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- a) What is the probability that a randomly selected student from this class is a female.

Solution:

Let F denote the event of a randomly selected student is female

$$P(F) = \frac{\text{number of female students}}{\text{total number of students}} = \frac{550}{1000} = 0.55$$

- b) If a selected student from this class is female, then what is the probability that she is from Major A.

Solution:

Let F denote the event of a randomly selected student is female and A denote the event of a randomly selected student is from Major A.

$$P(A|F) = \frac{P(A \cap F)}{P(F)} = \frac{250/1000}{0.55} = 0.45$$

MATH 2240 EXAMPLES (DISCRETE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS)

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1. The number of e-mail messages received per hour has the following distribution:

x = number of messages	1	2	3	4	5
f(x)	0.15	0.15	0.30	0.20	0.20

- a. Determine the mean and standard deviation of the number of messages received per hour.

Solution:

$$\mu = \sum_{i=1}^5 x_i P(x_i) = 1 \times 0.15 + 2 \times 0.15 + 3 \times 0.30 + 4 \times 0.20 + 5 \times 0.20 = 3.15$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 x_i^2 P(x_i) = 1^2 \times 0.15 + 2^2 \times 0.15 + 3^2 \times 0.30 + 4^2 \times 0.20 + 5^2 \times 0.20 = 11.65$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{i=1}^5 x_i^2 P(x_i) - \mu^2 = 11.65 - 3.15^2 = 1.73$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{1.73} = 1.32$$

$$3^{\circ} \quad \mu = E(X) = 12$$

$$\mu = np = 12$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2 = 3$$

$$\sigma^2 = npq$$

$$\underbrace{npq}_{12q} = 3$$

$$12q = 3$$

$$q = \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$p + q = 1$$

$$p = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\therefore p = \frac{3}{4}, q = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$npq = 3$$

$$n\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = 3$$

$$n = \frac{3 \times 16}{3} = 16$$

$$4^{\circ} \quad \lambda = 2 \text{ per week}, \quad \lambda_1 = 2 \times \lambda = 2 \times 2 = 4 \text{ per fortnight}$$

$$P(X=x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} (\lambda)^x}{x!}, \quad x=0, 1, \dots$$

$$P(X < 3) = P(0) + P(1) + P(2)$$

$$= \frac{e^{-4} (4)^0}{0!} + \frac{e^{-4} (4)^1}{1!} + \frac{e^{-4} (4)^2}{2!}$$

$$\text{From the table, } = 0.0183 + 0.0733 + 0.1465 = 0.2381$$

$$5^{\circ}. \quad (A \cup B) \cap (C \cup D)$$

$$P((A \cup B) \cap (C \cup D))$$

$$[P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)] \cap [P(C) + P(D) - P(C \cap D)]$$

$$[0.8 + 0.6 - 0.48] \cap [(0.7) + \cancel{0.8} - (0.7)(0.8)]$$

$$(0.92)(0.94)$$

$$0.8648$$

OR

$$[1 - P(\bar{A}) P(\bar{B})] [1 - P(\bar{C}) P(\bar{D})]$$

$$[1 - (0.2)(0.4)] [1 - (0.2)(0.2)]$$

$$(0.92)(0.94)$$

$$0.8648$$