

**HOMEWORK # 1 (Due to October 2, 2012, Tuesday)**

1. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two events. Use the axioms of probability to prove the following:

- $P(A \cap B) \geq P(A) + P(B) - 1$
- Show that the probability that one and only one of the events  $A$  or  $B$  occurs is  $P(A) + P(B) - 2P(A \cap B)$ .

*Note:* You may want to argue in terms of Venn diagrams, but you should also provide a complete proof, that is a step-by-step derivation, where each step appeals to an axiom or a logical rule.

2. Find  $P(A \cup (B^c \cup C^c)^c)$  in each of the following cases:

- $A, B, C$  are mutually exclusive events and  $P(A)=3/7$ .
- $P(A)=1/2, P(B \cap C)=1/3, P(A \cap C)=0$ .
- $(A^c \cap (B^c \cup C^c)) = 0.65$ .

3. Anne and Bob each have a deck of playing cards. Each flips over a randomly selected card. Assume that all pairs of cards are equally likely to be drawn. Determine the following probabilities:

- the probability that at least one card is an ace,
- the probability that the two cards are of the same suit,
- the probability that neither card is an ace,
- the probability that neither card is a diamond or club.

4. Alice and Bob each choose at random a number between zero and two. We assume a uniform probability law under which the probability of an event is proportional to its area. Consider the following events:

$A$  : The magnitude of the difference of the two numbers is greater than  $1/3$ .

$B$  : At least one of the numbers is greater than  $1/3$ .

$C$  : The two numbers are equal.

$D$  : Alice's number is greater than  $1/3$ .

Find the probabilities  $P(B), P(C), P(A \cap D)$ .

5. Bob has a peculiar pair of four-sided dice. When he rolls the dice, the probability of any particular outcome is proportional to the product of the outcome of each die. All outcomes that result in a particular product are equally likely.

- What is the probability of the product being even?
- What is the probability of Bob rolling a 2 and a 3?

**NEXT QUESTIONS ARE FOR IENG & CENG M.S. (BONUS FOR IMIS)**

6. Let  $A, B, C, A_1, \dots, A_n$  be some events. Show the following identities. A mathematical derivation is required, but you can use Venn diagrams to guide your thinking.

- $P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) - P(B \cap C) - P(A \cap C) + P(A \cap B \cap C)$

- $P\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^n A_k\right) = P(A_1) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3) + \dots + P(A_1^c \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}^c \cap A_n)$

7. Consider an experiment whose sample space is the real line. Let  $\{a_n\}$  an increasing sequence of numbers that converges to  $a$  and  $\{b_n\}$  a decreasing sequence that converges to  $b$ . Show that

$$\lim_{n \leftarrow \infty} P([a_n, b_n]) = P([a, b])$$

Here, the notation  $[a, b]$  stands for the closed interval  $\{x \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$ .

*Note:* This result seems intuitively obvious. The issue is to derive it **using the axioms of probability theory**.