

**Discussion 2**

Spring 2021

**1. Suspicious Game**

You are playing a card game with your friend: you take turns picking a card from a deck (you may assume that you never run out of cards). If you draw one of the special “bullet” cards, then you lose the game. Unfortunately, you do not know the contents of the deck. Your friend claims that  $1/3$  of the deck is filled with “bullet” cards. You don’t trust your friend fully, however: you believe that he is lying with probability  $1/4$ . You assume that if your friend is lying, then the opposite is true:  $2/3$  of the deck is filled with “bullet” cards!

What is the probability that you win the game if you go first?

**2. Packet Routing**

Consider a system with  $n$  inputs and  $n$  outputs. At each input, a packet appears independently with probability  $p$ . If a packet appears, it is destined for one of the  $n$  outputs uniformly randomly, independently of the other packets.

- (a) Let  $X_1$  denote the number of packets destined for the first output. What is the distribution of  $X_1$ ?
- (b) A collision happens when two or more packets are destined for the same output. What is the expected number of total collisions  $C$ ?

**3. Sampling without Replacement**

Suppose you have  $N$  items,  $G$  of which are good and  $B$  of which are bad ( $B$ ,  $G$ , and  $N$  are positive integers,  $B + G = N$ ). You start to draw items without replacement, and suppose that the first good item appears on draw  $X$ . Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[(X - 1)^2]$