

# GE2262 Business Statistics

## Topic 2 Basic Probability

Lecturer: Dr. Iris Yeung  
Room : LAU-7239  
Tel No.: 34428566  
E-mail: msiris@cityu.edu.hk

1

## Outline

- Basic Probability Concepts
- Conditional Probability
- Counting Rules

2

## Part 1

- Basic Probability Concepts
- Conditional Probability
- Counting Rules

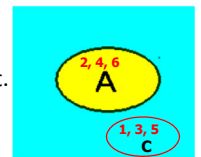
3

## Experiment, Sample Space, Event

- **Random Experiment**
  - Is a process which results in ONE of a number of possible outcomes.
  - **Random** means we don't know the result of the experiment beforehand
    - Throw a die – gives one of the six possible outcomes, we don't know which number shows up before we throw a die



- **Sample Space (S)**
  - Is the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment
    - Sample space of throwing a die is  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
    - Each of the possible outcome in S is called a **simple event** or a **basic outcome**. Example:  $\{1\}$ ,  $\{2\}$ , ...
- **Event**
  - Is a collection of some possible outcomes of the experiment.
  - Is a subset of the sample space
    - Examples:  $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$ ,  $C = \{1, 3, 5\}$
  - An event occurs when any one of the outcomes in the event occurs.
    - Example: when a number 4 shows up in throwing a die, event A is said to occur.

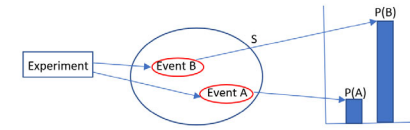


## Mutually Exclusive and Collectively Exhaustive

- Events are said to be **mutually exclusive** if one and only one of them can occur at a time.
  - Throw a die example:  $A=\{2, 4, 6\}$ ,  $B=\{1,2,3\}$ ,  $C=\{1,3,5\}$
  - Events A and C are mutually exclusive
  - Events A and B, Events B and C are not mutually exclusive
- A list of events is said to be **collectively exhaustive** if it includes every possible outcome of the experiment.
  - Events A, B, C are collectively exhaustive
  - $\{2,4,6,1,2,3,1,3,5\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

## Probability of an Event

- A **probability**, which is a numerical value, is assigned to each event to denote the **chance** that the event will occur



- Probability value is between 0 and 1, inclusive  $0 \leq P(\text{event}) \leq 1$
- When  $P(\text{event}) = 0$ , that event has no chance of occurring
  - The event is called **Impossible** event
  - Example: probability of obtaining number 7 in throwing a die = 0
- When  $P(\text{event}) = 1$ , that event is sure to occur
  - The event is called **Certain** event
  - Example:
    - $P(S)=1$
    - The probability of obtaining either 1, or 2, or 3, or 4, or 5, or 6 in throwing a die = 1 (the event comprises the sample space)

6

## Three Methods to Find Probability

- A priori classical probability method**
  - Calculate the probability **objectively** based on prior or theoretical knowledge of the process
- Empirical** method (relative frequency method)
  - Calculate the probability **objectively** based on observed data
- Subjective** method
  - Determine probability based on a person's experiences, opinions, and analysis of a particular situation

7

## A priori / Theoretical Method

- Assume the outcomes are equally likely to occur.
- Use counting techniques to count the number of possible outcomes in the sample space and the event
- The probability of event A is:

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{No of possible outcomes in A}}{\text{No of possible outcomes in S}} = \frac{n(A)}{n}$$

- Throw a die example
  - $S=\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
  - $A=\{2, 4, 6\}$ ,  $B=\{1,2,3\}$ ,  $C=\{1,3,5\}$

$$P(A) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}, P(B) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}, P(C) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

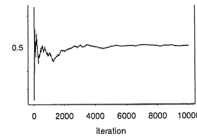
## Empirical Method ( Relative Frequency Concept of Probability)

- Repeat the experiment  $n$  times under the same condition.
- The empirical probability of an event is determined by the number of times the event occurred (relative frequency)

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{number of times the event occurred}}{n}$$

- Example: tossing a fair coin 100 times, 58 heads are obtained.

$$P(H) = \frac{58}{100} = 0.58$$



- Example: tossing a biased coin 100 times, 20 heads are obtained

$$P(H) = \frac{20}{100} = 0.2$$

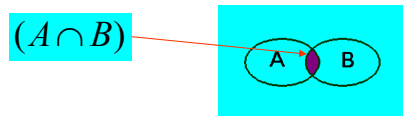
## Subjective Method

- Determine the probability based on a person's experiences, opinions, and analysis of a particular situation
  - It may differ from person to person
  - It is **useful in situations when a priori or empirical probability cannot be computed**
- Example:
  - Manager A assigns a 60% probability of success to its **new** ad campaign
  - Manager B is less optimistic and assigns a 40% of success to the **new** ad campaign

