

Exercise sheet 5

Probability and Statistics, MTH102

1. For some random variable X , and some real numbers a and b , show that $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$.
2. Consider a random variable for which $E[X] = 1$ and $\text{Var}(X) = 5$. Then compute $E[(2 + X)^2]$ and $\text{Var}(4 + 3X)$.
3. Let X denote the random variable which is the number of times a coin lands on heads if it is tossed n times. Show that $P\{X = k + 1\} = \frac{p}{1-p} \frac{n-k}{k+1} P\{X = k\}$
4. Use the above to compute the approximate probability of getting k heads, for each k , for an unbiased coin which is tossed 5 times.
5. A multiple choice exam has 20 questions and each question has exactly 4 choices out of which only one is correct.
 - (a) If a student guesses all the answers, what is the probability that the person will get all the answers correct?
 - (b) How many points should we assign a correct answer or a wrong answer so that the expected score is 0 for a student who guesses all the answers.