

(A1, B1) (30pts)

**Exam A.**

- (a) True (b) False (c) True (d) True  
 (e) False (f) True (g) False (h) False  
 (i) True (j) False

**Exam B.**

- (a) False (b) True (c) True (d) False  
 (e) False (f) True (g) True (h) False  
 (i) False (j) True

(A2, B2) (10pts)

**Exam A.** Let  $E$  be the event that the top prize is at least \$10,000,000. Then, we have: (i)  $P(E) = p$ , and  $P(E^c) = 1 - p$ , (ii)  $P(\{X = x\}|E) = \frac{15^x e^{-15}}{x!}$ , (iii)  $P(\{X = x\}|E^c) = \frac{10^x e^{-10}}{x!}$ .

(a) (5pts) By the law of total probability and (i)-(iii),  $P(\{X = x\}) = P(\{X = x\}|E)P(E) + P(\{X = x\}|E^c)P(E^c) = \frac{15^x e^{-15}}{x!} \cdot p + \frac{10^x e^{-10}}{x!} \cdot (1 - p)$ .

(b) (5pts) By the Bayes rule and (i)-(iii),  $P(E|\{X = n\}) = \frac{P(\{X=n\}|E)P(E)}{P(\{X=n\}|E)P(E) + P(\{X=n\}|E^c)P(E^c)} = \frac{\frac{15^n e^{-15}}{n!} \cdot p}{\frac{15^n e^{-15}}{n!} \cdot p + \frac{10^n e^{-10}}{n!} \cdot (1-p)} = \frac{(15^n e^{-5}) \cdot p}{(15^n e^{-5}) \cdot p + (10^n) \cdot (1-p)}$ .

**Exam B.** Let  $E$  be the event that the top prize is at least \$5,000,000. Then, we have: (i)  $P(E) = p$ , and  $P(E^c) = 1 - p$ , (ii)  $P(\{X = x\}|E) = \frac{15^x e^{-8}}{x!}$ , (iii)  $P(\{X = x\}|E^c) = \frac{10^x e^{-5}}{x!}$ .

(a) (5pts) By the law of total probability and (i)-(iii),  $P(\{X = x\}) = P(\{X = x\}|E)P(E) + P(\{X = x\}|E^c)P(E^c) = \frac{8^x e^{-8}}{x!} \cdot p + \frac{5^x e^{-5}}{x!} \cdot (1 - p)$ .

(b) (5pts) By the Bayes rule and (i)-(iii),  $P(E|\{X = n\}) = \frac{P(\{X=n\}|E)P(E)}{P(\{X=n\}|E)P(E) + P(\{X=n\}|E^c)P(E^c)} = \frac{\frac{8^n e^{-8}}{n!} \cdot p}{\frac{8^n e^{-8}}{n!} \cdot p + \frac{5^n e^{-5}}{n!} \cdot (1-p)} = \frac{(8^n e^{-3}) \cdot p}{(8^n e^{-3}) \cdot p + (5^n) \cdot (1-p)}$ .

(A3, B5) (8pts) Because the three events  $\{X < Y\}$ ,  $\{X > Y\}$ , and  $\{X = Y\}$  form a partition of the sample space  $\Omega$ , we have

$$1 = P(\Omega) = P(\{X < Y\} \cup \{X > Y\} \cup \{X = Y\}) = P(\{X < Y\}) + P(\{X > Y\}) + P(\{X = Y\}).$$

Because  $X$  and  $Y$  have identical distribution and are independent, we have

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = P(X = i)P(Y = j) = p_i p_j = P(X = j)P(Y = i) = P(X = j, Y = i),$$

for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 6$ , and therefore  $P(\{X < Y\}) = P(\{X > Y\})$ . So,

$$2 \cdot P(\{X < Y\}) + P(\{X = Y\}) = 1 \Rightarrow P(\{X < Y\}) = \frac{1}{2}[1 - P(\{X = Y\})].$$

The last thing is to show

$$\begin{aligned} P(\{X = Y\}) &= P(\{X = 1, Y = 1\} \cup \{X = 2, Y = 2\} \cup \cdots \cup \{X = 6, Y = 6\}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^6 P(\{X = i, Y = i\}) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i^2. \end{aligned}$$

**(A4, B6)** (15pts)

- (a) (3pts) The random variable  $3 - X_1 - X_2 - X_3$  represents the number of tails that appear in the 3 flips. So, it follows Binomial(3,  $1 - p$ ) distribution. An alternative view: Let  $Y_i = 1 - X_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Then,  $Y_i = 1$ , if a tail appears on the  $i$ th flip, and  $Y_i = 0$ , if a head appears on the  $i$ th flip. So,  $Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1 - p)$ , and  $3 - X_1 - X_2 - X_3 = Y_1 + Y_2 + Y_3 \sim \text{Binomial}(3, 1 - p)$ .

- (b) (4pts)  $P(A_{1,2}) = P(\{X_1 = 1, X_2 = 1\} \cup \{X_1 = 0, X_2 = 0\}) = p^2 + (1 - p)^2$ . Similarly,  $P(A_{1,3}) = P(A_{2,3}) = p^2 + (1 - p)^2$ . For  $P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3}) &= P(\{X_1 = 1, X_2 = 1, X_3 = 1\} \cup \{X_1 = 0, X_2 = 0, X_3 = 0\}) \\ &= p^3 + (1 - p)^3. \end{aligned}$$

- (c) (4pts) When  $p = 1/2$ , from (b), we have  $p(A_{1,2}) = P(A_{1,3}) = P(A_{2,3}) = 1/2$ , and  $P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3}) = 1/4$ . Because

$$P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3}) = \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = P(A_{1,2})P(A_{1,3}),$$

the two events  $A_{1,2}$  and  $A_{1,3}$  are independent.

