

MA/STAT 519: Introduction to Probability
Fall 2018, Mid-Term Examination

Instructor: Yip

- This test booklet has **FOUR QUESTIONS**, totaling 80 points for the whole test. You have 75 minutes to do this test. **Plan your time well. Read the questions carefully.**
- This test is **closed book, with no electronic device**. One two-sided-8 × 11 formula sheet is allowed.
- In order to get full credits, you need to give **correct** and **simplified** answers and explain in a **comprehensible way** how you arrive at them.

Name: Answer Key (Department: _____)

| Question | Score |
|----------------|-------|
| 1.(20 pts) | _____ |
| 2.(20 pts) | _____ |
| 3.(20 pts) | _____ |
| 4.(20 pts) | _____ |
| Total (80 pts) | _____ |

1. Let X and Y be two independent discrete random variables. For each of the following cases, compute the conditional distribution of X given $X + Y$, i.e. find

$$P(X = i | X + Y = j)$$

If possible, relate the conditional distribution to some common, i.e. well known, distribution.

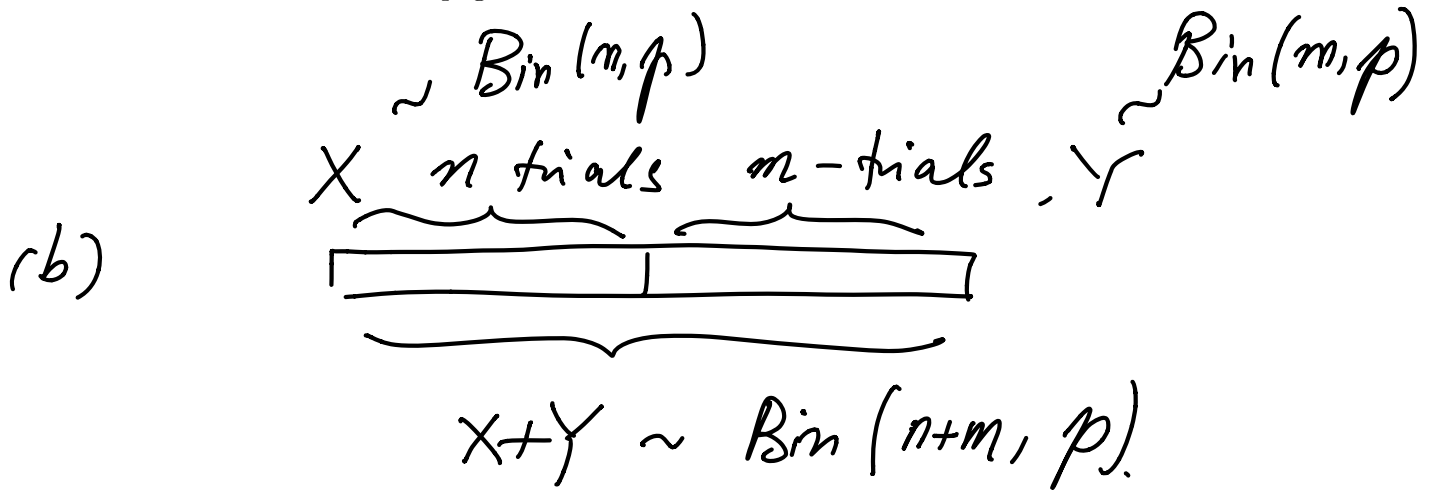
- (a) X is Poisson with parameter λ and Y is Poisson with parameter μ .
 (b) X is Binomial with parameter n and p and Y is Binomial with parameter m and p .
 (c) X and Y are Geometric with parameter p .

$$\begin{aligned} P(X=i | X+Y=j) &= \frac{P(X=i, X+Y=j)}{P(X+Y=j)} \\ &= \frac{P(X=i, Y=j-i)}{P(X+Y=j)} \\ &= \frac{P(X=i)P(Y=j-i)}{P(X+Y=j)} \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

