

UNIT 3 PROBLEM SET (PS3)

Due: 11 pm CT on Monday, March 15, 2021.

Submission instructions are on Canvas.

All **textbook problems** refer to problems from *Introduction to Probability*, Second Edition, by Bertsekas and Tsitsiklis. Problems labeled with “(Textbook)” have [solutions available at this link](#) and will be graded for effort and completion; the remaining problems will be graded for effort and correctness.

Lesson 3.1: PDF, Mean & Variance, CDF

1. Consider r.v. X with PDF $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{8}(4x - 2x^2) & \text{for } 0 < x < 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
 - (a) Find $P(X > 1.3)$.
 - (b) Find $P(X = 1.3)$.
 - (c) Find $P(0.3 \leq X \leq 2.3)$.
 - (d) Find $E[X]$.
 - (e) Find $\text{Var}(X)$.
 - (f) State the CDF of X . Be sure to define it for the whole real line, not just over the support of X .
2. (Textbook) Ch. 3, Problem 19, parts (a) and (b), BUT for part (b) you only need to find $P(A)$, not the conditional PDF.
3. For the same X defined in Ch. 3, Problem 19, find:
 - (a) $E[X]$
 - (b) $\text{Var}(X)$

Lesson 3.2: Named Distributions

4. Let $U \sim \text{Unif}(2, 9)$.
 - (a) State the PDF of U . Don't forget the support.
 - (b) Find $P(U > 4.5)$.
 - (c) Find $\text{Var}(U)$.
 - (d) Find $E[\ln(U^4)]$, where \ln is natural log.
5. (Textbook) Ch. 3, Problem 7, part (a) only. *Hint: Start with the CDF of X . What is the area of a circle with radius x ?*
6. Let X be the length of time, in hours, that a laptop will work without breaking down. Suppose X follows the exponential distribution with parameter $\lambda = 1/100$.
 - (a) How long do we *expect* the laptop to work without breaking down? Include units.
 - (b) Find the standard deviation of X .

- (c) Find the probability the laptop will work more than 50 hours.
 - (d) Given the laptop has already worked 100 hours, what's the probability it will work at least an additional 50 (that is, at least 150 total hours)? In other words, find $P(X > 150 \mid X > 100)$. *Hint: Use the definition of conditional probability. The answer should end up being the same as the answer to (c). This is called the "memoryless" property of the exponential distribution.*
 - (e) Find the *median* time the laptop will work, i.e., the amount of time t such that $P(X \leq t) = 0.5$. *Hint: Use the CDF of X .*
7. Assume that IQ scores are normally distributed with a mean of 100 and a standard deviation of 15. I suggest drawing a rough sketch of the PDF. Use the 68-95-99.7 Rule to find the approximate probability that a randomly chosen person has an IQ:
- (a) less than 85?
 - (b) between 115 and 145?
 - (c) that is more than 30 away from 100?
8. Consider $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu = 10, \sigma^2 = 9)$.
- (a) Roughly sketch the PDF of X and shade the area that corresponds to $P(X \leq 8)$.
 - (b) Why can't we use the 68-95-99.7 Rule to find $P(X \leq 8)$?
 - (c) Find $P(X \leq 8)$. Your answer should be in Φ notation.
 - (d) Again find $P(X \leq 8)$, this time using an online applet, calculator, or normal table. You should provide a final numerical answer.
9. (Textbook) Ch. 3, Problem 11. *Hint for part (b): What happens to a normal r.v. when we subtract its mean and divide by its standard deviation?*
10. (Textbook) Ch. 3, Problem 13. *Hint: If C is temperature in Celsius and F is temperature in Fahrenheit, they are related by $\frac{5}{9}(F - 32) = C$.*

Lesson 3.3: Functions of RVs, MGFs

- 11. (Textbook) Ch. 3, Problem 18 part (b) only.
- 12. (Textbook) Ch. 4, Problem 1. *There is an optional video explaining this one; it's posted on the Lesson 3.3 page under Additional Resources.*
- 13. (a) Suppose r.v. X has MGF $M_X(s) = (0.3e^s + 0.7)^{10}$. What named distribution does X follow? State the name and parameter value(s).
- (b) Suppose r.v. Y has MGF $M_Y(s) = \frac{e^{5s}}{4s} - \frac{e^s}{4s}$. What named distribution does Y follow? State the name and parameter value(s).
- 14. (Textbook) Ch. 4, Problem 29. *Remember that "transform" is another name for "moment generating function".*
- 15. (Textbook) Ch. 4, Problem 36 parts (b) and (c) only.

Lesson 3.4 will be on the Unit 4 Problem Set.