

## Section 3

1. **(Moments) (Book Exercise 3.12)** Find an example of a random variable with finite expectation and unbounded variance. Give a clear argument showing that your choice has these properties.
2. **(Tail Inequalities) (Book Exercise 3.16-3.17)** Show that the Markov and Chebyshev inequalities are tight (find random variables such that the inequalities are true with equality)
3. **(Tail Inequalities) (Book Exercise 3.21)**
  - (a) Chebyshev's inequality uses the variance of a random variable to bound its deviation from its expectation. We can also use higher moments. Suppose that we have a random variable  $X$  and an even integer  $k$  for which  $\mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X])^k]$  is finite. Show that

$$\mathbb{P}(|X - \mathbf{E}[X]| > t(\mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X])^k])^{1/k}) \leq \frac{1}{t^k}$$

- (b) Why is it difficult to derive a similar inequality when  $k$  is odd?
4. **(Tail Inequalities) (Book Exercise 3.20)**
  - (a) Let  $Y$  be a non-negative discrete random variable with positive expectation. Prove:

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[Y]^2}{\mathbf{E}[Y^2]} \leq \mathbb{P}(Y \neq 0)$$

Hint: Recall that  $(a + b)^2 \geq 2ab$ .

- (b) Derive a lower bound on  $\mathbb{P}(Y \neq 0)$  using Chebyshev's inequality. Compare this inequality to the inequality from part (a) and find a random variable where the bound from (a) is better.  
Hint: take  $a = \mathbf{E}[Y]$  in Chebyshev's inequality.