

# ECON 7710 TA Session

Week 4

Jiarui(Jerry) Qian

University of Virginia, Department of Economics

*arr3ra@virginia.edu*

Sep 2023

# Outline

- 1 Suggested Solutions to Homework I
- 2 Practice Questions

i Event i is defined as we toss a die  $n$  times and **at least** one of the outcomes is equal to 6.

- The probability of no 6 through 1 toss, which is  $\frac{5}{6}$ .
- Repeat  $n$  times, we have  $(\frac{5}{6})^n$ .
- So we know the probability of event  $i$ .

$$P(i) = 1 - (\frac{5}{6})^n$$

ii Event ii is defined as we toss a die  $n$  times and an outcome equal to 6 is observed **exactly once**.

- There are  $6^n$  ways of outcome through  $n$  times' toss. [Denominator]
- For the numerator, it is  $n * 5^{n-1}$ .
  - First, there are  $\binom{n}{1}$  ways of choosing the one "6", which are  $n$  ways.
  - Once the "6" is chosen, it shows up exactly 1 time.
  - For the rest  $n - 1$  times, "1" to "5" can be freely chosen, so  $5^{n-1}$  ways.
- So we know the probability of event  $ii$ .

$$P(ii) = \frac{n * 5^{n-1}}{6^n}$$

- **Setup:**

- Mathematical modelling of this issue should be viewed as a multivariate uniform distribution consisting 2 or 3 random variables.
- Correspondingly, when you do the math:
  - Lower bound: Earliest time one can arrive
  - Upper bound: Latest time one can arrive
- $H, W, E \sim U[0, 1]$ , PDFs:

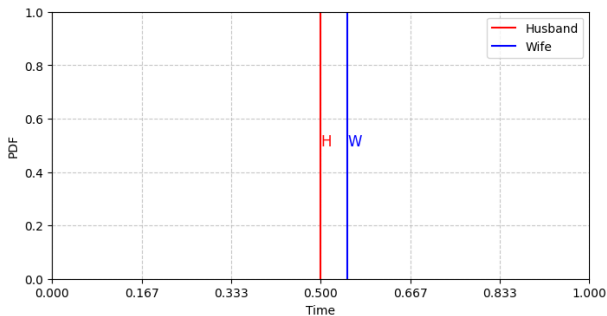
$$h(x) = w(x) = e(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{For } x \in [0, 1] \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Normalize your time by taking hour as your unit:

$$7:00 \text{ pm} - 8:00 \text{ pm} \Rightarrow [0, 1] \quad \begin{cases} 7:00 \text{ pm} = "0" \\ 8:00 \text{ pm} = "1" \\ 10 \text{ minutes} = \frac{1}{6} \end{cases}$$

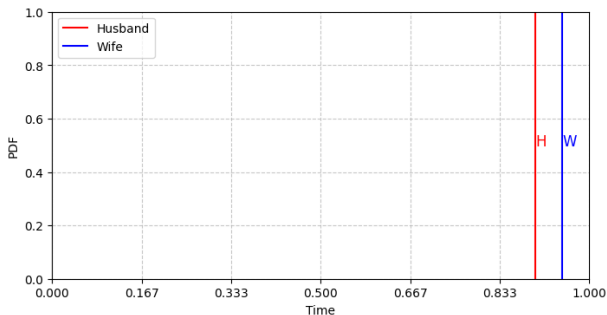
- **Note:** Only when H,W meet each other, they vanish immediately.  
Discuss different cases, sequence of arrivals, who depends on whom.

