

**PHM111: Probability and Statistics**

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Name:

ID:

Deadline: Week 14

Please, Solve each problem in its assigned place ONLY (the empty space below it)

**Part I: Discrete Random Variables**

- Classify the following random variables as discrete or continuous:
  - X: the number of automobile accidents per year in Virginia. (.....)
  - Y: the length of time to play 18 holes of golf. (.....)
  - M: the amount of milk produced yearly by a particular cow. (.....)
  - N: the number of eggs laid each month by a hen. (.....)
- Determine the value  $c$  so that the following function can serve as a probability distribution of the discrete random variable  $X$ :  $f(x) = c \binom{2}{x} \binom{3}{3-x}$ , for  $x = 0, 1, 2$ .

- A shipment of 7 television sets contains 2 defective sets. A hotel makes a random purchase of 3 of the sets. If  $x$  is the number of defective sets purchased by the hotel, find the probability distribution of  $X$ .


- Express the results graphically as a probability histogram.  
Histogram:

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b) Find the cumulative distribution function of the random variable  $X$  representing the number of defectives.

c) Using  $F(x)$ , find

i.  $P(X = 1)$

ii.  $P(0 < X \leq 2)$

d) Construct a graph of the cumulative distribution function.

4. Determine the probability mass function of  $X$  from the following cumulative distribution function:

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < -2 \\ 0.2 & -2 \leq x < 0 \\ 0.7 & 0 \leq x < 2 \\ 1 & 2 \leq x \end{cases}$$

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5. A coin is biased such that a head is three times as likely to occur as a tail. Find the expected number of tails when this coin is tossed twice.

6. The distribution of the number of imperfections per 10 meters of synthetic fabric is given by

x	0	1	2	3	4
f(x)	0.41	0.37	0.16	0.05	0.01

- a) Plot the probability function.

- b) Find the expected number of imperfections,  $E(X) = \mu$ .

- c) Find  $E(x^2)$

- d) Find the variance and standard deviation of the number of imperfections.

7. If a random variable X is defined such that  $E[(x-1)^2] = 10$  and  $E[(x-2)^2] = 6$ , find  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ .

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### *Part II: Special Distributions of Discrete Random Variable*

1. In a certain city district, the need for money to buy drugs is stated as the reason for 75% of all thefts. Find the probability that among the next 5 theft cases reported in this district
  - a) exactly 2 resulted from the need for money to buy drugs.
  - b) at most 3 resulted from the need for money to buy drugs.
  
2. A national study that examined attitudes about antidepressants revealed that approximately 70% of respondents believe “antidepressants do not really cure anything; they just cover up the real trouble.” According to this study:
  - a) what is the probability that at least 3 of the next 5 people selected at random will hold this opinion?
  - b) If  $X$  represents the number of people who believe that antidepressants do not cure but only cover up the real problem, find the mean and variance of  $X$  when 5 people are selected at random.
  
3. In a batch of 2000 calculators, there are, on average, 8 defective ones. If a random sample of 150 is selected, find the probability of 5 defective ones.

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4. A mail-order company receives an average of 5 orders per 500 solicitations. If it sends out 100 advertisements, find the probability of receiving at least 2 orders.
5. A bookstore owner examines 5 books from each lot of 25 to check for missing pages. If he finds at least 2 books with missing pages, the entire lot is returned. If, indeed, there are 5 books with missing pages, find the probability that the lot will be returned.

### *Part III: Continuous Random Variables*

1. The shelf life, in days, for bottles of a certain prescribed medicine is a random variable having the density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{20,000}{(x+100)^3}, & x > 0, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Find the probability that a bottle of this medicine will have a shelf life of

a) at least 200 days.

b) anywhere from 80 to 120 days.

2. Consider the density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k\sqrt{x}, & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

a) Evaluate k.

b) Find  $F(x)$  and use it to evaluate  $P(0.3 < X < 0.6)$ .

3. Measurements of scientific systems are always subject to variation, some more than others. There are many structures for measurement error, and statisticians spend a great deal of time modeling these errors. Suppose the measurement error  $X$  of a certain physical quantity is decided by the density function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k(3 - x^2), & -1 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

a) Determine k that renders  $f(x)$  a valid density function.

b) Find the probability that a random error in measurement is less than  $1/2$ .

c) For this particular measurement, it is undesirable if the magnitude of the error (i.e.,  $|x|$ ) exceeds 0.8. What is the probability that this occurs?

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4. On a laboratory assignment, if the equipment is working, the density function of the observed outcome,  $X$ , is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2(1-x), & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

a) Calculate  $P(X \leq 1/3)$ .

b) What is the probability that  $X$  will exceed 0.5?

c) Given that  $X \geq 0.5$ , what is the probability that  $X$  will be less than 0.75?

5. The time until a chemical reaction is complete (in milliseconds) is approximated by the cumulative distribution function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0, \\ 1 - e^{-0.01x}, & 0 \leq x. \end{cases}$$

Determine the probability density function of  $X$ . What proportion of reactions is complete within 200 milliseconds?

