

**ECS 315: Probability and Random Processes****2019/1**

HW 3 — Due: September 12, 4 PM

*Lecturer: Prapun Suksompong, Ph.D.***Instructions**

- (a) This assignment has 5 pages.
- (b) (1 pt) Hard-copies are distributed in class. Original pdf file can be downloaded from the course website. Work and write your answers **directly on the provided hardcopy/file** (not on other blank sheet(s) of paper).
- (c) (1 pt) Write your first name and the last three digits of your student ID in the spaces provided on the upper-right corner of this page.
- (d) (8 pt) Try to solve all non-optional problems.
- (e) Late submission will be heavily penalized.

**Problem 1.** If  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are disjoint events with  $P(A) = 0.2$ ,  $P(B) = 0.3$  and  $P(C) = 0.4$ , determine the following probabilities:

- (a)  $P(A \cup B \cup C)$
- (b)  $P(A \cap B \cap C)$
- (c)  $P(A \cap B)$
- (d)  $P((A \cup B) \cap C)$
- (e)  $P(A^c \cap B^c \cap C^c)$

[Montgomery and Runger, 2010, Q2-75]

**Problem 2.** The sample space of a random experiment is  $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  with probabilities 0.1, 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, and 0.2, respectively. Let  $A$  denote the event  $\{a, b, c\}$ , and let  $B$  denote the event  $\{c, d, e\}$ . Determine the following:

(a)  $P(A)$

(b)  $P(B)$

(c)  $P(A^c)$

(d)  $P(A \cup B)$

(e)  $P(A \cap B)$

[Montgomery and Runger, 2010, Q2-55]

**Problem 3. Binomial theorem:** For any positive integer  $n$ , we know that

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} x^r y^{n-r}. \quad (3.1)$$

(a) What is the coefficient of  $x^{12}y^{13}$  in the expansion of  $(x + y)^{25}$ ?

(b) What is the coefficient of  $x^{12}y^{13}$  in the expansion of  $(2x - 3y)^{25}$ ?

(c) Use the binomial theorem (3.2) to evaluate  $\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k}$ .

**Problem 4.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be events for which  $P(A)$ ,  $P(B)$ , and  $P(A \cup B)$  are known. Express the following probabilities in terms of the three known probabilities above.

(a)  $P(A \cap B)$

(b)  $P(A \cap B^c)$

(c)  $P(B \cup (A \cap B^c))$

(d)  $P(A^c \cap B^c)$

## Extra Questions

Here are some optional questions for those who want more practice.

**Problem 5. Binomial theorem:** For any positive integer  $n$ , we know that

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} x^r y^{n-r}. \quad (3.2)$$

(a) Use the binomial theorem (3.2) to simplify the following sums

(i)  $\sum_{\substack{r=0 \\ r \text{ even}}}^n \binom{n}{r} x^r (1-x)^{n-r}$

(ii)  $\sum_{\substack{r=0 \\ r \text{ odd}}}^n \binom{n}{r} x^r (1-x)^{n-r}$

(b) If we differentiate (3.2) with respect to  $x$  and then multiply by  $x$ , we have

$$\sum_{r=0}^n r \binom{n}{r} x^r y^{n-r} = nx(x+y)^{n-1}.$$

Use similar technique to simplify the sum  $\sum_{r=0}^n r^2 \binom{n}{r} x^r y^{n-r}$ .

**Problem 6.**

(a) Suppose that  $P(A) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $P(B) = \frac{2}{3}$ . Find the range of possible values for  $P(A \cap B)$ .  
Hint: Smaller than the interval  $[0, 1]$ . [Capinski and Zastawniak, 2003, Q4.21]

(b) Suppose that  $P(A) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $P(B) = \frac{1}{3}$ . Find the range of possible values for  $P(A \cup B)$ .  
Hint: Smaller than the interval  $[0, 1]$ . [Capinski and Zastawniak, 2003, Q4.22]

**Problem 7. (Classical Probability and Combinatorics)** Suppose  $n$  integers are chosen with replacement (that is, the same integer could be chosen repeatedly) at random from  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, N\}$ . Calculate the probability that the chosen numbers arise according to some non-decreasing sequence.