

1. We often abbreviate the expression  $E[X^2]$  as  $EX^2$ . But care should be taken to distinguish this from  $(E[X])^2$ . Show that  $E[X^2]$  and  $(E[X])^2$  are not in general equal by computing both values for  $X \sim \text{DUnif}\{-1, 1\}$  (i.e.  $X$  takes the value  $\pm 1$  with equal probability).
2. (\*) Player A chooses a random integer between 1 and 100, with probability  $p_j$  of choosing  $j$  (for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, 100$ ). Player B guesses the number that player A picked, and receives from player A that amount of dollars if the guess is correct (i.e. if player A picks 10 and player B guesses correctly, then player B gets \$10).
  - (a) Suppose for this part that player B knows the values of  $p_j$ . What is player B's optimal strategy to maximize **expected** earnings? *Hint: Player B does not need to make a random decision.*
  - (b) Show that if both players choose their numbers so that the probability of picking  $j$  is proportional to  $1/j$ , then neither player has an incentive to change strategies, assuming the opponent's strategy is fixed. (In game theory terminology, this says that we have found a *Nash equilibrium*). *Note: Saying that the probability of picking  $j$  is proportional to  $1/j$  means that the probability is of the form  $c/j$  for a constant  $c$  that doesn't depend on  $j$ .*  
*Hint: Let  $B$  be the amount of money won by Player B and assume that Player A uses the given strategy. Compute  $E[B]$  and show that it doesn't depend on the strategy that player B uses.*
  - (c) Suppose player B follows the strategy outlined in the previous part. Find this player's expected earnings. Express your answer both as a sum of simple terms, and as a numerical approximation. Does the value depend on the strategy that player A uses?