MATH 3160 - Probability - Spring 2020

Please write Your name:

Show all work: either write at least a sentence explaining your reasoning, or annotate your math work with brief explanations. Correct answer with no solution will give only a partial credit. There is NO need to simplify, and NO calculators are allowed. You may leave your answer in terms of sums, products, factorials or binomial coefficients, and fractions.

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(1) Suppose we roll two dice, and consider events $A = \{$ the first die is a 5 $\}$, $B = \{$ the sum is 10 $\}$. Are these two events independent? Explain.

Answer: $\mathbb{P}(A) = 1/6$, $\mathbb{P}(B) = 1/12$, $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = 1/36$, therefore A and B not independent.

(2) In the same situation, compute $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B)$ and $\mathbb{P}(B \mid A)$.

Answer: $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = 1/3$, $\mathbb{P}(B \mid A) = 1/6$

Suppose that

- a flu test indicates the presence of the flu $\frac{4}{5}$ of the times when the patient actually has the flu (this is called the true positive rate);
- the same test indicates the absence of flu $\frac{4}{5}$ of the times when the patient actually does not have the flu (this is called the true negative rate);
- currently $\frac{1}{4}$ of the population has the flu.

(3) For a random person, what is the probability that the flu test is positive?

Answer: $\frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{7}{20}$

(4) Calculate the probability that a random person actually has the flu, given that the flu test is positive.

Answer:
$$\frac{\frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{7}{20}} = \frac{4}{7}$$