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### *Part IV: Special Distributions of Continuous Random Variables*

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1. Given a standard normal distribution,
  - a) find the area under the curve that lies between  $z = -0.48$  and  $z = 1.74$ .
  - b) Find the value of  $z$  if the area enclosed between  $-z$  and  $z$ , is 0.9500.
  - c) find the value of  $k$  such that  $P(-0.93 < Z < k) = 0.7235$ .
2. Given a normal distribution with  $\mu = 30$  and  $\sigma = 6$ , find the value of  $x$  that has 80% of the normal curve area to the left.
3. Given the normally distributed variable  $X$  with mean 18 and standard deviation 2.5, find the value of  $k$  such that  $P(X > k) = 0.1814$ .
4. The heights of 1000 students are normally distributed with a mean of 174.5 centimeters and a standard deviation of 6.9 centimeters. Assuming that the heights are recorded to the nearest half-centimeter, how many of these students would you expect to have heights
  - a) less than 160.0 centimeters?
  - b) between 171.5 and 182.0 centimeters inclusive?
  - c) equal to 175.0 centimeters?



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d) greater than or equal to 188.0 centimeters?

5. If a set of observations is normally distributed, what percent of these differ from the mean by

a) more than  $1.3\sigma$ ?

b) less than  $0.52\sigma$ ?

6. The length of time for one individual to be served at a cafeteria is a random variable having an exponential distribution with a mean of 4 minutes. What is the probability that a person is served in less than 3 minutes on at least 4 of the next 6 days?

7. Suppose that a study of a certain computer system reveals that the response time, in seconds, has an exponential distribution with a mean of 3 seconds.

a) What is the probability that response time exceeds 5 seconds?

b) What is the probability that response time exceeds 10 seconds?

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### *Part V: Joint Distributions*

1. Determine the values of  $c$  so that the following function represents joint probability distribution of the random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$f(x, y) = c|x - y|, \text{ for } x = -2, 0, 2; y = -2, 3.$$

2. If the joint probability distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$  is given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x + y}{30}, \text{ for } x = 0, 1, 2, 3; y = 0, 1, 2, \text{ Find}$$

a)  $P(X \leq 2, Y = 1)$

b)  $P(X + Y = 4)$

c) the marginal distribution of  $X$

d) the marginal distribution of  $Y$

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3. A fast-food restaurant operates both a drive through facility and a walk-in facility. On a randomly selected day, let  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, be the proportions of the time that the drive-through and walk-in facilities are in use, and suppose that the joint density function of these random variables is

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3}(x + 2y), & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the marginal density of  $X$

- b) Find the marginal density of  $Y$

- c) Find the probability that the drive-through facility is busy less than one-half of the time

4. A candy company distributes boxes of chocolates with a mixture of creams, toffees, and cordials. Suppose that the weight of each box is 1 kilogram, but the individual weights of the creams, toffees, and cordials vary from box to box. For a randomly selected box, let  $X$  and  $Y$  represent the weights of the creams and the toffees, respectively, and suppose that the joint density function of these variables is

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 24xy, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1, x + y = 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the probability that in a given box the cordials account for more than  $1/2$  of the weight.

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b) Find the marginal density for the weight of the creams.

5. Suppose that X and Y have the following joint probability distribution:

f(x, y)		x	
		2	4
y	1	0.10	0.15
	3	0.20	0.30
	5	0.10	0.15

a) Find the marginal distribution of X

b) Find the marginal distribution of Y

c) Determine whether the two random variables X and Y are dependent or independent.

6. A coin is tossed twice. Let Z denote the number of heads on the first toss and W the total number of heads on the 2 tosses. If the coin is unbalanced and a head has a 40% chance of occurring, find

a) the joint probability distribution of W and Z

b) the marginal distribution of W

c) the marginal distribution of Z

d) the probability that at least 1 head occurs.

7. The joint probability density function of the random variables X, Y, and Z is

$$f(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} \frac{4xyz^2}{9}, & 0 < x, y < 1, 0 < z < 3, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}, \text{ Find}$$

a) the joint marginal density function of Y and Z;

b) the marginal density of Y

c)  $P(\frac{1}{4} < X < \frac{1}{2}, Y > \frac{1}{3}, 1 < Z < 2)$ ;

8. Two tire-quality experts examine stacks of tires and assign a quality rating to each tire on a 3-point scale. Let  $X$  denote the rating given by expert A and  $Y$  denote the rating given by B. The following table gives the joint distribution for  $X$  and  $Y$ .

$f(x, y)$		$y$		
		1	2	3
$x$	1	0.10	0.05	0.02
	2	0.10	0.35	0.05
	3	0.03	0.10	0.20

Find  $\mu_x$  and  $\mu_y$ .

9. Random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  follow a joint distribution

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 2, & 0 < x \leq y < 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Determine the correlation coefficient between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

10. If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables with variances  $\sigma_x^2 = 5$  and  $\sigma_y^2 = 3$ , find the variance of the random variable  $Z = -2X + 4Y - 3$ .

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- 11.** There are two service lines. The random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are the proportions of time that line 1 and line 2 are in use, respectively. The joint probability density function for  $(X, Y)$  is given by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}(x^2 + y^2), & 0 \leq x, y \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- a) Determine whether or not  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.
- b) It is of interest to know something about the proportion of  $Z = X + Y$ , the sum of the two proportions. Find  $E(X + Y)$ . Also find  $E(XY)$ .
- c) Find  $\text{Var}(X)$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y)$ , and  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ .
- d) Find  $\text{Var}(X + Y)$ .