# Massachusetts Institute of Technology <br> Department of Electrical Engineering \& Computer Science <br> 6.041/6.431: Probabilistic Systems Analysis 

(Fall 2010)

## Recitation 7

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1. Problem 2.35, page 130 in the text. Verify the expected value rule

$$
\mathbf{E}[g(X, Y)]=\sum_{x} \sum_{y} g(x, y) p_{X, Y}(x, y),
$$

using the expected value rule for a function of a single random variable. Then, use the rule for the special case of a linear function, to verify the formula

$$
\mathbf{E}[a X+b Y]=a \mathbf{E}[X]+b \mathbf{E}[Y],
$$

where $a$ and $b$ are given scalars.
2. Random variables $X$ and $Y$ can take any value in the set $\{1,2,3\}$. We are given the following information about their joint PMF, where the entries indicated by a * are left unspecified:

(a) What is $p_{X}(1)$ ?
(b) Provide a clearly labeled sketch of the conditional PMF of $Y$ given that $X=1$.
(c) What is $\mathbf{E}[Y \mid X=1]$ ?
(d) Is there a choice for the unspecified entries that would make $X$ and $Y$ independent?

Let $B$ be the event that $X \leq 2$ and $Y \leq 2$. We are told that conditioned on $B$, the random variables $X$ and $Y$ are independent.
(e) What is $p_{X, Y}(2,2)$ ?
(If there is not enough information to determine the answer, say so.)
(f) What is $p_{X, Y \mid B}(2,2 \mid B)$ ?
(If there is not enough information to determine the answer, say so.)
3. Problem 2.33, page 128 in the text. A coin that has probability of heads equal to $p$ is tossed successively and independently until a head comes twice in a row or a tail comes twice in a row. Find the expected value of the number of tosses.

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