

**Homework 0: Basic Probability Review Problems**  
**ECE/CS 498 DS Spring 2020**

**Name:**  
**NetID:**

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Due: 02/03/2020 (11:59 PM)

Please submit your homework on Compass 2G.

Please submit Problem **1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12** for grading. The rest are for your practice.

**Problem 1 (Basic Concepts)**

- (a) **(5 points)** Write down the Probability Axioms.

**Solution:**

I For any event  $A$ ,  $P(A) \geq 0$ .

II  $P(\Omega) = 1$ .  $\Omega$  is the sample space.

III If  $\{A_i, i \geq 1\}$  are disjoint events, then  $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$ .

- (b) **(5 points)** Explain the differences between a probability mass function (pmf) at a point and a probability density function (pdf) at a point.

**Solution:** The term pmf and pdf refer, respectively, to the continuous and discrete cases. In the discrete case, a pmf gives us "point probabilities".  $P(X = x)$  measures the probability the random variable  $X$  equals  $x$ . We can sum over values of the pmf to get the cdf. In the continuous case, the analogous procedure is to substitute integrals for sums. The probability of a point in the pdf is 0.

- (c) **(5 points)** If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events with  $P(A) = 0.8$ , and  $P(B) = 0.5$ , find  $P(A \cup B)$ .

**Solution:**  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$ .

Given  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events,  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) = 0.8 \times 0.5 = 0.4$ .

$P(A \cup B) = 0.8 + 0.5 - 0.4 = 0.9$ .

- (d) **(5 points)** Prove  $P(A, B|C) = P(A|B, C) \times P(B|C)$ .

**Hint:** Start from  $P(A, B|C) = \frac{P(A, B, C)}{P(C)}$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} P(A, B|C) &= \frac{P(A, B, C)}{P(C)} \\ &= \frac{P(A|B, C)P(B, C)}{P(C)} \\ &= P(A|B, C) \times P(B|C) \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2 (Counting)**

- (a) Find the number of solutions of  $x + y + z = 15$  where  $x, y, z$  are all positive integers.

**Solution:** This is equivalent to the number of different ways you can put 2 bars in

between 15 stars to separate them into 3 groups, which will be  $\binom{14}{2} = 91$ .  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stars\\_and\\_bars\\_%28combinatorics%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stars_and_bars_%28combinatorics%29)

- (b) Find the number of solutions of  $x + y + z < 15$  where  $x, y, z$  are all positive integers.  
**Solution:** This is equivalent to the number of solutions of  $x + y + z + w = 15$  where  $x, y, z, w$  are all positive integers, which will be  $\binom{14}{3} = 364$ .
- (c) Find the number of solutions of  $x + y + z = 15$  where  $x, y, z$  are all nonnegative integers.  
**Solution:** This is equivalent to the number of different ways you can put 2 bars in between  $15 + 3 = 18$  stars to separate them into 3 groups, which will be  $\binom{17}{2} = 136$ .

### Problem 3 (Independence)

There are 9 identical balls in an urn. 2 balls are marked “none”, 2 balls are marked “1”, 2 balls are marked “2”, 2 balls are marked “3”, and 1 ball is marked “123”. “none” means no number is marked on that ball. Suppose a ball is taken from the urn at random, event  $A_i = \{\text{“i” is on the ball}\}$ . For example,  $A_1$  occurs when ball “1” is picked or when ball “123” is picked. We can find  $P(A_i) = \frac{1}{3}$ .

