

Midterm 2 Study Guide

This midterm is all about probability concepts.

This is meant to be a representative sampling of the key concepts you will need to know, and it is not meant to be exhaustive. You should make sure that you are comfortable with Quizzes 6-9 and Homework Assignments 9-14.

1. What are the key characteristics of a *random phenomenon*?
2. What can we say about the probabilities of outcomes in a random phenomenon / probability model? Can they be any numbers? There are some restrictions to them (both on what numbers they can be, and on what their sum must be).
3. What is an *event* and how do we define its probability?
4. What is the *complement* of an event? What is a formula for its probability?
5. What is the *union* of two events, what is the *intersection* of two events? What rule must their probabilities obey?
6. What is the definition of *conditional probability*? Include a formula and also a more meaningful verbal definition.
7. What does the *multiplicative rule* say?
8. When do we say that two events are *independent* of each other? Provide some examples both of events that are independent of each other and events that are not independent of each other.
9. In general when do we tend to multiply probabilities? When do we tend to add them?
10. When can I say that $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$?
11. When can I say that $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$?
12. What are the different parts in a tree diagram / decision tree? What probabilities do we associate with each part?
13. What differentiates *random variables* from other random phenomena? Give examples of random variables
14. What conditions must we meet in order to be in the *binomial setting*?
15. What is the formula for the *binomial distribution*?
16. How do we compute the mean and the standard deviation of a random variable?
17. How do we compute the mean and standard deviation of the binomial distribution?
18. What can we say about the mean and standard deviation of a linear transformation of a variable?
19. What can we say about the mean and standard deviation of a sum of two variables?