Mean, Median and Variance of Continuous RVs

- 1. For each PDF, calculate the mean and the median and the variance:
 - (a) $f(x) = x^{-2}$ for $\frac{1}{2} \le x \le 1$ and f(x) = 0 otherwise.
 - (b) $f(x) = x(3x^2 + \frac{1}{2})$ for $0 < x \le 1$ and f(x) = 0 otherwise.
 - (c) $f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$ for $t \ge 0$ and f(t) = 0 otherwise.
 - (d) $f(x) = c(1 x^2)$ for -1 < x < 1 and f(x) = 0 otherwise. Does the answer depend on c? Why?
- 2. Chromosomal recombination is a process by which two chromosomes join together and exchange DNA. The point along the DNA at which the join occurs is randomly located. Suppose X is a RV denoting the location with $0 \le X \le 2$. In an experiment, E[X] = 1 and $Var[X] = \frac{1}{3}$. Are the findings consistent with the hypothesis that all locations along the chromosome are equally likely to contain the join point? Explain.

Midterm 2 Review

- 1. Find a, b or c given the PDF, then find the CDF.
 - (a) $f(x) = c(1 x^2)$ for -1 < x < 1 and f(x) = 0 otherwise.
 - (b) $f(x) = c/x^2$ for x > 10 and f(x) = 0 otherwise.
 - (c) $f(x) = a + bx^2$ for $0 \le x \le 1$ and f(x) = 0 otherwise, given $E(X) = \frac{3}{5}$.
- 2. Suppose you take a random sample of 10 tickets without replacement from a box containing 20 red tickets and 30 blue tickets.
 - (a) What is the chance of getting exactly 4 red tickets?
 - (b) Repeat (a) for sampling with replacement.

Hint: identify the distributions first.

- 3. Suppose that we observed 10 frogs in a pond during the obsevation period of 100 days. Find the Poisson approximation to the probability of observing X = k frogs each day. Using that approximation to calculate the probability that
 - (a) you observe precisely one frog today?
 - (b) you observe more than one frog today?
 - (c) you observe no frogs today?
- 4. Suppose that a test for opium use has a 2% false positive rate and a 5% false negative rate. That is, 2% of people who do not use opium test positive for opium, and 5% of opium users test negative for opium. Furthermore, suppose that 1% of people actually use opium.
 - (a) Find the probability that someone who tests negative for opium use does not use opium.
 - (b) Find the probability that someone who tests positive for opium use actually uses opium.

Source: some from Stewart's Biocalculus, the others from internet.