

1. The probability that a given character is miscopied when I send an email is 0.001, independently of all other characters.
 - (a) If I send an email of 2000 characters, state
 - (i) the exact distribution,
 - (ii) a suitable approximate distribution,
 for the number, X , of miscopied characters. Use the approximate distribution to find $P(X = 0)$ and $P(X > 2)$.
 - (b) If I send a second email, consisting of 3000 characters and independent of the first, state corresponding approximate distributions
 - (i) for the number, Y , of miscopied characters in the second email,
 - (ii) for the total number, Z , of miscopied characters in the two emails combined.
 Use this distribution of Z to find $P(Z = 4)$ and then use the approximate distributions of X , Y and Z to find the conditional probability $P(X = 2|Z = 4)$.
 - (c) In the course of a week I send 50 emails, all independent and consisting of 100000 characters in total. State
 - (i) the exact distribution,
 - (ii) a suitable approximation,
 for the total number, W , of miscopied characters. Use the approximate distribution to find $P(W > 115)$.
2. The random variable X has the binomial distribution with probability mass function

$$p(x) = \frac{6!}{x!(6-x)!} \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^x \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{6-x},$$

where $x = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 6\}$.

- (a) Derive $E(X)$ and $\text{Var}(X)$.
 - (b) Find $P(X \leq 1)$
 - (a) exactly,
 - (b) by using a Normal approximation with a suitable continuity correction.
 - (c) State circumstances under which a Normal approximation to the binomial distribution might be useful, and comment on your results.
 - (d) Let \bar{X} be the mean of a random sample of size 400 taken from the distribution of X . Calculate $\text{Var}(\bar{X})$, and use a Normal approximation to the distribution of \bar{X} to find $P(2.35 < \bar{X} \leq 2.45)$. State with a reason whether or not you would expect your answer to be a good approximation to the exact probability.
3. The random variable X has the binomial distribution with probability mass function

$$\Pr(X = x) = \binom{2}{x} p^x (1-p)^{2-x}$$

where $x = \{0, 1, 2\}$ and $0 < p < 1$.

- (a) Write down $E(X)$, $Var(X)$ and $P(X = 2)$ in terms of the parameter p . Also find $P(X = 0|X < 2)$ and $P(X = 1|X < 2)$, simplifying your answers as far as possible.
- (b) Let $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{100}$ be the sum of 100 independent random variables, each distributed as X .
- (i) Explain why Y has the $B(200, p)$ distribution.
 - (ii) Use a suitable approximation to find $P(Y > 140)$ when $p = 2/3$.
 - (iii) Use a suitable approximation to find $P(Y > 2)$ when $p = 0.02$.
 - (iv) Use a suitable approximation to find $P(Y \leq 197)$ when $p = 0.98$.
4. XYZ airline operates a baggage weight allowance of 25 kg per passenger. Check-in records show that the actual weight, W kg, of a randomly chosen passenger's baggage can reasonably be assumed to be Normally distributed with mean 24 and variance 1.
- (a) Find $P(W > 25)$.
- (b) A passenger with baggage weighing more than 25 kg is charged 5 for each kg by which the weight of his or her baggage exceeds 25 kg, all fractions of a kg being rounded up to the next whole number.
- (i) If C denotes the excess baggage charge in for a randomly chosen passenger, find the probabilities $P(C = 0)$, $P(C = 5)$ and $P(C = 10)$.
 - (ii) Given that $P(C = 15) = 0.0013$ approximately and that $P(C > 15)$ is negligible, find $E(C)$ and $Var(C)$.
 - (iii) Assuming that 100 000 passengers independently fly with XYZ in a year, write down the mean and variance of CT , the total excess baggage costs paid to XYZ in a year. Use a Normal approximation to find the value of CT which is exceeded with probability 0.05.
 - (iv) Comment briefly on the assumptions made in your calculations in part (iii).
5. A blended wine is intended to comprise two parts of Sauvignon to one part of Merlot. The amounts dispensed to make up a nominal 75cl bottle of this wine are X cl of Sauvignon and Y cl of Merlot, where X and Y are assumed to be independent Normally distributed random variables with respective means 52 and 26 cl and respective variances 1 and 0.5625.
- (a) Find the probability that the actual volume of wine dispensed into a bottle is less than the nominal volume.
- (b) Find the distribution of $X - 2.2Y$, and use this distribution to find the probability that the ratio of Sauvignon to Merlot is greater than 2.2. By a similar method, find the probability that this ratio is less than 1.8. Hence state to three decimal places the probability that the ratio of Sauvignon to Merlot in a randomly chosen bottle differs from 2 to 1 by more than 10
- (c) Based on your final answer to part (b), and assuming that bottles are filled independently, write down
- (i) the exact distribution,
 - (ii) a suitable approximation,

for the number of bottles in a thousand in which the ratio of Sauvignon to Merlot differs from 2 to 1 by more than 10%. Hence find the approximate probability that there are 10 or more bottles in a consignment of 1000 in which the ratio of Sauvignon to Merlot differs from 2 to 1 by more than 10%, giving your answer to three decimal places.

6. A coin has probability p of showing heads and probability $1p$ of showing tails when it is tossed, independently each time. Let X be the random variable denoting the number of times the coin shows heads when it is tossed n times.

(a) Show that

$$\Pr(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

making clear all the steps of your reasoning. Under what conditions can the distribution of X be approximated by a Normal distribution?

- (b) A student uses the Normal approximation to approximate $P(X \leq 3)$ when $n = 20$ and $p = 0.2$. Calculate the answer he should obtain, use tables of the exact distribution of X to compute the percentage error in the answer, and comment briefly.
- (c) For integer $x \geq 1$, let N be the random variable denoting the number of tosses of the coin needed to obtain x heads. Show from first principles that

$$\Pr(N = n) = \binom{n-1}{x-1} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$

where $n = x, x+1, x+2, \dots$

- (d) Evaluate this probability for the case $p = 0.2$, $x = 3$ and $n = 20$, and compare your result with the exact $P(X = 3)$ for the binomial distribution with the same values of p , x and n .