

Probability, midterm exam practice.

The midterm will consist in eight such exercises.

Exercise 1. Prove that

$$\mathbb{P}(E \cup F \cup G) = \mathbb{P}(E) + \mathbb{P}(F) + \mathbb{P}(G) - \mathbb{P}(E^c F G) - \mathbb{P}(E F^c G) - \mathbb{P}(E F G^c) - 2\mathbb{P}(E F G)$$

Exercise 2. Roll three dice. Find the probability that there are at least two five given that there is at least one five.

Exercise 3. Find the conditional probability that a uniform poker hand has at least 3 aces given that it has at least 2.

Exercise 4. In New York, 51% of the adults are females. One adult is randomly selected for a survey involving credit card usage. It is later learned that the selected survey subject was smoking. Also, 9.5% of males smoke, whereas 1.7% of females smoke. Use this additional information to find the probability that the selected subject is a male.

Exercise 5. Assume the sample space consists of a countably infinite number of points. Show that not all points can be equally likely.

Exercise 6. Thirty people are invited to a party. Each person accepts the invitation, independently of all others, with probability $1/4$. Let X be the number of accepted invitations. Compute the following $\mathbb{E}(X)$, $\text{Var}(X)$, $\mathbb{E}(X^2 + X + 5)$.

Exercise 7. Suppose that the sample space S contains three elements $\{1, 2, 3\}$, with probabilities 0.5, 0.2, and 0.3 respectively. Suppose $X(s) = s^2 - 4$ for $s \in S$. Compute $\mathbb{E}(|X|)$ and $\text{Var}(|X|)$.

Exercise 8. Suppose X is Poissonian random variable with parameter $\lambda_1 = 1$, Y is an independent Poissonian random variable with $\lambda_2 = 3$, and Z is a Poissonian random variable with parameter $\lambda_3 = 4$. Assume X and Y and Z are independent. Compute $\mathbb{P}(X + Y + Z = 8)$, $\mathbb{E}(X^2 Y^2 Z)$.

Exercise 9. I have noticed that during every given minute, there is a $1/1000$ chance that my instagram page will get a *like*, independently of what happens during any other minute. Let L be the total number of likes during 24 hours. Compute exactly the expectation and variance of L , and the probability that $L = 5$. Compute approximately the probability that L is at least 2.

Exercise 10. Consider an infinite sequence of independent tosses of a coin that comes up heads with probability p . What is the probability that the fifth head occurs on the twentieth toss.

Exercise 11. Thirty people have independent birthdays uniformly among 365 possible days. Let X be the number of pairs of people with the same birthday (if

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everyone has the same birthday, then $X = 30 \times 29/2$). Let Y be the number ways of choosing a triple of three people that share a birthday. Compute $\mathbb{E}(X)$, $\text{Var}(X)$, $\mathbb{E}(Y)$.