- a Event that date will occur is denoted by  $D$ . Then there are two subcases:
- $D_H$ : Husband arrives earlier and wife shows up within 10 minutes.
  - $D_W$ : Wife arrives earlier and husband shows up within 10 minutes.
  - By symmetry:  $P(D) = P(D_H) + P(D_W) = 2P(D_H)$
  - $D_H$  can be further divided into two cases:
    - $D_{H1}$ , H shows up in  $[0, \frac{5}{6}]$ ; W shows up within next 10 mins



$$P(D_{H1}) = \int_0^{5/6} dH \int_H^{H+1/6} dW.$$

- a Event that date will occur is denoted by  $D$ . Then there are two subcases:
- $D_H$ : Husband arrives earlier and wife shows up within 10 minutes.
  - $D_W$ : Wife arrives earlier and husband shows up within 10 minutes.
  - By symmetry:  $P(D) = P(D_H) + P(D_W) = 2P(D_H)$
  - $D_H$  can be further divided into two cases:
    - $D_{H2}$ , H shows up in  $[\frac{5}{6}, 1]$ ; W shows up later but before 8



$$P(D_{H2}) = \int_{5/6}^1 dH \int_H^1 dW.$$

a So probability of  $D_H$  is:

$$P(D_H) = \int_0^{5/6} dH \int_H^{H+1/6} dW + \int_{5/6}^1 dH \int_H^1 dW = \frac{5}{36} + \frac{1}{72} = \frac{11}{72}$$

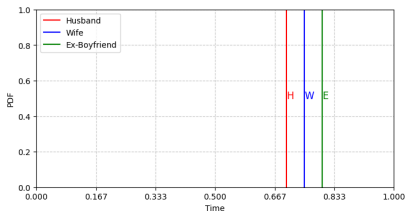
Therefore,

$$P(D) = P(D_H) + P(D_W) = 2 * \frac{11}{72} = \frac{11}{36} \approx 0.306$$

.

b.i We define  $M$  as the event all three meet together.

**Note:** E has to arrive before D happens. Otherwise, the couples will vanish immediately when they meet and E cannot get them caught.

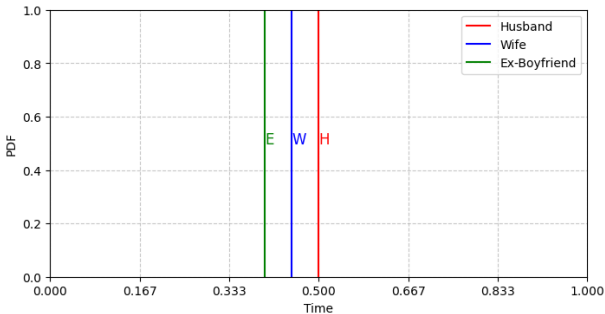


### This doesn't work

- Since E is indifferent to whoever arrives the latest, by symmetry, there are two sub-events here with the same probability:
  - $M_H$  where husband arrives latest.
  - $M_W$  where wife arrives latest.
- Again, the probability of all three meet is
 
$$P(M) = P(M_H) + P(M_W) = 2P(M_H).$$
 WLOG, we analyze  $P(M_H)$ .

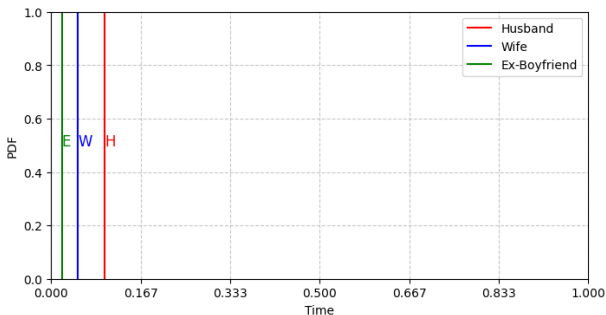


- Likewise, we need to consider 2 sub-cases
  - $M_{H1}$  : H arrives between  $[\frac{1}{6}, 1]$ .
  - $M_{H2}$  : H arrives between  $[0, \frac{1}{6}]$ .
- $M_{H1}$  : H arrives between  $[\frac{1}{6}, 1]$ .



- $P(M_{H1}) = \int_{1/6}^1 dH \int_{H-1/6}^H dW \int_{H-1/6}^H dE$

- Likewise, we need to consider 2 sub-cases
  - $M_{H1}$  : H arrives between  $[\frac{1}{6}, 1]$ .
  - $M_{H2}$  : H arrives between  $[0, \frac{1}{6}]$ .
- $M_{H2}$  : H arrives between  $[0, \frac{1}{6}]$ .

