

# Probability I: Assignment 6

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**Submit solutions to Problems 2, 6, 7 and 9 on Moodle by 30th November, 10 PM. Write down the probability space in all questions clearly before writing down the solutions.**

1. A string of  $n$  bits needs to be sent across a noisy communication channel. Any bit sent across the channel is corrupted with probability  $p$  independently. To minimize the error, the sender replicates each bit  $k$  times (say  $k$  is an odd number) and sends it across the channel. The receiver decodes the message by choosing the majority in each block of  $k$  bits. For any  $1 \leq m \leq n$ , compute the probability that there are exactly  $m$  wrongly decoded bits.
2. Suppose that  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are independent events. Let  $I_1, \dots, I_k$  be a partition of  $[n]$  i.e.,  $[n] = \sqcup_{j=1}^k I_j$ . For each  $1 \leq j \leq k$ , let  $B_j = \cup_{i \in I_j} A_i$ . Show that  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  are independent events.
3. In the above problem, define  $B_j = \cap_{i \in I_j} A_i$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$ . Show again that  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  are independent events.
4. There is a parallel system with  $n$  components. Each component works independently with probability  $p$ . The system is said to work if at least one of the components work. Find the conditional probability that there are at least  $k$  components working given that the system is working.
5. Suppose that there are  $m$  different types of coupons. A coupon of type  $i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ) is chosen with probability  $p_i$ . You select  $n$  coupons independently. What is the probability that the  $n$ th coupon is new i.e., not selected before ? <sup>1</sup>
6. There is a class of  $n$  students. Each pair of students become friends with probability  $p$  and independently of other pairs of students. A group of  $k$  students are said to form a *clique* if all of them are friends with each other. Compute the probabilities that (i) a group of  $k$  students form a clique and (ii) a group of  $k$  students form a clique and are not part of any larger clique.
7. POPULATION GENETICS: Suppose there are two types of genes, say  $A, a$ . Genes appear in (unordered) pairs in each individual i.e.,  $AA, Aa, aa$ . This

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<sup>1</sup>**Extra:** Can you find  $n$  to make this probability very small.

is called as *genotype* of an individual.<sup>2</sup> In the first generation, the proportion of the three gene types are  $u, 2v, w$  respectively where  $u, v, w \geq 0$  and  $u + 2v + w = 1$ . A child is born to two randomly chosen individuals from the first generation. The child chooses one gene at random from each individual. Let  $u_1, 2v_1, w_1$  be the probabilities that the child has genotype  $AA, Aa, aa$  respectively. Compute  $u_1, 2v_1$  and  $w_1$ .<sup>3</sup>

8. In the Urn model with  $c = -1, d = 0$  compute the probabilities of selection of red and black balls i.e., compute  $\mathbb{P}(w)$  for  $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$  where  $n = r + b$  and  $0, 1$  denoting red and black balls respectively.
9. In Polya's Urn model compute  $\mathbb{P}(B_m \cap B_n)$  for any  $m < n$ .

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<sup>2</sup>For ex.,  $A$  could cause blue-eyes and  $a$  could cause black-eyes. Then  $AA$  is white,  $Aa$  is brown and  $aa$  is black.

<sup>3</sup>**Extra:**  $u_1, 2v_1, w_1$  are interpreted as proportion of gene types in the second generation. Now compute the proportion of gene types in the third generation i.e.,  $u_2, 2v_2, w_2$ .