

Section 3.6 Problems

1. 3.6.5. Use Theorem 3.6.1 (Let W be any random variable, discrete or continuous, having mean μ and for which $E(W^2)$ is finite. Then $\text{Var}(W) = \sigma^2 = E(W^2) - \mu^2$) to find the variance of the random variable Y , where $f_Y(y) = 3(1-y)^2$, $0 < y < 1$.

Answer:

$$\mu = \int_0^1 y \cdot f_Y(y) dy = \int_0^1 3y(1-y)^2 dy = 3 \int_0^1 y^3 - 2y^2 + y dy = 3 \left(\frac{y^4}{4} - \frac{2y^3}{3} + \frac{y^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$E[Y^2] = \int_0^1 y^2 \cdot f_Y(y) dy = \int_0^1 3y^2(1-y)^2 dy = 3 \int_0^1 y^4 - 2y^3 + y^2 dy = 3 \left(\frac{y^5}{5} - \frac{y^4}{2} + \frac{y^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{10}.$$

So, $\text{Var}(Y) = E[Y^2] - \mu^2 = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{16} = \frac{3}{80}$.

2. (461 only) 3.6.11. Suppose that Y is an exponential random variable, so $f_Y(y) = \lambda e^{-\lambda y}$, $y \geq 0$. Show that the variance of Y is $1/\lambda^2$.

Answer:

We first find μ using integration by parts:

$$\mu = \int_0^\infty y \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy = -y e^{-\lambda y} \Big|_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty -\frac{e^{-\lambda y}}{\lambda} dy.$$

We now use L'Hospital's Rule to evaluate $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} -y e^{-\lambda y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-y}{e^{\lambda y}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-1}{\lambda e^{\lambda y}} = \frac{-1}{\infty} = 0$. So,

$$\mu = \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-\lambda y}}{\lambda} dy = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda y}}{-\lambda} \right) \Big|_0^\infty = \frac{1}{\lambda}.$$

We now compute $E[Y^2]$ using integration by parts:

$$E[Y^2] = \int_0^\infty y^2 \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy = -y^2 e^{-\lambda y} \Big|_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty -2y e^{-\lambda y} dy = \int_0^\infty 2y e^{-\lambda y} dy = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}.$$

So, $\text{Var}(Y) = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$.

3. Let Y have PDF $f_Y(y) = 3(1-y)^2$, $0 < y < 1$. Let $W = -5Y + 12$. Find the variance and standard deviation of W .

Answer:

$\text{Var}(W) = \text{Var}(-5Y + 12) = 25\text{Var}(Y)$. Since we already found $\text{Var}(Y) = \frac{3}{80}$, we can easily find that $\text{Var}(W) = 25 \cdot \frac{3}{80} = \frac{15}{16}$.

Section 3.7 Problems

4. 3.7.1. If $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = cxy$ at the points $(1,1)$, $(2,1)$, $(2,2)$ and $(3,1)$, and equals 0 elsewhere, find c .

Answer:

$p_{X,Y}(1,1) = c$, $p_{X,Y}(2,1) = 2c$, $p_{X,Y}(2,2) = 4c$, and $p_{X,Y}(3,1) = 3c$. Since $p_{X,Y}$ must sum to 1, then $10c = 1 \implies c = \frac{1}{10}$.

5. (461 only) 3.7.2. Let X and Y be two continuous random variables defined over the unit square. What does c equal if $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = c(x^2 + y^2)$?

Answer:

We use the fact that integrating over the entire unit square should equal 1:

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 c(x^2 + y^2) dy dx = c \int_0^1 \left(x^2 y + \frac{y^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^1 dx = c \int_0^1 x^2 + \frac{1}{3} dx = c \left(\frac{x^3}{3} + x \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{2c}{3} = 1$$

$$\implies c = \frac{3}{2}.$$

6. 3.7.8. Consider the experiment of tossing a fair coin three times. Let X denote the number of heads on the last flip, and let Y denote the total number of heads on the three flips. Find $p_{X,Y}(x,y)$.

Answer:

The Sample Space $S = \{(H, H, H), (H, H, T), (H, T, H), (H, T, T), (T, H, H), (T, H, T), (T, T, H), (T, T, T)\}$. So then the discrete pdf $p_{X,Y}(x,y)$ can be displayed as follows, where the rows represent $X = \#$ of heads on the last flip and the columns represent $Y = \#$ of heads total:

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$	$Y = 3$
$X = 0$	$P(0, 0) = 1/8$	$P(0, 1) = 2/8$	$P(0, 2) = 1/8$	$P(0, 3) = 0$
$X = 1$	$P(1, 0) = 0$	$P(1, 1) = 1/8$	$P(1, 2) = 2/8$	$P(1, 3) = 1/8$

7. 3.7.11. Let X and Y have the joint pdf

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 2e^{-(x+y)}, \quad 0 < x < y, \quad 0 < y.$$

Find $P(Y < 3X)$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y < 3X) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx = \int_0^{\infty} \int_x^{3x} 2e^{-x} \cdot e^{-y} dy dx = \int_0^{\infty} 2e^{-x} (-e^{-y}) \Big|_x^{3x} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} -2e^{-4x} + 2e^{-2x} dx = -\frac{e^{-4x}}{2} - e^{-2x} \Big|_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

8. 3.7.19. - Part (b) only. Find $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$: $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{3}{2}y^2$, $0 \leq x \leq 2$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dy = \int_0^1 \frac{3}{2}y^2 dy = \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{y^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}. \\ f_Y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dx = \int_0^2 \frac{3}{2}y^2 dx = \frac{3}{2} (y^2 x) \Big|_0^2 = \frac{3y^2}{2} \cdot 2 = 3y^2. \end{aligned}$$

9. 3.7.26. An urn contains twelve chips—four red, three black, and five white. A sample of size 4 is to be drawn without replacement. Let X denote the number of white chips in the sample, Y the number of red. Find $F_{X,Y}(1,2)$.