(a) $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda), Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$
 $X+Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda+\mu)$

$$\begin{aligned} (*) &= \frac{\cancel{e^{-\lambda}} \lambda^i}{i!} \frac{\cancel{e^{-\mu}} \mu^{j-i}}{(j-i)!} \bigg/ \frac{\cancel{e^{-(\lambda+\mu)}} (\lambda+\mu)^j}{j!} \\ &= \frac{j!}{i!(j-i)!} \frac{\lambda^i \mu^{j-i}}{(\lambda+\mu)^j} = \binom{j}{i} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda+\mu}\right)^i \left(\frac{\mu}{\lambda+\mu}\right)^{j-i} \\ &\quad \sim \text{Bin}(j, \frac{\lambda}{\lambda+\mu}) \end{aligned}$$

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$$(*) = \frac{\binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{j-i}}{\binom{n+m}{j}} \quad (\text{Hypergeometric})$$

(c) $X \sim \text{Geom}(p), \quad Y \sim \text{Geom}(p)$
 $X+Y \sim \text{Neg Bin}(2, p)$

$$(*) = \frac{\cancel{q^{i-1} p} \cancel{q^{j-i-1} p}}{\binom{j-1}{2-1} \cancel{q^{j-2} p^2}} = \frac{1}{j-1}$$

\downarrow
(uniform, does not depend on i)

2. Suppose n balls are distributed at random into r boxes in such a way that each ball chooses a box independently of each other. Let S be the number of empty boxes. Compute ES and $Var(S)$.

(Hint: Consider the random variables X_i (for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$) which equals 1 if the i -th box is empty and 0 otherwise. Related S and the X_i 's.)

$$S = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_r$$

$$ES = EX_1 + EX_2 + \dots + EX_r$$

$$EX_1 = 1 \times P(X_1=1) + 0 \times P(X_1=0)$$

$$= P(X_1=1) = \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n$$

Box #1 is empty
no. of boxes to choose from
total no. of boxes

no. of balls

Hence $ES = r \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n$

$$E(S^2) = E\left(\sum_{i=1}^r X_i\right)^2$$

$$= E\left(\sum_i X_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} X_i X_j\right)$$

$$= \sum_i E(X_i^2) + \sum_{i \neq j} E(X_i X_j)$$

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- Since $X_i = 0, 1$, $X_i^2 = X_i$

$$E(X_i^2) = E X_i = \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n$$

- $E X_i X_j = P(\underbrace{X_i=1, X_j=1}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{Box \#i, \#j are empty}}}}) = \left(\frac{r-2}{r}\right)^n$
 - \uparrow no. of boxes to choose from
 - \uparrow no. of balls
 - \uparrow total no. of boxes

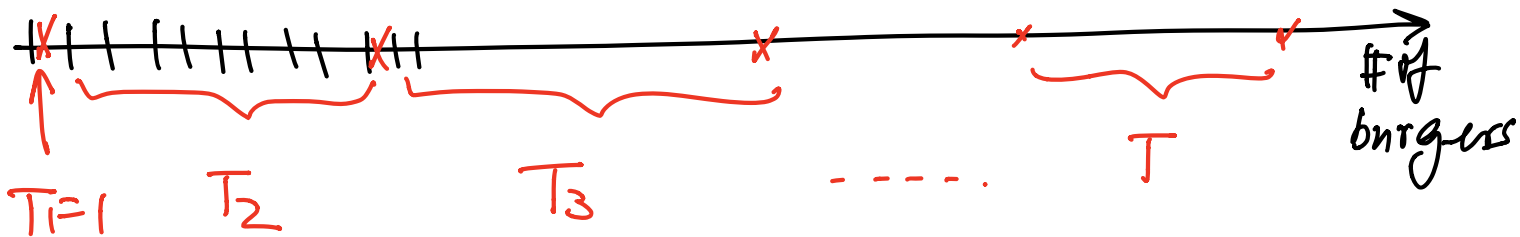
$$\text{Hence } E(S^2) = r \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n + r(r-1) \left(\frac{r-2}{r}\right)^n$$

$$\text{Var}(S) = E(S^2) - (ES)^2$$

$$= r \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n + r(r-1) \left(\frac{r-2}{r}\right)^n - \left[r \left(\frac{r-1}{r}\right)^n \right]^2$$

