

**MATHEMATICS 391**

ASSIGNMENT 2

Due: September 16, 2015

01• **Elementary Probability:** article 38•.

02• Let  $X$  be a (nonempty) finite set and let  $P$  be a probability function on  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ . Let  $Y$  be a finite set of real numbers. Let  $F$  be a mapping carrying  $X$  to  $Y$ . One defines the probability function  $Q$  on  $\mathcal{P}(Y)$  as follows:

$$Q(B) := P(F^{-1}(B))$$

where  $B$  is any subset of  $Y$ . One refers to  $Q$  as the *distribution* of  $F$  (relative, of course, to  $P$ ). For each positive integer  $k$ , one defines the *k-th moment*  $m_k(F)$  of  $F$  as follows:

$$m_k(F) := \sum_{x \in X} F(x)^k P(x) = \sum_{y \in Y} y^k Q(y)$$

See article 41• in the booklet **Elementary Probability**. One refers to  $m(F) \equiv m_1(F)$  as the *mean* of  $F$  or, very often, as the *expectation* of  $F$ . One defines the *variance*  $v(F)$  of  $F$  as follows:

$$v(F) = m_2(F) - m_1(F)^2$$

Verify that:

$$v(F) = \sum_{x \in X} (F(x) - m(F))^2 P(x) = \sum_{y \in Y} (y - m(F))^2 Q(y)$$

One defines the *standard deviation*  $s(F)$  of  $F$  as the square root of the variance:

$$s(F) = \sqrt{v(F)}$$

Now let  $n$  be a positive integer. With reference to articles 34°, 36°, 37°, and (especially) 43• in the booklet **Elementary Probability**, find the mean and the variance of the random variable  $\bar{F}$  defined on the bernoulli  $n$ -trial space  $(\bar{X}, \bar{P})$  by assigning to each trial:

$$\bar{x} = \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \cdots \epsilon_n$$

the number of “successes” which occur in it:

$$\bar{F}(\bar{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \epsilon_j$$

03• With reference to article 53° in the booklet **Elementary Probability**, prove that, for any  $y$  in  $Y$  and  $z$  in  $Z$ :

$$Q_z(y) = \frac{R_y(z)Q(y)}{\sum_{\bar{y} \in Y} R_{\bar{y}}(z)Q(\bar{y})}$$

and:

$$R_y(z) = \frac{Q_z(y)R(z)}{\sum_{\bar{z} \in Z} Q_{\bar{z}}(y)R(\bar{z})}$$

These relations are the formal statements of **Bayes' Theorem**. Apply the theorem to the following context. ....