



PSTAT 5A: Discussion Worksheet 04

Spring 2023, with Ethan P. Marzban

- In a particular textbook, it is found that each page contains a typo with probability 10%, independently across pages. Suppose 120 pages are selected (assume selection is done with replacement), and the number of pages that have typos is recorded.
 - Define the random variable of interest, and call it X .
 - Does X follow the Binomial distribution? If so, state its parameters.
 - What is the probability that the textbook contains exactly 17 pages with typos?
 - What is the probability that the textbook contains between 16 and 18 (inclusive on both ends) pages with typos?
 - What is the expected number of pages in the textbook that contain typos?
 - What is the variance of the number of pages in the textbook that contain typos?

- Consider the following game: a fair six-sided die is rolled. If the number showing is 1 or 2, you win a dollar; if the number showing is 3, 4, or 5 you win 2 dollars; if the number showing is 6, you lose 1 dollar. Let W denote your net winnings after playing this game once.
 - Write down the state space S_W of W .
 - Find the p.m.f. of W .
 - What are your expected winnings after one round of the game?

- Let X be a random variable with the following p.m.f. (probability mass function):

k	-3	-2	0.5	3	4
$\mathbb{P}(X = k)$	0.12	0.08	0.43	a	0.27

- Find the value of a .
- Compute $\mathbb{P}(X = 1)$.
- Compute $\mathbb{P}(X \leq 0.5)$.
- Compute $\mathbb{P}(X \leq 1)$.
- Compute $\mathbb{E}[X]$.
- Compute $\text{SD}(X)$.

Name: _____

Date: _____

4. (**The Geometric Distribution**) Consider the following situation: suppose we toss a p -coin repeatedly, and we let X denote the number of tosses (including our final toss) until we observe our first heads. So, for example, the outcome

(T, T, T, H)

would correspond to a value of $X = 4$. If we assume independence across trials, then X is said to follow the **Geometric Distribution with parameter p** , notated $X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$.

- (a) What is the state space of X ? **Hint:** is there an upper limit to the values X can attain? What about a lower limit?
- (b) The event $\{X = k\}$ means “we observed our first heads on the k^{th} toss”. Find $\mathbb{P}(X = k)$.
- (c) It turns out that $\mathbb{E}[X] = 1/p$. If we toss a fair coin, what is the expected number of tosses (including the final toss) needed to observe our first heads?