- (a) What is the difference between pairwise independence and mutual independence? Illustrate your answer with respect to three random variables  $X, Y$ , and  $Z$ .  
**Solution:** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence\\_\(probability\\_theory\)#Mutual\\_independence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_(probability_theory)#Mutual_independence).  
A finite set of events  $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is pairwise independent if every pair of events is independent. That is, if and only if for all distinct pairs of indices  $m, k$ ,  $P(E_m \cap E_k) = P(E_m)P(E_k)$ .  
A finite set of events  $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is mutually independent if every event is independent of any intersection of the other events. That is, if and only if for every  $k \leq n$  and for every  $k$ -element subset of events  $\{B_i\}_{i=1}^k$  of  $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^k B_i\right) = \prod_{i=1}^k P(B_i)$ .  
**Pairwise independence:**  $P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y)$ ,  $P(X, Z) = P(X)P(Z)$ ,  $P(Y, Z) = P(Y)P(Z)$ .  
**Mutual independence:**  $P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y)$ ,  $P(X, Z) = P(X)P(Z)$ ,  $P(Y, Z) = P(Y)P(Z)$ ,  $P(X, Y, Z) = P(X)P(Y)P(Z)$ .
- (b) Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  pairwise independent? (Show your calculation.)  
**Solution:**  $P(A_1) = P(A_2) = P(A_3) = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$ .  $A_1 \cap A_2$  occurs when ball “1,2,3” is picked. Thus,  $P(A_1, A_2) = P(A_1, A_3) = P(A_2, A_3) = \frac{1}{9}$ . It is easy to see  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are pairwise independent.
- (c) Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  mutually independent? (Show your calculation.)  
**Solution:**  $P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3) = \frac{1}{27}$ .  $P(A_1, A_2, A_3) = \frac{1}{9} \neq P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3)$ .  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are not mutually independent.

## Problem 4 (Exponential Distributions and Poisson Distributions)

- (a) Exponential distribution is often used to model the lifetime of electronic components in autonomous vehicles. An exponential random variable  $X$  can be parameterized by its *rate*  $\lambda$  ( $\lambda > 0$ ) via the probability density function (pdf):

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x > 0$$

- (i) **(5 points)** Derive the cumulative distribution function (cdf) of the exponential distribution.

**Solution:**  $F_X(x) = \int_0^x f(x)dx = \int_0^x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = -e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^x = -e^{-\lambda x} + 1.$

- (ii) **(5 points)** Explain the memoryless property of the exponential distribution and provide the mathematical expression.

**Solution:**  $P(X > s + t | X > s) = \frac{P(X > s+t, X > s)}{P(X > s)} = \frac{P(X > s+t)}{P(X > s)} = \frac{1 - F_X(s+t)}{1 - F_X(s)} = \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+t)}}{e^{-\lambda s}} = e^{-\lambda t} = 1 - F_X(t) = P(X > t).$

- (iii) **(5 points)** Derive the mean and variance of the exponential distribution.

$$E(X) = \int_0^\infty x f(x) dx = \int_0^\infty x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \left( -x e^{-\lambda x} - \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} \right) \Big|_0^\infty = \frac{1}{\lambda}.$$

$$E(X^2) = \int_0^\infty x^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^\infty x^2 \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \left( -x^2 e^{-\lambda x} - \frac{2x}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} - \frac{2}{\lambda^2} e^{-\lambda x} \right) \Big|_0^\infty = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}.$$

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}.$$

- (b) **(10 points)** The Poisson distribution can be seen as a limiting case of the binomial distribution as the number of trials goes to infinity and the expected number of successes remains fixed. Derive the Poisson distribution from the Binomial distribution.

**Solution:** Let  $X$  follow a Binomial distribution where the number of trials  $n$  goes to infinity and the expected number of successes  $\lambda = np$  is fixed.

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = k) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!} \left( \frac{\lambda}{n} \right)^k \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{n} \right)^{n-k} \\ &= \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n-k)!n^k} \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{n} \right)^n \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{n} \right)^{-k} \\ &= \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \cdot 1 \cdot e^{-\lambda} \cdot 1 \\ &= \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $X$  also follows a Poisson distribution with rate  $\lambda$ .

## Problem 5 (Marginal/Joint Distributions)

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be jointly continuous random variables with the following joint PDF

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 10e^{-(2x+5y)} & x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (a) (5 points) Find the marginal distribution of the random variable  $X$ .

**Solution:**  $f_X(x) = \int_0^\infty f_{X,Y}(x,y)dy = \int_0^\infty 10e^{-(2x+5y)}dy = 2e^{-2x}$

- (b) (5 points) Find the marginal distribution of the random variable  $Y$ .

