EXAM P QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

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Week of August 7/06

A loss random variable X is uniformly distributed on the interval $\left[0\,,\,1000\right]$. An insurance policy on the loss pays the following amount:

- (i) 0 if the loss is below 200,
- (ii) one-half of the loss in excess of 200 if the loss is between 200 and 500, and
- (iii) 150 plus one-quarter of the loss in excess of 500 if the loss is at least 500.

Y is the amount paid by the insurer when a loss occurs. Find the coefficient of variation of Y.

The solution can be found below.

Week of August 7/06 - Solution

The coefficient of variation of Y is $\frac{\sqrt{Var(Y)}}{E(Y)}$.

$$\begin{split} E(Y) &= \int_{200}^{500} \tfrac{1}{2} (x - 200) (.001) \, dx + \int_{500}^{1000} [150 + \tfrac{1}{4} (x - 500)] (.001) \, dx \\ &= \tfrac{45}{2} + \tfrac{425}{4} = \tfrac{515}{4} \, . \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} E(Y^2) &= \int_{200}^{500} \left[\frac{1}{2} (x - 200) \right]^2 (.001) \, dx + \int_{500}^{1000} [150 + \frac{1}{4} (x - 500)]^2 (.001) \, dx \\ &= 2250 + \frac{139,375}{6} = \frac{152,875}{6} \; . \end{split}$$

$$Var(Y) = \frac{152,875}{6} - (\frac{515}{4})^2 = \frac{427,325}{48} = 8902.6$$
.

The coefficient of variation is $\frac{\sqrt{8902.6}}{128.75} = .733$.