

**Problem 1.1.**

Consider two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , where  $X \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $Y \in \{A, B, C\}$ . Let their joint distribution be given by the following table:

	$Y = A$	$Y = B$	$Y = C$
$X = 0$	$1/16$	$1/8$	$1/16$
$X = 1$	$1/8$	$1/8$	$1/2$

1. Find the marginal distributions of  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively.
2. Find the conditional distributions of  $X$  given  $Y = B$  and given  $Y = C$ , respectively.
3. Find the conditional distribution of  $Y$  given  $X = 1$ .

**Problem 1.2.**

Roll a fair dice twice and define the sample space  $\Omega = \{\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2) \in \{1, \dots, 6\}^2\}$ .

1. Compute the following probabilities:
  - (a)  $p(\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 = \omega_2\})$ . Note: in the future, when there is no risk of confusion, we will use the short-hand notation  $p(\omega_1 = \omega_2)$  to denote  $p(\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 = \omega_2\})$ .
  - (b)  $p(\omega_1 < \omega_2)$ . *Hint:* Draw  $\Omega$  (in two dimensions) and try to identify the events  $\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 < \omega_2\}$ ,  $\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 > \omega_2\}$  and  $\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 = \omega_2\}$ .
  - (c)  $p(\omega_1 \leq \omega_2)$ .
2. For this question we need to introduce random variables. Let  $X_1 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the random variable defined by  $X_1((\omega_1, \omega_2)) = \omega_1$  and  $X_2 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $X_2((\omega_1, \omega_2)) = \omega_2$ . Furthermore, let  $Y_1 = X_1 \pmod{6}$ ,  $Y_2 = X_2 \pmod{6}$  and  $Y = (Y_1 + Y_2) \pmod{6}$ . Consider the three events  $E_1 = \{Y_1 = Y_2\}$  and  $E_2 = \{Y_1 = Y\}$ . (Once again, we are using a short-hand notation:  $E_1 = \{Y_1 = Y_2\}$  really means  $E_1 = \{\omega \in \Omega : Y_1(\omega) = Y_2(\omega)\}$ , etc.)  
Are  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  independent?

**Problem 1.3.**

Lisa has 2 coins in her pocket: a fair coin  $A$  which produces with equal probability heads and tails ( $H, T$ ) and a fake coin  $B$  which produces only tails ( $T$ ). She picks at random one of the coins and flips it twice. The sample space is  $\Omega = \{\omega = (\omega_0, \omega_1, \omega_2) \in \{A, B\} \times \{H, T\}^2\}$ . Consider the random variable  $X = (X_0, X_1, X_2)$  where  $X_i(\omega) = \omega_i$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2$ .

1. List the values of  $X$  that have non-zero probability.
2. We know that Lisa chose the coin  $A$ . For all possible values of  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , compute  $p(X_1 = s_1 | X_0 = A)$ ,  $p(X_2 = s_2 | X_0 = A)$  and  $p(\{X_1 = s_1\} \cap \{X_2 = s_2\} | X_0 = A)$ . (In order to avoid heavy notations, we use curly brackets only when necessary. That is,  $X_0 = A$  refers to the event  $\{X_0 = A\} = \{\omega \in \Omega : X_0(\omega) = A\}$ , etc.)
3. Now we assume that we do not know which coin was chosen. For all possible values of  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , compute  $p(X_1 = s_1)$ ,  $p(X_2 = s_2)$  and  $p(\{X_1 = s_1\} \cap \{X_2 = s_2\})$ . Are the

events  $E_1 = \{X_1 = H\}$  and  $E_2 = \{X_2 = H\}$  independent?

#### Problem 1.4.

Flip a fair coin 4 times, and denote the outcomes  $X = (X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3)$ . Let  $Y = (X_0, X_1)$ . Considering that heads is encoded as the digit 0 and tails as the digit 1, the outcome can be seen as a binary string which encodes an integer  $X' = X_3 \cdot 8 + X_2 \cdot 4 + X_1 \cdot 2 + X_0$ . Let  $Z = X'(\bmod 5)$ .

Compute  $H(X)$ ,  $H(Y)$  and  $H(Z)$ .

#### Problem 1.5.

In class we have seen that two events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent if  $p(A|B) = p(A)$ , or equivalently, if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ . This second definition is symmetric in  $A$  and  $B$ . It can be extended to three or more events. Indeed, we say that three events  $A, B$ , and  $C$  are independent (also sometimes called mutually independent) if

- a)  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$  and  $P(A \cap C) = P(A)P(C)$  and  $P(B \cap C) = P(B)P(C)$ .
- b)  $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$ .

In this homework problem, we show by counter-example that both conditions must be imposed: Neither does a) imply b), nor does b) imply a). For terminology, when  $A, B$  and  $C$  only satisfy a), they are called *pairwise independent* events.

1. Show by counter-example that a) does **not** imply b).  
(Construct a concrete setting: extraction of balls, throw of dice, flips of coins with three events  $A, B, C$  such that a) holds but b) does not);
2. Show by counter-example that b) does **not** imply a).  
(Construct a concrete setting with three events  $A, B, C$  such that b) holds but a) does not);