

Lecture #18: Probability Distributions

Questions for Review

1. What is an **experiment**? What are the **outcomes** associated with an experiment, and what is its **sample space**?
2. What does it mean for a set to be **countable**? What (concerning “countability”) is being studied when **discrete probability theory** is being studied?
3. What is an **event**?
4. What is a **probability distribution**? How can this be extended, so that it can be applied to **events**?
5. What is the **uniform probability distribution** for an experiment with a finite sample space, Ω ? What is the probability of an event $\alpha \subseteq \Omega$, using this probability distribution?
6. What is the **complement**, \bar{A} , of an event A ? How are the probabilities of A and \bar{A} related?
7. Suppose A and B are both events. How are the probabilities of the events A , B , $A \cap B$ and $A \cup B$ related? How can this be used to find a simple **upper bound** on $P(A \cup B)$, for a probability distribution P and a pair of events A and B ?
8. What is the **union bound**?