- (d) (4pts) Note that

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3} \cap A_{2,3}) &= P(\{X_1 = 1, X_2 = 1, X_3 = 1\} \cup \{X_1 = 0, X_2 = 0, X_3 = 0\}) \\ &= p^3 + (1 - p)^3. \end{aligned}$$

When  $p = 1/2$ , because

$$P(A_{1,2} \cap A_{1,3} \cap A_{2,3}) = \frac{1}{4} \neq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = P(A_{1,2})P(A_{1,3})P(A_{2,3}),$$

the three events  $A_{1,2}$ ,  $A_{1,3}$ , and  $A_{2,3}$  are not mutually independent. However, using the same approach as in (c), we can infer that they are pairwise independent.

**(A5, B7)** (15pts)

- (a) (7pts) For the possible outcomes of  $(Y_1, Y_2)$ , we have

$$P(\{Y_1 = y_1, Y_2 = y_2\}) = \begin{cases} (1 \times 2)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (1, 2) \text{ or } (2, 1), \\ (1 \times 3)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (1, 3) \text{ or } (3, 1), \\ (1 \times 4)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (1, 4) \text{ or } (4, 1), \\ (2 \times 3)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (2, 3) \text{ or } (3, 2), \\ (2 \times 4)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (2, 4) \text{ or } (4, 2), \\ (3 \times 4)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (3, 4) \text{ or } (4, 3), \\ (2 \times 1)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (2, 2), \\ (3 \times 2)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (3, 3), \\ (4 \times 3)/(10 \times 9), & \text{if } (y_1, y_2) = (4, 4), \end{cases}$$

and the possible outcomes of  $X$  are:

$$X = |Y_1 - Y_2| = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (1, 2) \text{ or } (2, 1), \\ 2, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (1, 3) \text{ or } (3, 1), \\ 3, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (1, 4) \text{ or } (4, 1), \\ 1, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (2, 3) \text{ or } (3, 2), \\ 2, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (2, 4) \text{ or } (4, 2), \\ 1, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (3, 4) \text{ or } (4, 3), \\ 0, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (2, 2), \\ 0, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (3, 3), \\ 0, & \text{if } (Y_1, Y_2) = (4, 4). \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the probability mass function of  $X$  is

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} P(X=0) = (2+6+12)/90 = 20/90 = 10/45, & \text{if } x=0, \\ P(X=1) = (2 \times 2 + 6 \times 2 + 12 \times 2)/90 = 40/90 = 20/45, & \text{if } x=1, \\ P(X=2) = (3 \times 2 + 8 \times 2)/90 = 22/90 = 11/45, & \text{if } x=2, \\ P(X=3) = (4 \times 2)/90 = 8/90 = 4/45, & \text{if } x=3, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(b) (3pts)

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=1}^3 xP(X=x) = \frac{0 \times 10 + 1 \times 20 + 2 \times 11 + 3 \times 4}{45} = 54/45 = 1.2.$$

(c) (5pts) You can apply the definition of variance, i.e., calculate  $\sum_{x=1}^3 (x-1.2)^2 P(X=x)$ , to get the answer. However, a more computationally efficient approach is to calculate

$$E(X^2) = \sum_{x=1}^3 x^2 P(X=x) = \frac{0 \times 10 + 1 \times 20 + 4 \times 11 + 9 \times 4}{45} = 20/9,$$

and then

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2 = 20/9 - (1.2)^2 = 176/225 \approx 0.782.$$

(A6, B4) (12pts)

(a) (2pts) Binomial( $n, p$ ).

(b) (10pts) By (a), the probability that a 5-component system can operate effectively is

$$P(X_5 \geq 3) = \sum_{x=3}^5 \binom{5}{x} p^x (1-p)^{5-x} = 10 \cdot p^3 (1-p)^2 + 5 \cdot p^4 (1-p) + p^5 \equiv \delta_5(p),$$

and the probability that a 3-component system can operate effectively is

$$P(X_3 \geq 2) = \sum_{x=2}^3 \binom{3}{x} p^x (1-p)^{3-x} = 3 \cdot p^2 (1-p) + p^3 \equiv \delta_3(p).$$

The question wants us to find those  $p$ 's satisfying

$$\delta_5(p) - \delta_3(p) = 3p^2(2p^3 - 5p^2 + 4p - 1) > 0.$$

The hint tells us that  $p=1$  is a root of  $\delta_5(p) - \delta_3(p) = 0$ . Use this information to factorize  $\delta_5(p) - \delta_3(p)$  into  $3p^2(p-1)^2(2p-1)$ , and the answer is  $\frac{1}{2} < p < 1$ .

(A7, B3) (10pts)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot P(X > n) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot \left[ \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} P(X=k) \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} [n \cdot P(X=k)] \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} [n \cdot P(X=k)] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} n \right) \cdot P(X=k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + (k-1)] \cdot P(X=k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k(k-1)}{2} \cdot P(X=k) \\ &= E \left[ \frac{X(X-1)}{2} \right] = \frac{1}{2} [E(X^2) - E(X)] = \frac{1}{2} \{ \text{Var}(X) + [E(X)]^2 - E(X) \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\lambda + \lambda^2 - \lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda^2. \end{aligned}$$