

- (1) Three balls are drawn from three urns. The first urn contains 1 blue and 5 red balls, the second urn contains 2 blue and 4 red balls, and the third urn contains 3 red and 3 green balls.
- (a) Find the probability that 2 red balls are chosen;
- (b) Let X be the number of different colors chosen. Find the distribution of X .

Solution. (a) Considering three cases depending on which ball is not read we get

$$P(2 \text{ reds}) = \frac{1}{6} \frac{4}{6} \frac{3}{6} + \frac{5}{6} \frac{2}{6} \frac{3}{6} + \frac{5}{6} \frac{4}{6} \frac{3}{6} = \frac{102}{216}.$$

(b) If there is only one color then all balls should be red. Thus

$$P(X = 1) = \frac{5}{6} \frac{4}{6} \frac{3}{6} = \frac{60}{216}.$$

If there are three color then the last ball must be green. Considering whatever first or second ball are red we get

$$P(X = 3) = \frac{5}{6} \frac{2}{6} \frac{3}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{4}{6} \frac{3}{6} = \frac{42}{216}.$$

Hence

$$P(X = 2) = 1 - P(X = 1) - P(X = 3) = \frac{114}{216}.$$

- (2) 10000 bacteria are analyzed in the lab. It is known that the probability that a bacteria has gene A is $\frac{1}{2}$ and the probability that it has gene B is $\frac{1}{5000}$. Compute approximately the probability that

- (a) 5010 or more bacteria will carry gene A;
- (b) Exactly 3 bacteria care gene B.

Solution. Let X be the number of bacteria carrying gene A and Y be the number of bacteria carrying gene B.

(a) $X \approx N(5000, 2500)$, that is $X \approx 5000 + 50Z$ where Z is the standard normal. Accordingly

$$P(X \geq 5010) \approx P(Z \geq 0.2) = 1 - P(Z \leq 0.2) \approx 0.42.$$

(b) $Y \approx \text{Pois}(2)$. Accordingly $P(Y = 3) \approx \frac{2^3}{3!} e^{-2} \approx 0.18$.

- (3) Jane finds a job which requires her to commute 5 days a week. On her way home Jane is in a hurry so there is $\frac{1}{20}$ probability that she gets a speeding ticket

(a) Let X be the number of tickets Jane gets during first 6 weeks of work. Compute EX and VX .

(b) When Jane gets three tickets she needs to attend a driving school. Find the probability that Jane gets her third ticket on her 50th commute.

Solution. (a) $X \sim \text{Bin}(30, \frac{1}{20})$. Therefore

$$EX = 30 \times \frac{1}{20} = \frac{3}{2}, \quad VX = \frac{30}{20} \times \frac{19}{20} = \frac{57}{40}.$$

(b) Using the formula for negative binomial distribution with parameters 3 and $\frac{1}{20}$ we see that the answer is

$$\binom{49}{2} \left(\frac{19}{20}\right)^{47} \left(\frac{1}{20}\right)^3.$$

(4) A class has 15 boys and 20 girls. 10 theater tickets are distributed at random.

(a) Find the probability that girls have exactly 6 tickets;

(b) Amanda's lunch mates are Barbara, Cindy, Dalia and Elena. Find the conditional probability that Amanda's table gets exactly 2 tickets given that girls got exactly 6 tickets.

Solution. (a) From the formula for hypergeometric distribution we see that the answer is

$$\frac{\binom{15}{4} \binom{20}{6}}{\binom{35}{10}}.$$

(b) Given that the girls get 6 tickets the number of tickets obtained by Amanda's table is hypergeometric with parameters (20, 5, 6). So the answer is

$$\frac{\binom{5}{2} \binom{15}{4}}{\binom{20}{6}}.$$

(5) A number of misprints on a page has Poisson distribution with parameter $\frac{1}{2}$.

(a) Find the probability that exactly three of the next 10 pages will have at least two misprints.

(b) Let X be the first page which has a misprint. Find EX and VX .

Solution. (a) The probability that a page has no misprints is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{e}}$, the probability that a page has one misprint is $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{e}}$, therefore

the probability that a page has two or more misprints is $1 - \frac{3}{2\sqrt{e}}$. Using the formula for binomial distribution we see that the answer is

$$\binom{10}{3} \left(\frac{3}{2\sqrt{e}}\right)^7 \left(1 - \frac{3}{2\sqrt{e}}\right)^3.$$

(b) X has geometric distribution with parameter $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{e}}$. Accordingly

$$EX = \sqrt{e}, \quad VX = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{e}}\right)(\sqrt{e})^2 = e - \sqrt{e}.$$

(6) Let X_1 have density equal to c_1x^3 on $[0, 1]$ and zero elsewhere and X_2 have density equal to c_2x^{10} on $[0, 2]$ and zero elsewhere.

(a) Compute c_1 and c_2 ;

(b) Which of the two random variables above has a smaller variance?

Solution. (a) We have

$$c_1 = \left(\int_0^1 x^3 dx\right)^{-1} = 4, \quad c_2 = \left(\int_0^2 x^{10} dx\right)^{-1} = \frac{11}{2^{11}}.$$

(b) We have

$$EX_1 = \int_0^1 4x^3 dx = \frac{4}{5}, \quad E(X_1^2) = \int_0^1 4x^5 dx = \frac{2}{3}.$$

Hence

$$VX_1 = \frac{2}{3} - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 \approx 0.0267.$$

On the other hand

$$EX_2 = \frac{11}{2^{11}} \int_0^2 x^{11} dx = \frac{2^{12}}{12} \frac{11}{2^{11}} = \frac{11}{6}, \quad E(X_2^2) = \frac{11}{2^{11}} \int_0^2 x^{12} dx = \frac{2^{13}}{13} \frac{11}{2^{11}} = \frac{44}{13}.$$

Hence

$$VX_2 = \frac{44}{13} - \left(\frac{11}{6}\right)^2 = \frac{11}{468} \approx 0.0235.$$

Thus $VX_2 < VX_1$.

(7) The lifetime of a light bulb (measured in days) has exponential distribution with parameter $1/100$.

(a) Find the distribution of the lifetime measured in hours;

(b) If the bulb is installed on a Wednesday at noon, find the probability that it will burn out on a Monday.

Solution. (a) Let X be the lifetime in days and Y be the lifetime in hours. Then $Y = 24X$ hence $Y \sim \text{Exp}\left(\frac{1}{100} \frac{1}{24}\right) = \text{Exp}\left(\frac{1}{2400}\right)$.

(b) Considering each Monday separately we get

$$P(\text{Burn out on Monday}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(4.5 + 7k \leq X \leq 5.5 + 7k) =$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [e^{-0.045-0.07k} - e^{-0.045-0.07(k+1)}] = \frac{e^{-0.045} - e^{-0.055}}{1 - e^{-0.07}}.$$

(8) The amount of sales at a department store on a given day has normal distribution with mean 30000 and standard deviation 3000. Find the probability that the store sold

- (a) more than 31000 worth of goods;
 (b) between 28000 and 32000 worth of goods.

Solution. Let X be the amount of sales. Then $X = 30000 + 3000Z$ where Z is the standard normal random variable. Thus

$$(a) \quad P(X > 31000) = P(Z > \frac{1}{3}) = 1 - P(Z < \frac{1}{3}) \approx 0.37,$$

$$(b) \quad P(2800 < X < 3200) = P(-\frac{2}{3} < Z < \frac{2}{3}) =$$

$$P(Z < \frac{2}{3}) - P(Z < -\frac{2}{3}) = 2P(Z < \frac{2}{3}) - 1 \approx 0.50.$$

(9) Let X_1 and X_2 be independent each having density equal to $2x$ if $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and equal to 0 otherwise.

- (a) Find $P(X_1 > 2X_2)$.
 (b) Find the distribution of $X_1 + X_2$.

