

Homework 1

*Instructor: Henry Lam**Due: September 13*

Problem 1. A pair of fair dice is rolled. Let E denote the event that the sum of the dice is equal to 7

- (a) Show that E is independent of the event that the first die lands on 4
- (b) Show that E is independent of the event that the second die lands on 3 .

Problem 2. Let A, B, C be events such that $P(A) = 0.2, P(B) = 0.3, P(C) = 0.4$ Find the probability that at least one of the events A and B occurs if

- (a) A and B are mutually exclusive;
- (b) A and B are independent.

Find the probability that all of the events A, B, C occurs if

- (c) A, B, C are independent;
- (d) A, B, C are mutually exclusive.

Problem 3. A total number of n children of different heights are placed in a line at random. You select the first child from the line, and walk with her/him along the line, until you encounter a child who is taller, or until you reach the end of the line. If you do encounter a taller child, you also have him/her to accompany you further along the line, until you encounter yet again a taller child or reach the end of the line, etc. Let the random variable X denote the number of children to be selected from the line. What is the expected value of X ?

Problem 4. If the density function of X equals

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ce^{-2x}, & \text{for } 0 \leq x < \infty. \\ 0, & \text{for } x < 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

- a) Find the value c .
- b) What is $P\{X > 2\}$?

Problem 5. The joint density of X and Y is given by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xe^{-(x+y)}, & \text{for } x > 0, y > 0. \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

- a) Compute the density of X .
- b) Compute the density of Y .
- c) Are X and Y independent?

Problem 6. Let $X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$ for some p in $(0,1)$; that is, X is a geometric random variable with the parameter denoting probability of success = p . Is X memoryless? i.e., for all positive integers m and n , is

$$P(X > m + n \mid X > m) = P(X > n)?$$

Problem 7. You arrive at a bus stop at 10 o'clock, knowing that the bus will arrive at some time uniformly distributed between 10 and 10:30. What is the probability that you will have to wait longer than 10 minutes? If at 10:15 the bus has not yet arrived, what is the probability that you will have to wait at least an additional 10 minutes?

Homework 1:

Problem 1:

a) E : "sum of dices is equal to 7"

$$\mathcal{E}_E = \{(1,6), (2,5), \dots, (6,1)\}$$

We want to show that E is \perp (independent) of A = "1st die lands on 4"

We want to prove that $P(E|A) = P(E) \cdot P(A)$

For $P(E)$: We have $\text{card}(\mathcal{E}_E) = 6$

$$\text{So } P(E) = \frac{6}{6^2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

both dice have 6 possibilities

For $P(A)$: $\mathcal{E}_A = \{(4,1), (4,2), \dots, (4,6)\}$

Where $\text{card}(\mathcal{E}_A) = 6$

$$\text{So } P(A) = \frac{6}{6^2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$P(E|A)$: $E|A$: "sum of dices is equal to 7" and "1st die lands on 4"
:"sum of dices is equal to 7 and 1st die lands on 4"

$$\mathcal{E}_{E|A} = \{(4,3)\} \text{ so } \text{card}(\mathcal{E}_{E|A}) = 1$$

$$\text{And } P(E|A) = \frac{1}{6^2} = \frac{1}{36}$$

Let's check the independence:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P(E) \cdot P(A) = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{36} \\ P(E|A) = \frac{1}{36} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{so } P(A) \cdot P(E) = P(E|A) \\ \text{so } A \text{ and } E \text{ are independent} \end{array}$$

b) E is the same.

Let's define B : "2nd die lands on 3"

$$\mathcal{E}_B = \{(1,3), (2,3), \dots, (6,3)\}$$

Where $\text{card}(\mathcal{E}_B) = 6$

$$P(B) = \frac{6}{6^2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

Let's check the independence:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P(E) \cdot P(B) &= \frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{36} \\ P(E \cap B) &= \frac{1}{36} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} &\text{if } P(B) \cdot P(E) = P(B \cap E) \\ &\text{so } B \text{ and } E \text{ are independent} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2:

a) A and B mutually exclusive $\rightarrow P(A \cap B) = 0$

Probability that at least A/B occurs $\rightarrow P(A \cup B)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cup B) &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) = 0 \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

b) $A \perp B \rightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cup B) &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A) \cdot P(B) \\ &= 0.44 \end{aligned}$$

c) $A \perp B \perp C \rightarrow P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A) \cdot P(B) \cdot P(C)$

Probability that all A, B & C occurs $\rightarrow P(A \cap B \cap C)$

$$P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A) \cdot P(B) \cdot P(C) = 0.024$$

d) A, B and C mutually exclusive $\rightarrow P(A \cap B \cap C) = 0$

Problem 3:

Step 1: $x_1 \neq x_2 \dots x_i$

Step 2: $x_1 \neq x_2 \dots x_i$

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Step 2': $x_1 \neq x_2 \dots x_i$

First child is always wanted

2nd child selected if taller than 1st

3rd child selected if taller than 1st and 2nd

...

