

Volume 4, Number 4, April 2018

**Group 5: mathematics**

# Decoding probability distributions

1

**a**  $X = \text{height of a pilot}, X \sim N(175, 13^2), P(X < a) = 0.05, a = 154\text{cm}$ . This is 21cm from the mean, so upper bound is  $175+21 = 196$ . So 90% range is 154-196cm.

**b**  $X = \text{\# of average characteristics}, X \sim B(10, 0.9), P(X = 10) = 0.387$

2

**a**  $X = \text{\# of defective screens}, X \sim B(425, \frac{7}{1000}), P(X \geq 1) = 1 - P(X = 0) = 0.949$

**b**  $X = \text{\# of defective screens}, P(X \geq 3 | X \geq 1) = \frac{P(1 \leq X \leq 3)}{P(X \geq 1)}$ . The numerator can be calculated by adding probabilities for 1, 2, and 3, and the denominator was found in (a).  
Solution is  $\frac{0.602}{0.949} = 0.634$ .

This resource is part of IB REVIEW, a magazine written for IB Diploma students by subject experts. To subscribe to the full magazine go to [www.hoddereducation.co.uk/ibreview](http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/ibreview)