

**Department of Mathematics**  
**MTL 601 (Probability and Statistics)**  
**Tutorial Sheet No. 1**

1. Show that  $\mathfrak{S} \cap A$  is a  $\sigma$ -field on  $A \subset \Omega$  if  $\mathfrak{S}$  is a  $\sigma$ -field on  $\Omega$ .
2. Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  be events on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$ .
  - (i) For  $n = 3$ , if  $P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c)$ , then each equals  $\frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \sum_{i=1}^3 P(A_i) + \sum_{i>j=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 P(A_i \cap A_j) \right]$ .
  - (ii)  $P(\cap_{i=1}^n A_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) - (n-1)$ .
3. The base and altitude of a right triangle are obtained by picking points randomly from  $[0, a]$  and  $[0, b]$ , respectively. Show that the probability that the area of the triangle so formed will be less than  $ab/4$  is  $(1 + \ln 2)/2$ .
4. Consider a randomly chosen group of  $n$  ( $\leq 365$ ) persons. What is the probability that at least two of them have the same birthdays?
5. In a movie theater that can accommodate  $n + k$  persons,  $n$  persons are to be seated. What is the probability that  $r \leq n$  given seats are occupied.
6. Let a sample of size 4 be drawn with (without) replacement from an urn containing 12 balls of which 5 are white. If the sample contains 3 white balls then find the probability the ball drawn on the third draw was white.
7. A certain test is 95% accurate on those who have cancer and 95% accurate on those who do not have this type. If  $\frac{1}{4}\%$  of the people under test have this type of cancer. What is the probability that a person has this type of cancer when his test says he does?
8. If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent and  $A \subseteq B$  show that either  $P(A) = 0$  or  $P(B) = 1$ .
9. A lot of five identical batteries is life tested. The probability assignment is assumed to be  $P(A) = \int_A \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} dx$  for any event  $A \subseteq [0, \infty)$ , where  $\lambda > 0$  is a known constant. Thus the probability that a battery fails after time  $t$  is given by  $P(t, \infty) = \int_t^\infty \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} dx$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . If the times to failure of the batteries are independent, what is the probability that at least one battery will operating after  $t_0$  hours?
10. Consider measurable space  $(\Omega, F)$ , where  $\Omega = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $F = \{\phi, \Omega, \{a, b\}, \{c, d\}\}$ . Examine if the function  $X : \Omega \rightarrow R$  defined by  $X(a) = X(b) = 1$ ,  $X(c) = 1$ ,  $X(d) = 2$  is  $F$ -measurable. Find the minimal  $\sigma$ -field w.r.t which  $X$  is measurable.
11. A die is tossed two times. Define  $X$  = sum of scores and  $Y$  = absolute difference of scores on the two tosses. Identify the probability space and verify that  $X, Y$  are random variables on this probability space. Write down the events:  $\{X = 3\}$ ,  $\{Y \leq 1\}$ ,  $\{X > 5\}$ ,  $-1 < X \leq 4.5$  and determine their probabilities. Also find the p.m.f. of  $X$  and the distribution of  $Y$ . Using these determine  $P(X \leq 7 | X > 4)$  and  $P(Y > 2.5 | Y \leq 4)$ .
12. If  $X$  is a random variable on a probability space  $(\Omega, F, P)$ , then show that  $a + bX$ ,  $|X|$ ,  $X^+ = \begin{cases} X, & X \geq 0 \\ 0, & X < 0 \end{cases}$  are random variables on this probability space.
13. Let  $\Omega = [0, 1]$ . Define  $X : \Omega \rightarrow R$  by  $X(w) = \begin{cases} w, & 0 \leq w \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ w - \frac{1}{2}, & \frac{1}{2} < w \leq 1 \end{cases}$ . For any interval  $I \subseteq [0, 1]$ , define  $P(I) = \int_I 2x dx$ . Identify the probability space and verify that  $X$  is a random variable on this space. Determine the distribution function of  $X$  and use this to find  $P(X > \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $P(\frac{1}{4} < X < \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $P(X < \frac{1}{2} | X > \frac{1}{4})$ .

14. An urn contains  $n$  cards numbered  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . Let  $X$  be the least number on the  $m$  cards drawn randomly without replacement from the urn. Find probability distribution of random variable  $X$ . Compute  $P(X \geq \frac{3}{2})$ .
15. Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable taking values in the interval  $[0, 1]$ . If  $P(x < X \leq y)$ , for all  $x, y$ ,  $0 \leq x < y \leq 1$  depends only on  $(y - x)$ , then show that  $X$  has uniform probability distribution on the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
16. Let  $X$  be a random variable with distribution function

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{6} + \frac{x}{3}, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Show that  $F_X(x) = \alpha F_1(x) + (1 - \alpha) F_2(x)$  for some  $\alpha$  where  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are respectively distribution functions of a discrete and a continuous random variable. Find  $\alpha$ . Evaluate conditional probability  $P(\frac{1}{2} \leq X \leq 1 | X > \frac{1}{4})$ .

17. Let  $X$  be a random variable such that  $P(X > \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{7}{8}$  and its pdf is:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} ax, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ b - x, & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Determine  $a, b$  and find the distribution function of  $X$ .

18. Suppose  $X$ , the random number of eggs laid by a bird is a Poisson distributed random variable with parameter  $\lambda$ . The probability of an egg developing is  $p$ . Find the pmf of random variable  $Y$ , the number of eggs developing. Also find the pmf of  $|Y - 4|$ .
19. Let  $X$  be a standard normal distributed random variable. Find pdf of (i)  $Y = a + bX$  (ii)  $Y = \ln X$  (iii)  $Z = X^2$
20. A discrete random variable  $X$  has a uniform probability distribution on the set  $\{-k, -(k-1), \dots, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots, r\}$ . Find the probability distribution of (a)  $|X|$  and (b)  $(X + 1)^2$ .
21. Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with pdf

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3}{64}, & 0 \leq x \leq 4 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Find pdf of the random variable  $\min(\sqrt{X}, 2 - \sqrt{X})$ .

22. Let  $X$  be a random variable with Poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda$ . Show that the characteristic function of  $X$  is  $\varphi_X(t) = \exp[\lambda(e^{it} - 1)]$ . Hence, compute  $E(X^2)$ ,  $Var(X)$  and  $E(X^3)$ .
23. Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $N(0, \sigma^2)$ . Find the moment generating function for the random variable  $X$ . Deduce the moments of order  $n$  about zero for the random variable  $X$  from the above result.
24. The moment generating function of a discrete random variable  $X$  is given by  $M_X(t) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{1}{3}e^t$ . If  $\mu$  is the mean and  $\sigma^2$  is the variance of this random variable, find  $P(\mu - \sigma < X < \mu + \sigma)$ .