

EE 507 Assignment 03

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Problem 1

A random variable X has a probability density function $f_X(x) = Cx^{-3}, x \geq 1$.

- (a) Please find the constant C .
- (b) Find the mean and variance of X .
- (c) Find the CDF of X .
- (d) Please find the PDF of X given that $X \geq 2$. Also, please find the mean value of X given that that $X \geq 2$.

Solution

(a.)

To Find C , we can use one of the properties defined for pdfs:

$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(u) du \quad (1)$$

$$= \int_1^{\infty} Cu^{-3} du$$

$$= C \left[\frac{-1}{2u^2} \right]_1^{\infty}$$

$$= C \left[\frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$2 = C \quad (2)$$

(b.)

For **mean** we have

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_X(x) dx \quad (3)$$

$$= \int_1^{\infty} x \cdot 2x^{-3} dx$$

$$= \int_1^{\infty} 2x^{-2} dx$$

$$= \left[-\frac{2}{x} \right]_1^{\infty}$$

$$= 2$$

For **variance** we first find $E(X^2)$ which is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X^2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx \\
 &= \int_1^{\infty} x^2 \cdot 2x^{-3} dx \\
 &= \int_1^{\infty} 2x^{-1} dx \\
 &= \left[2\log(x) \right]_1^{\infty} \\
 &= \infty
 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Thus we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
 Var(X) &= E[X^2] - [E(X)]^2 \\
 &= \infty - 4 \\
 &= \infty
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

(c.)

To find the CDF of X, we use $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(u) du$, so for $x < 1$, we obtain $F_X(x) = 0$. For $x \geq 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_X(x) &= \int_1^x 2u^{-3} du \\
 &= \left[-\frac{1}{u^2} \right]_1^x \\
 &= \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2-1}{x^2}, & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(d.)

By law of conditioning, we have

$$f_{X|X \geq 2}(x) = \frac{P(X \geq 2|X = x) \cdot f_X(x)}{P(X \geq 2)} \quad (7)$$

such that:

$$P(X \geq 2) = \int_2^{\infty} f_X(u) du \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_2^{\infty} 2u^{-3} du \\ &= \left[-\frac{1}{u^2} \right]_2^{\infty} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$$f_X(x) = 2x^{-3} \quad (10)$$

and

$$P(X \geq 2|X = x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 2 \\ 1, & x \geq 2 \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

We substitute equations (9), (10), and (11) into (7), we get:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X|X \geq 2}(x) &= \frac{\binom{1}{1} \binom{2x^{-3}}{\frac{1}{4}}}{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &= 8x^{-3}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 2 \end{aligned}$$

For **mean** we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[X|X \geq 2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx \\ &= \int_2^{\infty} x \cdot 8x^{-3} dx \\ &= \int_2^{\infty} 8x^{-2} dx \\ &= \left[-\frac{8}{x} \right]_2^{\infty} \\ &= 4 \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Problem 2

- (a) A Bernoulli random variable $X \sim B(p)$ is a discrete random variable, which equals 1 with probability p and equals 0 with probability $1 - p$. Please find the pmf, CDF, and first five moments of a Bernoulli random variable X . (Please leave your answer in terms of p).
- (b) A bi-directional Bernoulli random variable $X \sim BB(p)$ is a discrete random variable, which equals 1 with probability p and equals -1 with probability $1 - p$. Please find the pmf, CDF, and first five moments of a bi-directional Bernoulli random variable.

Solution

(a.)

For pmf:

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - p, & x = 0 \\ p, & x = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

For CDF:

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \geq 1 \\ 1 - p, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

For the Bernoulli distribution, the range of X is $R_X = \{0, 1\}$, and $P_X(1) = p$ and $P_X(0) = 1 - p$. Thus the moments are expressed using:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^n] &= \sum_x x^n \cdot p_X(x) \\ E[X^n] &= 0 \cdot p_X(0) + 1 \cdot p_X(1) \\ &= 0 \cdot (1 - p) + 1 \cdot p \\ &= p \end{aligned}$$

(b.)

For pmf:

$$p_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - p, & x = -1 \\ p, & x = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

For CDF:

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \geq 1 \\ 1-p, & -1 \leq x < 1 \\ 0, & x < -1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

For the Bernoulli distribution, the range of X is $R_X = \{-1, 1\}$, and $P_X(1) = p$ and $P_X(-1) = 1 - p$. Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^n] &= \sum_x x^n \cdot p_X(x) \\ &= -1 \cdot p_X(-1) + 1 \cdot p_X(1) \\ &= -1 \cdot (1-p) + 1 \cdot p \\ &= 2p - 1, \text{ for } x = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^n] &= \sum_x x^n \cdot p_X(x) \\ &= 1 \cdot p_X(-1) + 1 \cdot p_X(1) \\ &= 1 \cdot (1-p) + 1 \cdot p \\ &= 1, \text{ for } x = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3

