

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Class Test I

M Tech (CS), 2023 (Semester – I)

Probability and Stochastic Processes

Date: 08.09.2023

Maximum Marks : 30

Duration : 1.0 hours

Note: The question paper is of 40 marks. Answer as much as you can, but the maximum you can score is 30. Answer a question within its allotted box.

Course:(MTech/JRF/PLP) _____ **Name:** _____ **Roll Number:** _____

(Q1) Let A and B be events with probabilities $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{4}$ and $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{3}$.

(a) Show that $\frac{1}{12} \leq \Pr(A \cap B) \leq \frac{1}{3}$.

(b) Find the corresponding bounds for $\Pr(A \cup B)$.

[5+5]

(a)

$$\Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A \cup B) \geq \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - 1 = \frac{1}{12}.$$

Also, since $A \cap B \subseteq A$ and $A \cap B \subseteq B$, $\Pr(A \cap B) \leq \min\{\Pr(A), \Pr(B)\} = \frac{1}{3}$.

(b)

$$\text{For } \Pr(A \cup B) \leq \min\{\Pr(A) + \Pr(B), 1\} = 1, \text{ and } \Pr(A \cup B) \geq \max\{P(A), P(B)\} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

(Q2) Let there be n sticks each of which is broken into one long and one short part. The $2n$ parts are arranged into n pairs from which new sticks are formed. Find the probability that

- (a) the parts will be joined in the original order.
- (b) that all long parts are paired with short parts.

[6+4=10]

(a)
The possible number of arrangements is $(2n)!$. Of them, fix a couple (a long and a short part of the same stick). There are n of them. They can be permuted in $n!$ ways. Now, in an arrangement, each couple can be arranged in 2 ways, giving 2^n for n couples. So, the said probability is $\frac{2^n n!}{(2n)!}$.

(b)
Now permute n long sticks in $n!$ ways and n short sticks in $n!$ ways and pair them up in $(n!)^2$ ways. For each such arrangement, one can again order the long and short in 2 ways, leading to 2^n for n couples. Thus, the said probability is $\frac{2^n (n!)^2}{(2n)!}$ which for a better form is $\frac{2^n}{\binom{2n}{n}}$.

- (Q3) (a) Consider the following gambling game. A player holds a bet on any one of the numbers $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. Three dice are then rolled, and if the number bet by the player appears i times, $i = 1, 2, 3$, then the player wins i units. On the other hand, if the number bet by the player does not appear on any of the dice, then the player loses 1 unit. Find out if the game is fair to the player.
- (b) Let X be a random variable defined over a sample space Ω such that $E[X] = \mu$. Show that $\Pr(X \geq \mu) > 0$.

[7+3=10]

(a)

Let X be a random variable that denotes the amount won by the player. X takes the value $-1, 1, 2$ and 3 . The dice are independent. Let Y be a random variable that denotes the number of times the number bet by the player matches the number in the three dice rolled. Y can take the values $0, 1, 2$ and 3 . Also, Y follows binomial with parameters $(3, \frac{1}{6})$.

So, $\Pr(X = -1) = \Pr(Y = 0) = \binom{3}{0} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^0 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^3 = \frac{125}{216}$. Similarly, $\Pr(X = 1) = \Pr(Y = 1) = \binom{3}{1} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^1 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^2 = \frac{75}{216}$; and $\Pr(X = 2) = \Pr(Y = 2) = \binom{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^1 = \frac{15}{216}$; and $\Pr(X = 3) = \Pr(Y = 3) = \binom{3}{3} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^3 \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^0 = \frac{1}{216}$.

$E[X]$, the expectation of X , is basically the amount won by the player. $E[X] = \frac{-125+75+30+3}{216} = \frac{-17}{216}$.

As $E[X] < 0$, the player would lose in the expected case and as such the game is not fair to the player.

(b)

Assume, for a contradiction, $\Pr(X \geq \mu) = 0$. Then,

$$\mu = E[X] = \sum_x x \Pr(X = x) = \sum_{x < \mu} x \Pr(X = x) < \sum_{x < \mu} \mu \Pr(X = x) = \mu$$

which can not be. So, $\Pr(X \geq \mu) \neq 0$ and as $\Pr(\cdot) \geq 0$, we have the result.

(Q4) Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) geometric random variables, each with success probability p .

(a) Show that $\Pr(X_i > t) = (1 - p)^t$.

(b) Using the above result, prove that $\Pr(\max_i X_i > t) \leq n(1 - p)^t$.

[3+7=10]

(a)

X_i 's are i.i.d. geometric random variables. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(X_i > t) &= 1 - \Pr(X_i \leq t) \\ &= 1 - (1 - (1 - p)^t) \\ &= (1 - p)^t\end{aligned}$$

(b)

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\max_i X_i > t) &= \Pr(\text{at least one } X_i > t) \\ &= \Pr\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n (X_i > t)\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr(X_i > t) \text{ (using union bound)} \\ &= n(1 - p)^t\end{aligned}$$