

EE 503

Final Part 1 Solution

Fall 2019, 55 Minutes, 100 Points

Problem 1. (20 points.)

- a. Let X be a discrete random variable with $P(X = 1) = \frac{1}{2}$, $P(X = 2) = \frac{1}{4}$ and $P(X = 4) = \frac{1}{4}$. Find $E[X]$ and $Var(X)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = 2 \\ E[X^2] &= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{11}{2} = 5.5 \\ Var[X] &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = \frac{3}{2} = 1.5. \end{aligned}$$

- b. Let X_n be a sequence of i.i.d. Bernoulli (0,1) random variables with $P(X_i = 1) = p = 1 - P(X_i = 0)$ and let

$$Y_n = X_1 + X_1 X_2 + X_1 X_2 X_3 + \dots$$

Does Y_n converge almost surely to a constant? (Just answer Yes or No – proof is not required.) If it does converge almost surely to a constant indicate the constant. Find the mean of Y_n as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Solution: No, Y_n does not converge to a constant almost surely. Y_n is a sum of nonnegative random variables so Y_n is not approaching any constant value. We find (you can assume $0 \leq p < 1$)

$$E[Y_n] = p + p^2 + p^3 + \dots = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p^k = \frac{p}{1-p}, \quad 0 \leq p < 1.$$

Problem 2. (20 points.) A random variable X has pdf

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}, & 1 \leq x \leq 4, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- a. Find the cumulative distribution function (cdf) of X .

Solution:

$$F(x) = \int_1^x \frac{1}{2}u^{-1/2}du$$

which becomes

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} x^{1/2} - 1, & 1 \leq x \leq 4, \\ 1, & x > 4, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- b. Find $P(X > 2)$. Write the probability you compute in numerical form.

Solution:

$$P(X > 2) = 1 - F(2) = 2 - \sqrt{2} = 0.5858.$$

Problem 3. (20 points.) Suppose the two-dimensional continuous random variable (X, Y) has joint pdf

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \begin{cases} x + y, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- a. Find $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \int_0^1 f(x, y) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 (x + y) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + y. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

which becomes

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x + 2y}{1 + 2y}, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- b. Let $B = \{X + Y \geq 1/2\}$. Find $P(B)$.

Solution: $P(B) = 1 - P(\bar{B})$, where $\bar{B} = \{X + Y < 1/2\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{B}) &= \int_0^{1/2} \int_0^{1/2-y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int_0^{1/2} \int_0^{1/2-y} (x + y) dx dy \\ &= \frac{1}{24}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$P(B) = \frac{23}{24}.$$

Problem 4. (20 points.) Let X and Y have joint pdf

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{2}, & 0 \leq y \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Let $Z = X + Y$.

- a. Find the pdf of Z .

Solution:

$$F_Z(z) = P(Z \leq z) = P(X + Y \leq z).$$

Let $W = X$ then $X = W$ and $Y = Z - W$. The transformation has Jacobian 1 thus

$$f_Z(z) = \int f_{XY}(w, z-w)dw.$$

There are two case to consider:

i) $0 \leq z \leq 2 \Rightarrow \frac{z}{2} \leq w \leq z$. We get

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{z/2}^z \frac{1}{2}w(z-w)dw = \frac{z^3}{24}.$$

ii) $2 < z \leq 4 \Rightarrow \frac{z}{2} \leq w \leq z$. We get

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{z/2}^2 \frac{1}{2}w(z-w)dw = -\frac{z^3}{24} + z - \frac{4}{3}.$$

Hence,

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z^3}{24}, & 0 \leq z \leq 2, \\ -\frac{z^3}{24} + z - \frac{4}{3}, & 2 < z \leq 4, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

- b. Find $P(Z \leq 1)$.

Solution:

$$P(Z \leq 1) = F_Z(1) = \int_0^1 f_Z(z)dz = \int_0^1 \frac{z^3}{24} dz = \frac{1}{96}.$$

Problem 5. (20 points.) The random variable N is Poisson distributed with parameter $\lambda > 0$ with pmf

$$P(N = k) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}, & k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Let $p \in (0, 1)$ and let X_1, X_2, \dots be i.i.d. with $P(X_i = 1) = p$, $P(X_i = 0) = 1 - p$ and let $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ where we define $S_0 = 0$. Here N and S_n are independent for every n . Let $Y = S_N$ (the N in S_N is the Poisson random variable). Let $Z = N - Y$ so that $Y + Z = N$.

