

**Question 1.** (10 pts.) An IRS agent receives a batch of 15 tax returns that were flagged by computer for possible tax evasions. Suppose, unknown to the agent, 3 of these returns have illegal deductions and the other 12 are in good standing. If the agent randomly selects 4 of these returns for audit, what is the probability that:

a) All three of the returns that have illegal deductions are selected?

b) At least 2 have illegal deductions?

$$\text{a) } P(\text{all three returns with illegal deductions are selected}) = \frac{\binom{3}{3} \binom{12}{1}}{\binom{15}{4}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } P(\text{at least 2 have illegal deductions}) &= P(\text{exactly 2 have illegal deduction}) \\ &\quad + P(\text{exactly 3 have illegal deductions}) \\ &= \frac{\binom{3}{2} \binom{12}{2}}{\binom{15}{4}} + \frac{\binom{3}{3} \binom{12}{1}}{\binom{15}{4}} \end{aligned}$$

**Question 2.** (10 pts.) On a Monday afternoon, 167 customers will be observed during check-out and the number paying by card will be recorded. Records from the store suggest that 58% of customers pay by card. Approximate the following probabilities using the normal approximation to the binomial. Remember to use continuity correction.

- a) Fewer than 101 will pay by card.  
 b) Between 88 and 100 (inclusive) will pay by card.

$X$  denotes the r.v. which is the number of persons paying by card

$$X \sim \text{bin}(167, 0.58)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } P(X < 101) &= P(X \leq 100) \\ &\approx P\left(\frac{X - 0.58 \times 167}{\sqrt{0.58 \times 0.42 \times 167}} \leq \frac{100.5 - 0.58 \times 167}{\sqrt{0.58 \times 0.42 \times 167}}\right) \\ &= \Phi(0.5707) = 0.7159 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } P(88 \leq X \leq 100) &\approx P\left(\frac{88 - 0.5 - 0.58 \times 167}{\sqrt{0.58 \times 0.42 \times 167}} \leq \frac{X - 0.58 \times 167}{\sqrt{0.58 \times 0.42 \times 167}} \leq \frac{100.5 - 0.58 \times 167}{\sqrt{0.58 \times 0.42 \times 167}}\right) \\ &= \Phi(0.5707) - \Phi(-1.4675) \\ &= 0.6448 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 3.** (10 pts.) Four equally qualified undergraduate students apply for jobs at the university bookstore.

| Student | Sex | Year      |
|---------|-----|-----------|
| 1       | M   | Junior    |
| 2       | M   | Junior    |
| 3       | F   | Sophomore |
| 4       | M   | Sophomore |

Two students will be chosen at random to receive jobs. Let

$A$  = [Selected students are of the same sex]

$B$  = [Selected students are of the same year]

a) Find the probability of  $A \cup B$ . (Hint: List all possible outcomes. Then draw a Venn diagram.)

b) Are  $A$  and  $B$  independent? Explain why or why not.

c) Find the probability of  $\bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$ . ( $\bar{A}$  is the complement of  $A$ )

a) All possible outcomes  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{~~(1,2)~~ (1,2), (1,3), (1,4),} \\ (2,3), (2,4), (3,4) \end{array} \right\}$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

$$= \frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$b) \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{6}, \quad P(A) \cdot P(B) = \frac{3 \cdot 2}{6 \cdot 6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$A$  and  $B$  are independent.

$$c) \quad P(A^c \cap B^c) = 1 - P(A \cup B)$$

$$= P((A \cup B)^c) = 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

**Question 4.** (20 pts) A fair die is tossed and its outcome is denoted by  $X$ . After that  $X$  independent fair coins are tossed and the number of heads obtained is denoted by  $Y$ . Compute

a)  $P(Y=4)$

b)  $P(X=5 | Y=4)$

c)  $E(Y)$

d)  $E(XY)$

a) For  $k=1, 2, \dots, 6$ , conditionally on  $X=k$ ,  $Y$  has the binomial distribution with parameters  $k$  and  $1/2$ . So

$$P(Y=i | X=k) = \begin{cases} \binom{k}{i} 2^{-k}, & 0 \leq i \leq k \\ 0, & i > k \end{cases}$$

So by law of total probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y=4) &= \sum_{k=1}^6 P[Y=4 | X=k] P(X=k) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left( 2^{-4} + \binom{5}{4} 2^{-5} + \binom{6}{4} 2^{-6} \right) = \frac{29}{384} \end{aligned}$$

b) By Bayes' formula,

$$\begin{aligned} P(X=5 | Y=4) &= \frac{P(Y=4 | X=5) \cdot P(X=5)}{P(Y=4)} \\ &= \frac{10}{29} \end{aligned}$$

c) Since  $E(Y | X=k) = \frac{k}{2}$  (expectation of binomial with  $n=k$  and  $p=1/2$ )

