

problem 1

course ₁	course ₂	GPA(G ₂)
2	2	2
2	3	2.5
3	2	2.5
3	3	3

Problem 2

(a) To find c , we recall that the PMF must sum to 1. That is,

$$\sum_{n=1}^3 P_N(n) = c \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \right) = 1. \quad (1)$$

This implies $c = 6/11$. Now that we have found c , the remaining parts are straightforward.

(b) $P[N = 1] = P_N(1) = c = 6/11.$

(c) $P[N \geq 2] = P_N(2) + P_N(3)$
 $= c/2 + c/3 = 5/11.$

(d) $P[N > 3] = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} P_N(n) = 0.$

Problem 3

Decoding each transmitted bit is an independent trial where we call a bit error a “success.” Each bit is in error, that is, the trial is a success, with probability p . Now we can interpret each experiment in the generic context of independent trials.

- (a) The random variable X is the number of trials up to and including the first success. Similar to Example 3.9, X has the geometric PMF

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} p(1-p)^{x-1} & x = 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (b) If $p = 0.1$, then the probability exactly 10 bits are sent is

$$P_X(10) = (0.1)(0.9)^9 = 0.0387. \quad (1)$$

The probability that at least 10 bits are sent is

$$P[X \geq 10] = \sum_{x=10}^{\infty} P_X(x). \quad (2)$$

This sum is not too hard to calculate. However, its even easier to observe that $X \geq 10$ if the first 10 bits are transmitted correctly. That is,

$$P[X \geq 10] = P[\text{first 10 bits correct}] = (1-p)^{10}. \quad (3)$$

For $p = 0.1$,

$$P[X \geq 10] = 0.9^{10} = 0.3487. \quad (4)$$

- (c) The random variable Y is the number of successes in 100 independent trials. Just as in Example 3.11, Y has the binomial PMF

$$P_Y(y) = \binom{100}{y} p^y (1-p)^{100-y}. \quad (5)$$

Problem 3

(Continued 2)

If $p = 0.01$, the probability of exactly 2 errors is

$$P_Y(2) = \binom{100}{2} (0.01)^2 (0.99)^{98} = 0.1849. \quad (6)$$

(d) The probability of no more than 2 errors is

$$\begin{aligned} P[Y \leq 2] &= P_Y(0) + P_Y(1) + P_Y(2) \\ &= (0.99)^{100} + 100(0.01)(0.99)^{99} + \binom{100}{2} (0.01)^2 (0.99)^{98} \\ &= 0.9207. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

(e) Random variable Z is the number of trials up to and including the third success. Thus Z has the Pascal PMF (see Example 3.13)

$$P_Z(z) = \binom{z-1}{2} p^3 (1-p)^{z-3}. \quad (8)$$

Note that $P_Z(z) > 0$ for $z = 3, 4, 5, \dots$

(f) If $p = 0.25$, the probability that the third error occurs on bit 12 is

$$P_Z(12) = \binom{11}{2} (0.25)^3 (0.75)^9 = 0.0645. \quad (9)$$

Problem 4

Each of these probabilities can be read from the graph of the CDF $F_Y(y)$. However, we must keep in mind that when $F_Y(y)$ has a discontinuity at y_0 , $F_Y(y)$ takes the upper value $F_Y(y_0^+)$.

(a) $P[Y < 1] = F_Y(1^-) = 0.$

(b) $P[Y \leq 1] = F_Y(1) = 0.6.$

(c) $P[Y > 2] = 1 - P[Y \leq 2] = 1 - F_Y(2) = 1 - 0.8 = 0.2.$

(d) $P[Y \geq 2] = 1 - P[Y < 2] = 1 - F_Y(2^-) = 1 - 0.6 = 0.4.$

(e) $P[Y = 1] = P[Y \leq 1] - P[Y < 1] = F_Y(1^+) - F_Y(1^-) = 0.6.$

(f) $P[Y = 3] = P[Y \leq 3] - P[Y < 3] = F_Y(3^+) - F_Y(3^-) = 0.8 - 0.8 = 0.$

Problem 5

- (a) With probability $1/3$, the subscriber sends a text and the cost is $C = 10$ cents. Otherwise, with probability $2/3$, the subscriber receives a text and the cost is $C = 5$ cents. This corresponds to the PMF

$$P_C(c) = \begin{cases} 2/3 & c = 5, \\ 1/3 & c = 10, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

- (b) The expected value of C is

$$E[C] = (2/3)(5) + (1/3)(10) = 6.67 \text{ cents.} \quad (2)$$

- (c) For the next two parts we think of each text as a Bernoulli trial such that the trial is a “success” if the subscriber sends a text. The success probability is $p = 1/3$. Let R denote the number of texts received before sending a text. In terms of Bernoulli trials, R is the number of failures before the first success. R is similar to a geometric random variable except $R = 0$ is possible if the first text is sent rather than received. In general $R = r$ if the first r trials are failures (i.e. the first r texts are received) and trial $r + 1$ is a success. Thus R has PMF

$$P_R(r) = \begin{cases} (1 - p)^r p & r = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

[Continued]

Problem 5

(Continued 2)

The probability of receiving four texts before sending a text is

$$P_R(4) = (1 - p)^4 p. \quad (4)$$

(d) The expected number of texts received before sending a text is

$$\mathbb{E}[R] = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r P_R(r) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} r (1 - p)^r p. \quad (5)$$

Letting $q = 1 - p$ and observing that the $r = 0$ term in the sum is zero,

$$\mathbb{E}[R] = p \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r q^r. \quad (6)$$

Using Math Fact B.7, we have

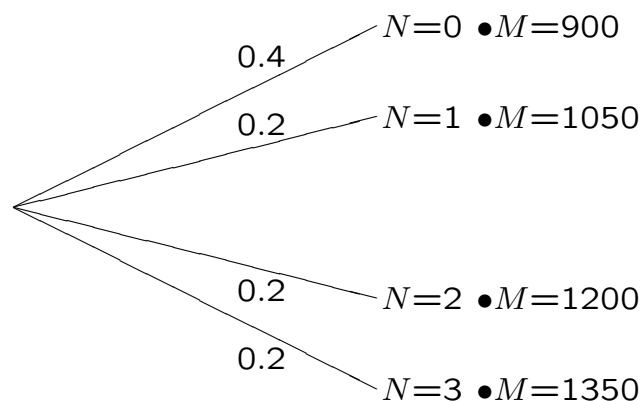
$$\mathbb{E}[R] = p \frac{q}{(1 - q)^2} = \frac{1 - p}{p} = 2. \quad (7)$$

Problem 6

(a) As a function of N , the money spent by the tree customers is

$$M = 450N + 300(3 - N) = 900 + 150N.$$

(b) To find the PMF of M , we can draw the following tree and map the outcomes to values of M :



From this tree,

$$P_M(m) = \begin{cases} 0.4 & m = 900, \\ 0.2 & m = 1050, 1200, 1350 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

From the PMF $P_M(m)$, the expected value of M is

$$\begin{aligned} E[M] &= 900P_M(900) + 1050P_M(1050) \\ &\quad + 1200P_M(1200) + 1350P_M(1350) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$= (900)(0.4) + (1050 + 1200 + 1350)(0.2) = 1080. \quad (3)$$