

Required Problems

1. Let Y be a continuous random variable with PDF

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} (3/2)y^2 + y & \text{if } 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the mean of Y .
 (b) Find the variance of Y .

2. Let Y be a random variable with probability density function given by

$$f_Y(y) = 2(1 - y), \quad y \in [0, 1]$$

- (a) Find the PDF of $U = 2Y - 1$.
 (b) Find the PDF of $W = 1 - 2Y$.
 (c) Find the PDF of $Z = Y^2$.

3. Consider the multivariate distribution characterized by the PDF

$$f_{XY} = 6(1 - y), \quad 0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$$

- (a) Find the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y]$.
 (b) Find the covariance of X and Y .

4. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random sample from a distribution with PMF

$$f(x_i|\theta) = \begin{cases} \theta(1 - \theta)^{x_i - 1} & \text{if } x = 1, 2, 3, \dots \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where $\theta \in (0, 1)$.

- (a) Find the method of moments estimator for θ .
 (b) Find the maximum likelihood estimator for θ .

Practice Problems

5. Let X be a discrete random variable with PMF $f_X(x)$, given in the following table.

x	1	2	3	4
$f_X(x)$	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1

Find the following:

- (a) $\mathbb{E}[X]$
 (b) $\mathbb{E}[1/X]$
 (c) $\mathbb{E}[X^2 - 1]$
 (d) $\text{Var}[X]$

6. A binomially-distributed random variable X has the PMF

$$f_X(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, \quad x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

where $0 < p < 1$.

- (a) Show that the expected value of X is np .
- (b) Show that the variance of X is $np(1-p)$.

7. Let Y be a random variable with mean μ and variance σ^2 . If a and b are constants, show that:

- (a) $\mathbb{E}[aY + b] = a\mu + b$
- (b) $\text{Var}(aY + b) = a^2\sigma^2$

8. Let X be a standard normal random variable with PDF

$$f_X(x) = \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad x \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

- (a) Show that the MGF of X is $M_X(t) = \exp\{(1/2)t^2\}$ (hint: complete the square in the exponent).
- (b) Use the MGF of X to calculate $\mathbb{E}[X]$ and $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$.
- (c) Use the MGF to show that the sum of two independent standard normal random variables is distributed normally with $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 2$.

9. For each of the following random variables, find the PDF of Y .

- (a) $f_X(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1+x)$, $x \in (-1, 1)$ and $Y = X^2$
- (b) $f_X(x) = 60x^3(1-x)^2$, $x \in (0, 1)$ and $Y = \log(X)$
- (c) $f_X(x) = (1+x)^2/9$, $x \in (-1, 2)$ and $Y = (X-1)^2$

10. Consider the joint distribution of Y_1 and Y_2 given by the following table:

		x_1	
		0	1
x_2	0	0.38	0.17
	1	0.14	0.02
	2	0.24	0.05

- (a) Find the marginal PMFs for X_1 and X_2 .
- (b) Find the conditional PMF for X_2 given $X_1 = 0$.

11. Consider the joint PDF:

$$f_{Y_1 Y_2}(y_1, y_2) = 3y_1, \quad 0 \leq y_2 \leq y_1 \leq 1$$

- (a) Find the marginal PDFs for Y_1 and Y_2 .
- (b) Find the conditional PDF of Y_2 given $Y_1 = y_1$.
- (c) What is the probability that $Y_2 \geq 1/2$ given that $Y_1 = 3/4$?

12. For each of the following joint PDFs, determine whether or not the random variables x and y are independent.

(a) $f_{XY}(x, y) = 1$, where $x \in [0, 1]$ and $y \in [0, 1]$

(b) $f_{XY}(x, y) = e^{-(x+y)}$, where $x > 0$ and $y > 0$

(c) $f_{XY}(x, y) = 6(1 - y)$, where $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$

13. Show that $\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])] = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$.

14. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random sample from a distribution with mean μ and $\sigma^2 < \infty$. Show that:

(a) $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] = \mu$

(b) $\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$

(c) $\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right) - n\bar{X}^2$

(d) $\mathbb{E}[S^2] = \sigma^2$

15. Let Y_1, \dots, Y_n be a random sample from a distribution with PDF

$$f(y_i|\theta) = \begin{cases} (\theta + 1)y^{-(\theta+2)} & \text{if } y > 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where $\theta \in (0, \infty)$.

(a) Find the method of moments estimator for θ .

(b) Find the maximum likelihood estimator for θ .

16. For each of the following PDFs, let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random sample. Find a complete sufficient statistic for the unknown parameter(s).

(a) $f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{(1+x)^{1+\theta}}$, where $0 < x < \infty$ and $\theta > 0$

(b) $f(x|\beta) = \frac{\ln[\beta]\beta^x}{\beta - 1}$, where $0 < x < 1$ and $\beta > 1$

(c) $f(x|\theta) = \exp\{-(x - \theta)\} \exp\{-e^{-(x-\theta)}\}$, where $-\infty < x < \infty$ and $-\infty < \theta < \infty$

(d) $f(x|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1}$ where $0 < x < 1$ and $\alpha, \beta > 0$