

EXERCISES [MAI 4.9]
DISCRETE DISTRIBUTIONS
SOLUTIONS

A. Paper 1 questions (SHORT)

1. (a) 2.35 (b) mode = 1 (c) median = 2 (d) $Q_1 = 1$ $Q_3 = 3.5$

2. $a = 0.2$ $b = 0.4$

3. $E(X) = 2.2$ $E(\text{Profit}) = 0$, so it is fair.

4. (a)

x	1	2	3
$P(X = x)$	1/6	2/6	3/6

(b) Find $E(X) = 7/3$

5. (a)

x	3	4	5
$P(X = x)$	4/10	3/10	3/10

(b) Find $E(X) = 3.9$

6. (a) $(0.4 + p + 0.2 + 0.07 + 0.02 = 1), \Rightarrow p = 0.31$

(b) $E(X) = 1(0.4) + 2(0.31) + 3(0.2) + 4(0.07) + 5(0.02) = 2$

7. (a) $0.1 + a + 0.3 + b = 1 \Rightarrow a + b = 0.6$

(b) $0 \times 0.1 + 1 \times a + 2 \times 0.3 + 3 \times b$

$$0 + a + 0.6 + 3b = 1.5$$

$$a + 3b = 0.9$$

Solving simultaneously gives

$$a = 0.45 \quad b = 0.15$$

8. (a) $0.2 + a + b + 0.25 = 1 (a + b = 0.55)$

$$E(X) = a + 2b + 0.75 = 1.55$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 2b = 0.8$$

$$a = 0.3 \text{ and } b = 0.25$$

9. $\sum_{\text{all } x} P(X = x) = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{10} + x = 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{3}{10}$

$$P(\text{scoring six after two rolls}) = \left(\frac{1}{10} \times \frac{1}{10} \right) + 2 \times \left(\frac{2}{10} \times \frac{3}{10} \right) = \frac{1}{4}$$

10. (a) $10k^2 + 3k + 0.6 = 1 \Rightarrow 10k^2 + 3k - 0.4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow k = 0.1$ (by GDC)

(b) $E(X) = -1 \times 0.2 + 2 \times 0.4 + 3 \times 0.3 = 1.5$

11. (a)

x	0	1	2	3	4
$P(X = x)$	k	$2k$	$3k$	$4k$	$5k$

(b) $k \times 1 + k \times 2 + k \times 3 + k \times 4 + k \times 5 = 15k = 1 \Leftrightarrow k = \frac{1}{15}$

$$(c) \quad E(X) = 0 \times \frac{1}{15} + 1 \times \frac{2}{15} + 2 \times \frac{3}{15} + 3 \times \frac{4}{15} + 4 \times \frac{5}{15} = \frac{15}{15} = 1$$

12. (a) $\sum P(X = x) = 1 \Rightarrow 4c + 6c + 6c + 4c = 1 \Rightarrow 20c = 1 \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{20}$ ($= 0.05$)

(b) $E(X) = \sum xP(X = x) = (1 \times 0.2) + (2 \times 0.3) + (3 \times 0.3) + (4 \times 0.2) = 2.5$

$$13. \sum_{\text{all } x} P(X=x) = 1 \Rightarrow k + \frac{2}{3}k + \binom{2}{3}k + \binom{2}{3}k + \dots = 1$$

$$k \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{2}{3}} \right) = 1 \Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{3}$$

14. (a) Sum = 1.3 which is greater than 1

(b) $3k + 0.7 = 1 \Rightarrow k = 0.1$

(c) (i) $P(X=0) = \frac{0+1}{20} = \frac{1}{20}$

(ii) $P(X>0) = 1 - P(X=0) = \frac{19}{20}$ (or $\frac{4}{20} + \frac{5}{20} + \frac{10}{20} = \frac{19}{20}$)

Notice: in fact, the probability distribution is

x	0	3	4	9
P(X=x)	1/20	4/20	5/20	10/20

15. (a) (i) 1+2 or 2+1 Prob = $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{5} \times 2 = \frac{1}{5}$

(ii) 1+3 or 3+1 or 2+2 Prob = $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{5} \times 2 + \frac{1}{5} \times \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{25} = \frac{6}{25}$

(b) Let X be the number of counters the player receives in return.

