

1. Each box of a certain brand of cereal comes with a toy inside. If there are n possible toys and if the toys are distributed uniformly, how many boxes of cereal do you expect to buy until you get all of the toys?

- (a) Assume that you already have ℓ of the toys and let X_ℓ be the number of boxes until you get a new toy. Compute the expected value $E[X_\ell]$. [Hint: Think of each box of cereal as a coin flip with H = “new toy” and T = “old toy.” Thus X_ℓ is a geometric random variable. What is $P(H)$ in this case?]
- (b) Let X be the number of boxes you purchase until you get all n toys. Thus we have

$$X = X_0 + X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_{n-1}.$$

Use part (a) and linearity to compute the expected value $E[X]$.

- (c) Application: Suppose you continue to roll a fair 6-sided die until you see all six sides. How many rolls do you expect to make?

2. Let X be a random variable satisfying

$$E[X] = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad E[X^2] = 7.$$

Use this information to compute the following:

$$\text{Var}(X), \quad E[X + 3], \quad E[(X + 3)^2] \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}(X + 3).$$

3. Let X be a random variable with mean $E[X] = \mu$ and variance $\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2 \neq 0$. Compute the mean and variance of the random variable Y defined by

$$Y = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}.$$

4. Let U be the uniform random variable with pdf (probability density function) defined by

$$f_U(x) := \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (1) Compute the first two moments $\mu = E[U]$ and $E[U^2]$.
- (2) Compute the variance $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(U) = E[U^2] - E[U]^2$ and standard deviation σ .
- (3) Compute the probability $P(\mu - \sigma \leq U \leq \mu + \sigma)$.
- (4) Draw the graph of f_U , showing the interval $\mu \pm \sigma$ in your picture.

5. Let X be a continuous random variable with pdf defined as follows:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} c \cdot x^2 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Compute the value of the constant c . [Hint: The total probability is 1.]
- (b) Find the mean $\mu = E[X]$ and standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}$.
- (c) Compute the probability $P(\mu - \sigma \leq X \leq \mu + \sigma)$.
- (d) Draw the graph of f_X , showing the interval $\mu \pm \sigma$ in your picture.

6. Let Z be the standard normal random variable, with pdf defined as follows:

$$f_Z(x) = n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot e^{-x^2/2}.$$

Let $\Phi(z)$ be the associated cdf (cumulative density function), which is defined by

$$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z) = \int_{-\infty}^z n(x) dx.$$

Use the attached table to compute the following probabilities:

- (a) $P(0 < Z < 0.5)$,
- (b) $P(Z < -0.5)$,
- (c) $P(Z > 1)$, $P(Z > 2)$, $P(Z > 3)$.
- (d) $P(|Z| < 1)$, $P(|Z| < 2)$, $P(|Z| < 3)$,

