

UNIT – 1, PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

PART-A (2 marks)

1. Define Probability:

If there are n equally likely mutually exclusive and exhaustive outcomes and m of them are favourable to an event A , Then the probability of the happening of A is $P(A) = \frac{\text{No of favourable cases}}{\text{Total no of exhaustive cases}}$

2. Define i) Discrete random variable

ii) Continuous random variable

- i) Let X be a random variable, if the number of possible values of X is finite or count ably finite, then X is called a discrete random variable.
- ii) A random variable X is called the continuous random variable, if x takes all its possible values in an interval.

3. Define probability mass function (PMF):

Let X be the discrete random variable taking the values $,X_1 , X_2 \dots\dots\dots$

Then the number $P (X_i) = P(X =X_i)$ is called the probability mass function of X and it satisfies the following conditions.

- i) $P (X_i) \geq 0$ for all;
- ii) $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P (X_i) = 1$

4. Define probability Density function (PDF):

Let x be a continuous random variable. The Function $f(x)$ is called the probability density function (PDF) of the random variable x if it satisfies.

- i) $f(x) \geq 0$
- ii) $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = 1$

5. Define cumulative distribution function (CDF):

Let x be a random variable. The cumulative distribution function, denoted by $F(X)$ and is given by $F(X) = P(X \leq x)$.

6. If x is a discrete R.V having the p.m.f

X:	-1	0	1
P(X):	k	2k	3k

Find $P(x \geq 0)$

Answer: $6k = 1 \Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{6}$

$P[x \geq 0] = 2k + 3k \Rightarrow P[x \geq 0] = \frac{1}{6}$

7. The random variable x has the p.m.f. $P(x) = \frac{x}{15}$, $x=1,2,3,4,5$ and $= 0$ else

where. Find $P\left[\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{5}{2} / x > 1\right]$.

Answer:

$$P\left[\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{5}{2} / x > 1\right] = \frac{P[x=2]}{P(x>1)} = \frac{P[x=2]}{1-P(x \leq 1)} = \frac{2/15}{1-1/15} = \frac{1}{7}$$

8. If the probability distribution of X is given as :

X	1	2	3	4
P(X)	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1

Find $P\left[\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{7}{2} / x > 1\right]$.

Answer :

$$P\left[\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{7}{2} / x > 1\right] = \frac{P[1 < x < 7/2]}{P(x>1)} = \frac{P(x=2)+P(x=3)}{1-P(x=1)} = \frac{0.5}{0.6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

9. **A.R.V. X has the probability function**

X	-2	-1	0	1
P(X)	0.4	k	0.2	0.3

Find k and the mean value of X

Answer:

$$k=0.1 \quad \text{Mean} = \sum xP(x) = \frac{1}{10} [-8-1+0+3] = -0.6$$

10. **If the p.d.f of a R.V. X is $f(x) = \frac{x}{2}$ in $0 \leq x \leq 2$, find**

$$P[x > 1.5/x > 1].$$

Answer :

$$P[x > 1.5/x > 1] = \frac{P[x>1.5]}{P(x>1)} = \frac{\int_{1.5}^2 \frac{x}{2} dx}{\int_1^2 \frac{x}{2} dx} = \frac{4-2.25}{4-1} = 0.5833$$

11. **If the p.d.f of a R.V.X is given by $f(x) = \{1/4, -2 < x < 2.0, \text{ else where. Find}$**

$$P[|X|>1].$$

Answer:

$$P[|X|>1] = 1 - P[|X|<1] = 1 - \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{4} dx = \frac{1}{2}$$

12. **If $f(x) = kx^2, 0 < x < 3$ is to be density function, Find the value of k.**

Answer:

$$\int_0^3 kx^2 dx = 1 \Rightarrow 9k = 1 \therefore k = \frac{1}{9}$$

13. **If the c.d.f. of a R.V X is given by $F(x) = 0$ for $x < 0$; $= \frac{x^2}{16}$ for $0 \leq x <$**

$$4 \quad \text{and} = 1 \text{ for } x \geq 4, \text{ find } P(X > 1/X < 3).$$

Answer:

$$P(X > 1/X < 3) = \frac{P[1 < X < 3]}{P[0 < X < 3]} = \frac{F(3) - F(1)}{F(3) - F(0)} = \frac{8/16}{9/16} = \frac{8}{9}.$$

14. The cumulative distribution of X is $F(x) = \frac{x^3+1}{9}$, $-1, < X < 2$ and $= 0$, otherwise. Find $P[0 < X < 1]$.

