

### RANDOM VARIABLE

1. The probability distribution of the discrete random variable  $X$  is Find the mean of  $X$ .

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{3}{x}\right) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^x \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{3-x}, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, 3.$$

2. Roulette wheel is divided in to 6 sectors of unequal area marked with the no's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6. The wheel is spun &  $X$  is the random variable the number on which the wheel stops. The probability of  $X$  is as follows:

$x$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$P(X=x)$	1/16	3/16	k	1/4	3/16	1/16

Find the value of 'k' and find (i)  $E(3x-5)$

(ii)  $E(6x^2 + 6x - 10)$

3. Suppose that an antique jewelry dealer is interested in purchasing a gold necklace for which the probabilities are 0.22, 0.36, 0.28, and 0.14, respectively, that she will be able to sell it for a profit of \$250, sell it for a profit of \$150, break even, or sell it for a loss of \$150. What is her expected profit?
4. An attendant at a car wash is paid according to the number of cars that pass through. Suppose the probabilities are 1/12, 1/12, 1/4, 1/4, 1/6, and 1/6, respectively, that the attendant receives \$7, \$9, \$11, \$13, \$15, or \$17 between 4:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M. on any sunny Friday. Find the attendant's expected earnings for this particular period.
5. The random variable  $X$ , representing the number of errors per 100 lines of software code, has the

$x$	2	3	4	5	6
$f(x)$	0.01	0.25	0.4	0.3	0.04

Following probability distribution: find the variance of  $X$ .

6. Suppose that the probabilities are 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, and 0.1, respectively, that 0, 1, 2, or 3 power failures will strike a certain subdivision in any given year. Find the mean and variance of the random variable  $X$  representing the number of power failures striking this subdivision.
7. For a laboratory assignment, if the equipment is working, the density function of the observed outcome  $X$  is

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

Find the variance and standard deviation of  $X$ .

8. The length of time, in minutes, for an airplane to obtain clearance for takeoff at a certain airport is a random variable  $Y = 3X - 2$ , where  $X$  has the density function

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

Find the mean and variance of the random variable  $Y$ .

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9. The total time, measured in units of 100 hours, that a teenager runs her hair dryer over a period of one year is a continuous random variable  $X$  that has the density function

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

Evaluate the mean of the random variable  $Y = 60X^2 + 39X$ , where  $Y$  is equal to the number of kilowatt hours expended annually.

10. The total number of hours, measured in units of 100 hours, that a family runs a vacuum cleaner over a period of one year is a continuous random variable  $X$  that has the density function. Find the probability that over a period of one year, a family runs their vacuum cleaner

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

- I. Less than 120 hours.
- II. Between 50 and 100 hours.

11. The proportion of people who respond to a certain mail-order solicitation is a continuous random variable  $X$  that has the density function

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

- I. Show that  $P(0 < X < 1) = 1$ .
- II. Find the probability that more than  $1/4$  but fewer than  $1/2$  of the people contacted will respond to this type of solicitation.

12. A continuous random variable  $X$  that can assume values between  $x = 2$  and  $x = 5$  has a density function given by  $f(x) = 2(1 + x)/27$ . Find

- I.  $P(X < 4)$
- II.  $P(3 \leq X < 4)$ .
- III. Find  $F(x)$ , and use it to evaluate  $P(3 \leq X < 4)$ .

13. Consider the density function

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

- I. Evaluate  $k$ .
- II. (b) Find  $F(x)$  and use it to evaluate  $P(0.3 < X < 0.6)$ .

14. Suppose that the error in the reaction temperature, in  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , for a controlled laboratory experiment is a continuous random variable  $X$  having the probability density function

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

- I. Verify that  $f(x)$  is a density function.

Shumaila Usman (Assistant professor)  
 (Mathematics Department)

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- ii. Find  $P(0 < X \leq 1)$ .  
iii. For the density function, find  $F(x)$ , and use it to evaluate  $P(0 < X \leq 1)$ .

15. Compute  $P(\mu - 2\sigma < X < \mu + 2\sigma)$ , where  $X$  has the density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 6x(1-x), & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

16. The number of messages sent per hour over a computer network has the following distribution:

$x = \text{number of messages}$	10	11	12	13	14	15
$f(x)$	0.08	0.15	0.30	0.20	0.20	0.07

Determine the mean and standard deviation of the number of messages sent per hour.

17. The monthly demand for transistors is known to have the following probability distribution.

Demand ( $n$ ) :	1	2	3	4	5	6
Probability ( $P$ ) :	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.18	0.12

Determine the expected demand for transistors. Also obtain the variance?

18. Let  $X$  be the random variable that denotes the life in hours of a certain electronic device. The probability density function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{20,000}{x^2}, & x > 100, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Find the expected life of this type of device.

19. The density function of the time  $Z$  in minutes between calls to an electrical supply store is given by

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{10} \exp(-z/10) \quad ; \quad z > 0$$

- What is the mean time between calls?
- What is the variance in the time between calls?
- What is the probability that the time between calls exceeds the mean?