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= E(E(Y | X)) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^6 E(Y | X=k) P(X=k) = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{k=1}^6 \frac{k}{2} = \frac{7}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d) E(XY) &= E(E(XY | X)) = \sum_{k=1}^6 E(kY | X=k) P(X=k) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \sum_{k=1}^6 k \cdot E(Y | X=k) = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{k=1}^6 k \cdot \frac{k}{2} = \frac{91}{12} \end{aligned}$$

**Question 5.** (10 pts) There are 10 balls in an urn numbered 1 through 10. You randomly select 3 of those balls. Let the random variable  $Y$  denote the maximum of the three numbers on the extracted balls. Find the probability mass function of  $Y$ . You should simplify your answer to a fraction that does not involve binomial coefficients. Then calculate  $P[Y \geq 7]$ .

The random variable  $Y$  can take values in the set  $\{3, 4, \dots, 10\}$ . For any  $i$ , the triplet resulting in  $Y$  attaining the value  $i$  must consist of the ball numbered  $i$  and a pair of balls with lower numbers.

$$\text{So } P(Y=i) = \frac{\binom{i-1}{2}}{\binom{10}{3}} = \frac{\frac{(i-1)(i-2)}{2}}{\frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}$$

$$\frac{(i-1)(i-2)}{240}$$

$$i \geq 3$$

$$i \leq 10$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } P(Y \geq 7) &= \frac{6 \cdot 5}{240} + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{240} + \frac{8 \cdot 7}{240} + \frac{9 \cdot 8}{240} \\ &= \frac{1}{240} (30 + 42 + 56 + 72) \\ &= \frac{200}{240} = \frac{5}{6} \end{aligned}$$

**Question 6.** (20 pts) The bid that a competitor makes on a real estate property is estimated to be somewhere between 0 and 3 million dollars. Specifically, the bid  $X$  is viewed to be a continuous random variable with density function.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} c(9 - x^2), & 0 < x < 3 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

You make a bid (without knowing the competitors bid). The higher of the two bids win.

- Find the value of  $c$  that makes  $f(x)$  a legitimate density function?
- Find the cumulative distribution function,  $F(x)$ . Use the cumulative distribution to determine the probability that you lose the bid if you make a bid of 2 million? 1 million?
- Find the expected value and standard deviation for the competitors bid. What is the probability that the competitors bid is within one standard deviation of the mean?
- How much should you bid so that you have a 90% chance of winning?

$$a) \quad c \int_0^3 (9 - x^2) dx = 1 \Rightarrow c \left[ 9x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^3 = 1 \Rightarrow c [27 - 9] = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{18}$$

$$b) \quad F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x) dx = \int_0^x \frac{9-t^2}{18} dt = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{54} \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 3$$

$$f(x) = 0 \quad \text{for } x < 0 \text{ and } 1 \quad \text{for } x > 3$$

$$\text{Hence } P(X > 2) = 1 - F(2) = 1 - \left( \frac{2}{2} - \frac{8}{54} \right) = \frac{8}{54}$$

$$P(X > 1) = 1 - F(1) = 1 - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{54} \right) = \frac{28}{54}$$

$$c) \quad E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^3 x \cdot \frac{(9-x^2)}{18} dx = \left[ \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{x^4}{72} \right]_0^3$$

$$E(X^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^3 x^2 \frac{(9-x^2)}{18} dx = 1.8 = 9/8 = 1.125$$

$$V(X) = 1.8 - \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^2 = 0.534 \quad \text{Stand. dev.} = \sqrt{0.534}$$

finally 1 standard dev. of mean is  $1.125 - 0.731$  to  $0.731$

$$F(1.856) - F(0.394) = 0.8096 - 0.1959 = 0.6137 \quad \left[ 0.394, 1.856 \right]$$

d) We need to find  $x$  s.t  $F(x) = 9$  (just say this; no need to show)

Question 7. (20 pts) Which of the following statements are always true? Give brief reasons.

a)  $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$   $\rightarrow$  NOT ALWAYS TRUE (See example)

b)  $E(X+Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$   $\rightarrow$  ALWAYS TRUE

c)  $E\left(\frac{X}{Y}\right) = \frac{E(X)}{E(Y)}$   $\rightarrow$  NOT ALWAYS TRUE (see example)

a)  $X \sim \text{bern}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ ,  $Y = X+1$

$$\begin{aligned} E(XY) &= E(X^2) + E(X) \\ &= V(X) + E^2(X) + E(X) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$E(X+1) = \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3}{4}$$

c) ~~X~~  $Y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$

$$X = 1$$

$$E\left(\frac{X}{Y}\right) = E\left(\frac{1}{Y}\right) = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{E(X)}{E(Y)} = \frac{1}{1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{2}{3} = \frac{3}{4}$$