

7.2 Expectation Problems

Review

Ex 1 The probability distribution function of a discrete random variable X is given by

$$P(X = x) = \frac{1}{k}x^2, x \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

- Find k
- Find $P(X \leq 2)$
- Find $P(X = 3|X > 2)$
- Find the mode of the distribution
- Find the expected value

Ex 2 Consider the random variable Y, such that Y is obtained by increasing the values of the random variable X by a constant 3.

- Write down an expression for Y in terms of X and 3.
- Copy and complete the table

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| x | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| y | | | | | |
| P | 1/6 | 1/4 | 5/24 | 1/8 | 1/4 |

- Find $E(X)$
- Find $E(Y)$
- Hence, find an expression for $E(X+c)$, where c is constant

Ex 3 A game is developed such that a die is thrown and the banker pays out three times the value in dollars for the score on the die.

- Construct a probability table
- How much would you pay to make this a fair game?
- Generalize about $E(aX)$
- Generalize about $E(aX+b)$

Variance: a measure that describes the spread of the data. It is the square of the standard deviation. $Var(x) = \sigma^2$. $Var(x) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$

Ex 4 Two discs are drawn without replacement from a box containing four blue discs and three red discs. If X is discrete random variable “the number of blue discs drawn”

- Construct a probability distribution table
- Find $E(X)$
- Find $E(X^2)$
- Find $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$
- Find the standard deviation.

The random variable X has mean 8.1 and standard deviation 2.37. If $Y=4X-7$, find the mean and standard deviation of Y

- $E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b$
- $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$
- $\sigma(aX + b) = |a| \sigma(X)$

p.747#4,5

p.754#5,6

p.756#4,6