

# Assignment 3

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables  
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**Question[12.13.5.9]:** On a multiple choice examination with three possible answers for each of the five questions, what is the probability that a candidate would get four or more correct answers just by guessing?

**Solution:** Let  $X$  be the number of correct answers that the candidate gets just by guessing.

$$X = \text{bin}(n, p) \quad (1)$$

Where,

$$n = 5 (\text{total no of questions}) \quad (2)$$

$$p = \frac{1}{3} (\text{probability of guessing a question correct}) \quad (3)$$

$$\therefore q = 1 - p = 1 - \frac{1}{3} \quad (4)$$

$$q = \frac{2}{3} \quad (5)$$

The probability mass function for candidate getting  $k$  correct answers just by guessing:

$$p_X(k) = \Pr(X = k) \quad (6)$$

$$= {}^nC_k \times p^k \times q^{(n-k)} \quad (7)$$

$$= {}^5C_k \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{(5-k)} \quad (8)$$

Then, the probability that the candidate gets four or more correct answers just by guessing is:

$$\Pr(X \geq 4) = p_X(4) + p_X(5) \quad (9)$$

$$= {}^5C_4 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{(5-4)} + {}^5C_5 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^5 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{(5-5)} \quad (10)$$

$$= 5 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^1 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^5 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0 \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{11}{243} \quad (12)$$

$\therefore$  The probability that a candidate would get four or more correct answers just by guessing is  $\frac{11}{243}$ .