

## HOMEWORK 2

Due Thursday, April 20, at the beginning of discussion

1. Prove the following identity

$$\binom{n+m}{r} = \binom{n}{0} \binom{m}{r} + \binom{n}{1} \binom{m}{r-1} + \cdots + \binom{n}{r} \binom{m}{0}.$$

*Hint: You can use a combinatorial proof that is in some ways similar to the proof we did in class of the identity  $\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r} + \binom{n-1}{r-1}$ .*

2. A box contains 3 marbles: 1 red, 1 green and 1 yellow. Consider an experiment that consists of randomly taking 1 marble from the box and then replacing it in the box and drawing a second marble from the box.
  - (a) Describe the sample space in words and in set form.
  - (b) Suppose the second marble is drawn without replacing the first marble. Again, describe the sample space in words and in set form.
  - (c) In the case of (b), describe, in words and in set form, the event that the green ball escaped being drawn.
3. Two dice are thrown. Let  $E$  be the event that the sum of the dice is odd, let  $F$  be the event that at least one of the dice lands on 1, and let  $G$  be the event that the sum is 5. Describe, both in sentences and in set-notation, the events
  - (a)  $E \cap F$ ,
  - (b)  $E \cup F$ ,
  - (c)  $F \cap G$ ,
  - (d)  $E \cap F^c$ ,
  - (e)  $(E \cap F \cap G)^c$ .
4.  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  take turns flipping a coin (assume that  $A$  flips first, then  $B$ , then  $C$ , then  $A$ , and so on). The first one to get a head wins and the experiment stops. The sample space of this experiment can be defined by

$$S = \{1, 01, 001, 0001, \dots\} \cup \{0000 \dots\}.$$

- (a) Interpret, in words, the sample space.
- (b) Define the following events in terms of  $S$ :

- (i)  $E_A$  = the event that  $A$  wins.
- (ii)  $E_B$  = the event that  $B$  wins.
- (iii)  $(E_A \cup E_B)^c$ .

5. Let  $E$  and  $F$  be two events. Let  $G$  be the event when exactly one of  $E$  or  $F$  happens.
- (a) Write  $G$  in set-form.
  - (b) Prove (using the axioms of probability) that  $P(G) = P(E) + P(F) - 2P(EF)$ .
6. Prove (using the axioms of probability) that

$$P(EF^c) = P(E) - P(EF).$$

Additionally, draw a Venn diagram that explains the situation.

7. Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events for which  $P(A) = 0.3$  and  $P(B) = 0.5$ . What is the probability that
- (a) either  $A$  or  $B$  occurs?
  - (b)  $A$  occurs but  $B$  does not?
  - (c) both  $A$  and  $B$  occur?
8. If it is assumed that all  $\binom{52}{5}$  5-card poker hands are equally likely, what is the probability of being dealt
- (a) a flush? *(all 5 cards in the hand are of the same suit)*
  - (b) one pair? *(there are 2 cards of the same number, say,  $a$ , and the remaining 3 cards have numbers  $b, c$ , and  $d$ , where  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  are all distinct)*
  - (c) two pairs? *(there are 2 cards of the same number, say,  $a$ , 2 other cards of the same number,  $b$ , and the remaining card has number  $c$ , where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are all distinct)*
  - (d) three of a kind? *(there are 3 cards of the same number, say,  $a$ , and the remaining 2 cards have numbers  $b$  and  $c$ , where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are all distinct)*
  - (e) four of a kind? *(there are 4 cards of the same number, say,  $a$ , and the remaining card has number  $b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are distinct)*