Name ________________________ ID3 _ _ _

ECS 315: Probability and Random Processes **2019/1**

HW 12 — Due: Not Due

Lecturer: Prapun Suksompong, Ph.D.

Problem 1. A random variable X is a Gaussian random variable if its pdf is given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-m}{\sigma}\right)^2},$$

for some constant m and positive number σ. Furthermore, when a Gaussian random variable has $m = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$, we say that it is a standard Gaussian random variable. There is no closed-form expression for the cdf of the standard Gaussian random variable. The cdf itself is denoted by Φ and its values (or its complementary values $Q(\cdot) = 1 - \Phi(\cdot)$) are traditionally provided by a table.

Suppose Z is a standard Gaussian random variable.

(a) Use the Φ table to find the following probabilities:

(i) $P[Z < 1.52]$

(ii) $P[Z < -1.52]$

(iii) $P[Z > 1.52]$

(iv) $P[Z > -1.52]$

(v) $P[-1.36 < Z < 1.52]$

(b) Use the Φ table to find the value of c that satisfies each of the following relation.

(i) $P[Z > c] = 0.14$

(ii) $P[-c < Z < c] = 0.95$

Problem 2. The peak temperature T, as measured in degrees Fahrenheit, on a July day in New Jersey is a $\mathcal{N}(85, 100)$ random variable.

Remark: Do not forget that, for our class, the second parameter in $\mathcal{N}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the variance (not the standard deviation).

(a) Express the cdf of T in terms of the Φ function.

(b) Express each of the following probabilities in terms of the Φ function(s). Make sure that the arguments of the Φ functions are positive. (Positivity is required so that we can directly use the Φ/Q tables to evaluate the probabilities.)

(i) $P[T > 100]$

(ii) $P[T < 60]$

(iii) $P[70 \le T \le 100]$

(c) Express each of the probabilities in part (b) in terms of the Q function(s). Again, make sure that the arguments of the Q functions are positive.

(i) $P[T > 100]$

(ii) $P[T < 60]$

(iii) $P[70 \leq T \leq 100]$

(d) Evaluate each of the probabilities in part (b) using the Φ/Q tables.

(i) $P[T > 100]$

(ii) $P[T < 60]$

(iii) $P[70 \leq T \leq 100]$

(e) Observe that the Φ table ("Table 4" from the lecture) stops at $z = 2.99$ and the Q table ("Table 5" from the lecture) starts at $z = 3.00$. Why is it better to give a table for $Q(z)$ instead of $\Phi(z)$ when z is large?

Problem 3. Suppose that the time to failure (in hours) of fans in a personal computer can be modeled by an exponential distribution with $\lambda = 0.0003$.

(a) What proportion of the fans will last at least 10,000 hours?

(b) What proportion of the fans will last at most 7000 hours?

[Montgomery and Runger, 2010, Q4-97]

Problem 4. Let a continuous random variable X denote the current measured in a thin copper wire in milliamperes. Assume that the probability density function of X is

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 5, & 4.9 \le x \le 5.1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(a) Find the probability that a current measurement is less than 5 milliamperes.

(b) Find and plot the cumulative distribution function of the random variable X.

(c) Find the expected value of X.

(d) Find the variance and the standard deviation of X.

(e) Find the expected value of power when the resistance is 100 ohms?

Problem 5. Let X be a uniform random variable on the interval $[0, 1]$. Set

$$A = \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right), \quad B = \left[0, \frac{1}{4}\right) \cup \left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right), \quad \text{and } C = \left[0, \frac{1}{8}\right) \cup \left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}\right) \cup \left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{8}\right) \cup \left[\frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{8}\right).$$

Are the events $[X \in A], [X \in B]$, and $[X \in C]$ independent?

Problem 6. Cholesterol is a fatty substance that is an important part of the outer lining (membrane) of cells in the body of animals. Its normal range for an adult is 120–240 mg/dl. The Food and Nutrition Institute of the Philippines found that the total cholesterol level for Filipino adults has a mean of 159.2 mg/dl and 84.1% of adults have a cholesterol level below 200 mg/dl. Suppose that the cholesterol level in the population is normally distributed.

(a) Determine the standard deviation of this distribution.

(b) What is the value of the cholesterol level that exceeds 90% of the population?

(c) An adult is at moderate risk if cholesterol level is more than one but less than two standard deviations above the mean. What percentage of the population is at moderate risk according to this criterion?

(d) An adult is thought to be at high risk if his cholesterol level is more than two standard deviations above the mean. What percentage of the population is at high risk?

Problem 7 (Q3.5.6)**.** Solve this question using the Φ/Q table.

A professor pays 25 cents for each blackboard error made in lecture to the student who points out the error. In a career of n years filled with blackboard errors, the total amount in dollars paid can be approximated by a Gaussian random variable Y_n with expected value $40n$ and variance $100n$.

(a) What is the probability that Y_{20} exceeds 1000?

(b) How many years n must the professor teach in order that $P[Y_n > 1000] > 0.99$?

Problem 8. The time until a chemical reaction is complete (in milliseconds) is approximated by the cumulative distribution function

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-0.01x}, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(a) Determine the probability density function of X.

(b) What proportion of reactions is complete within 200 milliseconds?