CS 70 Discrete Mathematics and Probability Theory DIS 12B

1 Probabilistic Bounds

A random variable X has variance Var(X) = 9 and expectation $\mathbb{E}[X] = 2$. Furthermore, the value of X is never greater than 10. Given this information, provide either a proof or a counterexample for the following statements.

(a) $\mathbb{E}[X^2] = 13.$

(b) $\mathbb{P}[X=2] > 0.$

(c) $\mathbb{P}[X \ge 2] = \mathbb{P}[X \le 2].$

(d) $\mathbb{P}[X \le 1] \le 8/9$.

(e) $\mathbb{P}[X \ge 6] \le 9/16.$

2 Working with the Law of Large Numbers

(a) A fair coin is tossed multiple times and you win a prize if there are more than 60% heads. Which number of tosses would you prefer: 10 tosses or 100 tosses? Explain.

(b) A fair coin is tossed multiple times and you win a prize if there are more than 40% heads. Which number of tosses would you prefer: 10 tosses or 100 tosses? Explain.

(c) A fair coin is tossed multiple times and you win a prize if there are between 40% and 60% heads. Which number of tosses would you prefer: 10 tosses or 100 tosses? Explain.

(d) A fair coin is tossed multiple times and you win a prize if there are exactly 50% heads. Which number of tosses would you prefer: 10 tosses or 100 tosses? Explain.

3 Continuous Computations

Let *X* be a continuous random variable whose PDF is cx^3 (for some constant *c*) in the range $0 \le x \le 1$, and is 0 outside this range.

(a) Find c.

(b) Find the CDF of X.

(c) Find $\mathbb{E}(X)$.