These questions were covered in details during the discussion sections.

- 1. A store is faced with taking one of the following 3 actions:
  - (a)  $a_1$ : increase sales force by 10%
  - (b)  $a_2$ : maintain current sales force
  - (c)  $a_3$ : decrease sales force by 10%

Depending on the future state of the economy, good  $(\theta_1)$ , bad  $(\theta_2)$ , terrible  $(\theta_3)$ , the store will face losses depending on the action it takes. Note that a negative loss implies a profit. The company

	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$
$\theta_1$	-10	-5	-3
$\theta_2$	-5	-5	-2
$\theta_3$	1	0	-1

believes that  $\theta$  has the probability distribution  $\xi(\theta_1) = 0.2$ ,  $\xi(\theta_2) = 0.3$ , and  $\xi(\theta_3) = 0.5$ . Order the actions according to their prior expected loss and state the action that should be taken.

- 2. Suppose  $\theta$  is the probability of getting tails when flipping a coin. Your knowledge tells you that  $\theta$  can only be equal to 0.25, 0.50 or 0.75. As an experiment, you flip a coin 10 times and obtained 6 tails. What is the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) of  $\theta$ ?
- 3. In a clinical trial, let the probability of successful outcome  $\theta$  have a prior distribution that is the uniform distribution on the interval [0, 1]. Suppose that the first patient has a successful outcome. Find the Bayes estimator of  $\theta(1-\theta)$  under the squared error loss.
- 4. Suppose that  $X_1, ..., X_n$  form a random sample from an exponential distribution for which the value of the parameter  $\beta$  is unknown. Find the MLE of  $\sqrt{\beta}$ .
- 5. Suppose that  $X_1, ..., X_n$  form a random sample from a normal distribution for which the value of the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are unknown. Find the MLE of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ .