

Quiz 3 (Friday June 7th)

AndrewID:

Name:

Total: 120 points. Full score: 100 points.

1. (20 pts) Let $Y \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ for $\alpha, \beta > 0$, and $X = Y + 10$. Compute $P(X \leq 11)$.
2. (20 pts) Let the r.v. X have pmf conditional on the .r.v $Y = y > 0$,

$$p_{X|Y=y}(x) = \frac{y^x e^{-y}}{x!} \text{ for } x = 0, 1 \dots$$

Compute $E[X|Y = y]$.

3. (20 pts) Let X_1, X_2 be two independent r.v.'s with pdf

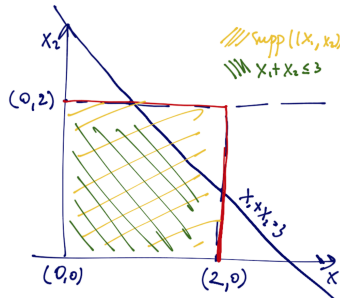
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_{[0,2]}(x).$$

Compute $P(X_1 + X_2 \leq 3)$.

Solution: thanks to one of you, I found out that my “no-math” solution was actually wrong! For this reason, I include here the way you could have solved this problem.

Solution 1:

If you draw the support the solution is straightforward. Indeed, the function is constant on the support. It follows that the area of the



support is $2 \cdot 2 = 4$, and the region that we are interested in has area $7/2$. Consequently

$$P(X_1 + X_2 \leq 3) = 1 - P(X_1 + X_2 > 3) = 1 - \frac{4 - 3.5}{4} = \frac{7}{8}.$$

Solution 2:

Let $Y = X_1 + X_2$. Let's make this problem more general. ¹We need to compute $F_Y(y)$. For $y \leq 0$ we already know that $F_Y(y) = 0$, and for $y > 4$ we know that $F_Y(y) = 1$. Therefore, for some $y \in [0, 4]$,

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= E_Y[\mathbb{1}(Y \leq y)] \\ &= E_{X_1, X_2}[\mathbb{1}(X_1 + X_2 \leq y)] \\ &= E_{X_1}[E_{X_2}[\mathbb{1}(X_1 + X_2 \leq y)|X_1]] \\ &= \int_0^2 E_{X_2}[\mathbb{1}(X_1 + X_2 \leq y)|X_1 = x_1] \frac{1}{2} dx_1 \\ &= \int_0^2 \int_0^2 \mathbb{1}(x_1 + x_2 \leq y) \frac{1}{4} dx_2 dx_1 \end{aligned}$$

Now you need to be careful with the extrema of the integral.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^2 \int_0^2 \mathbb{1}(x_2 \leq y - x_1) dx_2 dx_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^2 \int_0^2 \mathbb{1}(x_2 \leq y - x_1) [\mathbb{1}(y < 2) + \mathbb{1}(y \geq 2)] dx_2 dx_1 \end{aligned}$$

Now, separate the integrals by linearity. Let's start with the second integrals.

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y \geq 2) \int_0^2 \int_0^{\min\{y-x_1, 2\}} dx_2 dx_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y \geq 2) \int_0^2 [(y - x_1) \mathbb{1}(x_1 \geq y - 2) + 2 \mathbb{1}(x_1 < y - 2)] dx_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y \geq 2) \left[\int_{y-2}^2 (y - x_1) dx_1 + 2 \int_0^{y-2} dx_1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y \geq 2) \left[-\frac{y^2}{2} + 4y - 4 \right] \end{aligned}$$

¹For the quiz this was not required.

For instance, now we have

$$F_Y(3) = \frac{1}{4} \left(-\frac{9}{2} + 12 - 4 \right) = \frac{7}{8}, \text{ and } F_Y(4) = 1.$$

For the first integral, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y < 2) \int_0^y \int_0^{y-x_1} dx_2 dx_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y < 2) \int_0^y (y - x_1) dx_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(y < 2) \frac{y^2}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

For instance, $P(X_1 + X_2 \leq 1) = 1/8$. Clearly, $P(X_1 + X_2 \leq 0) = 0$.

Finally, we can rewrite the cdf as

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < 0 \\ \frac{y^2}{8} & \text{if } 0 \leq y \leq 2 \\ \frac{1}{4} \left[-\frac{y^2}{2} + 4y - 4 \right] & \text{if } 2 < y \leq 4 \\ 1 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

4. (20 pts) Let $X_1 \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$. Compute $E[X_2]$ where $X_2 \sim \text{Bernoulli}(X_1)$.
5. (20 pts) Let X, Y be two r.v.'s such that $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$. Moreover, $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$. Compute $V(X - Y)$.
6. (20 pts) Let the joint distribution of (X, Y) be

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = c \mathbb{1}(2 \leq x \leq 10, 3 \leq y \leq 6y)$$

for some normalizing constant c . Compute $f_X(x)$.