Consider a Gaussian random variable $Y \sim N(m = 1, \sigma^2 = 4)$

- (a) Please find the mean, standard deviation, and second moment of Y.
- (b) In terms of the standard Gaussian distribution, what is the probability that $2 \leq Y \leq 3$.
- (c) Please design a zero-mean Gaussian random variable Z such that $P(Z \geq 1) = 0.3$

Solution

a.

$$Y \sim N(m, \sigma^2)$$

where m = mean, and σ = variance

The Gaussian Random Variable has a pdf of:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad (1)$$

The mean of a Gaussian random variable by the analysis in our notes is given as:

$$E[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y) dy \quad (2)$$

$$E[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(y-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dy \quad (3)$$

$$E[Y] = m \quad \text{where } m = \text{mean} \quad (4)$$

Therefore **mean = 1**

Also, standard deviation is given as:

$$\text{SD} = \sqrt{\text{variance}}$$

But variance is given as:

$$\text{Var}[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (y - m)^2 f_Y(y) dy \quad (5)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (y - m)^2 \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp^{-\frac{(y-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dy \quad (6)$$

$$= \sigma^2 \quad (7)$$

$$= 4 \quad (8)$$

By this, the standard deviation = **2**

For the second moment, we have:

$$\text{Var}[Y] = E[Y^2] - [E(Y)]^2$$

$$4 = E[Y^2] - [E(Y)]^2$$

$$E[Y^2] = 4 + [E(Y)]^2$$

$$E[Y^2] = 4 + [1]^2$$

$$E[Y^2] = 5$$

b.

$$P(2 \leq Y \leq 3) = F_Y(3) - F_Y(2)$$

$$G\left(\frac{y-m}{\sigma}\right) = G\left(\frac{3-1}{2}\right) - G\left(\frac{2-1}{2}\right)$$

$$= G(1) - G(0.5)$$

$$= 0.8413 - 0.6915$$

$$= \mathbf{0.1499}$$

c.

$$Y \sim N(0, \sigma)$$

$$G(Z \leq 1) = 1 - G(Z \geq 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G(Z \leq 1) &= 1 - 0.3 \\ &= 0.7 \end{aligned}$$

$$G\left(\frac{y - m}{\sigma}\right) = 0.7$$

$$G\left(\frac{1 - 0}{\sigma}\right) = 0.7$$

$$G^{-1}(0.7) = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

$$0.5244 = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

$$\sigma = 1.907$$

Problem 4

A probabilistic experiment has three outcomes, A, B, and C which have probabilities of 0.2, 0.3, and 0.5 respectively. A random variable X is defined as follows: if the experiment has outcome A, then X is exponential with parameter $\lambda = 2$. If the experiment has outcome B, then X is exponential with parameter $\lambda = 1$. If the experiment has outcome C, then $X = 0$. Please find $P(A|X = x)$, $P(B|X = x)$, and $P(C|X = x)$ as a function of x

Solution

We have the following:

$$P(A) = 0.2, P(B) = 0.3, P(C) = 0.5,$$

$$f_{X|A}(x) = 2e^{-2x}, f_{X|B}(x) = e^{-x}, f_{X|C}(x) = \delta(x)$$

and

$$f_X(x) = f_{X|A}(x)P(A) + f_{X|B}(x)P(B) + f_{X|C}(x)P(C)$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A|X = x) &= \frac{f_{X|A}(x)P(A)}{f_X(x)} \\ &= \frac{0.4e^{-2x}}{0.4e^{-2x} + 0.3e^{-x} + 0.5\delta(x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$P(A|X = x) = \begin{cases} \frac{0.4e^{-2x}}{0.4e^{-2x} + 0.3e^{-x} + 0.5\delta(x)}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(B|X = x) &= \frac{f_{X|B}(x)P(B)}{f_X(x)} \\ &= \frac{0.3e^{-x}}{0.4e^{-2x} + 0.3e^{-x} + 0.5\delta(x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$P(B|X = x) = \begin{cases} \frac{0.3e^{-x}}{0.4e^{-2x} + 0.3e^{-x} + 0.5\delta(x)}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(C|X=x) &= \frac{f_{X|C}(x)P(C)}{f_X(x)} \\
 &= \frac{0.5\delta(x)}{0.4e^{-2x} + 0.3e^{-x} + 0.5\delta(x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(C|X=x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x=0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Problem 5

A random variable X is uniformly distributed on the interval $[0,2]$. Given $X = x$, the event A occurs with probability $1 - \frac{x}{2}$, and the event B occurs independently with probability $\frac{x}{2}$. Please answer the following questions:

- (a) Please find $P(A)$ and $P(B)$.
- (b) Find the PDF of X given A .
- (c) Find $P(A|B)$. Are A and B independent?

Solution

5a.