Let's note H_i the height of child i so that $H_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

The probability of child i being taller than all the previous $i-1$ child is equal to their height being the maximum of all $i-1$ child.

$$P(\text{select child } i) = P(H_i \geq H_1, H_i \geq H_2, \dots, H_i \geq H_n) = P(H_i \geq \max_{j=1, \dots, n} H_j)$$

Moreover we have: $P(H_i = \max_{j=1, \dots, n} H_j) = \frac{1}{n}$ (any child can be the boldest and iid)

$$\text{But } H_i \geq \max_{j=1, \dots, n} H_j \rightarrow H_i = \max_{j=1, \dots, n} H_j$$

(since H_i is the boldest)

$$\text{So } P(\text{select child } i) = \frac{1}{n}$$

We have:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n P(\text{select child } i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \text{ which is the harmonic series.}$$

Problem 4:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) By definition: } \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) dx &= 1 \iff \int_0^{+\infty} c e^{-2x} dx = 1 \\ &\iff c \left[-\frac{e^{-2x}}{2} \right]_0^{+\infty} = 1 \\ &\iff c \left(0 - \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) \right) = 1 \\ &\iff c = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{b) } P(X > 2) = \int_2^{+\infty} f(x) dx = 2 \int_2^{+\infty} e^{-2x} dx = 2 \left[-\frac{e^{-2x}}{2} \right]_2^{+\infty} = e^{-4}$$

Problem 5:

$$\text{a) } f_X(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x,y) dy = x \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-(x+y)} dy = x e^{-x} \left[-\frac{e^{-y}}{1} \right]_0^{+\infty} = \begin{cases} x e^{-x} & \text{for } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } f_Y(y) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x,y) dx = e^{-y} \int_0^{+\infty} x e^{-x} dx = e^{-y} \left(\left[-e^{-x} x \right]_0^{+\infty} + \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-x} dx \right) \\ &= e^{-y} \left(0 + \left[-e^{-x} \right]_0^{+\infty} \right) = \begin{cases} e^{-y} & \text{if } y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{c) } f_X(x) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) \rightarrow X \perp Y$$

$$f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) = x e^{-x} \cdot e^{-y} = x e^{-(x+y)} = f(x,y), \text{ so } X \perp Y$$

$x, y > 0$

Problem 6:

Memoryless $\leftrightarrow m, n \in \mathbb{N}, P(X > m+n | X > n) = P(X > m)$

$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$ so $P(X=i) = (1-p)^{i-1} p$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > i) &= P(X = i+1 \cup X = i+2 \cup \dots) \\ &= P(X = i+1) + P(X = i+2) + \dots \\ &= \sum_{k=i+1}^{\infty} P(X = k) \\ &= p \sum_{k=i+1}^{\infty} (1-p)^{k-1} \\ &= p \sum_{k=i}^{\infty} (1-p)^{k-1} \\ &= p (1-p)^i \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1-p)^k \\ &= p (1-p)^i \frac{1}{1-(1-p)} \\ &= (1-p)^i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > m+n | X > n) &= \frac{P(X > m+n \cap X > n)}{P(X > n)} \\ &= \frac{P(X > m+n)}{P(X > n)} \\ &= \frac{(1-p)^{m+n}}{(1-p)^n} \\ &= (1-p)^m \\ &= P(X > m) \end{aligned}$$

so X is memoryless

Problem 7:

1) let's note T as the bus arrival time so that $f_T(t) = \frac{1}{30}$ for $0 \leq t \leq 30$

So the probability of waiting more than 10 min is:

$$\begin{aligned} P(T > 10) &= \int_{10}^{30} f_T(t) dt \quad \text{bus comes at 10:30 worst case} \\ &= \frac{1}{30} \int_{10}^{30} 1 dt \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

2) The second problem can be formalized as:

$$P(T > 25 | T > 15) = \frac{P(T > 25 \cap T > 15)}{P(T > 15)} = \frac{P(T > 25)}{P(T > 15)} = \frac{5/30}{15/30} = \frac{1}{3}$$