

Name

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CS 237—Midterm Exam

Fall 2018

You must complete 5 of the 6 problems on this exam for full credit. Each problem is of equal weight. Please leave blank, or draw an X through, or write “Do Not Grade,” on the problem you are eliminating; I will grade the first 5 I get to if I can not figure out your intention—no exceptions! If answers are on the back of the page please tell me so.

Circle final answers. No calculators allowed, and *you may leave complicated formulae uncomputed*, but please do multiply $1/2 * 1/2$ to get $1/4$ if the occasion presents itself.

In writing your answers, remember that your goal is to show me you understand the techniques presented in the course; if you can not completely solve the problem, show me as much as you know and I will attempt to give you partial credit.

Problem One

There are 12 students in a class, and they need to be divided into 3 teams to play a contest.

You may leave these answers as formulae.

(A) Suppose that they need to be divided into 3 equal-sized teams named “A Team”, “B Team”, and “C Team.” How many ways can this be done?

$$\binom{12}{4} \binom{8}{4}$$

(B) Now suppose they need to be divided into two teams of 5, and one team of 2 each. How many ways can this be done?

$$\frac{\binom{12}{5} \binom{7}{5}}{2}$$

(C) Now suppose you need to divide the class into 4 equal-sized teams, and for each team you need to select a captain. How many ways can this be done? (Realize that once you select the members of each team, there are multiple ways to select the captains of each team.)

$$\frac{3^4 \binom{12}{3} \binom{9}{3} \binom{6}{3}}{4!}$$

Problem Two

Suppose $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0,10)$, i.e., it produces a random real number between 0 and 10 according to the following graph of the Probability Density Function $f_X(a)$ (the y axis has been left off on purpose):

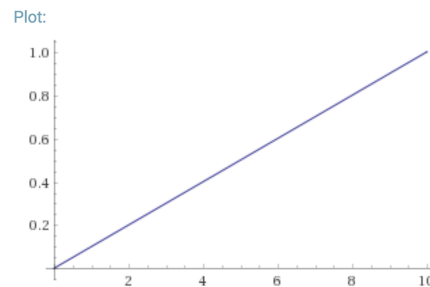


(a) Give $f_X(a)$ as a mathematical formula.

$$f_X(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{10} & \text{for } 0 \leq a \leq 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(b) Calculate the Cumulative Distribution Function $F_X(a)$ using integrals and draw the graph.

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(a) &= \int_{-\infty}^a \frac{1}{10} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{10} x \Big|_0^a \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } a > 10 \\ \frac{a}{10} & \text{for } 0 \leq a \leq 10 \\ 0 & \text{for } a < 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



(c) Calculate $E(X)$ using integrals (you can probably guess what it is, but I want you to derive it using integrals).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c) } E(X) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{10} dx \\ \text{CHECK: } \left(\frac{1}{20} x^2 \right) &= \frac{1}{20} x^2 \Big|_0^{10} = \frac{100}{20} = \boxed{5.0} \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{20} x^2 \right) &= \frac{2}{20} x = \frac{1}{10} x \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Problem Three

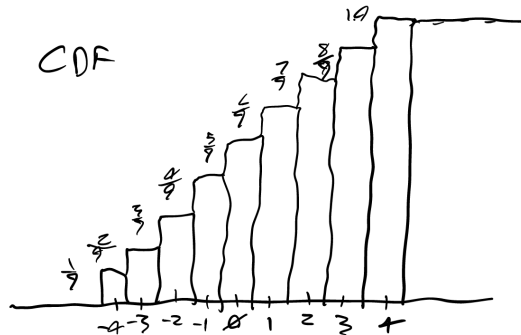
Suppose a discrete random variable \mathbf{X} is distributed according to the uniform discrete distribution in the range $[-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]$, that is,

$$f_X(k) = 1/9 \quad \text{if } -4 \leq k \leq 4$$

$$0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$

Furthermore, let the random variable $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X}^2$.

(a) Draw the CDF of \mathbf{X} .



