

- 1) A continuous random quantity X is known to be normally distributed with a population mean $\mu = 20.4$ and a population variance $\sigma^2 = 25.1$.
- (a) Evaluate $P[X \leq 15.0]$. [3]
- (b) A random sample of size 4 is taken from this population. \bar{X} is the sample mean. Evaluate $P[\bar{X} \leq 15.0]$. [5]

Note: You do **not** need to use linear interpolation in this question.
Quote your answers correct to only two significant figures.

(a) $X \sim N(20.4, 25.1)$

$$P[X \leq 15.0] = P\left[Z \leq \frac{15.0 - 20.4}{\sqrt{25.1}}\right] \approx \Phi(-1.08) = .14007 \quad (\text{from the supplied tables})$$

Therefore, correct to two significant figures,

$$P[X \leq 15.0] = .14$$

(b) By the Central Limit Theorem, $\bar{X} \sim N\left(20.4, \frac{25.1}{4}\right) = N(20.4, 6.275)$

$$P[\bar{X} \leq 15.0] = P\left[Z \leq \frac{15.0 - 20.4}{\sqrt{6.275}}\right] \approx \Phi(-2.16) = .01539 \quad (\text{from the supplied tables})$$

Therefore, correct to two significant figures,

$$P[\bar{X} \leq 15.0] = .015$$

[although .016 is actually more accurate.]

- 2) The joint probability mass function $p(x, y)$ for random quantities X, Y is defined by the table:

		Y		
		-1	0	1
X	-1	.20	.15	.15
	0	.15	.14	.11
	1	.05	.01	.04

- (a) Find the covariance $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$. [8]
 (b) Are the random quantities X, Y independent? Why or why not? [4]

- (a) Extending the table,

		Y			$p_X(x)$
		-1	0	1	
X	-1	.20	.15	.15	.50
	0	.15	.14	.11	.40
	1	.05	.01	.04	.10
$p_Y(y)$.40	.30	.30	1

$$E[X] = -1 \times .5 + 0 \times .4 + 1 \times .1 = -.5 + 0 + .1 = -.4$$

$$E[Y] = -1 \times .4 + 0 \times .3 + 1 \times .3 = -.4 + 0 + .3 = -.1$$

$$E[XY] = -1 \times -1 \times .20 + 0 + -1 \times 1 \times .15 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 \times -1 \times .05 + 0 + 1 \times 1 \times .15 \\ = .20 - .15 - .05 + .04 = 0.04$$

$$\text{Cov}[X, Y] = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = 0.04 - (-0.4) \times (-0.1) = 0.04 - 0.04 \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\text{Cov}[X, Y] = 0}$$

- (b) Zero covariance does *not* imply independence.

One must test $p(x, y) = p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(y) \quad \forall (x, y)$.

The test actually passes for the entire top row $\{(-1, -1), (-1, 0), (-1, 1)\}$!

However it fails for the remaining six entries, for example

$$p_X(0) \cdot p_Y(-1) = .4 \times .4 = .16 \neq p(0, -1) \Rightarrow$$

NO : X, Y are not independent.

- 3) A box contains twelve (12) gear wheels, of which three (3) are protected with a rust-proofing treatment and the other nine (9) are not protected. A random sample of two (2) gear wheels is drawn, both at once, from the box. Let the random quantity X represent the number of gear wheels in the random sample that are protected.
- (a) Show why the probability mass function (p.m.f.) for X is *not* binomial. [2]
- (b) Find $P[X = 3]$. [2]
- (c) Find the exact probability mass function $p(x)$ for X . [10]
- (d) If the sample were drawn with replacement, then would the p.m.f. for X be binomial? Why or why not? [2]

- (a) Let $S_n =$ success (protected gear wheel) in trial n .

$$P[S_1] = P[S_2] = \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$$

$$P[S_2 | S_1] = \frac{2}{11} = 0.18 \neq P[S_2]$$

Therefore the third condition for a binomial p.m.f., (independence of trials) is false.

The dependence is strong enough that the binomial p.m.f. is not even a good approximation to the exact p.m.f. (which is hypergeometric).

OR

The independence condition fails because the sample is drawn without replacement from a small population.