**Solution:**  $f_Y(y) = \int_0^\infty f_{X,Y}(x,y)dx = \int_0^\infty 10e^{-(2x+5y)}dx = 5e^{-5y}$

- (c) (5 points) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent? Explain your answer.

**Solution:** Yes. Continuous random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if their joint PDF is the product of their marginal PDFs.

$$f_X(x)f_Y(y) = 2e^{-2x} \cdot 5e^{-5y} = 10e^{-(2x+5y)} = f_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

- (d) (5 points) What is the conditional PDF  $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$ . Include the values of  $x$  and  $y$  for which it is (i) well defined and (ii) zero.

**Solution:**  $f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)} = \frac{10e^{-(2x+5y)}}{2e^{-2x}} = 5e^{-5y}$

Well-defined for  $x \geq 0$  and zero for  $y < 0$

OR

Since  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,  $f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_Y(y) = 5e^{-5y}$

- (e) (5 points) Determine  $P\{Y > X\}$ .

**Solution:**  $P\{Y > X\} = \int_0^\infty \int_x^\infty 10e^{-(2x+5y)}dydx = \frac{2}{7}$

## Problem 6 (Inequalities)

- (a) A coin is weighted so that the probability of landing on heads is 40%. Suppose the coin is flipped a 100 times. Find the upper bound on the probability the coin lands on heads at least 80 times.

**Solution:** Let  $X$  be the random variable that represents the number of heads.  $P(X)$  follows a binomial distribution with  $n = 100$  and  $p = 0.4$ . Hence  $E(X) = np = 100 \cdot 0.4 = 40$ . Since  $X$  takes only non-negative values, we can apply the Markov's inequality to get the upper bound.

$$P\{X \geq 80\} \leq \frac{E(X)}{80} = \frac{40}{80} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- (b) Using the same coin in (a), find the upper bound on the probability that the coin lands on heads at least 50 times or at most 30 times.

**Solution:**  $P\{X \leq 30 \cup X \geq 50\} = P\{|X - 40| \geq 10\}$

From Chebyshev's inequality:  $P\{|X - E(X)| \geq a\} \leq \frac{Var(X)}{a^2}$

From (a), we know  $E(X) = 40$ .  $Var(X) = n \cdot p \cdot (1 - p) = 100 \cdot 0.4 \cdot 0.6 = 24$

$$P\{|X - 40| \geq 10\} \leq \frac{24}{10^2} = 0.24$$

- (c) Derive Chebyshev's Inequality from Markov's Inequality.

**Solution:**

**Markov's Inequality:** If  $X$  is a nonnegative random variable and  $a > 0$ , then

$$P(X \geq a) \leq \frac{E(X)}{a}.$$

Let  $Y = (X - E(X))^2 \geq 0$  and  $b^2 > 0$ , then  $P(Y \geq b^2) \leq \frac{E(Y)}{b^2}$ .

Hence,  $P(|X - E(X)| \geq b) = P(Y \geq b^2) \leq \frac{E(Y)}{b^2} = \frac{Var(X)}{b^2}$  (**Chebyshev's Inequality**).

## Problem 7 (Covariance and Correlation Coefficient)

(a) Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are random variables,  $Var(X + Y) = 7$ ,  $Var(2X - 2Y) = 12$ .

(i) **(5 points)** Find the covariance  $Cov(X, Y)$ .

**Solutions:**

Based on the given equations in the questions, we have

$$Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y) + 2Cov(X, Y) = 7 \dots \textcircled{1}$$

$$Var(2X - 2Y) = 4(Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2Cov(X, Y)) = 12 \dots \textcircled{2}$$

By solving the equations  $\textcircled{1}\textcircled{2}$  above, we can get

$$Cov(X, Y) = \frac{7-12/4}{4} = 1$$

(ii) **(5 points)** In addition to (i), given  $Var(X)=1$ , find the correlation coefficient  $\rho_{X,Y}$ . **Solutions:**

Combining  $Var(X)=1$  with  $\textcircled{1} \textcircled{2}$ , we can get  $Var(Y)=4$

$$\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{Cov(X,Y)}{\sqrt{Var(X)Var(Y)}} = \frac{1}{2} = 0.5$$

(b) **(10 points)** Suppose random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{10}$  are uncorrelated. For each  $i$  in  $\{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$ ,  $E[X_i] = i$  and  $Var(X_i)=5$ . Find  $Var(\frac{S_{10}}{\sqrt{10}})$ , where  $S_{10} = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{10}$ .

