

Engineering Probability and Statistics

Homework 1

Q1) An experiment involves tossing a pair of dice, one green and one red, and recording the numbers that come up. If x equals the outcome on the green die and y the outcome on the red die, describe the sample space S by listing the elements (x, y) ;

Q2) If an experiment consists of throwing a die and then drawing a letter at random from the English alphabet, how many points are there in the sample space?

Q3) Find the errors in each of the following statements:

(a) The probabilities that an automobile salesperson will sell 0, 1, 2, or 3 cars on any given day in February are, respectively, 0.19, 0.38, 0.29, and 0.15.

(b) The probability that it will rain tomorrow is 0.40, and the probability that it will not rain tomorrow is 0.52.

(c) The probabilities that a printer will make 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 or more mistakes in setting a document are, respectively, 0.19, 0.34, -0.25, 0.43, and 0.29.

(d) On a single draw from a deck of playing cards, the probability of selecting a heart is $1/4$, the probability of selecting a black card is $1/2$, and the probability of selecting both a heart and a black card is $1/8$.

Q4) A pair of fair dice is tossed. Find the probability of getting (a) a total of 8; (b) at most a total of 5.

Q5) In a high school graduating class of 100 students, 54 studied mathematics, 69 studied history, and 35 studied both mathematics and history. If one of these students is selected at random, find the probability that

- (a) the student took mathematics or history;
- (b) the student did not take either of these subjects;
- (c) the student took history but not mathematics.

Q6) It is common in many industrial areas to use a filling machine to fill boxes full of product. This occurs in the food industry as well as other areas in which the product is used in the home, for example, detergent. These machines are not perfect, and indeed they may A, fill to specification, B, underfill, and C, overfill. Generally, the practice of underfilling is that which one hopes to avoid. Let $P(B) = 0.001$ while $P(A) = 0.990$.

- (a) Give $P(C)$.
- (b) What is the probability that the machine does not underfill?
- (c) What is the probability that the machine either overfills or underfills?

Q7) The probability that a regularly scheduled flight departs on time is $P(D) = 0.83$; the probability that it arrives on time is $P(A) = 0.82$; and the probability that it departs and arrives on time is $P(D \cap A) = 0.78$. Find the probability that a plane (a) arrives on time, given that it departed on time, and (b) departed on time, given that it has arrived on time.

Q8) A class in advanced physics is composed of 10 juniors, 30 seniors, and 10 graduate students. The final grades show that 3 of the juniors, 10 of the seniors, and 5 of the graduate students received an A for the course. If a student is chosen at random from this class and is found to have earned an A, what is the probability that he or she is a senior?

Q9) In an experiment to study the relationship of hypertension and smoking habits, the following data are collected for 180 individuals:

	Nonsmokers	Moderate Smokers	Heavy Smokers
<i>H</i>	21	36	30
<i>NH</i>	48	26	19

where H and NH in the table stand for Hypertension and Nonhypertension, respectively. If one of these individuals is selected at random, find the probability that the person is

- (a) experiencing hypertension, given that the person is a heavy smoker;
- (b) a nonsmoker, given that the person is experiencing no hypertension.

Q10) In a certain region of the country it is known from past experience that the probability of selecting an adult over 40 years of age with cancer is 0.05. If the probability of a doctor correctly diagnosing a person with cancer as having the disease is 0.78 and the probability of incorrectly diagnosing a person without cancer as having the disease is 0.06, what is the probability that an adult over 40 years of age is diagnosed as having cancer?

Q11) A regional telephone company operates three identical relay stations at different locations. During a one-year period, the number of malfunctions reported by each station and the causes are shown below.

Station	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>
Problems with electricity supplied	2	1	1
Computer malfunction	4	3	2
Malfunctioning electrical equipment	5	4	2
Caused by other human errors	7	7	5

Suppose that a malfunction was reported and it was found to be caused by other human errors. What is the probability that it came from station C?

Q12) Suppose that the four inspectors at a film factory are supposed to stamp the expiration date on each package of film at the end of the assembly line. John, who stamps 20% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 200 packages; Tom, who stamps 60% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 100 packages; Jeff, who stamps 15% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 90 packages; and Pat, who stamps 5% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 200 packages. If a customer complains that her package of film does not show the expiration date, what is the probability that it was inspected by John?