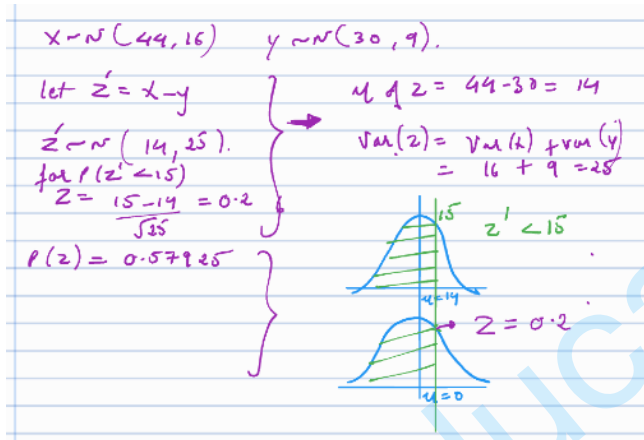


## Linear combination of discrete random variables

### Question 1

The random variables X and Y have the independent distributions  $N(44, 16)$  and  $N(30, 9)$  respectively. Find  $P(X - Y < 15)$ .



### Question 2

The random variables W and X have the independent distributions  $Po(1.2)$  and  $Po(2.3)$  respectively.

(i) Find  $P(3 \leq W + X \leq 5)$

Handwritten solution for Question 2:

$W \sim Po(1.2)$     $X \sim Po(2.3)$

Let  $Z = W + X$

$Z \sim Po(3.5)$

$P(3 \leq Z \leq 5) =$

$$\frac{3.5^3 e^{-3.5}}{3!} + \frac{3.5^4 e^{-3.5}}{4!} + \frac{3.5^5 e^{-3.5}}{5!}$$

$$= e^{-3.5} \left( \frac{3.5^3}{3!} + \frac{3.5^4}{4!} + \frac{3.5^5}{5!} \right)$$

$$= 0.53676$$

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(ii) The random variable  $S$  is the sum of 100 independent values of  $W$  and 200 independent values of  $X$ . Use a suitable approximation to find  $P(S > 600)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= (100W + 200X) && \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow 100 \times 1.2 \\ + 200 \times 2.3 \\ = 580 \end{array} \\
 S &\sim P_0(580) \\
 P(S > 600) &= 1 - P(S < 600) \\
 &\text{Approximate to normal with} \\
 &S \sim N(580, \sqrt{580}) \\
 &= 1 - P(S < 600.5) \\
 &= 1 - 0.80267 \\
 &= 0.19732
 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) The random variable  $Y$  has the distribution  $Po(\lambda)$  where  $\lambda > 0$ . It is given that  $\frac{5}{2}P(\lambda = 3) + P(\lambda = 4) = P(\lambda = 5)$ . Find the value of  $\lambda$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{5}{2}P(\lambda = 3) + P(\lambda = 4) &= P(\lambda = 5) \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \left( \frac{\lambda^3 e^{-\lambda}}{3!} \right) + \frac{\lambda^4 e^{-\lambda}}{4!} &= \frac{\lambda^5 e^{-\lambda}}{5!} \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \frac{\lambda^3}{3!} + \frac{\lambda^4}{4!} &= \frac{\lambda^5}{5!} \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \frac{\lambda^3}{6} + \frac{\lambda^4}{24} - \frac{\lambda^5}{120} &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{\lambda^3}{3!} \left( \frac{5}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{4} - \frac{\lambda^2}{4 \times 5} \right) &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{5}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{4} - \frac{\lambda^2}{20} &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{50 + 5\lambda - \lambda^2}{20} &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow -\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 50 &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \lambda = -5, \lambda = 10 &\text{ as } \lambda > 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \lambda &= 10
 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 3**

(i) The random variable  $X$  has the distribution  $Po(15)$ . Write down an expression in terms of  $e$  for  $P(X = 12)$

$$X \sim Po(15)$$

$$P(X=12) = e^{-15} \frac{15^{12}}{12!}$$

(ii) It is given that  $P(X = n) = P(X = n + 1)$  Write down an equation in  $n$ , and hence find the value of  $n$ .

$$P(X=n) = P(X=n+1)$$

$$e^{-15} \frac{15^n}{n!} = e^{-15} \frac{15^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{15^n}{n!} = \frac{15^n \cdot 15}{n! (n+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow n+1 = 15$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 14$$

**Question 4**

The random variables X and Y have independent distributions  $X \sim \text{Po}(3)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Po}(2)$  respectively.

