

Statistics and Data Analysis

Probability

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1. A lottery ticket costs \$10. Possible outcomes and their probabilities are: With probability 0.01, you win \$1000; with probability 0.05, you win \$100; with probability 0.1, you win \$10.
 - (a) Let X be the amount of money that you will win. What is the sample space of X ?
 - (b) Construct a table to represent the distribution of X .
 - (c) You have decided that you will buy the ticket if your expected earning is larger than the ticket price. Should you buy the ticket?

2. Let X be the number of people who visit a particular web page in the next hour.

(a) Suppose that the distribution of X is estimated to be

x	50	150	250	350	450	550	650
$\Pr(X = x)$	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.05

Find $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X]$, the expected number of next-hour visitors.

Note. The MS Excel sheet “Given X’s distribution” contains the distribution information.

(b) Find $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X)$, the variance of the next-hour visitors.

3. On a web page, there is a slot for display advertisement. Let X be the number of next-hour visitor to this page, whose distribution is

x	50	150	250	350	450	550	650
$\Pr(X = x)$	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.05

Suppose that the *click-through rate* (CTR) is 0.02, i.e., given any customer, the probability for her to click the advertisement is 2%. That CTR is identical for everyone.

- (a) Let Y be the number of customers who will click the advertisement. How would you find the distribution of Y ? Is it easy?
- (b) Find $\mathbb{E}[Y]$, the expected value of Y . How do you find it from $\mathbb{E}[X]$?

4. Consider a random variable X whose pdf is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{3}x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4 - \frac{8}{3}x & \text{if } 1 < x \leq \frac{3}{2} \end{cases}.$$

- (a) Draw the pdf. Does $f(1) = \frac{4}{3}$ mean $\Pr(X = 1) = \frac{4}{3}$?
- (b) Find $\Pr(X \leq \frac{1}{2})$.
- (c) Find $\Pr(X \geq 1)$.
- (d) Show $\Pr(X \leq \frac{3}{2}) = 1$. Is this a coincidence?

5. Let D be the daily demand of a certain product. It is typical to use a normal distribution to approximate the distribution of D . Let $D \sim \text{ND}(100, 20)$, i.e., D is normally distributed with mean 100 and standard deviation 20.

(a) Find $\Pr(D \leq 100)$ without using software.

(b) Find $\Pr(D \leq 90)$.

(In MS Excel: `NORM.DIST()`)

(c) Find $\Pr(D \leq 82)$.

(d) Find $\Pr(D \geq 96)$.

(e) Find $\Pr(110 \leq D \leq 130)$.

(f) Find $\Pr(D \leq 70) + \Pr(D \geq 130)$. Compare it with $2 \Pr(D \leq 70)$.

6. Let $D \sim \text{ND}(100, 20)$ be the daily demand of a certain product.
- (a) Find a value q_1 such that $\Pr(D \leq q_1) = 0.4$.
(In MS Excel: `NORM.INV()`)
 - (b) Find a value q_2 such that $\Pr(D \leq q_2) = 0.6$. Is $q_2 = 200 - q_1$?
Why or why not?
 - (c) Find an order quantity q that achieves 90% of service level for the next day, i.e., the probability to have no shortage in a day is 90%.
 - (d) For service levels 10%, 20%, ..., and 90%, find the corresponding order quantities. Plot them to illustrate how these quantities changes as the desired service level increases.

7. Let $X \sim \text{ND}(30, 5)$, $Y \sim \text{ND}(10, 2)$, and $Z \sim \text{ND}(0, 1)$. Note that Z is a standard normal random variable.
- (a) Find $\Pr(X \leq 25)$, $\Pr(Y \leq 8)$, and $\Pr(Z \leq -1)$. Show that they are all the same.
- (b) In MS Excel, use **NORM.S.DIST()** to calculate $\Pr(Z \leq -1)$. Then use **NORM.S.INV()** to find z such that $\Pr(Z \leq z) = 0.16$.