

1. Suppose that, to get to work, one can either drive or take the train. When driving, the amount of time (in minutes) it takes is uniformly distributed over the interval $[15, 25]$. When taking the train, the time waiting for the train is exponentially distributed with parameter $1/5$ (that is, with pdf of $\frac{1}{5}e^{-w/5}$ for $w \geq 0$ and 0 otherwise), followed by the train ride which will take 15 minutes (such that the mean overall travel time is the same for each). **(6 total points)**

- (a) Suppose that this person has an important meeting in 18 minutes, and find the probability of being late with each of the two options.

(3 points)

Solution: Let D be the time it takes to drive, W the time waiting for the train, and T the total time with the train.

$$P[D > 18] = \frac{25 - 18}{25 - 15} = \frac{7}{10} \qquad P[T > 18] = P[W > 3] = e^{-3/5}$$

- (b) Find the probability that taking the train would take longer than driving. **(3 points)**

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P[T > D] &= \int_{15}^{25} P[T > r] \cdot \frac{1}{10} dr \\ &= \int_{15}^{25} P[W > r - 15] \cdot \frac{1}{10} dr \\ &= \frac{1}{10} \cdot \int_{15}^{25} e^{-\frac{r-15}{5}} dr \\ &= -\frac{5}{10} e^{-\frac{r-15}{5}} \Big|_{r=15}^{25} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{-2}) \end{aligned}$$

2. An urn contains 4 white balls and 6 black balls. A (first) ball is chosen at random. It is then replaced, along with 2 more balls of the same color (such that there are then 12 balls in the urn). **(7 total points)**

- (a) Another (second) ball is then drawn at random from the urn. Find the probability that this ball is white. **(2 points)**

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P[B_2 = w] &= P[B_1 = w]P[B_2 = w | B_1 = w] + P[B_1 = b]P[B_2 = w | B_1 = b] \\ &= \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \\ &= \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Given that this second ball is white, find the probability that the first ball drawn from the urn was black. **(3 points)**

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P[B_1 = b | B_2 = w] &= \frac{P[B_1 = b, B_2 = w]}{P[B_2 = w]} \\ &= \frac{P[B_1 = b]P[B_2 = w | B_1 = b]}{P[B_2 = w]} \\ &= \frac{\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{2}{5}} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The second ball is replaced (such that there are still 12 balls in the urn), and a third ball is drawn. If the second and third balls are both white, find the probability that the first ball was black. **(2 points)**

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w] &= P[B_1 = w]P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w | B_1 = w] \\ &\quad + P[B_1 = b]P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w | B_1 = b] \\ &= \frac{2}{5} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{15} = \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P[B_1 = b | B_2 = w, B_3 = w] &= \frac{P[B_1 = b, B_2 = w, B_3 = w]}{P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w]} \\ &= \frac{P[B_1 = b] \cdot P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w | B_1 = b]}{P[B_2 = w, B_3 = w]} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{15}}{\frac{1}{6}} = \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

3. Suppose that a point Z is picked uniformly at random from the perimeter of a unit circle; that is, from a circle of radius 1 with center at the origin, $(0, 0)$. Now let X be the x -coordinate of this point Z . (7 total points)

- (a) Find the distribution and density of X . (5 points)

Solution: Given $-1 \leq x \leq 1$,

$$F_X[x] = P[X \leq x] = 2 \cdot P[\cos^{-1}(x) \leq \Theta \leq \pi] = \frac{\pi - \cos^{-1}(x)}{\pi}$$

where $\theta = \cos^{-1}(x)$ is given by $\theta \in [0, \pi]$ such that $\cos(\theta) = x$, and so

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x < -1; \\ \frac{\pi - \cos^{-1}(x)}{\pi} & \text{if } -1 \leq x < 1; \\ 1 & \text{if } x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Then,

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{1-x^2}} & \text{if } -1 \leq x \leq 1; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Alternatively, one could find the density first in a few ways, and then integrate to get the distribution.

- (b) Let $Y = |X|$. Find the expectation $E[Y]$. (2 points)

Solution:

$$E[Y] = 2 \cdot \int_0^1 \frac{x}{\pi\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = -\frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-x^2} \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \frac{2}{\pi}$$