- (b) Sample size $n = 2 \Rightarrow X > 2$ is absolutely impossible. Therefore

$$P[X = 3] = 0$$

- (c) In order to obtain x successes in the sample, we must draw x successes from the 3 successes available in the population **and** we must draw $(2 - x)$ failures from the 9 failures available in the population. Therefore the exact p.m.f. is

$$P[X = x] = \frac{{}^3C_x \cdot {}^9C_{2-x}}{{}^{12}C_2}$$

The individual values are

$$P[X = 0] = \frac{{}^3C_0 \cdot {}^9C_2}{{}^{12}C_2} = 1 \times \frac{9 \times 8}{2 \times 1} \times \frac{2 \times 1}{12 \times 11} = \frac{6}{11}$$

$$P[X = 1] = \frac{{}^3C_1 \cdot {}^9C_1}{{}^{12}C_2} = 3 \times 9 \times \frac{2 \times 1}{12 \times 11} = \frac{9}{22}$$

$$P[X = 2] = \frac{{}^3C_2 \cdot {}^9C_0}{{}^{12}C_2} = 3 \times 1 \times \frac{2 \times 1}{12 \times 11} = \frac{1}{22}$$

- 3 (d) If the sampling were with replacement, then

$P[S_2 | S_1] = \frac{3}{12} = P[S_2]$ so that trials would be independent.

The other three conditions for a binomial p.m.f. also hold:

each trial consists of a pair of complementary outcomes (protected or not);

probability of success is constant across trials, $P[S_1] = P[S_2] = \frac{3}{12}$;

the number of trials is fixed, $n = 2$.

Therefore **YES** the p.m.f. would be binomial (exactly).

4) A function $f(x)$ of a continuous variable x is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 105(x^4 - 2x^5 + x^6) & (0 < x < 1) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

(a) Show that $f(x)$ is a well-defined probability density function (p.d.f.). [2]

(b) Find the cumulative distribution function (c.d.f.) $F(x)$ for this p.d.f. [8]

(c) Hence evaluate $P\left[X > \frac{1}{2}\right]$ exactly. Leave your answer as a fraction. [4]

BONUS QUESTION:

(d) Find the population mean μ as a fraction reduced to its lowest terms. [+3]

(a) $105(x^4 - 2x^5 + x^6) = 105x^4(1-x)^2 > 0$ for $0 < x < 1$.

$f(x) = 0$ everywhere else. Therefore $f(x) \geq 0$ for all x .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx &= \int_0^1 105(x^4 - 2x^5 + x^6) dx = \left[105 \left(\frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^6}{3} + \frac{x^7}{7} \right) \right]_0^1 \\ &= 105 \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} - 0 \right) = 21 - 35 + 15 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $f(x)$ is a well-defined probability density function.

(b) $F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt$

Clearly $F(x) = 0$ for all $x < 0$ and $F(x) = 1$ for all $x > 1$. For $0 \leq x \leq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \int_0^x 105(t^4 - 2t^5 + t^6) dt = \left[105 \left(\frac{t^5}{5} - \frac{t^6}{3} + \frac{t^7}{7} \right) \right]_0^x \\ &= 105 \left(\frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^6}{3} + \frac{x^7}{7} - 0 \right) = x^5 (21 - 35x + 15x^2) \end{aligned}$$

4 (b) (continued)

Therefore the c.d.f. is

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (x < 0) \\ x^5(21 - 35x + 15x^2) & (0 \leq x \leq 1) \\ 1 & (x > 1) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad P\left[X > \frac{1}{2}\right] &= 1 - P\left[X \leq \frac{1}{2}\right] = 1 - F\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 \left(21 - 35\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 15\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2\right) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7 (128 - (21 \times 4 - 35 \times 2 + 15)) \\ &= \frac{128 - (84 - 70 + 15)}{128} = \frac{128 - 29}{128} \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$P\left[X > \frac{1}{2}\right] = \frac{99}{128}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(d)} \quad \mu = E[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^1 105(x^5 - 2x^6 + x^7) dx = \left[105\left(\frac{x^6}{6} - \frac{2x^7}{7} + \frac{x^8}{8}\right) \right]_0^1 \\ &= \left[\frac{35x^6}{2} - 30x^7 + \frac{105x^8}{8} \right]_0^1 = \frac{140 - 240 + 105 - 0}{8} \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\mu = \frac{5}{8}$$

[Return to the index of solutions](#)