

# AMATH 561 Autumn 2024

## Problem Set 1

Due: Mon 10/7 at 10am

*Note: Submit electronically to Canvas.*

**1.** Describe the probability space for the following experiments: a) a biased coin is tossed three times; b) two balls are drawn without replacement from an urn which originally contained two blue and two red balls.

a) *Solution*

Actual math here

b) *Solution*

Actual math here

**2.** (No translation-invariant random integer). Show that there is no probability measure  $P$  on the integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  with the discrete  $\sigma$ -algebra  $2^{\mathbb{Z}}$  with the translation-invariance property  $P(E + n) = P(E)$  for every event  $E \in 2^{\mathbb{Z}}$  and every integer  $n$ .  $E + n$  is obtained by adding  $n$  to every element of  $E$ .

*Solution*

Show by contradiction, eventually  $P(\Omega) = 0$  but it should be 1

**3.** (No translation-invariant random real). Show that there is no probability measure  $P$  on the reals  $\mathbb{R}$  with the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  with the translation-invariance property  $P(E + x) = P(E)$  for every event  $E \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  and every real  $x$ . Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by intervals  $(a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

*Solution*

Also show by contradiction but it is a little trickier. It has to composing the right  $x$  s.t.  $E + x$  is outside the interval  $(a, b]$ .

**4.** Let  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{F} =$  all subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  so that  $A$  or  $A^c$  is countable. Let  $P(A) = 0$  in the first case and  $P(A) = 1$  in the second. Show that  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$

is a probability space. *Solution*

We want to prove something is a probability space. Therefore, we need to prove the following:

(1) prove fancy  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra which includes that it contains the complements of each set and that it contains the union of two sets.

(2) prove cap P is a probability measure which includes proving  $P(\Omega) = 1$ ,  $P(A) \geq P(\emptyset) = 0 \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{F}$ , and that  $P(\cup_i A_i) = \sum_i P(A_i)$  for  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}$  that is a countable sequence of disjoint sets.