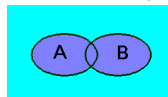
10

## Union and Intersection

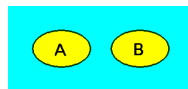
- Given events A and B in a sample space, the **intersection** of A and B ( denoted by **A AND B** , **AB** ,  $A \cap B$  ) is the event that both A and B occur



- The union of A and B (denoted by **A OR B** ,  $A \cup B$  ) is the event that either one or both events occur (whole purple area)



- If A and B are **mutually exclusive**, one and only one of them can occur at a time, they cannot both occur and their circles do not overlap



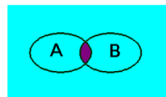
## Union and Intersection

Throw a die example :

Event A = { 2, 4, 6 }, Event B = { 1, 2, 3 }, S = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 }

**Intersection**

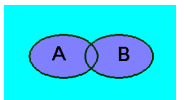
$$A \text{ and } B = A \cap B = \{2\}$$



$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A \cap B) = \frac{n(A \cap B)}{n(S)} = \frac{1}{6}$$

**Union**

$$A \text{ or } B = A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$$



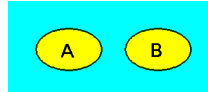
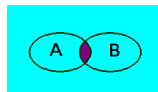
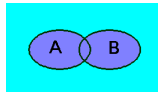
$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A \cup B) = \frac{n(A \cup B)}{n(S)} = \frac{5}{6}$$

## General Addition Rule

- If A and B are not mutually exclusive events, the probability of **either** event A **or** event B occurs is defined as

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B) \leftarrow \text{Addition rule}$$

- If A and B are mutually exclusive events,  $P(A \text{ and } B) = 0$ , the addition rule is simplified as :  $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B)$



Throw a die example: Event A = { 2, 4, 6}, Event B = {1, 2, 3}, S = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}

A and B ( $A \cap B$ ) = {2}

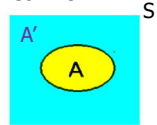
$$P(A) = \frac{3}{6}, P(B) = \frac{3}{6}, P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) = \frac{3}{6} + \frac{3}{6} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

13

## Complement Rule

- Complement** of an event A (denoted  $A'$ ) is the set of outcomes in S but **not in A**
- A and  $A'$  are **mutually exclusive** and collectively **exhaustive**
- $P(A \text{ or } A') = P(A \cup A') = P(A) + P(A') = 1 \Rightarrow P(A') = 1 - P(A)$
- The complement rule provides a way to calculate a probability based on the probability of its complement
- Example: toss two coins and count the number of heads. What is the probability that at least one head occurs?



Outcome				
Event	0 heads	1 head	1 head	2 heads

$$P(\text{no head}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(\text{at least one head}) = 1 - P(\text{no head}) = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

14

## Part 2

- Basic Probability Concepts
- Conditional Probability
- Counting Rules

15

## Conditional Probability

- The **conditional probability** of event A given event B occurs, denoted by  $P(A|B)$ , is defined as

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(B)} \quad \text{with } P(B) > 0$$

- Similarly, the conditional probability of event B given event A occurs, denoted by  $P(B|A)$ , is defined as

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(A)} \quad \text{with } P(A) > 0$$

- Example:

- In a room, there are 5 men and 3 women (one is called Jane). If we choose 1 representative,  $P(\text{Jane chosen}) = \frac{1}{8}$ .
- Suppose a representative is chosen and is known to be a woman,  $P(\text{Jane chosen}) = \frac{1}{3}$ .
- $A = \{\text{Jane Chosen}\}$
- $B = \{\text{representative is woman}\}$
- $P(\text{Jane chosen} | \text{representative is woman}) = P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(B)} = \frac{1/8}{3/8} = \frac{1}{3}$

16

## Market Basket Analysis Example

Suppose a supermarket has the following five transactions:

