

1. Bioterrorism experts are always trying to assess the impact of a future terrorist attack. Suppose that, in a hypothetical bioterrorist attack on New York City, 20 percent of people would possess symptom A; 30 percent would possess symptom B. Furthermore, 10 percent would possess both symptoms. What is the probability that a randomly selected person

- (a) possesses at least one symptom?
- (b) possesses symptom A, given that he has symptom B?
- (c) possesses symptom A, but not B?
- (d) possesses symptom B, given that he has at least one symptom?

2. Biologists are often interested in studying bacteria colonies in water samples. Suppose that Y denotes the number of colonies in a 1-cubic-centimeter specimen. For a particular bacterium, past experience says that Y is well-modeled by a Poisson distribution with mean $\lambda = 2.7$.

- (a) What is the probability that a 1-cubic-centimeter specimen will contain **no bacteria colonies**?
- (b) If four 1-cubic-centimeter specimens are to be analyzed, find the probability that **at least one** specimen will contain no bacteria colonies. It is logical to assume the four specimens are independent.
- (c) If W denotes the number of specimens needed to observe the **first** specimen with no bacteria colonies, write out the probability mass function (pmf) of W . Be specific. It is (again) logical to assume that the specimens are independent.
- (d) Use your pmf in part (c) to compute $P(W > 10)$.

Note: Treat (b) and (c) as different questions; they are not related.

3. The performance of compressor blades in jet engines is a critical issue to engineers. Historical evidence suggests that for a particular blade, Y , its operational lifetime (in 100s of hours), follows a Weibull distribution with probability density function (pdf)

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y^2 e^{-y^3/3}, & 0 < y < \infty \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the cumulative distribution function (cdf) for Y and graph it.
- (b) Compute the probability that a single blade will fail before 100 hours; that is, compute $P(Y < 1)$.
- (c) Find $E(Y)$ and $V(Y)$. Simplify your answers as much as possible.

Hints: I think you'll find the $u = y^3$ substitution helpful; don't try to derive the mgf.

4. Let Y_1 and Y_2 have a joint probability density function (pdf) given by

$$f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) = \begin{cases} 3y_1, & 0 < y_2 < y_1 < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Graph the support of Y_1 and Y_2 in the y_1 - y_2 plane. Describe, in words, what the joint density $f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2)$ looks like.

- (b) Find the conditional distribution of Y_1 , given $Y_2 = 1/2$.
 (c) Compute $P(Y_1 > 3/4)$ and $P(Y_1 > 3/4|Y_2 = 1/2)$.
 (d) Are Y_1 and Y_2 independent? Explain.

5. An electronic system has two different types of components in joint operation. Let Y_1 and Y_2 denote the random length of life (in hundreds of hours) of the components of Type I and Type II, respectively. Suppose that the joint probability density function (pdf) is given by

$$f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) = \begin{cases} (1/8)y_1 e^{-(y_1+y_2)/2}, & y_1 > 0, y_2 > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Show that Y_1 and Y_2 are independent.
 (b) Find $E(Y_1 + Y_2)$ and $V(Y_1 + Y_2)$.
 (c) Find $E(\frac{Y_2}{Y_1})$.
 (d) Express $P(Y_1 + Y_2 < 1)$ as a double integral; there is no need to evaluate it.

6. Suppose that Y_1 , Y_2 , and Y_3 are random variables with

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(Y_1) = 0 & E(Y_2) = 1 & E(Y_3) = -1 \\ V(Y_1) = 1 & V(Y_2) = 2 & V(Y_3) = 3 \\ \text{Cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = -1 & \text{Cov}(Y_1, Y_3) = 0 & \text{Cov}(Y_2, Y_3) = 1. \end{array}$$

- (a) Find $\text{Cov}(Y_1 + Y_2, Y_1 - Y_3)$.
 (b) Define $U = 2Y_1 - Y_2 + Y_3$. Find the mean and variance of U .

7. Suppose that Y_1 and Y_2 are continuous random variables with joint pdf $f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2)$. The **joint moment generating function** of Y_1 and Y_2 (when it exists) is defined to be

$$m_{Y_1, Y_2}(t_1, t_2) \equiv E\left(e^{t_1 Y_1 + t_2 Y_2}\right) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t_1 y_1 + t_2 y_2} f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) dy_2 dy_1,$$

where t_1 and t_2 are non-zero constants.

- (a) Prove that

$$E(Y_1 Y_2) = \left[\frac{\partial^2 m_{Y_1, Y_2}(t_1, t_2)}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2} \right] \Big|_{t_1=t_2=0}.$$

Hint: Assume that you can move the mixed partial derivative “inside” the double integral above; i.e., assume that you can interchange differentiation and integration.

- (b) Suppose that Y_1 and Y_2 are **independent**. Show that

$$m_{Y_1, Y_2}(t_1, t_2) = m_{Y_1}(t_1) m_{Y_2}(t_2),$$

where $m_{Y_1}(t_1)$ and $m_{Y_2}(t_2)$ are the marginal mgfs of Y_1 and Y_2 , respectively.