Answer:

$$P[0 < X < 1] = F(1) - F(0) = \frac{2}{9} - \frac{1}{9} = \frac{1}{9}$$

15. A Continuous R.V X that can assume any value between $x=2$ and $x=5$ had the p.d.f $f(x) = k(1+x)$. Find $P(x < 4)$.

Answer:

$$\int_2^3 k(1+x)dx = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{27k}{2} = 1 \therefore k = \frac{2}{27}$$

$$P[X < 4] = \int_2^4 \frac{2}{27}(1+x)dx = \frac{16}{27}$$

16. The c.d.f of X is given by $F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x > 0 \\ x^2, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1, & x > 1 \end{cases}$ Find the p.d.f of x, and

obtain $P(X > 0.75)$.

Answer:

$$f(x) = \frac{d}{dx}F(x) = \begin{cases} 2x, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$P[x < 0.75] = 1 - P[X \leq 0.75] = 1 - F(0.75) = 1 - (0.75)^2 = 0.4375$$

17. Check whether $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}xe^{-x/2}$ for $0 < x < \infty$ can be the p.d.f of X.

Answer:

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x}{4} e^{-x/2} dx = \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-1} dt \text{ where } t = \frac{x}{2}$$

$$= (-te^{-1} - e^{-1})_0^{\infty} = -[0-1]=1$$

$\therefore f(x)$ is the p.d.f of X .

18. A continuous R.V X has a p.d.f $f(x) = 3x^2, 0 \leq x \leq 1$. Find b such that $P(X > b) = 0.05$.

Answer:

$$3 \int_b^1 x^2 dx = 0.05 \Rightarrow 1 - b^3 = 0.05 \Rightarrow b^3 = 0.95 \therefore b = (0.95)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

19. Let X be a random variable taking values $-1, 0$ and 1 such that $P(X=-1) = 2P(X=0) = P(X=1)$. Find the mean of $2X-5$.

Answer:

$$\sum P(X = x) = 1 \Rightarrow 5P(X = 0) = 1 \therefore P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{5}$$

Probability distribution of X :

X	-1	0	1
$P(X)$	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{2}{5}$

$$\text{Mean} = E(x) = \sum xp(x) = -1\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) + 0\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + 1\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = 0$$

$$E[2X-5] = 2E(X) - 5 = 2[0] - 5 = -5.$$

20. Find the cumulative distribution function $F(x)$ corresponding to the p.d.f.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi(1+x^2)}, -\infty < x < \infty.$$

Answer

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x)dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \frac{1}{\pi} [\tan^{-1}x]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\pi}{2} + \tan^{-1} x \right]$$

21. The diameter of an electric cable, say X is assumed to a continues R.V

with p.d.f of given by $f(x) = kx(1-x)$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Determine k and $P\left(x \leq \frac{1}{3}\right)$

Answer:

$$\int_0^1 kx(1-x)dx = 1 \Rightarrow k \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right] = 1 \quad \therefore k = 6$$

$$P\left[X \leq \frac{1}{3}\right] = 6 \int_0^{1/3} (x - x^2)dx = 6 \left[\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^{1/3} = [(3x^2 - 2x^3)]_0^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{27} = \frac{7}{27}$$

22. A random variable X has the p.d.f $f(x)$ given by $f(x) = \begin{cases} Cxe^{-x}, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$.

Find the value of C and C.D.F of X .

Answer:

$$C \int_0^{\infty} xe^{-x} dx = 1 \Rightarrow C[x(-e^{-x})]_0^{\infty} = 1$$

$$\therefore C[-0 + 1] = 1 \Rightarrow C = 1$$

$$C.D.F : F(x) = \int_0^x f(x)dx = 1 - (1+x)e^{-x} \text{ for } x \geq 0.$$

23. State the properties of cumulative distribution function.

Answer:

- i) $F(-\infty)=0$ and $F(\infty) = 1$.
- ii) $F(\infty)$ is non – decreasing function of X .
- iii) If $F(\infty)$ is the p. d. f of X , then $f(x)= F'(x)$
- iv) $P[a \leq X \leq b] = F(b) - F(a)$