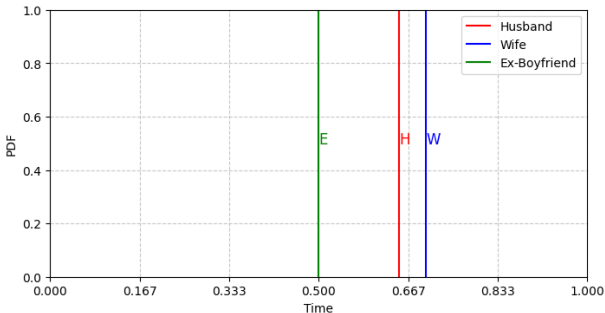


- $P(M_{H2}) = \int_0^{1/6} dH \int_0^H dW \int_0^H dE$
- Then we know  $P(M_H) = P(M_{H1}) + P(M_{H2}) = \frac{2}{81}$
- $P(M) = P(M_H) + P(M_W) = \frac{4}{81}$

b.ii The event H and E meet with each other is named F, short for Fight. There are 3 sub-events.

- D happens and E meets both of W and H, which is M  
We already know  $P(M) = \frac{4}{81}$ .
- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by M'.
- D does not happen and E meets H. Denote this event by M''.

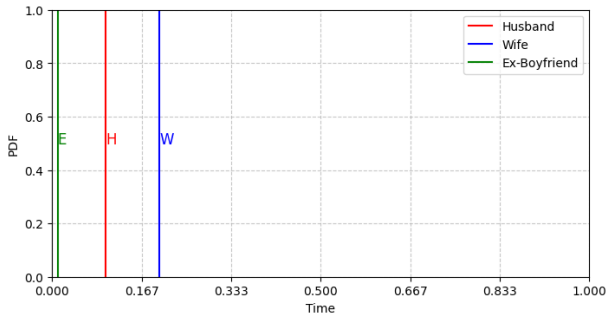
- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by  $M'$ .  
**Now E must arrive the earliest and E leaves before W comes.**  
**W has to arrive the latest.**  
 There are three sub-cases here:
  - $M'_1$  If H arrives in  $[\frac{1}{6}, \frac{5}{6}]$



$$P(M'_1) = \int_{1/6}^{5/6} dH \int_H^{H+1/6} dW \int_{H-1/6}^{W-1/6} dE$$

- For E, he has to be earliest and not meeting W.
- For W, she has to arrive latest and meet H.

- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by  $M'$ .  
**Now E must arrive the earliest and E leaves before W comes.**  
**W has to arrive the latest.**  
 There are three sub-cases here:
  - $M'_2$  If H arrives in  $[0, \frac{1}{6}]$



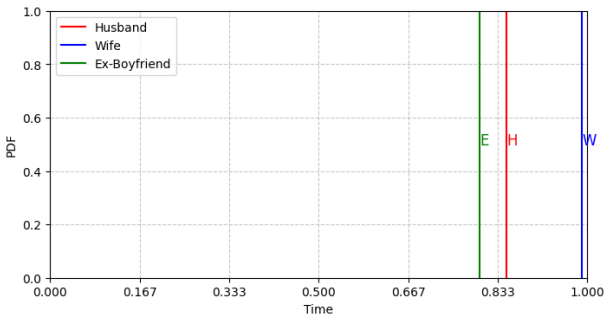
$$P(M'_2) = \int_0^{1/6} dH \int_{1/6}^{H+1/6} dW \int_0^{W-1/6} dE$$

- For E, he has to be earliest and not meeting W.
- For W, she has to arrive latest and meet H, not E.

- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by  $M'$ .  
**Now E must arrive the earliest and E leaves before W comes.**  
**W has to arrive the latest.**

There are three sub-cases here:

- $M'_3$  If H arrives in  $[\frac{5}{6}, 1]$



$$P(M'_3) = \int_{5/6}^1 dH \int_H^1 dW \int_{H-1/6}^{W-1/6} dE$$

- For E, he has to be earliest and not meeting W.
- For W, she has to arrive latest and meet H and before 8pm

b.ii The event H and E meet with each other is named F, short for Fight. There are 3 sub-events.

- D happens and E meets both of W and H, which is M  
We already know  $P(M) = \frac{4}{81}$ .
- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by M'.  
Therefore the probability of M' is

$$\begin{aligned} P(M') &= P(M'_1) + P(M'_2) + P(M'_3) = \frac{1}{6^4} + \frac{1}{108} + \frac{1}{6^4} \\ &= \frac{7}{648} \end{aligned}$$

- D does not happen and E meets H. Denote this event by M''.

- D does not happen and E meets H. Denote this event by  $M''$ .
- Wife meets with Ex-husband? Doesn't matter.

There are two sub-events

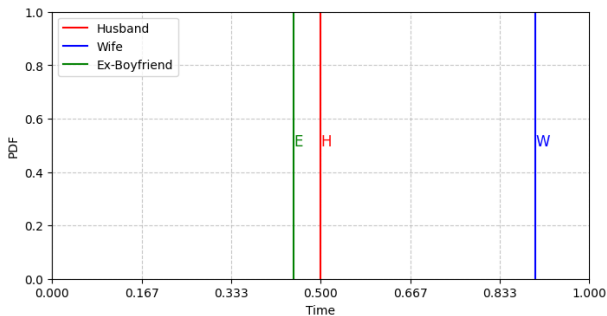
- Wife came too late,  $M''_W$
- Husband came too late,  $M''_H$ .

Again, WLOG, we discuss  $M''_W$



Again, WLOG, we discuss  $M''_W$ , consider these three sub-cases:

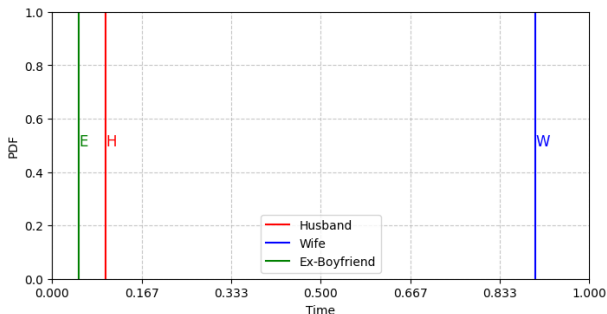
- $M''_{W1}$ : If H arrives in  $[\frac{1}{6}, \frac{5}{6}]$ ,



- $$P(M''_{W1}) = \int_{1/6}^{5/6} dH \int_{H+1/6}^1 dW \int_{H-1/6}^{H+1/6} dE$$

Again, WLOG, we discuss  $M''_W$ , consider these three sub-cases:

- $M''_{W2}$ : If H arrives in  $[0, \frac{1}{6}]$ ,



- $$P(M''_{W2}) = \int_0^{1/6} dH \int_{H+1/6}^1 dW \int_0^{H+1/6} dE$$

What if H arrives in  $[\frac{5}{6}, 1]$ ? W and H will for sure meet.

b.ii The event H and E meet with each other is named F, short for Fight. There are 3 sub-events.

- D happens and E meets both of W and H, which is M  
We already know  $P(M) = \frac{4}{81}$ .
- D happens and E meets H only. Denote this event by  $M'$ .  
Therefore the probability of  $M'$  is

$$\begin{aligned} P(M') &= P(M'_1) + P(M'_2) + P(M'_3) = \frac{1}{6^4} + \frac{1}{108} + \frac{1}{6^4} \\ &= \frac{7}{648} \end{aligned}$$

- D does not happen and E meets H. Denote this event by  $M''$ .  
 $P(M''_W) = P(M''_{W1}) + P(M''_{W2}) = \frac{17}{162}$ .  
 $P(M'') = P(M''_W) + P(M''_M) = \frac{17}{81}$ .

