

MITx: 14.310x Data Analysis for Social Scientists

Heli



Bookmarks

- Module 1: The Basics of R and Introduction to the Course
- ▶ Entrance Survey
- Module 2:

 Fundamentals of
 Probability, Random

 Variables, Distributions, and Joint Distributions

Fundamentals of Probability

Finger Exercises due Oct 10, 2016 at 05:00 IST

Random Variables, Distributions, and Joint Distributions

Finger Exercises due Oct 10, 2016 at 05:00 IST

Module 2: Homework

Homework due Oct 03, 2016 at 05:00 IST

(A)

Module 2: Fundamentals of Probability, Random Variables, Distributions, and Joint Distributions > Random Variables, Distributions, and Joint Distributions > Introduction to Random Variables - Quiz

■ Bookmark

Question 1

(1/1 point)

What is a discrete random variable?

- a. A variable that takes on integer values only
- b. A variable that can only take on a countable number of values
- c. A variable that is constrained between 0 and 1
- d. A variable that is constrained between some values x and y, where x and y depend on the variable in question

EXPLANATION

A discrete random variable is a variable that can only take on a finite or countable infinite number of values. Many random variables are integers, but they do not have to be.

Exit Survey

You have used 1 of 2 submissions

Question 2

(1/1 point)

Which of the following are examples of discrete random variables? (Check all that apply.)

- a. The weight of a box of books
- b. The number of books in a box
- c. The possible weight readings from a scale that measures in hundredths of a kilo from 0 to 100
- d. The number of children in a classroom



EXPLANATION

The number of books in a box and the number of children in a classroom are classic examples of discrete random variables, because they are integer values. In other words, you can have 1, 2, 3, etc... books in a box but you cannot have 1.12324 books in a box. In principle, the weight of a box of books is not discrete, in that there are infinite possible weights and these are not countable. In contrast, if you have a scale that takes measurements in hundredths of a kilo from 0 to 100, the readings from that scale would be discrete since there are a countable number of possible readings.

You have used 2 of 2 submissions

Question 3

(1/1 point)

What is a continuous random variable?

- a. A variable that does not have a maximum and minimum value
- b. A variable that takes on integer values only
- c. A variable that can take on any value of the real line within some interval
- d. A variable that is either continuously increasing or continuously decreasing

EXPLANATION

A continuous variable refers to a variable that can take on any value within some interval of the real line. The interval can be either bounded (for example, a decimal number from 0 to 25) or unbounded.

You have used 1 of 2 submissions

Question 4

(1/1 point)

Which of the following are examples of continuous random variables? (Check all that apply).

- a. Temperature
- ☑ b. Weight ✓
- c. Age, generally
- d. Age, in years



EXPLANATION

Temperature, weight, and age are all continuous variables (though they could be measured and reported on a discrete scale). Age in years would be an example of a discrete variable, because it takes on a countable number of values.

You have used 1 of 2 submissions

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