

Exercises # 2: Random variables

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September 6, 2019

Please do at least 3 problems. Due in class on September 13, 2019. Python codes must be sent by email before September 13, 2019, 12:40pm.

Exercise 1. *A player shoots on a target with radius 10 inches, composed of concentric rings delimited by circles with radii 1, 2, ..., 10 cm, and respectively numbered from 10 to 1. We suppose that the player reaches the target all the time, and that the probability to hit ring number k is proportional to the area of this ring. Let X be the random variable which associates to each throw the number of the target.*

- (1) *What is the law (i.e. here p.m.f.) of X ?*
- (2) *The player wins $\$k$ if he hits ring number k for k between 1 and 6, but loses $\$2$ if he reaches the peripheral rings numbered 1 to 5. Is this game favorable to the player?*

Hint: (1) *Compute the area of each ring.* (2) *Introduce the random variable equal to the gain of the player and compute its expectation...*

Exercise 2. *A restaurant has seventy guests every evening. The chef knows that, in average, two customers every five order a crème brûlée. He thinks that if he prepares thirty crème brûlées, then he will be able to satisfy all customers with seventy percent probability.*

- (1) *Is the chef right?*
- (2) *How many crème brûlées (at least) does the chef need to bake to satisfy all customers with ninety percent probability?*

Hint: Introduce the random variable equal to the number of crème brûlées ordered on a given evening.

Exercise 3. Let X and Y be two Gaussian random variables (with values in \mathbb{R} , with respective means μ and ν , respective standard deviations σ and τ , and correlation ρ). What is $\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y], y \in \mathbb{R}$?

Exercise 4 (Python). Write a function `sample_discrete(n, q)` that takes as input an integer `n` and a pandas series `q`, with length `d = len(q)`, index `x = list(q.index)` and values `v = q.values`, and returns a numpy array containing `n` independent samples from the discrete distribution which gives probability `v[i]` to the outcome `x[i]`, $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$.