CS 70 Discrete Mathematics and Probability Theory Summer 2023 Huang, Suzani, and Tausik DIS 5C

1 Dice Variance

Note 16 (a) Let X be a random variable representing the outcome of the roll of one fair 6-sided die. What is Var(X)?

(b) Let Z be a random variable representing the average of n rolls of a fair 6-sided die. What is Var(Z)?

2 Elevator Variance

Note 16

A building has *n* upper floors numbered 1, 2, ..., n, plus a ground floor *G*. At the ground floor, *m* people get on the elevator together, and each person gets off at one of the *n* upper floors uniformly at random and independently of everyone else. What is the *variance* of the number of floors the elevator *does not* stop at?

3 Covariance

- Note 16
- (a) We have a bag of 5 red and 5 blue balls. We take two balls uniformly at random from the bag without replacement. Let X_1 and X_2 be indicator random variables for the events of the first and second ball being red, respectively. What is $cov(X_1, X_2)$? Recall that $cov(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[XY] \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$.

(b) Now, we have two bags A and B, with 5 red and 5 blue balls each. Draw a ball uniformly at random from A, record its color, and then place it in B. Then draw a ball uniformly at random from B and record its color. Let X_1 and X_2 be indicator random variables for the events of the first and second draws being red, respectively. What is $cov(X_1, X_2)$?