

Solution of Problem Set 1

Problem 1:

1.

$$P(A) = 1 - P(TT...T) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$P(B) = P(HTT...T) + P(THT...T) + \dots + P(TTT...H) = n\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$P(C) = P(HTT...T) + P(THT...T) + \dots + P(TTT...H) + P(TTT...T) = (n+1)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$P(D) = 1 - P(TTT...T) - P(HHH...H) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$$

2. Let us check for which values of n the equation $P(C \cap D) = P(C)P(D)$ holds.

For $n=1$: we get that $P(C \cap D) = 0$ and $P(C)P(D) = 0$, namely the events C and D are independent.

For $n \geq 2$:

$$P(C)P(D) = (n+1)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}\right)$$

$$P(C \cap D) = P(B) = n\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

This means that events C and D are independent if and only if $(n+1)\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}\right) = n$ holds, and its only solution is $n=3$.

All in all we got that events C and D are independent iff $n=1$ or $n=3$.

Problem 2:

$$1. \quad P(X \leq 0) = F_X(0) = \frac{0.25}{2} = 0.125$$

$$2. \quad F_X(x) \text{ is continuous at 0 and thus: } P(X < 0) = P(X \leq 0) = 0.125$$

$$3. \quad P(X \leq 1) = F_X(1) \stackrel{(1)}{=} F_X(1^+) = 0.5$$

where (1) is due to the right-continuity property of the CDF.

$$4. \quad P(X < 1) = F_X(1^-) = 0.25$$

$$5. \quad P(0 \leq X < 1) = F_X(1^-) - F_X(0^-) = 0.25 - 0.125 = 0.125$$

$$6. \quad P(0 < X \leq 1.75) = F_X(1.75) - F_X(0) = 0.75 - 0.125 = 0.625$$

$$7. \quad P(X > 1) = 1 - P(X \leq 1) = 1 - 0.5 = 0.5$$

$$8. \quad P(X \geq 2.5) = 1 - P(X < 2.5) = 1 - P(X \leq 2.5) = 1 - 1 = 0$$

Problem 3:

If $Y = \text{sign}(X)$ then Y can take only two values, with the following probabilities:

$$p_Y(1) = P(Y = 1) = P(X > 0) = 0.7$$

$$p_Y(-1) = P(Y = -1) = P(X < 0) = 0.3$$

Therefore, the PDF consists of two delta functions:

$$f_Y(y) = 0.3\delta(y+1) + 0.7\delta(y-1)$$

whereas the CDF is a step function:

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y < -1 \\ 0.3 & -1 \leq y < 1 \\ 1 & y \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Problem 4:

$$1. Y = X + 17 \Rightarrow F_Y(y) = F_X(y-17) \Rightarrow f_Y(y) = f_X(y-17)$$

$$2. Y = -19X \Rightarrow F_Y(y) = 1 - F_X(-\frac{y}{19}) \Rightarrow f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{19} f_X(-\frac{y}{19})$$

$$3. Y = \max(X, 0) = \begin{cases} 0 & X < 0 \\ X & X \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y < 0 \\ F_X(y) & y \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_Y(y) = f_X(y)u(y) + F_X(0)\delta(y)$$

$$4. Y = |X| \Rightarrow F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y < 0 \\ F_X(y) - F_X(-y) & y \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_Y(y) = [f_X(y) + f_X(-y)]u(y)$$

Problem 5:

$$1. P(X > 2) = Q(2)$$

$$P(X < 7) = 1 - Q(7)$$

$$P(X = 3) = 0$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} Q(x) = 0$$

$$Q(0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} Q(x) = 1$$

$$3. f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a^2}} e^{-\frac{(y-b)^2}{2a^2}}$$