A continuous random variable X is said to have a uniform distribution over the interval $[a,b]$, shown as $X \sim \text{Uniform}(a,b)$, if its PDF is given by:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & a < x < b \\ 0, & x < a \text{ or } x > b \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

As such:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 2$$

Thus by law of total probability:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= \int_0^2 f_X(x) P(A|X=x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 \left(1 - \frac{x}{2}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 \left(1 - \frac{x}{2}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^2 (2-x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[2x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} [2] \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(B) &= \int_0^2 f_X(x)P(B|X=x)dx \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)dx \\
&= \frac{1}{8} \left[x^2 \right]_0^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{8} [4] \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

5b

To find the PDF of X given A, by Bayes rule, we have:

$$P(A|X=x) = \frac{f_{X|A}(x)P(A)}{f_X(x)} \quad (2)$$

By reverse conditioning, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{X|A}(x) &= \frac{P(A|X=x)f_X(x)}{P(A)} \\
&= \frac{(1-\frac{x}{2})0.5}{0.5} \\
&= 1 - \frac{x}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

5c

Since $P(A|X=x)$ and $P(B|X=x)$ are independent, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
P(AB) &= \int_0^2 f_X(x)P(AB|X=x) \, dx \\
&= \int_0^2 f_X(x)P(A|X=x)P(B|X=x) \, dx \\
&= \int_0^2 \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{x}{2}\right) \frac{x}{2} \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^2 \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2}\right) \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{24} \left[3x^2 - x^3 \right]_0^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{24} [4] \Rightarrow \frac{1}{6}
\end{aligned}$$

By conditional probability law, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
P(A|B) &= \frac{P(AB)}{P(B)} \\
&= \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{2}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

For independence, $P(A|B) = P(A)$, therefore A and B are **not independent**.

Problem 6

Consider a geometric random variable Q with parameter $p=0.7$.

(a) Please find the pmf and mean of Q , given that $Q \leq 4$.

(b) Let $R = Q^2$. Please find the pmf of R .

Solution

a.

We know that the pmf of a random variable Q is equal to 1. That is:

$$\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_Q(q) = 1 \quad (1)$$

Therefore we get:

$$\alpha \sum_1^4 p_Q(q) \Rightarrow 1 \quad (2)$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{\sum_1^4 p_Q(q)}$$

But

$$P_Q(q) = (1-p)(p)^{q-1} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (3)$$

To find the pmf of Q , given that $Q \leq 4$. By equation 2 and 3, we get:

$$P_{Q|Q \leq 4}(q) = \frac{1}{0.7599} (0.3)(0.7)^{q-1}$$

$$P_{Q|Q \leq 4}(q) = \begin{cases} \frac{(0.3)(0.7)^{q-1}}{0.7599}, & q = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

To find the mean of

$$\begin{aligned}E_{Q|Q \geq 4}(q) &= \sum_{q=1}^4 q \cdot p_{Q|Q \leq 4}(q) \\&= \sum_{q=1}^4 (q)(0.39479)(0.7)^{q-1} \\&= 2.069489\end{aligned}$$

b.

To find the pmf of , we have:

$$p_R(r) = \begin{cases} (0.3)(0.7)^{\sqrt{r}-1}, & r = 1, 4, 9, 16 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Problem 7

Consider throwing a dart at a circular dartboard with unit radius; assume that every point on the dartboard is equally likely. Let X be the distance of the dart from the center of the dartboard. Let $Z = X^a$ where $a > 0$. Please find the pdf of Z (leaving your answer in terms of a). Is Z a uniform random variable for some parameter value a ?

Solution

$$P(X \leq x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ \frac{\pi \cdot x^2}{\pi \cdot 1^2}, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

The pdf of Z is given as

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{d}{dz} \left(F_Z(z) \right) \quad (1)$$

Given $Z = X^a$

We have $F_Z(z) =$

$$P(Z \leq z) = P(X^a \leq z) = P(X \leq z^{\frac{1}{a}}) = \begin{cases} 0, & z^{\frac{1}{a}} < 0 \\ z^{\frac{2}{a}}, & 0 \leq z^{\frac{1}{a}} \leq 1 \\ 1, & z^{\frac{1}{a}} > 1 \end{cases}$$

By equation 1, we get:

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{a} z^{\left(\frac{2}{a}-1\right)}, & 0 \leq z \leq 1 \\ 0, & z^{\frac{1}{a}} < 0, \quad z^{\frac{1}{a}} > 1 \end{cases}$$

Z is a uniform random variable when $a = 2$.

Problem 8

The random variable X is uniform on $[0,4]$. A random variable Y is defined as follows: $Y = 0$ if $X < 1$, and $Y = X - 1$ if $X \geq 1$. Please find the pdf of Y .

Solution

$X \sim \text{unif}(0,4)$

$$Y = \begin{cases} 0, & X < 1 \\ X - 1, & X \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Note that $R_Y = [0, 3]$. Therefore,

$$F_Y(y) = 0, \quad \text{for } y < 0$$

$$F_Y(y) = 1, \quad \text{for } y > 3$$

Also for $0 < y < 3$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^{y+1} \frac{1}{4} dx \\ &= \frac{y+1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0, & y < 0 \\ \frac{y+1}{4}, & 0 < y < 3 \\ 1, & y > 3 \end{cases}$$

Since we have:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(F_Y(y) \right) \tag{1}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{4} \delta(y) + \frac{1}{4}, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq y \leq 3$$