$$E(X) = \sum p(x) \times x = \frac{1}{2} \times 4 + \frac{1}{5} \times 5 + \frac{1}{5} \times 15 + \frac{1}{10} \times n = 9$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{10}n = 3 \Leftrightarrow n = 30$$

(A1)

B. Paper 2 questions (LONG)

16. (a) Probability of two 4s is $\frac{1}{16}$ (= 0.0625)

(b)

x	0	1	2
P(X=x)	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$

(c) $E(X) = \sum x P(X=x) = 0 \times \frac{9}{16} + 1 \times \frac{6}{16} + 2 \times \frac{1}{16} = \frac{8}{16} = \frac{1}{2}$

or $E(X) = np = 2 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$

(d)

x	0	1	2
amount	-2€	5€	20€
P(X=x)	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$

Expected amount = $-2 \times \frac{9}{16} + 5 \times \frac{6}{16} + 20 \times \frac{1}{16} = 2€$

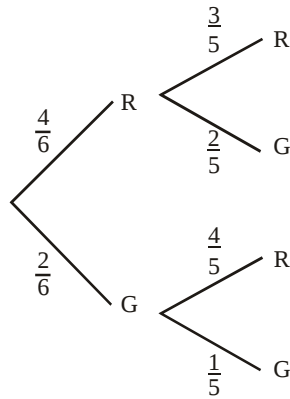
(e) $100 \times 2 = 200 €$

(f) 18 € implies 0 fours and 2 fours or vice versa

$$\frac{9}{16} \times \frac{1}{16} \times 2 = \frac{9}{128}$$

17. (a) $E(X) = 0 \times \frac{3}{10} + 1 \times \frac{6}{10} + 2 \times \frac{1}{10} = \frac{8}{10} \quad (0.8)$

(b) (i)



(ii) $P(Y=0) = \frac{2}{5} \times \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{30}$
 $P(Y=1) = P(RG) + P(GR) = \left(\frac{4}{6} \times \frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{6} \times \frac{4}{5} \right) = \frac{16}{30}$

$P(Y=2) = \frac{4}{6} \times \frac{3}{5} = \frac{12}{30}$

Forming a distribution

y	0	1	2
$P(Y=y)$	$\frac{2}{30}$	$\frac{16}{30}$	$\frac{12}{30}$

(c) $P(RR) = \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{10} + \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{12}{30} = \frac{27}{90} \quad \left(\frac{3}{10}, 0.3 \right)$

(d) $P(1 \text{ or } 6|RR) = P(A|RR) = \frac{P(A \cap RR)}{P(RR)} = \frac{1}{30} \div \frac{27}{90} = \frac{3}{27} \quad \left(\frac{1}{9}, 0.111 \right)$

18. (a) (i) $P(B) = \frac{3}{4}$ (ii) $P(R) = \frac{1}{4}$

(b) $p = \frac{3}{4}$ $s = \frac{1}{4}$, $t = \frac{3}{4}$

(c) (i) $P(X=3) = P(\text{getting 1 and 2}) = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{16}$

(ii) $P(X=2) = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} \times \left(\frac{4}{16} - \frac{3}{16} \right) = \frac{13}{16}$

(d) (i)

X	2	3
$P(X=x)$	$\frac{13}{16}$	$\frac{3}{16}$

(ii) $E(X) = 2 \left(\frac{13}{16} \right) + 3 \left(\frac{3}{16} \right) = \frac{35}{16}$

(e) win \$10 $\Rightarrow$ scores 3 one time, 2 other time
 $P(\text{win } \$10) = P(3) \times P(2) + P(2) \times P(3) = 2 \left(\frac{13}{16} \times \frac{3}{16} \right) = \frac{78}{256} \quad \left(= \frac{39}{128} \right)$

19. (a) 1, 2, 3, 4

(b) $P(Y=1) = \frac{2}{5}$

$$P(Y=2) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{2}{4} = \frac{3}{10}$$

$$P(Y=3) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{2}{4} \times \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$P(Y=4) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{2}{4} \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{2} = \frac{1}{10}$$

(c) $E(Y) = 1 \times \frac{2}{5} + 2 \times \frac{3}{10} + 3 \times \frac{1}{5} + 4 \times \frac{1}{10} = 2$

(d)

X	1	2	3
$P(X=x)$	$3/5$	$3/10$	$1/10$