

1. Consider two events A and B . Let $P(A) = 0.5$, $P(B) = 0.75$. Check if A and B are independent. **(2 points)**

Given data

2. (Approximating a matrix) Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Obtain the rank-1 matrix X^* which minimizes $\|A - X\|_F$, where $\|\cdot\|_F$ denotes the Frobenius norm. **(2 points)**

3. Let random variable X take values in $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Given that $p_X(1) = 0.5$, $p_X(2) = 0.4$. Compute $E(X)$ and $Var(X)$. **(2 points)**

4. Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ be the (possibly repeated) eigenvalues of $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. Show that:

$$\det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n.$$

(3 points)

Given $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are eigenvalues of A .

5. We are given three coins: the first one has heads on both sides, the second has tails on both sides, and the third has a head on one side and a tail on the other. We choose a coin uniformly at random. We will then toss it (it can land on either side with equal probability) and the result is a head. What is the probability that the other side is also a head?
Hint: You may construct the sample space as follows - $\Omega = \{(1, H), (2, T), (3, H), (3, T)\}$. Here, for each element $\omega \in \Omega$, the first entry (1, 2 or 3) indicates the coin chosen and the second entry (H or T) denotes the toss result we observe. To assign probabilities, consider the events:

$C_i : \{\text{coin-}i \text{ was chosen}\}, A : \{\text{result is } H\}.$

(3 points)

We now have, for example, $P(\{(2, T)\}) = P(C_2 \cap A^c)$.

6. An electrical system consists of six identical components (labelled 1, 2, ..., 6) as shown in the figure below. Each component is operational with probability p , independent of the other components. There are three possible “paths” that start at point A and end at point B namely, $A - 1 - 2 - 6 - B$, $A - 1 - 3 - 6 - B$ and $A - 1 - 4 - 5 - 6 - B$. The system is operational if and only if there is a path such that all components along the path are operational. For instance, if components 1, 3 and 6 are operational, the system is operational. Compute the probability that the system is operational.

Hint: You may try to decompose the system as a sequence of sub-systems, which operate independently. **(3 points)**

