MATH 3850 Fall 2025

Homework 2

Due Thursday, September 18

- 1. Find E(Y) and Var(Y) for the data given on page 3 of Lecture 2.
- 2. Let Y be the life length of a new drug (in years), with the following probabilities:

- (a) Find $P(Y \le 4)$, P(Y > 10), $P(4 < Y \le 10)$.
- (b) Find the expected life length of a new drug.
- (c) Find the standard deviation of Y.
- 3. A single fair die is tossed once. Let Y be the number facing up. Find the expected value and variance of Y.
- 4. Suppose that a random variable Y has the probability function

$$P(Y = y) = \frac{1}{(y+1)(y+2)}, \quad y = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Find (a)
$$P(Y = 4)$$
, (b) $P(Y < 3)$, (c) $P(Y \ge 1)$.

5. Consider a random variable Y with the probability function

$$P(Y = y) = (1 - p)^{y-1}p, \quad y = 1, 2, \dots$$

where $0 \le p \le 1$. If p = 1/3, find (a) P(Y = 4), (b) $P(Y \le 3)$, (c) P(Y > 10), (d) $P(3 \le Y < 10)$. (HINT: Use of the geometric series from Calculus 2 may be useful).

- 6. Consider $Y \sim \text{Binomial}(10, 0.2)$. Find (a) P(Y = 5), (b) $P(Y \le 2)$, (c) $P(3 < Y \le 6)$. Please write out your answers in terms of appropriate probability functions.
- 7. Repeat the previous problem using R, providing the codes and numerical answers.
- 8. The probability that a patient recovers from a stomach disease is 0.7. Suppose 10 people are known to have contracted this disease. What is the probability that
 - (a) exactly 4 recover?
 - (b) at least 3 recover?
 - (c) at least 5 but not more than 7 recover?
 - (d) at most 8 recover?

(Which probability distribution should you assume?)

- 9. Let $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(2)$. Find (a) P(Y = 4), (b) P(Y < 3), (c) $P(Y \ge 2)$. Please write out your answers in terms of appropriate probability functions.
- 10. Repeat the previous problem using R, providing the codes and numerical answers.
- 11. The monthly worldwide average number of airplane crashes of commercial airlines is 3.5. What is the probability that there will be
 - (a) at least 2 such accidents in the next month?
 - (b) at most 1 accident in the next month?

Assume Poisson distribution.