

**Tutorial 3**<sup>1</sup>  
**September 25/26, 2008**

1. Consider an experiment in which a fair four-sided die (with faces labeled 0, 1, 2, 3) is thrown once to determine how many times a fair coin is to be flipped. In the sample space of this experiment, random variables  $N$  and  $K$  are defined by

- $N$  = the result of the die roll
- $K$  = the total number of heads resulting from the coin flips

Determine and sketch each of the following functions for all values of their arguments:

- (a)  $p_N(n)$
  - (b)  $p_{K|N}(k | 2)$
  - (c)  $p_{N|K}(n | 2)$
  - (d)  $p_K(k)$
  - (e) Determine the conditional PMF for random variable  $N$ , given that the experimental value of  $K$  is an odd number.
  - (f) Compute the expected value and variance for the distribution you computed in part (b).
2. The newest invention of the 6.041/6.431 staff is a three-sided die. On any roll of this die, the outcome  $x$  is:

$$p_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } x = 1 \\ \frac{1}{4}, & \text{if } x = 2 \\ \frac{1}{4}, & \text{if } x = 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Consider a sequence of six independent rolls of this die, and let  $x_i$  be the random variable corresponding to the  $i$ th roll.

- (a) What is the probability that exactly three of the rolls have an outcome equal to 3?
  - (b) What is the probability that the first roll is 1, given that exactly two of the six rolls had an outcome of 1?
  - (c) We are told that exactly three of the rolls resulted in 1 and exactly three resulted in 2. Given this information, what is the probability that the sequence 121212 resulted?
  - (d) Conditioned on the event that at least one roll resulted in 3, find the conditional PMF of the number of 3's.
3. A company is interviewing potential employees. Suppose that each potential employee is either qualified or unqualified. The company tries to determine this by asking 20 true or false questions. A candidate gets a  $C$  for each correct answer, and an  $I$  for each incorrect answer. A qualified candidate has probability  $p$  of answering a question correctly, while an unqualified candidate has a probability  $p$  of answering incorrectly, with questions independent of each other. If the company considers anyone with at least 15  $C$ 's qualified, and everyone else unqualified, what is the probability that the 20 questions will correctly categorize the candidate? Is there enough information to answer this question?

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