

E1 222 Stochastic Models and Applications

Problem Sheet 3–4

- Recall that random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are said to be *exchangeable* if any permutation of them has the same joint density. Suppose X_1, X_2, X_3 are exchangeable random variables. Show that

$$E \left[\frac{X_1 + X_2}{X_1 + X_2 + X_3} \right] = \frac{2}{3}$$

Can you generalize this result?

(Hint: Is there a relation between $E \left[\frac{X_1}{X_1 + X_2 + X_3} \right]$ and $E \left[\frac{X_2}{X_1 + X_2 + X_3} \right]$?)

- Find $E[X|Y]$ when X, Y have joint density given by

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{y}{2} e^{-xy}, \quad x > 0, \quad 1 < y < 3$$

- Let X and Y be iid random variables having Poisson distribution with parameter λ . Let $Z = X + Y$. Find $E[Z|Y]$.
- Let X and Y be independent random variables each having geometric density with parameter p . Let $Z = X + Y$. Find $E[Y|Z]$.
- Let Y be a continuous random variable with density

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(0.5)} \sqrt{\frac{0.5}{y}} e^{-0.5y}, \quad y > 0.$$

Let the conditional density of X given Y be

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sqrt{y} e^{-0.5yx^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad y > 0$$

Show that $E[X|Y] = 0$. Show that marginal of X is given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\pi(1+x^2)}$$

(Note that $\Gamma(0.5) = \sqrt{\pi}$). Does EX exist?

(Notice that $f_{X|Y}$ is Gaussian with mean zero and variance $1/\sqrt{y}$, Y is Gamma with parameters 0.5, 0.5 and X has Cauchy distribution).

6. Define $\text{Var}[X|Y] = E[X^2|Y] - (E[X|Y])^2$. Show that

$$\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(E[X|Y]) + E[\text{Var}[X|Y]]$$

7. Suppose that independent trials, each of which is equally likely to have any of m possible outcomes, are performed repeatedly until the same outcome occurs k consecutive times. Let N denote the number of trials needed. Show that

$$E[N] = \frac{m^k - 1}{m - 1}$$

8. Let X_1, X_2, \dots be *iid* discrete random variables with $P[X_i = +1] = P[X_i = -1] = 0.5$. Find EX_i . Let N be a positive integer-valued random variable (which is a function of all X_i) defined as $N = \min\{k : X_k = +1\}$. Find EX_N .
9. A coin, with probability heads being p , is tossed repeatedly till we get r heads. Let N be the number of tosses needed. Calculate EN . (Hint: Try to express N as a sum of geometric random variables).
10. A fair dice is rolled repeatedly till each of the numbers $1, 2, \dots, 6$, appears at least once. Find the expected number of rolls needed.