3. McDonald's newest promotion is putting a toy inside every one of its hamburger. Suppose there are N distinct types of toys and each of them is equally likely to be put inside any of the hamburger. What is the expected value and variance of the number of hamburgers you need to order (or eat) before you have a complete set of the N toys.

(Hint: consider the number of hamburgers you need to order (or eat) in between getting one and two distinct types of toys, two and three distinct types of toys, and so forth.)



$$T_1 = 1$$

$$T_2 = \text{Geom}\left(\frac{N-1}{N}\right)$$

$$T_3 = \text{Geom}\left(\frac{N-2}{N}\right)$$

⋮

$$T_N = \text{Geom}\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)$$

independent
Geom. r.v.'s

Let $S =$ Total no. of burgers purchased.

$$\text{Then } S = T_1 + T_2 + \dots + T_N$$

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$$E(\text{geom}(p)) = \frac{1}{p} \quad \text{Var}(\text{Geom}(p)) = \frac{q}{p^2}$$

$$E S = E T_1 + E T_2 + \dots + E T_N$$

$$= 1 + \frac{N}{N-1} + \frac{N}{N-2} + \dots + \frac{N}{1}$$

$$= N \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{N} \right)$$

$$\text{Var}(S) = \text{Var}(T_1) + \text{Var}(T_2) + \dots + \text{Var}(T_N)$$

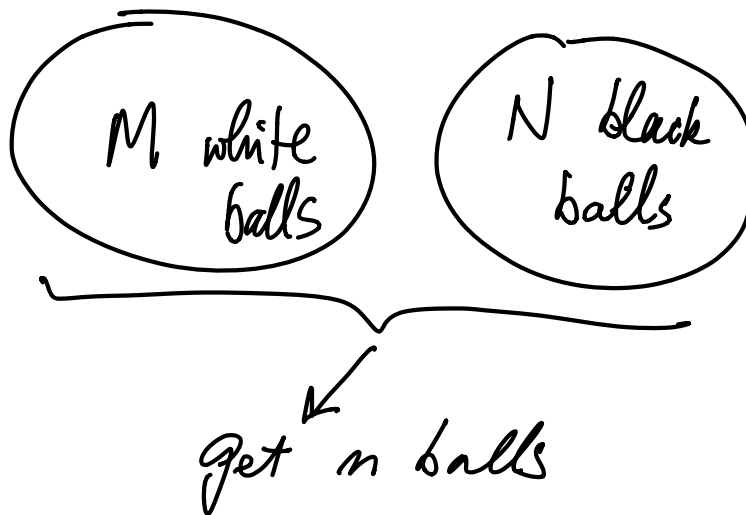
(Since the T_i 's are independent)

$$= 0 + \frac{\frac{1}{N}}{\left(\frac{N-1}{N}\right)^2} + \frac{\frac{2}{N}}{\left(\frac{N-2}{N}\right)^2} + \dots + \frac{\frac{N-1}{N}}{\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)^2}$$

$$= \frac{N}{(N-1)^2} + \frac{2N}{(N-2)^2} + \dots + \frac{(N-1)N}{1^2}$$

$$= N \left[\frac{1}{(N-1)^2} + \frac{2}{(N-2)^2} + \dots + \frac{N-1}{(1)^2} \right]$$