- a. Find $\lim_{C} \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)}$ where the limit is taken with $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, $k \rightarrow \infty$, $\lambda/k \rightarrow a$. Specify any restrictions on a for this limit to exist.

Solution: Let C denote the conditions $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, $k \rightarrow \infty$, $\lambda/k \rightarrow a$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} &= \lim_C \frac{\sum_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^m}{m!} e^{-\lambda}}{\frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}} = \lim_C \sum_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{k!}{m!} \lambda^{m-k} \\ &= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} \frac{k!}{(u+k)!} \lambda^u \end{aligned}$$

which becomes

$$\lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} = 1 + \frac{\lambda}{k+1} + \frac{\lambda^2}{(k+2)(k+1)} + \frac{\lambda^3}{(k+3)(k+2)(k+1)} + \dots$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} &= 1 + \frac{\lambda}{k(1+1/k)} + \frac{\lambda^2}{k^2(1+2/k)(1+1/k)} \\ &\quad + \frac{\lambda^3}{k^3(1+3/k)(1+2/k)(1+1/k)} + \dots \\ &= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^u}{\prod_{i=1}^u (k+i)} \\ &\quad + \frac{\lambda^3}{k^3(1+3/k)(1+2/k)(1+1/k)} + \dots \\ &= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda/k)^u}{\prod_{i=1}^u (1+i/k)} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} &= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} a^u \\ &= 1 + a + a^2 + a^3 + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} = \frac{1}{1 - a}$$

or

$$\lim_C \frac{P(N \geq k)}{P(N = k)} = \frac{1}{1 - \lambda/k}$$

provided $0 < a = \lambda/k < 1$.

- b. Show that Y and Z are independent.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}P(Y = y, Z = z) &= P(Y = y, Z = z | N = y + z)P(N = y + z) \\ &= \binom{y+z}{y} p^y q^z \frac{\lambda^{y+z}}{(y+z)!} e^{-\lambda} \\ &= \frac{(\lambda p)^y (\lambda q)^z}{y! z!} e^{-\lambda}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}P(Y = y) &= \sum_{n \geq y} P(Y = y | N = n)P(N = n) \\ &= \sum_{n \geq y} \binom{n}{y} p^y q^{n-y} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda} \\ &= p^y q^{-y} e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n \geq y} \binom{n}{y} \frac{(\lambda q)^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{p^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!} \sum_{n \geq y} \frac{\lambda^n q^{n-y}}{(n-y)!} \\ &= \frac{p^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!} \lambda^y \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\lambda^n q^n}{n!}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{(\lambda p)^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!} \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(\lambda q)^n}{n!} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda p)^y e^{-\lambda(p+q)}}{y!} e^{\lambda q} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda p)^y}{y!} e^{-\lambda p}.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(Z = z) &= \sum_{n \geq y} P(Z = z | N = n) P(N = n) \\
&= \sum_{z \geq 0} P(Y = N - z | N = n) P(N = n) \\
&= \sum_{n \geq z} \binom{n}{n-z} p^{n-z} q^z \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda} \\
&= p^{-z} q^z e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n \geq z} \binom{n}{n-z} \frac{(\lambda p)^n}{n!} \\
&= p^{-z} q^z e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n \geq z} \frac{(\lambda p)^n}{(n-z)! z!} \\
&= \frac{p^{-z} q^z e^{-\lambda}}{z!} \sum_{n \geq z} \frac{(\lambda p)^n}{(n-z)!} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda q)^z e^{-\lambda}}{z!} \sum_{u \geq 0} \frac{(\lambda p)^u}{u!} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda q)^z e^{-\lambda(p+q)}}{z!} e^{\lambda p} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda q)^z}{z!} e^{-\lambda q}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
P(Y = y) P(Z = z) &= \frac{(\lambda p)^y}{y!} e^{-\lambda p} \frac{(\lambda q)^z}{z!} e^{-\lambda q} \\
&= \frac{(\lambda p)^y (\lambda q)^z}{y! z!} e^{-\lambda} \\
&= P(Y = y, Z = z)
\end{aligned}$$

so, Y and Z are independent.