ECONOMICS 6331 – Probability and Statistics, Fall 2007

Homework 3. Wednesday September 12, 2007. Due Monday September 24.

1. (From Midterm 1, Spring 2004, counted 20%) Suppose we have some observations of Texans and Californians. The probability of observing a Texan is 1/3 and the probability of observing a Californian is 2/3. Now assume the following (made up numbers), namely that the probability that a Texan is a republican is 40% (so the probability that he is a democrat is 60%, we assume), and the probability that a Californian is a republican is 50% (so the probability that a Californian is a democrat is 60%).

a) If you select one person from the population according to these probabilities, what is the probability that you will observe a republican from Texas? (Explain how you arrive at you answer)

b) In the model described for Californians and Texans, are the events A: {A person is a democrat} and the event B: {A person is from California} independent events? (Explain how you find the answer).

c) If you select 5 people randomly from the Texans. What is the expected number of republicans?

2. Assume that a random variable X is uniformly distributed on the interval [1, 9].

a) What is the probability that X < 3? And the probability that X > 5?

b) What is the probability that $10 + 3X \ge 16$?

c) If f(x) = 7 + 3x, what is the density for the random variable Y = f(X)?

d) What is the distribution function (CDF) for Y in the previous sub-question?

e) If $f(x) = e^{2x}$, what is the density and distribution function of the random variable Y = f(X)?

You have to be explicit about the support (the area where the density for Y non-zero).

3. Ramanthan, Practice Problem 3.7.

4. Ramanthan, Exercise 3.10.

5. (28% of Midterm 1, 2005) Consider a uniform distribution on the closed interval [0, 1]. Assume a random variable X follows this distribution.
a) Find the mean of X.

b) Find the distribution of $Y = \log(X)$. (Be specific about all details of the distribution.)

c) Find P(Y < -0.5).

d) Find E(Y).