

1. (Page 218, problem 4) In a certain liability suit, a lawyer has to decide whether to charge a straight fee of \$1200 or to take the case on a contingency basis, in which case she will receive a fee of \$5000 only if her client wins the case. Determine whether the straight fee or the contingency arrangement will result in a higher expected fee when the probability that the client will win the case is

- (a) $\frac{1}{2}$
- (b) $\frac{1}{3}$
- (c) $\frac{1}{4}$
- (d) $\frac{1}{5}$

X = earnings and $P(X)$ = probability of earning the amount X

The expected earning if charging a straight fee is: $E[X] = 1200 \times 1 = 1200$

possible values of X if contingency case: $\{0, 5000\}$

- a) probability of each x : $\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \}$. Expected contingency earnings:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^2 x_i \cdot p(x_i) = 0 * \frac{1}{2} + 5000 * \frac{1}{2} = 2500$$

The expected contingency earnings are greater than the straight fee.

- b) probability of each x : $\{ \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \}$. Expected contingency earnings:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^2 x_i \cdot p(x_i) = 0 * \frac{2}{3} + 5000 * \frac{1}{3} = 1666.67$$

The expected contingency earnings are greater than the straight fee.

- c) probability of each x : $\{ \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4} \}$. Expected contingency earnings:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^2 x_i \cdot p(x_i) = 0 * \frac{3}{4} + 5000 * \frac{1}{4} = 1250$$

The expected contingency earnings are greater than the straight fee.

- d) probability of each x : $\{ \frac{4}{5}, \frac{1}{5} \}$. Expected contingency earnings:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^2 x_i \cdot p(x_i) = 0 * \frac{4}{5} + 5000 * \frac{1}{5} = 1000$$

The expected contingency earnings are smaller than the straight fee.

2. (Page 233, problem 16) The amount of money that Robert earns has expected value \$30,000 and standard deviation \$3000. The amount of money that his wife Sandra earns has expected value \$32,000 and standard deviation \$5000. Determine the

- (a) Expected value
- (b) Standard deviation

of the total earnings of this family. In answering part (b), assume that Robert's earnings and Sandra's earnings are independent. (Hint: In answering part (b), first find the variance of the family's total earnings.)

$$E[A] = 30,000 \quad ; \quad SD(A) = 3000 \quad ; \quad A = \text{what Robert earns}$$

$$E[B] = 32,000 \quad ; \quad SD(B) = 5000 \quad ; \quad B = \text{what Robert's wife earns}$$

$$(a) \quad E(A + B) = E(A) + E(B) = 30,000 + 32,000 = 62,000$$

$$(b) \quad SD = \sqrt{\text{Var}} \Rightarrow \text{Var} = SD^2$$

$$\text{Var}(A + B) = \text{Var}(A) + \text{Var}(B) = [SD(A)]^2 + [SD(B)]^2 = 9\,000\,000 + 25\,000\,000 = 34\,000\,000$$

$$SD(A + B) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(A + B)} = \sqrt{34\,000\,000} = 5830.95$$

3. (Page 247, problem 10) A multiple-choice examination has 3 possible answers for each of 5 questions. What is the probability that a student will get 4 or more correct answers just by guessing?

$$P(\text{"correct answer in a question"}) = 1/3 = 33.33\%$$

$$P(\text{"4 correct answers"}) = 1/3 \times 1/3 \times 1/3 \times 1/3 = (1/3)^4 = 0.012$$

$$P(\text{"5 correct answers"}) = 1/3 \times 1/3 \times 1/3 \times 1/3 \times 1/3 = (1/3)^5 = 0.004$$

$$P(\text{"4 or more correct answers"}) = P(\text{"4 correct"}) + P(\text{"5 correct"}) = 0.012 + 0.004 = 0.016 = 1.6\%$$

4. Let Z be a binomial random variable with expected value 7 and variance 2.1. Find

- (a) $\mathbb{P}(Z = 3)$
- (b) $\mathbb{P}(Z > 9)$
- (c) $\mathbb{P}(4 \leq Z \leq 15)$

We are given:

$$n \cdot p = 7 \quad (\text{the mean or expected value})$$

$$n \cdot p \cdot (1-p) = 2.1 \quad (\text{the variance})$$

$$\text{Thus, } (1-p) = 2.1 / 7 = 0.3, \quad p = 1 - 0.3 = 0.7 \quad \text{and} \quad n = 7 / 0.7 = 10$$

- a) Assuming Z represents the number of successes in a sequence of n Bernoulli trials and p the probability of a success in a single trial, then:

$$P(Z = 3) = \binom{n}{3} (P)^2 (1 - P)^2 = \frac{10!}{(10-3)! 3!} \cdot (0.7)^2 \cdot (0.3)^2 = 5.292 \quad (????)$$

$$\text{Since } \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!}$$

$$\text{b) } P(Z > 9) = 1 - [P(Z = 9) + P(Z = 8) + \dots + P(Z = 1) + P(Z = 0)] =$$

$$\text{c) } P(4 \leq Z \leq 15) = P(Z = 4) + P(Z = 5) + \dots + P(Z = 14) + P(Z = 15) =$$

Problem 5 is an R theory exercise.

5. (a) Consider a function in R defined as follows

```
myfunction <- function(n) {
  result <- 1
  for(i in 1:n) {
    result <- result*i
  }
  result
}
```

Assume the argument **n** is a positive integer, i.e. the function is called like **myfunction(5)** or **myfunction(8)**. What does this function do? Which function in R does the same operation?

- (b) Consider a function in R defined as follows

```
new_price_calc <- function(h, p) {
  coef <- 1 - p / 100
  h * coef
}
```

The function can be called, for example, with the commands **new_price_calc(50, 25)** or **new_price_calc(50, 30)**. What could this function be used for?

- (a) The function multiplies all the integrals from 1 up to the number **n** for which the function is called **myfunction(n)**. The function in R that does the same operation is the factorial, which for a number **n** is called like **factorial(n)**.

- (b) Function **priceCalc** calculates a new price based upon the initial price **h**, after a percentual price change of **p**.

Example: The initial price of a pair of shoes is 50 euros. There is a sale going on so the shoes will now be 30% off. We call the function with **priceCalc(50, 30)** and the function gives us 35 euros as the new price for the shoes.