Answer:

We first note that the order in which we draw the chips does not matter, so we can say that there are $\binom{12}{4} = 495$ ways for 4 chips to be drawn. We then note that there are $\binom{4}{y}$ ways to get y red chips from the 4 total red chips, and $\binom{5}{x}$ ways to pick x white chips from the 5 total white chips. For the remaining black chips, we can figure out that there are $\binom{3}{4-(x+y)}$ ways for them to be chosen (since the sample size is 4 and $x+y$ are the amount of chips already chosen). So then

$$p_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{\binom{5}{x} \binom{4}{y} \binom{3}{4-(x+y)}}{495}$$

To find $F_{X,Y}(1,2)$, we need to sum all of the probabilities of the different random variables $X \leq 1$ and $Y \leq 2$ (However, we disregard the $P(X=0, Y=0)$ case otherwise there would not be enough chips in the sample size)

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X,Y}(1,2) &= P(X=0, Y=1) + P(X=0, Y=2) + P(X=1, Y=0) + P(X=1, Y=1) + P(X=1, Y=2) \\ &= \frac{\binom{5}{0} \binom{4}{1} \binom{3}{3}}{495} + \frac{\binom{5}{0} \binom{4}{2} \binom{3}{2}}{495} + \frac{\binom{5}{1} \binom{4}{0} \binom{3}{3}}{495} + \frac{\binom{5}{1} \binom{4}{1} \binom{3}{2}}{495} + \frac{\binom{5}{1} \binom{4}{2} \binom{3}{1}}{495} \\ &= \frac{(1 \cdot 4 \cdot 1) + (1 \cdot 6 \cdot 3) + (5 \cdot 1 \cdot 1) + (5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3) + (5 \cdot 6 \cdot 3)}{495} \approx 0.358. \end{aligned}$$

10. 3.7.28. - Part (a) only. Find $F_{X,Y}(x,y)$ given that $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}$, $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 2$.

Answer:

$$F_{X,Y}(u,v) = \int_{-\infty}^u \int_{-\infty}^v f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx = \int_0^u \int_x^v \frac{1}{2} dy dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u y \Big|_x^v dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u (v - x) dx = \frac{1}{2} \left(vx - \frac{x^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^u = \frac{uv}{2} - \frac{u^2}{4}.$$

11. 3.7.38. Two fair dice are tossed. Let X denote the number appearing on the first die and Y the number on the second. Show that X and Y are independent.

Answer:

First note that the probability for any number rolled is $1/6$, i.e. $P_X(x) = P_Y(y) = \frac{1}{6}$, $\forall X, Y$. Let each row be the random variable X and each column be the random variable Y .

	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$	$Y = 3$	$Y = 4$	$Y = 5$	$Y = 6$
$X = 1$	2	3	4	5	6	7
$X = 2$	3	4	5	6	7	8
$X = 3$	4	5	6	7	8	9
$X = 4$	5	6	7	8	9	10
$X = 5$	6	7	8	9	10	11
$X = 6$	7	8	9	10	11	12

Then by the table, $P_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{1}{36} = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y)$. So X and Y are independent.

12. 3.7.43. Suppose that random variables X and Y are independent with marginal pdfs $f_X(x) = 2x$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, and $f_Y(y) = 3y^2$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$. Find $P(Y < X)$.

Answer:

We first find the joint pdf $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$ since X and Y are independent: $f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) = 2x \cdot 3y^2 = 6xy^2$. Now we integrate:

$$P(Y < X) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty f(x, y) dy dx = \int_0^1 \int_0^x 6xy^2 dy dx = 2 \int_0^1 xy^3 \Big|_0^x dx = 2 \int_0^1 x^4 dx = 2 \left(\frac{x^5}{5} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{2}{5}.$$

13. **(461 only)** 3.7.44. Find the joint cdf of the independent random variables X and Y , where $f_X(x) = \frac{x}{2}$, $0 \leq x \leq 2$, and $f_Y(y) = 2y$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$.

Answer:

We repeat the same process in #12: $f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) = \frac{x}{2} \cdot 2y = xy$. Now we integrate:

$$F_{X,Y}(u, v) = \int_{-\infty}^u \int_{-\infty}^v f(x, y) dy dx = \int_0^u \int_0^v xy dy dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u xy^2 \Big|_0^v dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u xv^2 dx = \frac{1}{4} (x^2 v^2) \Big|_0^u = \frac{u^2 v^2}{4}.$$