

Midterm Examination

(Total: 120 points)

There are 3 problems, each problem with 4 parts, each part worth 10 points.

Your answer should be as clear and readable as possible. In particular, if the answer involves a pmf or pdf, make sure to identify the values or intervals for which the pmf or pdf is nonzero.

1. *Coin with random bias.*

A random variable P is drawn uniformly from the interval $[0, 1]$. Then a coin with bias P is flipped three times. Assume that the value of the bias does not change during the sequence of tosses.

- (a) What is the probability that all three flips are heads?
- (b) Find the probability that the second flip is heads given that the first flip is heads.
- (c) Is the second flip independent of the first flip?
- (d) What is the conditional pdf of the bias P given the first flip is heads?

2. *Two independent uniform random variables.*

Let X and Y be independently and uniformly drawn from the interval $[0, 1]$.

- (a) Find the pdf of $U = \max(X, Y)$.
- (b) Find the pdf of $V = \min(X, Y)$.
- (c) Find the pdf of $W = U - V$.
(Hint: In case you are stuck, you can start working on part (d) first.)
- (d) Find the probability $P\{|X - Y| \geq 1/2\}$.

3. *One-bit quantization of Gaussian sources.*

Let $X \sim N(0, 1)$ and let

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } X \geq 0, \\ -1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Thus Y encodes the sign of X .

- (a) Find the pmf of Y .
- (b) What is the conditional pdf of X given the observation that X is nonnegative? In other words, find $f_{X|Y}(x|1)$.
- (c) Find the minimum MSE (mean squared error) estimator of X given Y . That is, find the estimator $g(y)$ that minimizes the MSE

$$E[(X - g(Y))^2].$$

- (d) What is the associated MSE?