



## 8. Exercise: Total probability theorem II

Exercises due Mar 13, 2020 05:29 IST Completed

### Exercise: Total probability theorem II

2/2 points (graded)

On any given day, mail gets delivered by either Alice or Bob. If Alice delivers it, which happens with probability  $1/4$ , she does so at a time that is uniformly distributed between 9 and 11. If Bob delivers it, which happens with probability  $3/4$ , he does so at a time that is uniformly distributed between 10 and 12. The PDF of the time  $X$  that mail gets delivered satisfies

a)  $f_X(9.5) =$   ✓ Answer: 0.125

b)  $f_X(10.5) =$   ✓ Answer: 0.5

#### Solution:

The PDF is  $1/4$  times a uniform on  $[9, 11]$  (of height  $1/2$ ) plus  $3/4$  times a uniform on  $[10, 12]$  (again of height  $1/2$ ).

a) At time 9.5, only the first uniform is nonzero, yielding  $f_X(9.5) = (1/4) \cdot (1/2) = 1/8$ .

b) At time 10.5 both uniforms are nonzero, yielding  $f_X(10.5) = (1/4) \cdot (1/2) + (3/4) \cdot (1/2) = 1/2$ .

You have used 1 of 3 attempts

# Discussion

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? Part B

I thought the probability from  $X=10-11$  is 1. My logic is there is a probability of  $1/4$  from  $X=9-10$  and  $1/4+$ ...

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✓ Problem a

The probability that Alice gets to deliver the message is  $1/4$ . The probability that Alice delivers the messa...

2

💬 Part B tip

Don't go too fast for the part B and read well the times of each events ;)

7

💬 Probability of a point equals zero

Doesn't the probability of a point equal to zero apply here?

4 new\_ 7

? why don't you multiply it by  $1/3$ ?

instead of what it says in the solution. This is a longer time interval than in the example in the video, I do...

2

?  $E[X]$

just want to make sure I understand how to do various calculations - would  $E[X] = 43/4$  ( $10.75$ )?

1 new\_ 3

💬 conceptual confusion (points vs spans)

To me, when you say  $f_X(x)$  where  $x$  is a single number strikes me as a point, with probability 0. On the ot...

3

✓ What does "The PDF of the time  $X$  that mail gets delivered satisfies..." means?

Are we looking to calculate  $P(X < 9.5)$  and  $P(X < 10.5)$ ?

3

? Reminder

Can anyone remind me how do we calculate the Probability of uniform for interval between 9 & 11? wha...

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