

Probability and Statistics:

Lessons 3 and 5 Continued, Homework 2

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1 Lessons 3 and 5 Continued

1.1 Examples

1. There is a dice game which costs \$5 to play.

- Two fair dice are rolled
- If the result is a double (both dice have the same value) then the player wins \$10 (net \$5)
- If the result is odd then the player wins \$ n where n is the sum of the two dice
- X is the player's net winnings (or losses)
- Is the game fair? ($E(X) = 0$)
- pdf:

k	-5	5	-2	0	2	4	6
$p_X(k)$	$\frac{12}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$
- Expected Value:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_k k \cdot p_X(k) \\ &= -5 \cdot \frac{12}{36} + 5 \cdot \frac{6}{36} + (-2) \cdot \frac{2}{36} + 0 \cdot \frac{4}{36} + 2 \cdot \frac{6}{36} + 4 \cdot \frac{4}{36} + 6 \cdot \frac{2}{36} \\ &= \frac{6}{36} \end{aligned}$$

2. Flip a coin n times

- X is the number of heads, p is the probability of heads
- $Ran(X) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- $X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ where $X_i \sim Bernoulli(p)$
- $E(X_i) = p$
- $E(X) = n \cdot p$
- $Var(X_i) = p(1 - p)$
- $Var(X) = n \cdot p(1 - p)$
- Binomial distributions are sums of Bernoulli distributions

2 Homework 2 Notes

1. In the World Series, two teams play a series of games until one team gets four wins. Suppose two evenly matched teams are playing (each team has an equal probability of winning). Let X be the number of games played until there is a winner. Find $E(X)$ and $Var(X)$.

- X = the number of games played until there is a winner.

- $Ran(X) = \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$

• pdf:

k	4	5	6	7
$p_X(k)$	$2 \cdot \binom{3}{0} \cdot \frac{1}{4}$	$2 \cdot \binom{4}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$	...	...

2. Four people ($\{A, B, C, D\}$) form a random line

- X is the number of people between A and B , Y is the number of people between C and D

(a) Find the Joint pdf of X and Y and then the Marginal pdfs.

– $Ran(X) = \{0, 1, 2\}$

– $Ran(Y) = \{0, 1, 2\}$

– $P(X=0, Y=0) = \frac{2!2!2!}{4!} (ABCD, BACD, ABDC, BADC, CDAB, DCAB, CDBA, DCBA)$

– Joint pdf:

$\downarrow YX \rightarrow$	0	1	2	$p_Y(y)$
0	$\frac{8}{24}$	0	...	...
1	...	...	...	...
2	...	...	...	...
$p_X(x)$	...	...	...

(b) Calculate the covariance of X and Y

– $Cov(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$

– Covariance should be negative \rightarrow as X increases, Y decreases and vice versa

3. Suppose N people throw their hats into the air, find the expected number of people who caught their own hat.

- X_i : # of own hats caught by the i -th person

- $X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N$ (total # of people who catch their own hat)

• $E(X) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_N)$

• pdf:

k	0	1
$p_{X_i}(k)$	$1 - \frac{1}{N}$	$\frac{1}{N}$

4. In a series of coin flips with a biased coin where $P(H) = p$.

- X is the number of flips until the first head

• $p_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1}p$ for $k \in 1, 2, 3, \dots$

(a) Find $E(X)$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot (1-p)^{k-1} p \\ &= p \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot (1-p)^{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

Given:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot q^{k-1} = \frac{1}{(1-q)^2}$$

(b) Y is the number of flips until the second head. Find $P(Y = k)$.

$$P(Y = k) = \binom{k-1}{1} \dots$$

(c) Find $E(Y)$

$$E(Y) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) \text{ where } X_1 \sim \textit{Geometric}(p) \text{ and } X_2 \sim \textit{Geometric}(p)$$