

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spring 2018

STAT 401C

Exam I  
(100 points)

**Instructions:**

- Full credit will be given only if you show your work.
- The questions are not necessarily ordered from easiest to hardest.
- You are allowed to use any resource except aid from another individual.
- Aid from another individual, will automatically earn you a 0.

1. A diagnostic test for disease D has a sensitivity of 0.95 and a specificity of 0.9. The prevalence of the disease is 0.02. (20 points)

- (a) Define notation for the following events (1 point each).

**Answer:** Notation will defer, so really anything will work here. The notation below is what I will use.

- having the disease

**Answer:**  $D$

- not having the disease

**Answer:**  $D^c$

- testing positive

**Answer:**  $+$

- testing negative

**Answer:**  $-$

- (b) Use the notation in the previous step to define the following probabilities (2 points each).

- sensitivity

**Answer:**  $P(+|D)$

- specificity

**Answer:**  $P(-|D^c)$

- prevalence

**Answer:**  $P(D)$

- (c) If an individual tests positive for the disease, what is the probability they actually have the disease? (10 points)

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(D|+) &= \frac{P(+|D)P(D)}{P(+|D)P(D)+P(+|D^c)P(D^c)} \\
 &= \frac{P(+|D)P(D)}{P(+|D)P(D)+[1-P(-|D^c)][1-P(D)]} \\
 &= \frac{0.95 \times 0.02}{0.95 \times 0.02 + [1-0.9][1-0.02]} \\
 &= 0.16
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Let  $X$  be a random variable with the following probability mass function:

x	-10	-5	0	5	10
P(X=x)	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2

(a) Is  $P(X = x)$  a valid probability mass function? Why or why not? (5 points)

**Answer:** Yes because  $P(X = x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$  and the sum of the probabilities is

$$0.3 + 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.2 = 1$$

(b) Calculate  $E[X]$ . (5 points)

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= -10 \times 0.3 + -5 \times 0.2 + 0 \times 0.1 + 5 \times 0.2 + 10 \times 0.2 \\ &= -10 \times 0.3 + 10 \times 0.2 = -3 + 2 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

(c) Let  $Y = |X|$  what is the probability mass function for  $Y$ ? (5 points)

**Answer:**

x	0	5	10
P(X=x)	0.1	0.4	0.5

(d) Find  $E[|X|]$ . (5 points)

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned} E[|X|] &= |-10| \times 0.3 + |-5| \times 0.2 + |0| \times 0.1 + |5| \times 0.2 + |10| \times 0.2 \\ &= 3 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 5 = 10 \end{aligned}$$

or, using the result from part c

$$\begin{aligned} E[|X|] &= E[Y] \\ &= |0| \times 0.1 + |5| \times 0.4 + |10| \times 0.5 \\ &= 2 + 5 = 7 \end{aligned}$$

3. Answer the following questions based on this joint distribution for the random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ .

X	Y		
	1	2	3
-1	0.1	0.2	0.1
0	0.1	0.1	0.1
1	0.1	0.1	0.1

- (a) What is the image for the random variable  $Y$ ? (2 points)

Answer: 1, 2, 3

- (b) Find the marginal probability mass function for  $X$ . (6 points)

Answer: 

x	-1	0	1
P(X=x)	.4	.3	.3

- (c) Find  $P(Y > X)$ . (6 points)

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y > X) &= 1 - P(Y \leq X) \\ &= 1 - P(Y = 1, X = 1) \\ &= 1 - 0.1 = 0.9 \end{aligned}$$

- (d) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent? Why or why not? (6 points)

Answer: No. You need to show that  $P(X = x, Y = y) \neq P(X = x)P(Y = y)$  for some value of  $x$  and  $y$ . Here is one option

$$0.1 = P(X = 1, Y = 1) \neq P(X = 1)P(Y = 1) = 0.3 \times 0.3 = 0.09.$$

4. A warehouse has 46 high-intensity light bulbs and over the coming year the probability of each light failing is 5%. Assume light bulb failures are independent.

- (a) What is the probability that no light bulbs fail? (6 points)

**Answer:** Let  $Y$  be the number of light bulbs that fail and assume  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$  with  $n = 46$ .

$$P(Y = 0) = .95^{46} \approx 0.094.$$

In R,

```
n <- 46
p <- .05
dbinom(0,n,p)

## [1] 0.09446824
```

- (b) What is the probability that more than 2 light bulbs fail? (6 points)

**Answer:**

$$P(Y > 2) = 1 - P(Y \leq 2) = 1 - \sum_{y=0}^2 \binom{46}{y} .05^y (1 - .95)^{46-y} \approx 0.406$$

In R,

```
1-pbinom(2,n,p)

## [1] 0.4059753
```

- (c) If each light bulb costs \$500 to replace, what is the expected expense due to light bulb replacement over the next year? (6 points)

**Answer:** The expected expense is

$$E[\$500Y] = \$500E[Y] = \$500 \times 46 \times .05 = \$1150.$$

- (d) Name one reason light bulb failures would not be independent. (2 points)

**Answer:** One reason is due to power surges that could cause multiple lights to fail at one time.

5. A positive displacement pump is used to fill an ethanol tanker. The pump measures 1 gallon of ethanol at a time with a mean of 1 gallon and a standard deviation of 0.01 gallons and independently of all other measurements. The pump repeats this process 30,001 times.

- (a) What is the approximate probability that the true amount of ethanol in the tanker is less than 30,000 gallons? (10 points)

**Answer:** Let  $Y$  be the actual amount of ethanol for  $n$  extra gallons. By the CLT,  $Y \sim N(30000 + n, [30000 + n] \times 0.01^2)$  and thus the approximate probability for  $n = 1$  is

```
sd <- 0.01
n <- 1; pnorm(30000, 30000+n, sd * sqrt(30000+n))

## [1] 0.2818547
```

- (b) The company wants to ensure the amount in the tanker is greater than 30,000 gallons with 99% probability. How many gallons above 30,000 should the pump measure to ensure with 99% probability that the true amount is greater than 30,000 gallons. (10 points)

**Answer:** The 0.01 quantile of a standard normal random variable is

```
qnorm(0.01)

## [1] -2.326348
```

Thus, we need to find  $n$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0.99 &= P(Y \geq 30,000) = 1 - P(Y < 30,000) \\ 0.01 &= P(Y < 30,000) \\ &= P\left(\frac{Y - (30000 + n)}{0.01\sqrt{30000 + n}} < \frac{30000 - (30000 + n)}{0.01\sqrt{30000 + n}}\right) \\ &= P\left(Z < \frac{30000 - (30000 + n)}{0.01\sqrt{30000 + n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

One approach is to set

$$\frac{30000 - (30000 + n)}{0.01\sqrt{30000 + n}} = -2.3263479$$

and solve for  $n$  (and then round up). This is a bit difficult as  $n$  appears in both the numerator and denominator (in the square root).

An alternative approach uses trial-and-error by plugging in different values of  $n$ . Using this approach, we can find that  $n = 5$  extra gallons suffices while 4 extra gallons is (just barely) insufficient.

```
n <- 5; 1-pnorm(30000, 30000+n, sd * sqrt(30000+n))

## [1] 0.9980523

n <- 4; 1-pnorm(30000, 30000+n, sd * sqrt(30000+n))

## [1] 0.9895351
```

When this exam was graded, I believe I gave full credit to either 4 or 5 since 4 is so close.