

MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty



- Unit 0: Overview
- ▶ Entrance Survey
- Unit 1: Probability models and axioms
- Unit 2: Conditioning and independence
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- Unit 4: Discrete random variables
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Unit overview

Lec. 11: Derived distributions

Exercises 11 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Lec. 12: Sums of independent r.v.'s; Covariance and correlation

Exercises 12 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Lec. 13: Conditional expectation and variance revisited;

Unit 6: Further topics on random variables > Lec. 12: Sums of independent r.v.'s; Covariance and correlation > Lec 12 Sums of independent r v s Covariance and correlation vertical5

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Exercise: The variance of a sum

(1 point possible)

The random variables X_1,\ldots,X_8 satisfy $\mathbf{E}[X_i]=1$ and $\mathbf{var}(X_i)=4$ for $i=1,2,\ldots,8$. Also, for $i\neq j$, $\mathbf{E}[X_iX_j]=3$. Then,

$$\operatorname{var}(X_1 + \dots + X_8) = 200$$
 X Answer: 144

Answer:

For $i \neq j$, we have

$$\operatorname{cov}(X_i,X_j) = \mathbf{E}[X_iX_j] - \mathbf{E}[X_i] \cdot \mathbf{E}[X_j] = 3-1 = 2$$
. Thus,

$$\operatorname{var}(X_1 + \dots + X_8) = 8 \cdot \operatorname{var}(X_1) + 56 \cdot \operatorname{cov}(X_1, X_2) = 32 + 112 = 144.$$

You have used 2 of 2 submissions

Sum of a random number of independent r.v.'s Exercises 13 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Solved problems

Additional theoretical material

Problem Set 6

Problem Set 6 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Unit summary

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