

Time: 30 minutes

Max. Marks: 10

Name and Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:**

- Do not plagiarize. Do not assist your classmates in plagiarism.
- Show your full solution for the questions to get full credit.
- Attempt all questions that you can.
- True/False questions will get full credit only if the justification and answer are both correct.
- In the unlikely case that you find a question ambiguous, discuss it with an invigilating TA/invigilator. Please ensure that you clearly write any assumptions you make, even after clarification from the invigilator.

1. (3 points) State True or False. Mathematically prove it if True else provide a counter example.

- (a) (1 point) If  $P(a|b, c) = P(b|a, c)$ , then  $P(a|c) = P(b|c)$
- (b) (1 point) If  $P(a|b) = P(a)$  then  $P(a|b, c) = P(a|c)$
- (c) (1 point) The expression  $\sum_{b', c', d'} P(A)P(d'|A, b', c')P(c'|A, b')P(b'|A)$  is equivalent to  $P(A)$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) (1 point) **True.** By the product rule we know  $P(b, c)P(a|b, c) = P(a, c)P(b|a, c)$ , which by assumption reduces to  $P(b, c) = P(a, c) \Rightarrow P(b|c)P(c) = P(a|c)P(c)$ . Dividing through by  $P(c)$  gives the result.
- (b) (1 point) **False.** While the statement  $P(a|b) = P(a)$  implies that  $a$  is independent of  $b$ , it does not imply that  $a$  is conditionally independent of  $b$  given  $c$ . A counter-example:  $a$  and  $b$  record the results of two independent coin flips, and  $c$  equals the **xor** of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (c) (1 point) **True.**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{b', c', d'} P(A)P(d'|A, b', c')P(c'|A, b')P(b'|A) \\
 &= \sum_{b', c', d'} P(A)P(d'|A, b', c')P(c', b'|A) \\
 &= \sum_{b', c', d'} P(A)P(d'|A, b', c')P(c', b'|A) \\
 &= \sum_{b', c', d'} P(A)P(b', c', d'|A) \\
 &= P(A) \sum_{b', c', d'} P(b', c', d'|A) \\
 &= P(A)
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $P(b', c', d'|A)$  is a conditional probability mass distribution and its sum should be equal to one, when summed over all the random variables  $(b', c', d')$

2. (2 points) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be Boolean random variables. You are given:  $P(A = \text{true}) = 0.5$ ,  $P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{true}) = 1$ , and  $P(B = \text{true}) = 0.75$ . What is  $P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{false})$ ?

**Solution:** The simplest way to solve this is to realize that

$$P(B = \text{true}) = P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{true})P(A = \text{true}) + P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{false})P(A = \text{false})$$

Using this fact, you can solve for  $P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{false})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{false}) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) &= \frac{3}{4} \\ \Rightarrow P(B = \text{true}|A = \text{false}) &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

3. (3 points) We have a bag of three biased coins  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  with probabilities of coming up heads of 30%, 60%, and 75%, respectively. One coin is drawn randomly from the bag (with all coins equally likely to be drawn), and then the coin is flipped three times to generate the outcomes  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ , and  $X_3$ .
- (a) (1 point) Draw the Bayesian network corresponding to this setup and define the necessary CPTs.
- (b) (2 points) Calculate which coin was most likely to have been drawn from the bag if the observed flips come out heads twice and tails once.

**Solution:**

- (a) (1 point) With the random variable  $C$  denoting which coin  $\{a, b, c\}$  we drew, the network has  $C$  at the root and  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ , and  $X_3$  as children. The CPT for  $C$  is:  $P(C = a) = P(C = b) = P(C = c) = 1/3$ . The CPT for  $X_i$  is the same for  $i = 1, 2, 3$  and is given by:  $P(X_i = \text{heads}|C = a) = 0.3$ ,  $P(X_i = \text{heads}|C = b) = 0.6$ ,  $P(X_i = \text{heads}|C = c) = 0.75$ . The probability of  $X_i = \text{tails}$  can be computed as  $1 - P(X_i = \text{heads}|C)$  from above.
- (b) (1 point) The coin most likely to have been drawn from the bag given this sequence is the value of  $C$  with greatest posterior probability  $P(C|2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails})$ . Now,

$$P(C|2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}) = P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C)P(C)/P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}) \quad (1)$$

$$\propto P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C)P(C) \quad (2)$$

$$\propto P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C) \quad (3)$$

where in the second line we observe that the constant of proportionality  $1/P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails})$  is independent of  $C$ , and in the last we observe that  $P(C)$  is also independent of the value of  $C$  since it is, by hypothesis, equal to  $1/3$ . From the Bayesian network we can see that  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are conditionally independent given  $C$ , so,

$$P(X_1 = \text{tails}, X_2 = \text{heads}, X_3 = \text{heads}|C = a) = P(X_1 = \text{tails}|C = a)P(X_2 = \text{heads}|C = a)P(X_3 = \text{heads}|C = a) = 0.7 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 = 0.063$$

Note that since the CPTs for each coin are the same, we would get the same probability above for any ordering of 2 heads and 1 tails. Since there are three such orderings, we have

$$P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C = a) = 3 \times 0.063 = 0.189$$

Similar calculations to the above find that

$$P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C = b) = 0.432$$

$$P(2 \text{ heads}, 1 \text{ tails}|C = c) = 0.422$$

showing that coin  $b$  is most likely to have been drawn.