**Solutions:**

Note  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{10}$  are uncorrelated,  $Cov(X_i, X_j) = 0$  ( $\forall i \neq j$ ).

$$Var(\frac{S_{10}}{\sqrt{10}}) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot Var(S_{10}) = \frac{1}{10} (\sum_{i=1}^{10} Var(X_i) + 0) = \frac{10 \cdot 5}{10} = 5$$

## Problem 8 (Continuous Random Variable)

Here we define a probability density function  $f(x)$ .  $f(x) = \frac{x^3}{\alpha}$  when  $0 < x < 6$ ,  $f(x) = 0$  otherwise.  $X_1, \dots, X_{50}$  are independent, continuous random variables and each one has probability density function  $f(x)$ .

(a) Find the valid value of  $\alpha$ .

**Solutions:**

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) dx = \int_0^6 \frac{x^3}{\alpha} dx = \frac{x^4}{4\alpha} \Big|_0^6 = \frac{324}{\alpha}$$

According to the Probability Axioms, this integration should be 1. Accordingly,  $\alpha$  should be 324.

(b) Find the expectation  $E[X_i]$ .

**Solutions:**

$$E[X_i] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^6 \frac{x^4}{324} dx = \frac{x^5}{5 \times 324} \Big|_0^6 = \frac{24}{5}$$

- (c) Find the variance  $\text{Var}(X_i)$ .

**Solutions:**

$$E[X_i^2] = \int_0^6 \frac{x^5}{324} dx = \frac{x^6}{6 \times 324} \Big|_0^6 = 24$$

$$\text{Var}(X_i) = E[X_i^2] - (E[X_i])^2 = 24 - (24/5)^2 = \frac{24}{25}$$

- (d) Find a good estimation for  $P(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{50} < 230)$ . (Hint: Central Limit Theorem)

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{50} < 230) &= P\left(\frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{50} - 50 \cdot (24/5)}{\sqrt{(24/25) \cdot \sqrt{50}}} < \frac{230 - 50 \cdot (24/5)}{\sqrt{(24/25) \cdot \sqrt{50}}}\right) \\ &\approx P(Z < -1.4434) = 1 - P(Z < 1.4434) = 0.07445 \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 9 (Central Limit Theorem)

An autonomous vehicle consists of 400 independent components. Assume the probability that each component functions properly is 0.98.

- (5 points) Random variable  $X$  is the number of properly functioning components. Find the distribution of  $X$ .

**Solution:**  $X$  follows a Binomial distribution with  $n = 400$  and  $p = 0.98$ .

- (5 points) The vehicle requires at least 390 properly functioning components to work. Use the Central Limit Theorem to find the probability that the system works.

**Solution:**

We can view  $X$  as the summation of 400 independent and identically distributed random variables, each of which follows a Bernoulli distribution with  $p = 0.98$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \geq 390) &= P\left(\frac{X - 400 \cdot 0.98}{\sqrt{0.98 \cdot (1 - 0.98) \cdot \sqrt{400}}} \geq \frac{390 - 400 \cdot 0.98}{\sqrt{0.98 \cdot (1 - 0.98) \cdot \sqrt{400}}}\right) \\ &\approx 1 - \Phi(-0.7143) = 0.7625. \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 10 (Bayes Theorem and Conditional Probabilities)

(10 points) When autonomous vehicles have malfunctions, the probability of a disengagement is 0.85. When autonomous vehicles do not have malfunctions, the probability of a disengagement is 0.002. If the probability of a malfunction is 0.0002, evaluate the probability that a given disengagement is due to a malfunction.

