

Homework 9, Morally due Tue Apr 23, 3:30PM

**THIS HW IS TWO PAGES!!!!!!!!!!!!**

1. (40 points) Throughout this problem Bill has a 2-sided dice with numbers 1,2 and a 3-sided die with numbers 1,2,3.
  - (a) (15 points) Assume both dice are fair. Bill throws both of them. For  $2 \leq i \leq 5$  give the prob that the sum is  $i$ .
  - (b) (20 points) Let  $0 \leq p \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . Assume the 2-sided dice is fair but the 3-sided dice has  
Prob of 1 =  $p$   
Prob of 2 =  $1 - 2p$   
Prob of 3 =  $p$   
Bill throws both of them. For  $2 \leq i \leq 5$  give the prob that the sum is  $i$ .
  - (c) (5 points) Let  $p$  be as in the last part. Is there a value of  $p$  such that all of the sums 2, 3, 4, 5 come up with the same probability.
  - (d) (0 points but thing about it) Can you load two 6-sided dice to get fair sums?

**SOLUTION TO PROBLEM ONE**

1) Both dice are fair.

$$\text{Prob}(2) = \text{Prob of } (1,1) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(3) = \text{Prob or either } (1,2) \text{ or } (2,1) = 2 \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(4) = \text{Prob or either } (1,3) \text{ or } (2,2) = 2 \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(5) = \text{Prob or } (2,3) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}.$$

2)

$$\text{Prob}(2) = \text{Prob of } (1,1) = \frac{1}{2} \times p = \frac{p}{2}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(3) = \text{Prob or either } (1,2) \text{ or } (2,1) = \frac{1}{2} \times (1 - 2p) + \frac{1}{2}p = \frac{1-p}{2}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(4) = \text{Prob or either } (1,3) \text{ or } (2,2) = \frac{1}{2} \times p + \frac{1}{2} \times (1 - 2p) = \frac{1-p}{2}.$$

$$\text{Prob}(5) = \text{Prob or } (2,3) = \frac{1}{2} \times p = \frac{p}{2}.$$

3) If  $p = 1/2$  then all of the probabilities are  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

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2. (60 points) On the planet Vorlon they play a game that is similar to what we call Poker but with a different deck of cards.

Every card has a rank from  $\{1, 2, \dots, 7\}$ .

Every card has a suite from  $\{R, B\}$ .

Every player gets 3 cards.

In most of the questions we will ask for the prob of a certain type of hand. Give the answer to 4 places since the last question is to rank them.

- (a) What is prob of a straight that is NOT a flush (e.g.,  $3R, 4R, 5B$ )  
We DO allow wrap-around, so 7-1-2 counts.
- (b) What is prob of a flush that is NOT a straight (e.g.,  $2R, 4R, 9R$ )
- (c) What is prob of a straight flush (e.g.,  $3R, 4R, 6R$ ) We DO allow wrap-around, so 7-1-2 counts.
- (d) What is prob of a pair (e.g.,  $3R, 3B, 7R$ ). Note that a pair cannot be a straight of a flush.
- (e) What is prob of getting NOTHING- a hand that is neither a straight, nor a flush, nor does it contain 2 of a kind. (e.g.,  $3R, 5R, 6B$ )
- (f) Rank the types of hands from most likely to least likely.

### SOLUTION TO PROBLEM TWO

Note that the total number of hands is  $\binom{14}{3} = 364$ .

- (a) A straight that is NOT a flush.  
Pick a rank  $r$  — there are 7 ways to do this. Then you have  $r, r + 1, r + 2$ . Now pick for each card R or B, but DO NOT pick RRR or BBB so you pick one of 6 R-B sequences. So 42. So prob is  $\frac{42}{364} = \frac{3}{26} \sim 0.12$ . NOTE FOR LATER: 42 ways to get a straight, NOT a flush.
- (b) A flush that is NOT a straight (e.g.,  $2R, 4R, 9R$ )  
Pick a suit — there are 2 ways to do this. Then pick 3 ranks — there are  $\binom{7}{3}$  ways to do that. NO- need to make sure they are

not a straight. There are 7 straights: 123, 234, ..., 712. So prob is  $2 \times \left(\binom{7}{3} - 7\right) = 2(35 - 7) = 2 \times 28 = 56$ . So Prob is  $\frac{56}{364} \sim 0.154$ . NOTE FOR LATER: 56 ways to get a flush, NOT a straight.

(c) A straight flush.

Pick a rank — there are 7 ways to do this. Pick a suite — there are 2 ways to do this. So there are  $7 \times 2 = 14$  ways to get a straight flush. So prob is  $\frac{14}{364} \sim 0.038$ .

NOTE FOR LATER: 14 ways to get a straight flush.

(d) A pair.

Pick a rank — there are 7 ways to do this. The suits are determined — one will be R and one will be B. Then pick the other card — there are  $14 - 2 = 12$  ways to do this. So there are  $7 \times 12 = 84$  ways to get a pair. So prob is  $\frac{84}{364} \sim 0.23$ .

NOTE FOR LATER: 84 ways to get a pair.

(e) NOTHING.

All of the above types are disjoint. Hence we need only subtract. The number of hands with NOTHING is

$364 - 42 - 56 - 14 - 84 = 168$ . So the prob of getting nothing is  $\frac{168}{364} \sim 0.46$ .

(f) RANK: from most likely to least likely:

NOTHING: Prob  $\sim 0.46$ .

A PAIR: Prob  $\sim 0.23$ .

FLUSH THAT IS NOT A STRAIGHT: Prob  $\sim 0.154$ .

STRAIGHT THAT IS NOT A FLUSH: Prob  $\sim 0.12$ .

STRAIGHT FLUSH: Prob  $\sim 0.038$ .