

**TOPICS IN PROBABILITY THEORY AND
STOCHASTIC PROCESSES**

**Home Work 1, due on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4,
Instructor: Prof. Artem Zvavitch**

Problem 1. *If three fair dice are tossed, what is the probability that the sum is 6? what is the probability that one of the dice shows 1 given that the sum of all three is 6?*

Problem 2. *If three fair dice are tossed, what is the average number of the sum? What about 781 dice?*

Problem 3. *Suppose X is a random variable such that*

$$\mathbb{P}(X = -2) = \mathbb{P}(X = -1) = \frac{1}{6}, \quad \mathbb{P}(X = 0) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(X = 2) = \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = \frac{1}{12}.$$

Please, find $\mathbb{E}[X]$, $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$ and $\text{Var} X = \mathbb{E}[X - \mathbb{E}X]^2$. Assume Y is an independent copy of X , please, find $\mathbb{E}[3X + 6Y]$ and $\mathbb{E}[XY]$. Please, also compute $\mathbb{E}[X|X + Y = 0]$.

Problem 4. *Assume X is a uniform random variable on the interval $[-1, 1]$ (i.e. X has a density function $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}$, for $x \in [-1, 1]$ and $f(x) = 0$ otherwise). Please, find cumulative distribution function $F(x) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x)$, $\mathbb{E}[X]$, $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$ and $\text{Var} X$.*

Problem 5. *The joint density of random variables X and Y is given by*

$$f(x, y) = \frac{e^{-x/y} e^{-y}}{y}, \quad \text{where } 0 < x < \infty, 0 < y < \infty.$$

Compute $E[X|Y = y]$.

Problem 6. *Let X_i , $i \geq 0$ be independent and identically distributed random variable with probability mass function $p(k) = \mathbb{P}(X_i = k)$, for $k = 1, \dots, m$ (and $\sum_{j=1}^m p(j) = 1$).*

Find $\mathbb{E}[N]$, where $N = \min\{n : X_n = X_0\}$. (Hint: use conditional expectation!)

Problem 7. (5 bonus points) *Assume X and Y are a uniform random variables on the interval $[-1, 1]$. Find $\mathbb{E}[X|X + Y = y]$.*