

Due: February 18th, 2008
Problems to be turned in: 1,4,8,9

1. Suppose that a store buys b items in anticipation of a random demand Y , where the possible values of Y are non-negative integers y representing the number of items in demand. Suppose that each item sold brings a profit of β Rupees and each item stocked but unsold brings a loss of λ Rupees. Show that the expected loss is minimized over all b at the least integer y such that $P(Y \geq y) \geq \frac{\beta}{\beta + \lambda}$. Discuss the case $\beta = \lambda$ and $\frac{\beta}{\lambda + \beta} = \frac{k}{100}$.
2. Let $X \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Uniform}\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Find $E(X)$ and $\text{Var}(X)$. Let $Y \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Uniform}\{a, a + 1, \dots, a + (n - 1)b\}$. Find $E(Y)$ and $\text{Var}(Y)$ in terms of a, b and n .
3. A random variable X has expectation 10 and standard deviation 5. Find the smallest upper bound on $P(X \geq 20)$ and decide whether X can be distributed as $\text{Binomial}(n, p)$ for some n, p .
4. Let S be the sum of numbers obtained by rolling two biased dice with possibly different biases described by probabilities p_1, p_2, \dots, p_6 , and r_1, r_2, \dots, r_6 , all assumed to be non-zero.

(a) Find the distribution of S .

(b) Show that $P(S > 7) > P(S = 2)\frac{r_6}{r_1} + P(S = 12)\frac{r_1}{r_6}$

(c) Deduce that no matter how the two dice are biased, the numbers 2, 7, and 12 cannot be equally likely values for the sum. In particular, the sum cannot be uniformly distributed on the numbers from 2 to 12.

(d) Do there exist positive integers a and b and independent non-constant random variables X and Y such that $X + Y$ has uniform distribution on the set of integers $\{a, a + 1, \dots, a + b\}$?

5. Let $\lambda > 0$. Suppose $T \stackrel{d}{=} \exp(\lambda)$, then determine the distribution of $G = [T]$ the greatest integer less than or equal to T .
6. Let $r > 0, \lambda > 0$. Suppose $\gamma \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Gamma}(r, \lambda)$.

(a) For $k > 0$, show that the k -th moment of γ is $\frac{1}{\lambda^k} \frac{\Gamma(r+k)}{\Gamma(r)}$, where

$$\Gamma(s) = \int_0^\infty x^{s-1} e^{-x}, \text{ for } s > 0$$

(b) If $r = 1$ then show that k -th moment of γ is $\frac{k!}{\lambda^k}$

7. Consider independent Bernoulli(p) trials. Let Y be a random variable that denotes the trial at which the r th Head appears.

(a) Find the distribution of Y . Y is said to be distributed as Negative Binomial (r, p).

(b) Calculate its mean and variance.

8. Suppose two teams play a series of games, each producing a winner and a loser, until one team has won two more games than the other. Let G be the total number of games played. Assuming each team has chance 0.5 to win each game, independent of results of the previous games. Find $E(G)$.
9. Let $\{X_k : 1 \leq k \leq n\}$ be independent continuous random variables with identical distributed as Uniform $(0, 1)$. Let

$$X_{(1)} \leq X_{(2)} \leq \dots \leq X_{(k)} \leq \dots \leq X_{(n)}$$

be the increasing rearrangement of the random variables $\{X_k : 1 \leq k \leq n\}$. That is $X_{(1)}$ is the smallest of $\{X_k : 1 \leq k \leq n\}$, $X_{(2)}$ is the next smallest and so on. Show that the density of $X_{(k)}$ is given by

$$f_{(k)}(x) = \frac{1}{B(k, n - k + 1)} x^{k-1} (1 - x)^{n-k}, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

where $B(r, s) = \int_0^1 x^{r-1} (1 - x)^{s-1} dx$, for any $r, s > 0$. $X_{(k)}$ is referred to as the k -th order statistic and is said to have Beta($k, n - k + 1$) distribution.