**FYI:** A disengagement is a failure that causes the control of the vehicle to switch from the software to the human driver.

**Solution:**  $M$ =Malfunction,  $D$ =Disengagement.

$$\begin{aligned} P(M|D) &= \frac{P(M, D)}{P(D)} = \frac{P(D|M)P(M)}{P(D|M)P(M) + P(D|\bar{M})P(\bar{M})} \\ &= \frac{0.85 \cdot 0.0002}{0.85 \cdot 0.0002 + 0.002 \cdot (1 - 0.0002)} \approx 0.07835. \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 11 (Bayes Theorem and Conditional Probabilities)

Timely patching is important for server security. Suppose an organization has 3 servers. Two of them have been patched, while one of them still remains unpatched. The probability an unpatched server gets compromised is  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and the probability that a patched server get compromised is  $p$ . If an attacker randomly attacks one of the three servers, the probability he compromises the server is  $\frac{2}{3}$ .

- (a) What is the value of  $p$ ?

**Solution:**  $A$ =Patched,  $C$ =Compromised.

$$P(C) = P(C|A)P(A) + P(C|\bar{A})P(\bar{A}) = p \cdot \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{3}{4}$$

- (b) This time the attacker randomly chose two serves to attack, and observed only one of them got compromised. What is the conditional probability that both attacked servers are patched?

**Solution:**

Note: Set  $\{C, \bar{C}\}$  means one server gets compromised, while another server remains uncompromised. Sequence  $C\bar{C}$  means the first server gets compromised, while the second server remains uncompromised.

The conditional probability we need is  $P(\{A, A\}|\{C, \bar{C}\})$ .

We can calculate it through Bayes Theorem:  $P(\{A, A\}|\{C, \bar{C}\}) = \frac{P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, A\})P(\{A, A\})}{P(\{C, \bar{C}\})}$

The calculation flows are as follows:

$$P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, A\}) = P(C\bar{C}|\{A, A\}) + P(\bar{C}C|\{A, A\}) = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, \bar{A}\}) = P(C\bar{C}|\{A, \bar{A}\}) + P(\bar{C}C|\{A, \bar{A}\}) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Then we use the theorem of total probability to get  $P(\{C, \bar{C}\})$ .

$$P(\{C, \bar{C}\}) = P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, A\})P(\{A, A\}) + P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, \bar{A}\})P(\{A, \bar{A}\}) = \frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{11}{24}$$

$$P(\{A, A\}|\{C, \bar{C}\}) = \frac{P(\{C, \bar{C}\}|\{A, A\})P(\{A, A\})}{P(\{C, \bar{C}\})} = \frac{\frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{11}{24}} = \frac{3}{11}$$

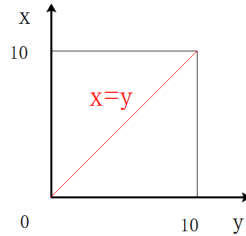
## Problem 12 (Uniform Distribution)

Suppose you are waiting for buses at a bus stop. In the next 10 minutes, both bus A and bus B are expected to arrive, and their arrival time are independent to each other. We use  $X$  to denote the arrival time of bus A, and  $Y$  to denote the arrival time of bus B.  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous variables, and each follows the uniform distribution over  $[0,10]$ .

- (a) **(5 points)** Find the probability that bus A and bus B arrive at exactly the same time.

**Solution:**  $P(X=Y)=0$

Because the arrival time is only an instant on  $[0,10]$  time interval, the probability that these two instants (bus A's arrival time and bus B's arrival time) overlap is 0. The following diagram also helps to illustrate. Note red line  $x=y$  represents the case bus A and bus B arrive at the same time.  $P(X = Y) = \text{Area of red line} / \text{Area of square} = 0$ .



- (b) **(5 points)** Find the probability that bus A arrives earlier than bus B.

