

Problem Set 2: Solutions

1. (a) There are 36 possible outcomes, of which 3 sum to 10 (4-6, 5-5 and 6-4). So the marginal probability of the two numbers summing to 10 is $3/36=1/12$.

(b) The joint probability of at least one 6 and the numbers summing to 10 is $2/36$. So the conditional probability is $(2/36) \div (3/36) = 2/3$.

(c) The expectation is $(4 \cdot 1/3) + (5 \cdot 1/3) + (6 \cdot 1/3) = 5$.

(d) The expectation is 4.5.

The variance is $((3-4.5)^2 \cdot 1/4) + ((4-4.5)^2 \cdot 1/4) + ((5-4.5)^2 \cdot 1/4) + ((6-4.5)^2 \cdot 1/3) = 5/4$.

$$2. P(Y \geq \varepsilon) = P(\log(X) \geq \varepsilon) = P(X \geq \exp(\varepsilon)) = 1 - P(X \leq \exp(\varepsilon)) \\ = 1 - (\exp(\varepsilon) - 1) = 2 - \exp(\varepsilon)$$

$$\text{From Chebychev's inequality } P(Y \geq \varepsilon) = P(\log(X) \geq \varepsilon) = P(X \geq \exp(\varepsilon)) \leq \frac{E(X)}{\exp(\varepsilon)} = \frac{1.5}{\exp(\varepsilon)}$$

so $P(Y \geq \varepsilon) \leq \frac{1.5}{\exp(\varepsilon)}$. Note that this bound is no use at all if $\varepsilon < \log(1.5) = 0.4055$ because it only tells us that $P(Y \geq \varepsilon)$ is less than or equal to a number that is bigger than 1! True..but not much help.

3. The cdf is $F(x) = 1 - e^{-x/\lambda}$. So $P(X > 1) = 1 - (1 - e^{-1/\lambda}) = e^{-1/\lambda}$ and the density of X conditional on $X > 1$ is $\frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} \div e^{-1/\lambda} = \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{(1-x)/\lambda}$.

$$\text{Hence } E(X | X > 1) = \int_1^{\infty} x \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{(1-x)/\lambda} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_1^{\infty} x e^{(1-x)/\lambda} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda} \{ [-\lambda x e^{(1-x)/\lambda}]_1^{\infty} - \int_1^{\infty} [-\lambda e^{(1-x)/\lambda}] dx \}$$

$$\therefore E(X | X > 1) = \int_1^{\infty} e^{(1-x)/\lambda} dx - [x e^{(1-x)/\lambda}]_1^{\infty} = [-\lambda e^{(1-x)/\lambda}]_1^{\infty} - [x e^{(1-x)/\lambda}]_1^{\infty} = \lambda + 1$$

4. The moment generating function of X is

$$m_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{tx} \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} e^{(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})x} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left[\frac{e^{(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})x}}{t-\frac{1}{\lambda}} \right]_0^{\infty} = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \frac{1}{t-\frac{1}{\lambda}} = -\frac{1}{t\lambda-1} = \frac{1}{1-t\lambda}$$

Similarly the moment generating function of Y is $\frac{1}{1-t\lambda}$. Hence the moment generating

function of X+Y is $\frac{1}{(1-t\lambda)^2}$.

The moment generating function of the random variable with the pdf $\frac{ze^{-z/\lambda}}{\lambda^2}$ is

$$\begin{aligned}
m_Z(t) &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\lambda^2} z e^{-z/\lambda} e^{zt} dz = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \int_0^\infty z e^{z(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})} dz = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \left\{ \left[-\frac{z}{t-\frac{1}{\lambda}} e^{z(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})} \right]_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{t-\frac{1}{\lambda}} e^{z(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})} dz \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \frac{1}{(t-\frac{1}{\lambda})^2} = \frac{1}{(t\lambda-1)^2} = \frac{1}{(1-t\lambda)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus $X+Y$ and Z have the same mgfs and hence the same densities.

$$5. (a) f_{X_1}(1.4 | v) = \frac{1}{2v} \Rightarrow f_{X_1}(1.4) = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{2v} dv = \frac{\log(2)}{2}.$$

By Bayes rule,

$$\begin{aligned}
f(v | X_1 = 1.4) &= \frac{\frac{1}{2v} * 1}{\log(2)/2} = \frac{1}{v \log(2)} \\
\therefore E(V | X_1 = 1.4) &= \int_1^2 v \frac{1}{v \log(2)} dv = \frac{1}{\log(2)}
\end{aligned}$$

$$(b) P(X_2 < 1.4 | v) = \frac{1.4}{2v}$$

$$f(X_1 = 1.4, X_2 < 1.4 | v) = f(X_1 = 1.4 | v) P(X_2 < 1.4 | v) = \frac{1}{2v} * \frac{1.4}{2v} = \frac{1.4}{4v^2}$$

The conditional density of V , by Bayes rule is

$$\frac{\frac{1.4}{4v^2} * 1}{\int_1^2 \frac{1.4}{4s^2} * 1 ds} = \frac{\frac{1.4}{4v^2}}{\int_1^2 \frac{1.4}{4s^2} ds}$$

$$\text{Hence } E(V | X_1 = 1.4, X_2 < 1.4) = \frac{\int_1^2 \frac{1.4}{4v} dv}{\int_1^2 \frac{1.4}{4v^2} dv} = \frac{\int_1^2 \frac{1}{v} dv}{\int_1^2 \frac{1}{v^2} dv} = \frac{[\log(v)]_1^2}{[-\frac{1}{v}]_1^2} = \frac{\log(2)}{-(-\frac{1}{2} - 1)} = \frac{\log(2)}{1/2} = 2\log(2)$$

(c) The question here was a little ill-posed. But I intended it to be assumed that contestant 1 will win if and only if $X_2 < 1.4$. The problem is that if $X_2 < 1.4$ then contestant 2 will bid the same as contestant 1 and so there will be a tie. Think of it as a tie-breaking rule that if they both submit the same bid, the one with the higher signal wins.

Contestant 1's bid is $1/\log(2)$. So if she wins, her expected profit is $2\log(2) - \frac{1}{\log(2)} = -0.0564$ which is a loss. The problem is that it isn't rational for contestant 1 to bid her expected value because it doesn't take account of the fact that she will only win if the other contestant has received a lower signal.

(d) The Matlab program is

```
rand('seed',123);  
n=20000000;  
v=rand(n,1)+1;  
x1=(2*rand(n,1)).*v;  
x2=(2*rand(n,1)).*v;  
s1=(abs(x1-1.4)<0.02);  
s2=(x2<1.4);  
sum(v.*s1)/sum(s1)           %First question  
sum(v.*s1.*s2)/sum(s1.*s2)  %Second question
```

The results are

1.4422

1.3854

which are very close to $\frac{1}{\log(2)}$ and $2\log(2)$, respectively. Effectively, you have simulated the answer to the question, because conditioning on X_1 being between 1.38 and 1.42 is almost the same thing as conditioning on it being exactly 1.4 (which however could not be done directly).