- So,

$$P(F) = P(M) + P(M') + P(M'') = \frac{4}{81} + \frac{7}{648} + \frac{17}{81} = \frac{175}{648} \approx 0.270$$

This is false.

Think about a **mixed** random variable  $X$ , which is a Bernoulli distribution on point  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$  with mass 0.5 and with the rest mass 0.5 being a uniform distribution on  $[0, 1]$

$$X = \begin{cases} P(X) = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{If } X=0 \\ 0.5 & \text{If } X=1 \end{cases} & \text{(With mass 0.5)} \\ X \sim U[0, 1] & \text{(With mass 0.5)} \end{cases}$$

Recall a function is pdf of a r.v. if and only if:

a  $f_x(x) \geq 0 \forall x$

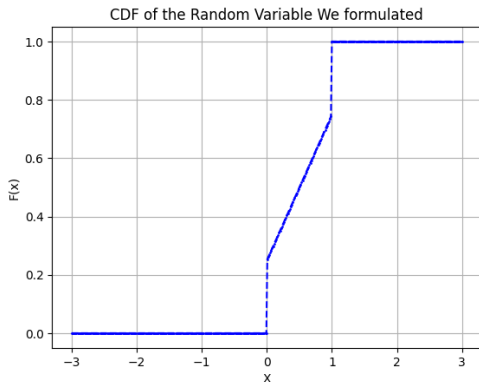
b  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) dx = 1$  (pdf)

Then it has density on almost every point on  $[0, 1]$  except for point  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$ .

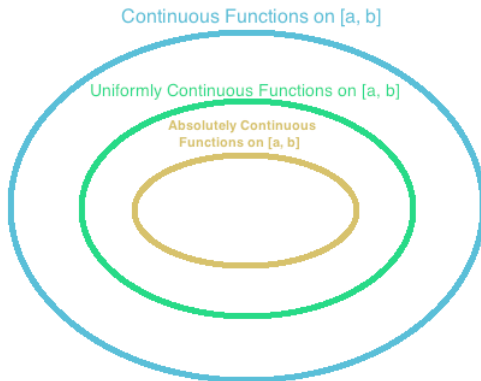
- The corresponding CDF is:

$$X = \begin{cases} P(X) = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{If } X=0 \\ 0.5 & \text{If } X=1 \end{cases} & \text{(With mass 0.5)} \\ X \sim U[0, 1] & \text{(With mass 0.5)} \end{cases} \Rightarrow F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 0.25 & x = 0 \\ 0.5x + 0.25 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

- We can plot the CDF as below:



- Clearly, this CDF is not continuous, let alone uniformly continuous.



- By Heine-Cantor theorem, a sufficient condition to make it true is that if random variable  $X$ , which distributed on a compact set  $[a, b]$  has a continuous CDF, then we have a uniformly continuous CDF.

We define the event that no urn is empty as  $N$ . No limitation on urns' capacity and since no urn is empty, we need 1 urn contains 1 marble.

- Under the assumption of **throwing  $n$  marbles sequentially each time** [Ordered with Replacement].

To calculate the probability, we know:

- There are  $n^n$  ways of throwing the balls.
- To make one in each urn, we have  $n!$  ways.

So the answer to  $P(N) = \frac{n!}{n^n}$ .

**Note:** Probability is frequency from repeating sampling many times.

We define the event that no urn is empty as  $N$ . No limitation on urns' capacity and since no urn is empty, we need 1 urn contains 1 marble.

- \* Under the assumption of **throwing  $n$  marbles simultaneously each time** [Unordered with Replacement].

To calculate the probability, we know:

- There are  $\binom{2n-1}{n-1}$  ways of outcome.
- But there's only one way of putting exactly one marble in every urn.

$$\text{So the answer to } P(N) = \frac{1}{\binom{2n-1}{n-1}}$$

**Note:** Probability is frequency from repeating sampling many times.



Since  $F(\cdot)$  and  $G(\cdot)$  are two distribution functions.

