
Homework 4: finish by 6/3.

Reading: Notes: Chapter 2, 3.

Videos: 2.5, 2.6, 3.1 - 3.4

Problem 4.1 ([Video 2.5](#), [2.6](#), [Quick Calculations](#))

Calculate each of the requested quantities.

- (a) Let X be $\text{Binomial}(5, \frac{1}{2})$. Calculate $\mathbb{P}[1 \leq X \leq 4]$ and $\mathbb{P}[X = 2 \mid 1 \leq X \leq 4]$.
- (b) Let Y be $\text{Geometric}(1/2)$. Calculate $\text{Var}[Y + 4]$ and $\mathbb{E}[3Y + 0.2]$.
- (c) Let X be $\text{Bernoulli}(p)$ with $\mathbb{E}[2^X] = \frac{5}{4}$. Determine the value of p and of $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$.
- (d) Let X be $\text{Discrete Uniform}(1, 12)$. Let B the event that X is strictly greater than 4 and strictly less than 8. Calculate $\mathbb{E}[X|B]$ and $\mathbb{E}[X^2|B]$.
- (e) Let X be $\text{Poisson}(2)$. Calculate $\mathbb{E}[3X - 1]$ and $\mathbb{E}[3 - X^2]$.

Problem 4.2 ([Video 2.5](#), [2.6](#)) You are examining blood cells under a microscope. Your microscope slide is divided up into a grid consisting of tiny squares. The number of blood cells you count in a single square, denoted by X , can be modeled as a $\text{Poisson}(2)$ random variable.¹

- (a) What is the probability that X is less than 2?
- (b) Given that X is less than 4, what is the probability that X is less than 2?
- (c) Given that X is less than 4, what is the conditional expected value of X ?
- (d) Assume that the number of blood cells is independent across squares in the grid. Let Y be the number of squares you examine until the first square you find with 3 or more blood cells. What kind of random variable is Y ? (Don't forget the parameters.)

Problem 4.3 ([Video 2.5](#), [2.6](#)) After Team Avatar (or the BoomerAang Gang) arrives in a small Fire Nation town, Sokka is talking to local residents to determine the number of days until Sozin's Comet arrives, which we denote by the random variable X . Initially, Sokka thinks the comet is equally likely to arrive in the next 2 to 30 days. Sokka is particularly worried about the mounting costs at the local inn, which charges a one-time check-in fee of 3 gold coins (or ban) and a daily rate of 2 gold coins (or ban). Let Y denote the total inn cost for X days. (To be very clear, if the comet arrives in X days, the total inn cost is $Y = 3 + 2 \cdot X$ gold coins.)

- (a) What kind of a random variable is X ? (Don't forget the parameters.)

¹Interestingly, this is the model used by William Gosset in his first publication: *Student*. "On the error of counting with a haemocytometer." *Biometrika* (1907): 351-360. Gosset's day job was Head Experimental Brewer at Guinness, and he was only allowed to publish under the pseudonym "Student." He is also responsible for Student's t-distribution and Student's t-test, which we will encounter a bit later in the course.

- (b) What is the expected value for the total cost Sokka will have to pay the inn?
- (c) Sokka only has 49 gold coins. What is the probability that the money will run out before the comet arrives?
- (d) After talking to local residents, Sokka is now sure that the earliest the comet might arrive is in 5 days *and* he is also sure that the comet will arrive within 15 days or less. Let us call this new information event B . Determine the resulting conditional PMF $P_{X|B}(x)$ for the number days until the comet arrives. What kind of random variable corresponds to this conditional PMF? (Don't forget the parameters.)
- (e) Given Sokka's information, calculate the conditional expected value and conditional variance for the total inn cost.

Problem 4.4 (Video 3.1, 3.2, Lecture Problem)

Consider a continuous random variable X with the following PDF:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} c & -1 \leq x \leq 0 \text{ or } 1 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Sketch the PDF of X . Be sure to label your axes.
- (b) Determine the value of c that satisfies the normalization property. Set c to this value for the remainder of the problem. This can be done without integration, so your answer should be a number.
- (c) What is the expected value of X ?
- (d) What is the variance of X ?
- (e) What is $\mathbb{E}[2X^2 - 3X + 1]$?
- (f) Calculate the probability that $|X|$ is less than 2. (Your answer can be an integral, but you can also take advantage of the simple structure of the PDF.)
- (g) Let $B = (-2, 2)$. Determine the conditional PDF $f_{X|B}(x)$ of X given the event $\{X \in B\}$.
- (h) Calculate the probability that $X < 0$ given that $|X|$ is less than 2.
- (i) Calculate the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}[X|B]$ of X given that $|X|$ is less than 2.

Problem 4.5 (Video 3.3, 3.4, Lecture Problem) Let X be a Gaussian($-1, 4$) random variable.

- (a) Calculate $\mathbb{P}[X < 2]$. You may leave your answer in terms of the standard normal CDF $\Phi(z)$.
- (b) Calculate $\mathbb{P}[X < 0|X < 2]$. You may leave your answer in terms of the standard normal CDF $\Phi(z)$.
- (c) Calculate $\mathbb{E}[2X + 3]$ and $\text{Var}[2X + 3]$.
- (d) Let $Y = 2X + 3$. What kind of a random variable is Y ?