Solution.

$$(a) \quad P(X_1 > 2X_2) = \int_0^1 2x_1 \left(\int_0^{x_1/2} 2x_2 dx_2 \right) dx_1 = \int_0^1 2x_1 \frac{x_1^2}{4} dx_1 = \int_0^1 \frac{x_1^3}{2} dx_1 = \frac{1}{8}.$$

(b) The possible values of Z are from 0 to 2. We consider two cases. (I) $0 \leq z \leq 1$:

$$f(z) = \int_0^z 2x2(z-x)dx = 4 \int_0^z (xz - x^2)dx = 4 \left(\frac{z^2}{2} - \frac{z^2}{3} \right) = \frac{2z^2}{3}.$$

(II) $1 \leq z \leq 2$.

$$f(z) = \int_{z-1}^1 2x2(z-x)dx = 4 \int_{z-1}^1 (zx - x^2)dx = 4 \left[\frac{z(1 - (z-1)^2)}{2} - \frac{1 - (z-1)^3}{3} \right]$$

$$4 \left[\frac{2z^2 - z^3}{2} - \frac{2 - 3z + 3z^2 - z^3}{3} \right] = \frac{2}{3} [6z^2 - 3z^3 - 4 + 6z - 6z^2 + 2z^3]$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} [-4 + 6z - z^3] = \frac{-8 + 12z - 2z^3}{3}.$$

(10) Let $X_1, X_2 \dots X_n$ be independent each having density equal to $2x$ if $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and equal to 0 otherwise.

(a) Let N be the first time $X_N > \frac{2}{3}$. Find EX and VX .

(b) Let $n = 5$ and let $X_{(1)} > X_{(2)} > X_{(3)} > X_{(4)} > X_{(5)}$ be the corresponding order statistics. Find $P(X_{(3)} > X_{(4)} + 0.1)$.

Solution. (a) $P(X > \frac{2}{3}) = 1 - \frac{4}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$. Thus $X \sim \text{Geom}(\frac{5}{9})$. Accordingly

$$EX = \frac{9}{5}, \quad VX = \frac{\frac{4}{9}}{(\frac{5}{9})^2} = \frac{36}{25}.$$

(b) The joint density of $X_{(3)}$ and $X_{(4)}$ equals to $240(1-x_3^2)^2 x_3 x_4^3$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{(3)} > X_{(4)} + 0.1) &= 240 \int_{0.1}^1 (x_3 - 2x_3^3 + x_3^5) \left(\int_0^{x_3-0.1} x_4^3 dx_4 \right) dx_3 \\ &= 60 \int_{0.1}^1 (x_3 - 2x_3^3 + x_3^5) (x_3 - 0.1)^4 dx_3 \\ &= 60 \int_{0.1}^1 (x - 2x^3 + x^5) (0.0001 - 0.004x + 0.06x^2 - 0.4x^3 + x^4) dx \\ &= 60 \int_{0.1}^1 (0.0001x - 0.004x^2 + 0.0598x^3 - 0.392x^4 + 1.0001x^5 + 0.796x^6 - 1.94x^7 - 0.4x^8 + x^9) dx \\ &= 60 \left(\frac{0.0001[1 - (0.1)^2]}{2} - \frac{0.004[1 - (0.1)^3]}{3} + \frac{0.0598[1 - (0.1)^4]}{4} - \frac{0.392[1 - (0.1)^5]}{5} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1.0001[1 - (0.1)^6]}{6} + \frac{0.796[1 - (0.1)^7]}{7} - \frac{1.94[1 - (0.1)^8]}{8} - \frac{0.4[1 - (0.1)^9]}{9} + \frac{1 - (0.1)^{10}}{10} \right). \end{aligned}$$

(11) Let (X, Y) have density $x + y$ if $0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1$ and equal to zero otherwise.

(a) Find the marginal distribution of X .

(b) Are X and Y independent?

(c) Find the distribution of $Z = X/Y$. **Solution.**

$$(a) \quad f_X(x) = \int_0^1 (x + y) dy = x + \frac{1}{2}.$$

(b) Similarly to (a) we have $f_Y(y) = y + \frac{1}{2}$. Since $(x + \frac{1}{2})(y + \frac{1}{2}) \neq x + y$ X and Y are **NOT** independent. (c) We consider two cases. (I) $z < 1$. Then

$$P(Z > z) = \int_0^z \left(\int_{x/z}^1 (x + y) dy \right) dx = \frac{z}{3} + \frac{z^2}{6}.$$

Hence $P(Z \leq z) = 1 - \frac{z}{3} - \frac{z^2}{6}$.

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(II) $z > 1$. Then $P(Z \leq z) = P(Y/X > \frac{1}{z})$. By symmetry

$$P(Y/X > \frac{1}{z}) = \frac{1/z}{3} + \frac{(1/z)^2}{6} = \frac{1}{3z} + \frac{1}{6z^2}.$$