

1 The answers for both parts are given below:

(a) We have the following chain of identities:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(X - Y) &= \text{Var}(X + Z), \text{ where } Z = -Y \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Z) \text{ [statistical independence]} \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}[(-1)Y] \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + (-1)^2 \text{Var}(Y) \text{ [Theorem 2.9B]} \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) \\ &= 2.\end{aligned}$$

(b) Using the properties of the variance, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(2X - 3Y + 1) &= \text{Var}(2X - 3Y) \text{ [Theorem 2.9B]} \\ &= \text{Var}(T + Z), \text{ where } T = 2X, Z = -3Y \\ &= \text{Var}(T) + \text{Var}(Z) \text{ [statistical independence]} \\ &= 2^2 \text{Var}(X) + (-3)^2 \text{Var}(Y) \text{ [Theorem 2.9B]} \\ &= 13.\end{aligned}$$

2 Based on the Theorem 2.9A, we have:

$$\text{Var}(X) = \mathbb{E}(X^2) - \mu_X^2,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_X &= \sum_{x=1}^n x f_X(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x=1}^n x \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \text{ [see Hint]} \\ &= \frac{n+1}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

Applying the formula for the expected value of a transformed random variable, we get:

$$\mathbb{E}(X^2) = \sum_{x=1}^n x^2 f_X(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x=1}^n x^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \quad [\text{see Hint}] \\
 &= \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Var}(X) &= \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} - \frac{(n+1)^2}{4} \\
 &= \frac{n+1}{2} \left[\frac{2n+1}{3} - \frac{n+1}{2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{n+1}{2} \frac{n-1}{6} \\
 &= \frac{n^2-1}{12}.
 \end{aligned}$$

3 The answers for all parts are presented below.

- (a) We have $X \sim \text{Binomial}\left(3, \frac{1}{8}\right)$, $Y \sim \text{Binomial}\left(5, \frac{1}{4}\right)$, $Z \sim \text{Binomial}\left(2, \frac{1}{2}\right)$.
- (b) The expected number of times that the target will be hit is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}(X + Y + Z) &= \mathbb{E}(X) + \mathbb{E}(Y) + \mathbb{E}(Z) \quad [\text{apply properties of } \mathbb{E}(\cdot)] \\
 &= \frac{3}{8} + \frac{5}{4} + \frac{2}{2} \quad [\text{see page 92 in the course book}] \\
 &= \frac{21}{8} \\
 &= 2.625.
 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The variance of the number of times that the target will be hit is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Var}(X + Y + Z) &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + \text{Var}(Z) \quad [\text{statistical independence}] \\
 &= 3\frac{1}{8}\frac{7}{8} + 5\frac{1}{4}\frac{3}{4} + 2\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2} \quad [\text{see page 92 in the course book}] \\
 &= \frac{113}{64} \\
 &= 1.7656.
 \end{aligned}$$

4 The answers for all parts are presented below:

(a) For $x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}(X > x) &= 1 - \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) \text{ [valid prob. function]} \\
 &= 1 - [\mathbb{P}(X = 0) + \mathbb{P}(X = 1) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(X = x)] \text{ [discrete distribution]} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left[\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1 + \dots + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^x \right] \text{ [course book page 94]} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} \frac{1 - (2/3)^{x+1}}{1 - (2/3)} \text{ [see Hint]} \\
 &= \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x+1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for $y \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}(Y > y) &= 1 - \mathbb{P}(Y \leq y) \text{ [valid prob. function]} \\
 &= 1 - [\mathbb{P}(Y = 0) + \mathbb{P}(Y = 1) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(Y = y)] \text{ [discrete distribution]} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{5} \left[\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^0 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^1 + \dots + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^y \right] \text{ [course book page 94]} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{5} \frac{1 - (4/5)^{y+1}}{1 - (4/5)} \text{ [see Hint]} \\
 &= \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^{y+1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Using the Hint, we have the following chain of identities for $z \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}(Z = z) &= \mathbb{P}(X = z, Y > z) + \mathbb{P}(X > z, Y = z) + \mathbb{P}(X = z, Y = z) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(X = z)\mathbb{P}(Y > z) + \mathbb{P}(X > z)\mathbb{P}(Y = z) + \mathbb{P}(X = z)\mathbb{P}(Y = z) \text{ [stat. indep.]} \\
 &= \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^z \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^{z+1} + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{z+1} \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^z \frac{1}{5} \text{ [see part (a)]} \\
 &\quad + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^z \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^z \frac{1}{5} \\
 &= \left(\frac{24}{35}\right)^z \left[\frac{14}{35} + \frac{21}{35} + \frac{11}{35} \right] \\
 &= \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^z \frac{7}{15},
 \end{aligned}$$

which demonstrates that $Z \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{7}{15}\right)$.

