

Homework 1: Probability and Bayes' Rule

Instructions: Your answers are due **at 11:50pm** submitted on canvas. You **must turn in a pdf through** canvas. I recommend using latex (<http://www.cs.utah.edu/~jeffp/teaching/latex/>, see also <http://overleaf.com>) for producing the assignment answers. If the answers are too hard to read you will lose points, entire questions may be given a 0 (e.g. **sloppy pictures with your phone's camera are not ok, but very careful ones are**)

Please make sure your name appears at the top of the page.

You may discuss the concepts with your classmates, but write up the answers entirely on your own. **Be sure to show all the work involved in deriving your answers! If you just give a final answer without explanation, you may not receive credit for that question.**

1. **[20 points]** Using the probability table below for the random variables X and Y , derive the following values:
 - (a) $\Pr(X \neq 0)$
 - (b) $\Pr(X = 0 \text{ OR } Y = 0)$
 - (c) $\Pr(Y = 1 \mid X = 1)$
 - (d) Are X and Y independent? Explain why.

	$X = 0$	$X = 1$
$Y = 0$	$2/3$	$1/8$
$Y = 1$	$1/6$	$1/24$

2. **[25 points]** An “adventurous” track athlete has the following running routine every morning: He takes a bus to a random stop, then hitches a ride, and then runs all the way home. The bus, described by a random variable B , has four stops where the stops are at a distance of 1, 4, 10, and 12 miles from his house – the first three stops have probability $1/6$ of occurring. The 12 mile stop has probability $1/2$ of occurring. Then the random hitchhiking takes him further from his house a uniformly distributed number of miles on the distances -4 to 5 ; that is it is represented as a random variable H with pdf described

$$f(H = x) = \begin{cases} 1/9 & \text{if } x \in [-4, 5] \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin [-4, 5] \end{cases}$$

What is the expected distance between his home and the place where he started his run?

3. **[30 points]** Consider independently rolling two fair die D_1 and D_2 ; each has a probability space of $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ which each value equally likely.

(a) What is the probability that $D_2 - D_1 = 2$?

(b) What is the expected value of $D_2 + D_1$? Hint: Try using linearity of expectation.

4. **[25 points]** This problem has a data set `D1.csv`, which is available in Canvas in the assignment description as well as in the files folder [homework/HW1]. Each row of the data set is a realization of a random vector (X_i, Y_i) where $Y_i = X_i(1 - X_i) + \epsilon_i$ where X_i is uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$ and ϵ_i is normally distributed with mean 0 and variance $1/1000$ and is independent of X_i . The rows are generated independently of one another. The first column gives the realizations of the X values. The second column gives the realizations of the Y values.

(a) Use Python to load `D1.csv` and compute and report the pearson sample correlation r_{xy}

(b) Make a scatter plot of y on the vertical axis and x on the horizontal axis for `D1.csv`. Show the scatter plot.

- (c) Without doing any mathematical calculations, and just using the plot you made for guidance, what do you think is probably the relation between $\mathbf{Var}(Y_i)$ and $\mathbf{Var}(Y_i|X_i = .5)$? Note that the value $\mathbf{Var}(Y_i|X_i = .5)$ is known as the conditional variance of Y_i given we know $X_i = .5$.

- (d) When the conditional variance is much smaller than the marginal variance, this is a good indication that Y_i and X_i are correlated in some way. But the correlation need not be linear. Recall that the pearson correlation is a measure of what specific kind of correlation?