

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
Department of Mathematics  
MATH4240 - Stochastic Processes - 2020/21 Term 2

**Homework 1**

**Due date: January 22, 2021**

Please hand in your answers on Blackboard to all questions below.

**Q1.** A plane is missing, and it is presumed that it was equally likely to have gone down in any of 3 possible regions. Let  $1 - \beta_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , denote the probability that the plane will be found upon a search of the  $i$ -th region when the plane is, in fact, in that region. ( $\beta_i$ : overlook probability). What is the conditional probability that the plane is in the  $i$ -th region given that a search of region 1 is unsuccessful?

**Q2.** Consider a random variable  $X$  taking the values

$$k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

with probability

$$p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \in [0, 1]$$

respectively, where  $p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n = 1$ . Write down the formula for the expected value of  $f(X)$  for a given function  $f(\cdot)$ .

**Q3.** Exercises of textbook (Chapter 1, starting from page 41): 4.

**Q4.** Compute the distribution of  $X + Y$  in the following cases:

- (a)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent binomial random variables with parameters  $(n, p)$  and  $(m, p)$ .
- (b)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent Poisson random variables with means respective  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ .
- (c)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent normal random variables with respective parameters  $(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$ .

**Q5.** Read materials on *Law of Large Number* and *Central Limit Theorem* in the book “*A First Course in Probability*” by Ross (Chapter 8), and write down the statements of both theorems.