(b) Give the range R_Z and probability function f_Z for \mathbf{Z} .

$$R_Z = \{0, 1, 4, 9, 16\}$$

$$f_Z = \left\{ \frac{1}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, \frac{2}{9} \right\}$$

(c) What is $E[Z]$? Show all work.

$$E[Z] = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{8}{9} + \frac{18}{9} + \frac{32}{9} = \frac{60}{9} = \frac{20}{3}$$

(d) What is $\text{Var}(\mathbf{X})$? Show all work.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 \\ &= E(Z) - 0 \\ &= \frac{20}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X) = 0, \text{ symmetric!}$$

Problem Four

Wayne and Lenka are playing a game in which each has a fair coin, and they flip the coins at the same time, and keep doing so until they have the same face showing (both heads or both tails). A round is one simultaneous flip. For example, , they might have the following:

L: T T H
W: H H H (three rounds = three flips)

or they might have:

L: T
W: T (one round = one flip)

(A) If X = the number of rounds the game lasts, what is the distribution of X ? Be absolutely precise.

$$\text{THIS IS } X \sim \text{GEOMETRIC}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$F_X = \{1, 2, \dots\} \quad P_X = \left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots\right\}$$

(B) What is the expected number of rounds when they play this game?

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)} = 2$$

(C) What is the probability that the game lasts more than 2, but less than 7 rounds?

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{B} \quad P(2 < X < 7) &= P(X > 2) - P(X > 6) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^6 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{64} \\ &= \frac{15}{64} - \frac{1}{64} = \frac{15}{64} \end{aligned}$$

(D) What is the probability that if the game lasts exactly 9 rounds, that Wayne has landed heads more times than Lenka? You may calculate it or guess, but if you guess you must give a reason for your guess.

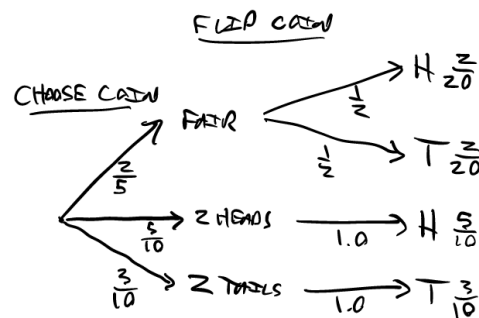
$$\begin{aligned} \text{(D)} \quad &\text{GAME IS SYMMETRIC (COULD EXCHANGE} \\ &\text{HEADS \& TAILS WITHOUT CHANGING PROBS)} \\ &\text{SO } \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Problem Five

A box contains 10 coins where 5 coins have a head on each side, 3 coins have a tail on each side and 2 are fair coins (head and tail with 50% chance of each when tossed).

A tree diagram is the best way to start this problem.

(A) Suppose a coin is chosen at random and tossed. Find the probability that a head appears.



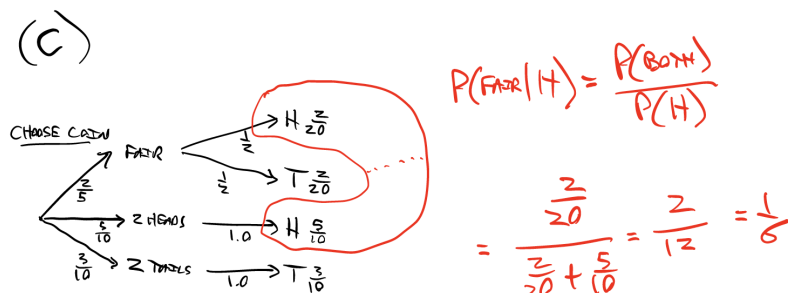
$$P(H) = \frac{2}{20} + \frac{5}{10} = 0.6 \quad P(T) = \frac{2}{20} + \frac{3}{10} = 0.4$$

(B) Suppose we repeat the experiment in (A) 10 times. What is the probability that at least 7 heads appear? (You may just give the formula.)

THIS IS BINOMIAL $X \sim B(10, \frac{5}{10})$

$$\sum_{k=7}^{10} \binom{10}{k} (0.6)^k (1-0.6)^{10-k}$$

(C) Suppose a coin is selected at random and tossed. If a head appears, find the probability that the coin was fair, i.e., one with a head on one side and tail on the other.



Problem Six Let X be a random variable defined as follows. Toss a die: if the number of dots showing is odd, let $Y = 1$, otherwise let $Y = 4$.

(A) Give the range R_X and probability distribution f_X for X .

This is Bernoulli(0.5): $R_X = \{1, 4\}$ $f_X = \{0.5, 0.5\}$

(B) Calculate explicitly (not just by quoting a formula) the expected value $E(X)$ and show every step. You may leave the result as a fraction.

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{4}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$$

(C) Calculate the variance $\text{Var}(X)$ and standard deviation σ_X of X . Again, do not just quote a formula, but show explicitly all calculations. You may leave the result as a fraction.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{16}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{17}{2} - \frac{25}{4} \\ &= \frac{34}{4} - \frac{25}{4} \\ &= \frac{9}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{\frac{9}{4}} = \frac{3}{2}$$