As suggested in the Hint, an alternative approach is the following one. Let $z \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(Z > z) &= \mathbb{P}(\min(X, Y) > z) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X > z, Y > z) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X > z)\mathbb{P}(Y > z) \text{ [statistical independence]} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{z+1} \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^{z+1} \\ &= \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^{z+1}.\end{aligned}$$

This leads to the identity:

$$\mathbb{P}(Z \leq z) = 1 - \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^{z+1}. \quad (1)$$

If $T \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{7}{15}\right)$, then we get:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(T \leq z) &= \mathbb{P}(T = 0) + \mathbb{P}(T = 1) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(T = z) \\ &= \frac{7}{15} \left[\left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^0 + \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^1 + \dots + \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^z \right] \text{ [course book page 94]} \\ &= \frac{7}{15} \frac{1 - (8/15)^{z+1}}{7/15} \\ &= 1 - \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^{z+1}.\end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we may conclude that $Z \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{7}{15}\right)$.

(c) We define the following random variables:

X is the number of Sundays until the first successful launch of Craig (without considering the Sunday when the successful launch happens);

Y is the number of Sundays until the first successful launch of Jill (without considering the Sunday when the successful launch happens).

It is clear that $X \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$ and $Y \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)$. Additionally, we define $Z = \min(X, Y)$. It follows from part (b) that $Z \sim \text{Geometric}\left(\frac{7}{15}\right)$.

We have to calculate:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{E}[\min(X, Y) + 1] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[\min(X, Y)] + 1 \quad [\text{Properties } \mathbb{E}(\cdot)] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}(Z) + 1 \\
 &= \frac{1 - (7/15)}{7/15} + 1 \quad [\text{page 94 in the course book}] \\
 &= \frac{15}{7}.
 \end{aligned}$$

5 The answers for all parts are presented below:

(a) The likelihood function is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(p; 2, 5, 3) &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = 2, X_2 = 5, X_3 = 3) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = 2)\mathbb{P}(X_2 = 5)\mathbb{P}(X_3 = 3) \quad [\text{statistical independence}] \\
 &= \left[\binom{7}{2} p^2 (1-p)^5 \right] \left[\binom{7}{5} p^5 (1-p)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad \times \left[\binom{7}{3} p^3 (1-p)^4 \right] \quad [\text{Binomial distribution}] \\
 &= \underbrace{\left[\binom{7}{2} \binom{7}{5} \binom{7}{3} \right]}_K p^{10} (1-p)^{11} \text{ for } p \in (0, 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Using the result above, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dL}{dp} &= K [10p^9(1-p)^{11} - 11p^{10}(1-p)^{10}] \\
 &= Kp^9(1-p)^{10} [10(1-p) - 11p] \\
 &= Kp^9(1-p)^{10}(10 - 21p) \text{ as required.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $K = \binom{7}{2} \binom{7}{5} \binom{7}{3}$.

(c) The maximizing value of p occurs when $\frac{dL}{dp} = 0$. This gives

$$\frac{dL}{dp} = Kp^9(1-p)^{10}(10 - 21p) = 0,$$

which implies that $p = 0$ or $p = 1$ or $p = \frac{10}{21} = 0.4762$. In Figure 1, we can see that the likelihood function attains its maximum when $p = 0.4762$. Hence, the maximum likelihood estimate is $\hat{p} = 0.4762$.

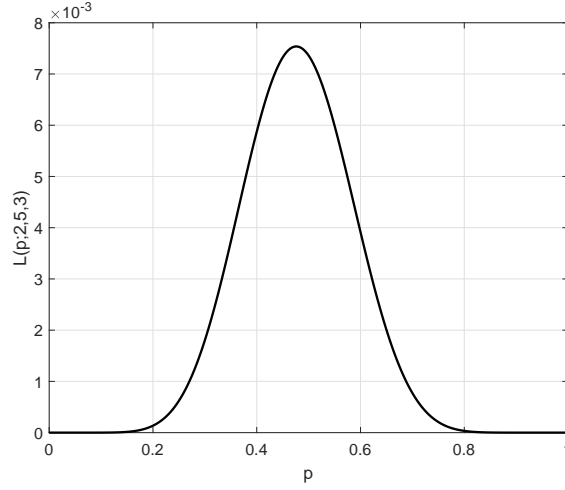


Figure 1: Plot for question 5, part (c).