If  $H(x) = F(G(x))$  is a distribution function, it has to satisfy three properties.

- **Monotonicity**
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} H(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} H(x) = 1$
- **Right-continuity**  $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} H(x) = H(x_0)$

Since  $F(\cdot)$  and  $G(\cdot)$  are two distribution functions.

If  $H(x) = F(G(x))$  is a distribution function, it has to satisfy three properties.

- **Monotonicity**

- If  $x_1 \leq x_2$ , then  $H(x_1) \leq H(x_2) \Rightarrow F(G(x_1)) \leq F(G(x_2))$ .
- Since if  $x_1 \leq x_2$  then  $G(x_1) \leq G(x_2)$  as  $G(x)$  is a distribution function.
- If  $G(x_1) \leq G(x_2)$  then  $F(G(x_1)) \leq F(G(x_2))$  as  $F(\cdot)$  is a distribution function. So if  $x_1 \leq x_2$ , then  $H(x_1) \leq H(x_2)$ .

Monotonicity ✓

Since  $F(\cdot)$  and  $G(\cdot)$  are two distribution functions.

If  $H(x) = F(G(x))$  is a distribution function, it has to satisfy three properties.

- **Monotonicity** ✓

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} H(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} H(x) = 1$

- As we know  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} G(x) = 0$  for  $G(x)$  is a distribution function. We also know  $G(x)$  satisfies monotonicity. So when  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $G(x)$  is non-increasing.

- Hence, we will need to set  $\lim_{x \downarrow 0} F(x) = 0$  to make  $H$  satisfies

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} H(x) = 0$$

- Likewise, as we know  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} G(x) = 1$  as  $G(x)$  is a distribution function. Then we will need  $\lim_{x \uparrow 1} F(x) = 1$ .

- Additionally, we want the support of  $F(x)$  is  $[0, 1]$

Since  $F(\cdot)$  and  $G(\cdot)$  are two distribution functions.

If  $H(x) = F(G(x))$  is a distribution function, it has to satisfy three properties.

- **Monotonicity** ✓
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} H(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} H(x) = 1$  ✓
- **Right-continuity**  $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} H(x) = H(x_0)$ 
  - As we know,  $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} H(x) = H(x_0) \Leftrightarrow \lim_{x \downarrow x_0} F(G(x)) = F(G(x_0))$
  - Since we know  $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} G(x) = G(x_0)$  as  $G(\cdot)$  is a distribution function.
  - Then we need  $\lim_{x \downarrow G(x_0)} F(G(x)) = F(G(x_0))$ .

Clearly this is satisfied as  $F(\cdot)$  is a distribution function.

So **Right-continuity** ✓

Since  $F(\cdot)$  and  $G(\cdot)$  are two distribution functions.

If  $H(x) = F(G(x))$  is a distribution function, it has to satisfy three properties.

- **Monotonicity** ✓

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} H(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} H(x) = 1$  ✓

We need additional 3 conditions:

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} F(x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \uparrow 1} F(x) = 1$$

$$\text{supp}(F(x)) = [0, 1]$$

- **Right-continuity**  $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} H(x) = H(x_0)$  ✓

**2018 Midterm Q4** The cdf  $F(x)$  of random variable  $X$  is continuous at 0. Find the distribution of random variable:

$$Y = \begin{cases} \frac{X}{|X|}, & \text{if } X \neq 0 \\ 1, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Practice Questions

**2018 Midterm Q4** The cdf  $F(x)$  of random variable  $X$  is continuous at 0. Find the distribution of random variable:

$$Y = \begin{cases} \frac{X}{|X|}, & \text{if } X \neq 0 \\ 1, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$Y$  can be rewritten in this way:

$$Y = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } X < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } X \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Then we know  $Y$  is a Bernoulli random variable. and the distribution of  $Y$  is:

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < -1 \\ p & \text{if } -1 \leq y < 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } y \geq 1 \end{cases}, \quad p = P(X < 0) = F(0)$$