

**Challenge Problem 1**Due **Feb 9th** by 11:59pm*Instructor: Vincent Roulet**Teaching Assistant: Kunhui Zhang*

Upload **detailed solutions** to the questions below to Gradescope **as a pdf file**. **Answer each exercise on a separate page**. No credit will be given without **clear and complete** mathematical explanations.

**Exercise 1** (10 pts).

1. Let  $Z_1, \dots, Z_{25}$  be independent  $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$  random variables. Let  $Y$  be the 13th largest of the 25 random variables. Find the probability density function of  $Y$ .

**Exercise 2** (10pts). Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be a sequence of independent and identically distributed continuous random variables. Let  $T \geq 2$  be such that

$$X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1} < X_T$$

That is,  $T$  is the point at which the sequence stops decreasing. Compute  $E[T]$ .

*Hint:* Use the exchangeability of  $X_1, X_2, \dots$

Exercise 1 (10 pts).

1. Let  $Z_1, \dots, Z_{25}$  be independent  $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$  random variables. Let  $Y$  be the 13th largest of the 25 random variables. Find the probability density function of  $Y$ .

Since  $Z_1, \dots, Z_{25}$  are independent, identically distributed random variables. ( $\text{Unif}[0, 1]$ )

If we denote  $Y$  be the 13th largest of the 25 random variables, there will be 12 random variables less than or equal to  $Y$ .

And thus  $Y \sim \text{Beta}(k, n-k+1)$  where  $k=13$ ,  $n=25$

$$Y \sim \text{Beta}(13, 13)$$

Therefore,

the probability density function of  $Y$  is

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{25!}{12!12!} \cdot y^{12} \cdot (1-y)^{12} & \text{if } y \in [0, 1] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Exercise 2** (10pts). Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be a sequence of independent and identically distributed continuous random variables. Let  $T \geq 2$  be such that

$$X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1} < X_T$$

That is,  $T$  is the point at which the sequence stops decreasing. Compute  $E[T]$ .

*Hint:* Use the exchangeability of  $X_1, X_2, \dots$

Since  $X_1, \dots, X_{T-1}$  are i.i.d. continuous random variables.

So the possible number of permutation is  $(T-1)!$ . So

$$P(X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1}) = \frac{1}{(T-1)!}$$

If we requires  $X_{T-1} < X_T$  and also  $X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1}$ .

$$P(X_T > X_{T-1} \mid X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1}) = 1 - \frac{1}{T} = \frac{T-1}{T}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } P(X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_{T-1} < X_T) = \frac{1}{(T-1)!} \cdot \frac{T-1}{T} = \frac{1}{(T-2)! T}$$

$$E(T) = \sum_{T=2}^{\infty} T \cdot \frac{1}{(T-2)! T}$$

$$= \sum_{T=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(T-2)!}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!}$$

$$= e$$