

**Math 224**  
**Homework 5**

**Fall 2017**  
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Problems from 9th edition of *Probability and Statistical Inference* by Hogg, Tanis and Zimmerman:

- Section 3.1, Exercises 3, 10.
- Section 3.3, Exercises 2, 3, 10, 11.
- Section 5.6, Exercises 2, 4.
- Section 5.7, Exercises 4, 14.

**Additional Problems.**

**1. The Normal Curve.** Let  $\mu, \sigma^2 \in \mathbb{R}$  be any real numbers (with  $\sigma^2 > 0$ ) and consider the graph of the function

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

- Compute the first derivative  $n'(x)$  and show that  $n'(x) = 0$  implies  $x = \mu$ .
- Compute the second derivative  $n''(x)$  and show that  $n''(\mu) < 0$ , hence the curve has a local maximum at  $x = \mu$ .
- Show that  $n''(x) = 0$  implies  $x = \mu + \sigma$  or  $x = \mu - \sigma$ , hence the curve has inflections at these points. [The existence of inflections at  $\mu + \sigma$  and  $\mu - \sigma$  was de Moivre's original motivation for defining the standard deviation.]