MATH3010 Information Theory

Lectures and Tutorials

Lectures take place in Carslaw 275 at 3.05 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Tutorials, which start in the second week, are held at 1.05 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Carslaw 361. Students should attend a tutorial each week. Note that tutorial participation is considered to be an important part of the course, and decisions on any requests for special consideration will be influenced by the student’s participation record. If you are unable to attend tutorials (or lectures) because of a timetable clash, please inform the lecturer.

Notes and Solutions

A book of notes entitled Information Theory is available for purchase from KopyStop (Shop 3, 55 Mountain Street Broadway), for $10. It is essential that students obtain a copy. The lectures will follow the notes closely, and unless otherwise stated explicitly the entire content of the notes will be examinable. This applies even to sections that may not be covered in detail in lectures: students are expected to read the notes as well as attend lectures.

Solutions to tutorial questions will be available from the web page http://www.maths.usyd.edu.au/u/UG/SM/MATH3010/ in the week following the tutorial. To view or print these solutions you will need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. Information on how to install this can be supplied on request.

Assessment

One assignment will be set, to be collected in Week 9, and quizzes will be held in Weeks 4 and 11. The quizzes will each be worth 5% of the final assessment, the final examination will be worth 80% and the assignment worth 10%. However, a student who scores \( x \) out of 90 for examination plus quizzes and \( y \) out of 10 for the assignment will have their assignment mark replaced by \( x/9 \) if this is greater than \( y \), and replaced by \( 2x/9 \) if this is less than \( y \). Thus a student who scores 27 out of 90 for exam plus quizzes will be given at least 3 out of 10 but no more than 6 out of 10 for the assignment.

Assignments will be collected in lectures. Students are encouraged to discuss assignment problems with other students, but their final submitted work must be the result of individual effort and independent of written work of others. The assignment mark formula described above is designed to ensure that a student with limited understanding of the assignment problems does not benefit disproportionally by attempting to reproduce the work of others.

Note that past examination papers for this unit of study have not been released; however, a sample examination paper will be made available later in the semester.

Consultation Times

The lecturer’s timetable is posted on his office door (Carslaw 523) and also on the web at http://www.maths.usyd.edu.au/u/bobh/UoS/rhttbl.html where lunch times on Mondays and Thursdays are specified as consultation times. Students may also try other times.

Further Information

Please see the Senior Level Mathematics Handbook for general information about senior level mathematics, as well as a list of reference books for MATH3010. This information is also posted on the web.