

(1) Let  $(Y_n, \mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be a martingale.

(i) Show that  $\mathbb{E}[Y_n] = \mathbb{E}[Y_0]$  for all  $n$ .

(ii) Show that  $\mathbb{E}[Y_{n+m} | \mathcal{F}_n] = Y_n$  for all  $n, m \geq 0$ .

(2) A *supermartingale* is a sequence  $(X_k, \mathcal{F}_k)_{k \geq 0}$  for which  $\mathbb{E}[X_k^-] < \infty$  and  $\mathbb{E}[X_{k+1} | \mathcal{F}_k] \leq X_k$ . Let  $X$  be a discrete-time Markov chain with countable state space  $S$  and transition matrix  $\mathbf{P}$ . Suppose that  $\psi : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is bounded and satisfies  $\sum_{j \in S} p_{ij} \psi(j) \leq \lambda \psi(i)$  for some  $\lambda > 0$  and all  $i \in S$ . Show that  $\lambda^{-n} \psi(X_n)$  constitutes a supermartingale.

(3) Let  $S_n$  be a symmetric, simple random walk with  $S_0 = 0$ . Use Hoeffding's inequality to show that

$$\mathbb{P}\{|S_n^2 - n| \geq xn^{3/2}\} \leq 2e^{-x^2/6}.$$

(4) If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are stopping times with respect to a filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ , show that  $T_1 + T_2$ ,  $\max\{T_1, T_2\}$ , and  $\min\{T_1, T_2\}$  are stopping times also.

(5) Let  $\{S_n\}$  be a simple random walk with  $S_0 = 0$  such that  $0 < p = \mathbb{P}\{S_1 = 1\} < \frac{1}{2}$ . Note that the walk escapes to  $-\infty$  a.s., so there exists some (random) point above which the walk never reaches. Use de Moivre's martingale to show that  $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{m \geq 0} S_m] = \frac{p}{1-2p}$ .