- (d) The maximum likelihood estimate $\hat{p} = 0.4762$ is the value of p at which the observations $(X_1 = 2, X_2 = 5, X_3 = 3)$ are more likely than at any other value of p .
- (e) For $0 < p < 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(p; x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_m = x_m) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1) \mathbb{P}(X_2 = x_2) \cdots \mathbb{P}(X_m = x_m) \quad [\text{statistical independence}] \\
 &= \left[\binom{n}{x_1} p^{x_1} (1-p)^{n-x_1} \right] \left[\binom{n}{x_2} p^{x_2} (1-p)^{n-x_2} \right] \times \cdots \\
 &\quad \times \left[\binom{n}{x_m} p^{x_m} (1-p)^{n-x_m} \right] \quad [\text{Binomial distribution}] \\
 &= \underbrace{\left[\binom{n}{x_1} \binom{n}{x_2} \cdots \binom{n}{x_m} \right]}_K p^{m\bar{x}_m} (1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \bar{x}_m = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_m}{m}.$$

- (f) The maximizing value of p occurs when $\frac{dL}{dp} = 0$.

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dL}{dp} &= K \left[m\bar{x}_m p^{m\bar{x}_m-1} (1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m} - (mn-m\bar{x}_m) p^{m\bar{x}_m} (1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m-1} \right] \\
 &= K p^{m\bar{x}_m-1} (1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m-1} m [\bar{x}_m (1-p) - (n-\bar{x}_m)p]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= Kp^{m\bar{x}_m-1}(1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m-1}m(\bar{x}_m-np).$$

This gives

$$\frac{dL}{dp} = Kp^{m\bar{x}_m-1}(1-p)^{mn-m\bar{x}_m-1}m(\bar{x}_m-np) = 0,$$

which implies that $p = 0$ or $p = 1$ or $p = \frac{\bar{x}_m}{n}$. If p were be zero, then $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_m = 0$, which is not the case because $\max(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) > 0$. If p were be one, then $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_m = n$, which is not true because $\min(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) < n$.

Hence, $\hat{p} = \frac{\bar{x}_m}{n}$, which implies that the maximum likelihood estimator is

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p} &= \frac{(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_m)/m}{n} \\ &= \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_m}{mn}.\end{aligned}$$

- (g) All we need to do is to use the data for evaluating the expression of \hat{p} that we have obtained in part (f):

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p} &= \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{3n} \\ &= \frac{2 + 5 + 3}{21} \\ &= \frac{10}{21} \\ &= 0.4762.\end{aligned}$$

Obviously, the result is the same as the one computed in part (c).

- (h) For computing $\mathbb{E}(\hat{p})$, we write the following chain of identities:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(\hat{p}) &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_m}{mn}\right] \text{ [see part (f)]} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{E}(X_1) + \mathbb{E}(X_2) + \dots + \mathbb{E}(X_m)}{mn} \text{ [apply properties of } \mathbb{E}(\cdot)\text{]} \\ &= \frac{(np) + (np) + \dots + (np)}{mn} \text{ [course book page 92]} \\ &= p.\end{aligned}$$

Because $\mathbb{E}(\hat{p}) = p$, \hat{p} is an unbiased estimator of p .

Similarly, we have:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{p})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\text{Var}(X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_m)}{(mn)^2} \text{ [apply properties of } \text{Var}(\cdot)\text{]} \\ &= \frac{\text{Var}(X_1) + \text{Var}(X_2) + \cdots + \text{Var}(X_m)}{(mn)^2} \text{ [statistical independence]} \\ &= \frac{(npq) + (npq) + \cdots + (npq)}{(mn)^2} \text{ [Note : } q = 1 - p, \text{ course book page 92]} \\ &= \frac{pq}{mn}. \end{aligned}$$

Note: Questions 1-4 are from from M.H. DeGroot and M.J. Schervish, "Probability and statistics", Addison-Wesley, 2002.