

$P(\cdot)$

$$P(X \geq a) \leq \frac{E(X)}{a}$$

$$E(X) \geq E(X \mathbb{1}_{X \geq a}) \geq a E(\mathbb{1}_{X \geq a}) = a P(X \geq a)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow P(X \geq a) \leq \frac{E(X)}{a}$$

## Probability theory II - Exam 17.12.2019

The exam lasts 3 hours. Only pen and paper are allowed on the exam. Grading: **6 points** are enough to pass; **14 points** are enough to get 5. Points may be awarded for partial solutions, correct ideas etc.; please write everything down.

PROBLEM 1. (4 points) In a certain city, there are  $N$  subway stations arranged in a line, so that they are connected as follows:

$$1 \longleftrightarrow 2 \longleftrightarrow \dots \longleftrightarrow N$$

At day zero, at the station 1 there is an ice-cream stall. Every day, its owner chooses uniformly at random among the following two or three possibilities: either move the stall to a neighboring station, or stay where it is (there are two choices when the stall is at stations 1 or  $N$ , and 3 choices otherwise). Let  $p_t$  be the probability that the stall is at station 1 again at day  $t$ . Compute the limit  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_t$ . Justify your answer.

PROBLEM 2. (4 points) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two independent standard Gaussian random variables, and let  $Z = X - 2Y$ . Compute

$$E(e^{-X} | Z).$$

PROBLEM 3. Let  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  be independent random variables such that

$$P(\xi_i = -1) = 1 - P(\xi_i = 1) = p,$$

where  $0 < p \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , and denote

$$S_n := \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n.$$

- (1) (2 points) Prove that  $S_n - (1-2p)n$  is a martingale with respect to the filtration  $\mathcal{F}_k = \sigma(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k)$ .
- (2) (2 points) Is this martingale uniformly integrable?
- (3) (4 points) Let  $\tau = \min\{n : S_n = 1\}$ . Compute  $E(\tau)$ .

$$P(X_n \geq an) \leq e^{-n \frac{a^2}{2}}$$

maybe

$$S_n \quad p = 1 - P(\xi_i = 1)$$

$$p + P(\xi_i = 1) = 1$$

$$= P(\xi_i = 1)$$