or not faulty)
- Constant probability of bolt being faulty ( $p = \frac{1}{4}$ )
- A bolt being faulty is independent of other bolts being faulty (assuming they do not influence each other)
- 50 bolts in the sample (fixed number of trials)