

# MAT 1600 : Probability I

## Assignment 1, due September 21, 2016

1. (a) *Inclusion-exclusion*

Show that  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$  for any pair of events  $A, B$ .

(b) *Conditional probability*

Given an event  $E$  with  $P(E) \neq 0$ , define

$$P(A|E) = \frac{P(A \cap E)}{P(E)}.$$

Show that  $P(\cdot|E)$  defines a probability measure (on which probability space?)

2. (Durrett 1.1.6) A set  $A \subset \{1, 2, \dots\}$  is said to have **asymptotic density**  $\theta$  if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} |A \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}| = \theta.$$

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of sets for which the asymptotic density exists.

(a) Is  $\mathcal{A}$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra? an algebra?

(b) Is  $\theta$  additive?  $\sigma$ -additive on  $\mathcal{A}$ ?

3. *Monotone limits*

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an algebra. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under countable increasing unions, i.e.,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j \in \mathcal{A}$  whenever  $E_j \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $E_j \subset E_{j+1}$  for each  $j = 1, 2, \dots$

Prove that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra, i.e.,  $\mathcal{A}$  is in fact closed under general countable unions.

4. (Durrett 1.2.3) Show that a distribution function  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$  has at most countably many discontinuities.

5. (a) *Change of variables (Durrett 1.2.5)*

Suppose  $X$  has continuous density  $f$ , that  $P(\alpha \leq X \leq \beta) = 1$ , and that  $g$  is a strictly increasing, differentiable function on  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . Show that  $Y = g(X)$  has density

$$\begin{cases} \frac{f(g^{-1}(y))}{g'(g^{-1}(y))}, & \text{if } g(\alpha) < y < g(\beta), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In particular, when  $g(x) = ax + b$  with  $a > 0$ , then the density of  $Y$  is  $\frac{1}{a} f\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$ .

(b) *Log-normal distribution (Durrett 1.2.6)*

Find the density of  $\exp(X)$  when  $X$  has a standard normal distribution.

6. (a) (Durrett 1.2.7) Suppose  $X$  has density function  $f$ . Compute the distribution function of  $Y = X^2$  and then differentiate it to find its density function.

(b) *Chi-square distribution*

Find the density of  $X^2$  when  $X$  has a standard normal distribution.