4. Consider a box with M white balls and N black balls. You are asked to get n balls (at random) out of the box without replacement. Let X be the number of white balls obtained.
- Find the probability distribution of X .
 - Find the expectation and variance of X .
(Hint: imagine that you get the balls sequentially, one by one. Introduce the indicator functions $X_i = 1$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$ defined as X_i equals one if i -th ball is white and zero otherwise. Relate X and the X_i 's.)
 - Now suppose M and N tends to infinity such that $\frac{M}{M+N} \rightarrow p$. Derive and identify the limiting probability distribution of X .
 - Under the same limiting procedure, find the limiting expectation and variance of X .



$$(a) \quad P(X=i) = \frac{\binom{M}{i} \binom{N}{n-i}}{\binom{M+N}{n}} \quad \text{(Hypergeometric)}$$

$$(b) \quad X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$$

$$E(X) = EX_1 + EX_2 + \dots + EX_n$$

$$E X_1 = P(X_1=1) = \frac{M}{M+N}$$

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← no. of white balls
↖ total no. of balls

Hence

$$E X = n E X_1 = \frac{nM}{M+N}$$

the i^{th} & j^{th}
balls are white.

$$\begin{aligned} E(X^2) &= \sum_i E X_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} E X_i X_j \\ &= \sum_i P(X_i=1) + \sum_{i \neq j} P(X_i=1, X_j=1) \\ &= \sum_i \frac{M}{M+N} + \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{M(M-1)}{(M+N)(M+N-1)} \\ &= \frac{nM}{M+N} + \frac{n(n-1)M(M-1)}{(M+N)(M+N-1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (EX)^2$$

$$= \frac{nM}{M+N} + \frac{n(n-1)M(M-1)}{(M+N)(M+N-1)} - \left(\frac{nM}{M+N}\right)^2$$

$$(c) \quad P(X=i) = \frac{\binom{M}{i} \binom{N}{n-i}}{\binom{M+N}{n}}$$

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$$= \frac{M(M-1) \dots (M-i+1)}{i!} \frac{N(N-1)(N-2) \dots (N-n+i+1)}{(n-i)!}$$

$$\frac{(M+N)(M+N-1) \dots (M+N-n+1)}{n!}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!} \times \left(M(M-1) \dots (M-i+1) \right) \leftarrow i \text{ terms}$$

$$\times \left(N(N-1) \dots (N-n+i+1) \right) \leftarrow n-i \text{ terms}$$

$$\frac{(M+N)(M+N-1) \dots (M+N-n+1)}{n!} \leftarrow n \text{ terms}$$

$$= \binom{M}{i} \left(\frac{M}{M+N} \right) \left(\frac{M-1}{M+N-1} \right) \left(\frac{M-2}{M+N-2} \right) \dots \left(\frac{M-i+1}{M+N-i+1} \right) \times$$

$$\times \left(\frac{N}{M+N-i} \right) \left(\frac{N-1}{M+N-i-1} \right) \dots \left(\frac{N-n+i+1}{M+N-n+1} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} M, N &\rightarrow +\infty \\ \frac{M}{M+N} &\rightarrow p \\ \frac{N}{M+N} &\rightarrow q \end{aligned}$$

$$\binom{n}{i} p^i q^{n-i}$$

$$\sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

$$\frac{M}{M+N} \rightarrow p$$

$$\frac{N}{M+N} \rightarrow 1-p = q$$

Note: The answer also makes intuitive sense as $M, N \rightarrow +\infty$, it does not make any difference whether it is with or without replacement.

(d) Hence

$$EX \rightarrow np, \text{Var}(X) \rightarrow npq$$

The above can also be checked directly from the formula:

$$EX = \frac{nM}{M+N} \rightarrow np$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{nM}{M+N} + \frac{n(n-1)M(M-1)}{(M+N)(M+N-1)} - \left(\frac{nM}{M+N}\right)^2$$

$$\rightarrow np + n(n-1)p^2 - n^2p^2$$

$$= np - np^2 = np(1-p) = npq.$$