**Solution:** From (a) we know that bus A and bus B can not arrive at exactly the same time. This means bus A arrives either earlier or later than bus B. These two cases are symmetric because A and B are equally defined.  $P(X < Y) = P(Y < X) = 1/2$ .

This can also be illustrated by the above diagram. The triangle below the line  $x=y$  stands for the case that bus A arrives earlier than B.  $P(X < Y) = \text{Area of triangle} / \text{Area of square} = 1/2$ .

- (c) **(5 points)** Denote Z as the arrival time of the later of the two. Find the pdf of Z and the expectation  $E[Z]$ . (Use minute as the unit, and leave the answer in decimal or fraction)

**Solution 1:**

For any  $z \in (0, 10)$ ,  $P(Z \leq z) = P(X \leq z, Y \leq z) = P(X \leq z)P(Y \leq z) = \left(\frac{z}{10}\right)^2$ .

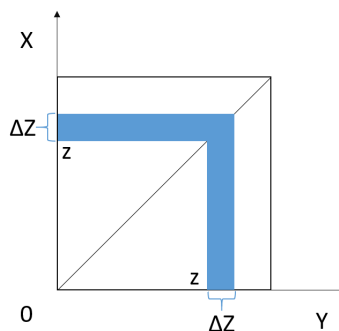
Then we take the derivative of  $P(Z \leq z)$  and get the pdf:  $f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z}{50} & 0 < z < 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$E[Z] = \int_0^{10} \frac{z^2}{50} dz = \frac{20}{3}$$

**Solution 2:**

$$f_Z(z) = \left. \frac{dF(Z)}{dZ} \right|_{Z=z} = \lim_{\Delta Z \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(Z \leq z + \Delta Z) - F(Z \leq z)}{\Delta Z} = \lim_{\Delta Z \rightarrow 0} \frac{p(z < Z \leq z + \Delta Z)}{\Delta Z}$$

When  $0 < Z < 10$ ,  $\lim_{\Delta Z \rightarrow 0} p(z < Z \leq z + \Delta Z)$  is the ratio of blue area to square area in the diagram below.





$$\lim_{\Delta Z \rightarrow z} P(z < Z \leq z + \Delta Z) = \frac{\text{Blue\_area}}{\text{Total\_area}} = \frac{\Delta Z \cdot z \cdot 2}{10 \cdot 10} = \frac{\Delta Z \cdot z}{50}$$

$$\text{Therefore, when } 0 < Z < 10, f_Z(z) = \lim_{\Delta Z \rightarrow 0} \frac{p(z < Z \leq z + \Delta Z)}{\Delta Z} = \frac{\left(\frac{\Delta Z \cdot z}{50}\right)}{\Delta Z} = \frac{z}{50}$$

$$\text{The final answer is } f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z}{50} & 0 < z < 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$E[Z] = \int_0^{10} \frac{z^2}{50} dz = \frac{20}{3}$$

**(Verification)**

The pdf  $f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z}{50} & 0 < z < 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$  can be verified with Monte Carlo sampling.

[Click here to see.](#)

- (d) **(5 points)** Denote  $W$  as the arrival time of the earlier of the two. Find the expectation  $E[W]$ .

**Solution:**

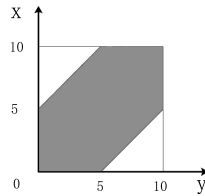
Since  $Z = \max(X, Y)$ ,  $W = \min(X, Y)$ , we have  $X + Y = Z + W$ . Taking their expectations, we have  $E[W] = E[X] + E[Y] - E[Z] = \frac{10}{3}$

The answer  $E[W] = \frac{10}{3}$  can also be calculated with the methods in (c).

- (e) **(5 points)** Suppose both bus A and bus B will wait for 5 minutes at the bus stop. Find the probability that bus A and bus B are together at the bus stop.

**Solution:**

The region  $\{(x, y) : 0 < x, y < 10, |x - y| \leq 5\}$  is drawn as follows.



Then  $P(\text{bus A and bus B meet}) = P(|X - Y| \leq 5) = \text{Shadow area} / \text{Total area} = \frac{3}{4}$