(i) Find  $P(2 < X < 5)$ .

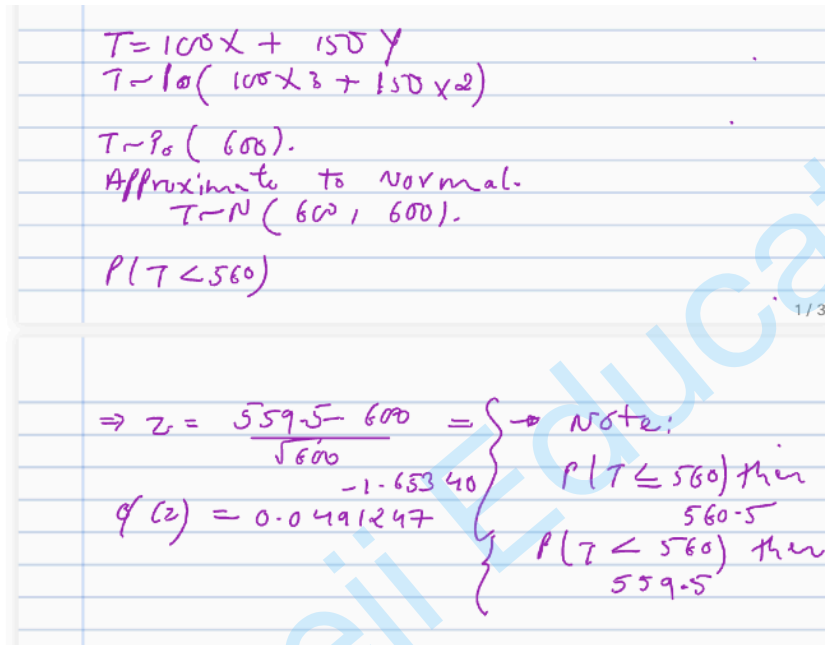
$$\begin{aligned}
 X &\sim \text{Po}(3) & Y &\sim \text{Po}(2) \\
 P(2 < X < 5) &= P(X=3) + P(X=4) \\
 &= e^{-3} \frac{3^3}{3!} + e^{-3} \frac{3^4}{4!} \\
 &= 0.392073
 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Find  $P(X + Y > 2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{let } W &= X + Y \\
 W &\sim \text{Po}(5) \\
 P(W > 2) &= 1 - P(W \leq 2) \\
 &= 1 - \left\{ P(W=0) + P(W=1) + P(W=2) \right\} \\
 &= 1 - \left\{ e^{-5} + e^{-5} \cdot 5 + e^{-5} \frac{5^2}{2!} \right\} \\
 &= 0.875
 \end{aligned}$$

## Linear combination of discrete random variables

(iii) The total of 100 random values of X and 150 random values of Y is denoted by T. Use a suitable approximating distribution to find  $P(T < 560)$ .



Handwritten solution on lined paper:

$$T = 100X + 150Y$$
$$T \sim 10(100 \times 3 + 150 \times 2)$$
$$T \sim 90(600)$$

Approximate to Normal.  
 $T \sim N(600, 600)$ .

$$P(T < 560)$$

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$$\Rightarrow z = \frac{559.5 - 600}{\sqrt{600}} = -1.65340 \rightarrow \text{Note:}$$
$$\phi(z) = 0.0491247$$

$P(T \leq 560)$  then  
 $560.5$

$P(T < 560)$  then  
 $559.5$