Customer	Items
1	Bread, milk
2	Bread, diaper, beer, eggs
3	Milk, diaper, beer, coke
4	Bread, milk, diaper, beer
5	Bread, milk, diaper, coke



$$P(\text{diaper}) = \frac{\text{No of transactions containing diaper}}{\text{No of transactions}} = \frac{4}{5} = 0.8$$

$$P(\text{diaper and beer}) = \frac{\text{No of transactions containing both diaper and beer}}{\text{No of transactions}} = \frac{3}{5} = 0.6 \text{ (support)}$$

$$P(\text{beer} | \text{diaper}) = \frac{\text{No of transactions containing both diaper and beer}}{\text{No of transactions containing diaper}} = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75 \text{ (confidence)}$$

or

$$P(\text{beer} | \text{diaper}) = \frac{P(\text{diaper and beer})}{P(\text{diaper})} = \frac{0.6}{0.8} = 0.75$$

17

## Market Basket Analysis Example

Customer	Items
1	Bread, milk
2	Bread, diaper, beer, eggs
3	Milk, diaper, beer, coke
4	Bread, milk, diaper, beer
5	Bread, milk, diaper, coke



Association Report									
Relations	Expected Confidence (%)	Confidence (%)	Support (%)	Lift	Count	Rule	Left Hand of Rule	Right Hand of Rule	Rule Index
2	60.00	100.00	20.00	1.67	1.00	Eggs ==> Beer	Eggs	Beer	1
2	20.00	33.33	20.00	1.67	1.00	Beer ==> Eggs	Beer	Eggs	2
2	60.00	75.00	60.00	1.25	3.00	Diaper ==> Beer	Diaper	Beer	3
2	80.00	100.00	20.00	1.25	1.00	Eggs ==> Bread	Eggs	Bread	10
2	40.00	50.00	40.00	1.25	2.00	Milk ==> Coke	Milk	Coke	5
2	40.00	50.00	40.00	1.25	2.00	Diaper ==> Coke	Diaper	Coke	7
2	80.00	100.00	40.00	1.25	3.00	Beer ==> Diaper	Beer	Diaper	4
2	80.00	100.00	40.00	1.25	2.00	Coke ==> Diaper	Coke	Diaper	8
2	80.00	100.00	20.00	1.25	1.00	Eggs ==> Diaper	Eggs	Diaper	9
2	80.00	100.00	40.00	1.25	2.00	Coke ==> Milk	Coke	Milk	6
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Milk ==> Bread	Milk	Bread	13
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Diaper ==> Bread	Diaper	Bread	15
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Milk ==> Diaper	Milk	Diaper	11
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Bread ==> Diaper	Bread	Diaper	16
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Diaper ==> Milk	Diaper	Milk	12
2	80.00	75.00	60.00	0.94	3.00	Bread ==> Milk	Bread	Milk	14
2	60.00	50.00	40.00	0.83	2.00	Milk ==> Beer	Milk	Beer	17
2	60.00	50.00	40.00	0.83	2.00	Bread ==> Beer	Bread	Beer	18
2	60.00	50.00	20.00	0.83	1.00	Coke ==> Beer	Coke	Beer	19
2	80.00	66.67	40.00	0.83	2.00	Beer ==> Bread	Beer	Bread	21
2	40.00	33.33	20.00	0.83	1.00	Beer ==> Coke	Beer	Coke	22
2	80.00	66.67	40.00	0.83	2.00	Beer ==> Milk	Beer	Milk	20
2	80.00	50.00	20.00	0.63	1.00	Coke ==> Bread	Coke	Bread	23

Analysts are interested in cases with high support (joint probability) or high confidence (conditional probability) or both.

18

## Multiplication Rule and Statistical Independence

- P(A|B), P(B|A) are called **Conditional probability**

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(A)}$$

- P(A), P(B) are called **Marginal probability** - probability of only 1 event occurring
- P(A and B) is called **Joint probability** - probability of 2 or more events occurring together

### Multiplication rule

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)$$

### Statistical independence

- Two events, A and B, are **independent** if the occurrence of event A does not affect the probability of occurrence of event B, or vice versa
  - P(A|B) = P(A), or
  - P(B|A) = P(B), or
  - P(A and B) = P(A)P(B)

19

## Purchase Example – Calculate Marginal Probability

- A sample of 1,000 households were asked about their intentions to purchase a new product sometime during the next 12 months. The same 1,000 households were surveyed 12 months later to see whether they purchased the product. The results are:

Planned to Purchase	Actually Purchased		
	Yes	No	Total
Yes	200	50	250
No	100	650	750
Total	300	700	1000

- What is the probability of selecting a household that planned to purchase a new product in the next 12 months?
  - P(planned to purchase) = 250/1000 = 0.25
- What is the probability of selecting a household that actually purchased the product in the next 12 months?
  - P(actually purchased) = 300/1000 = 0.3

20

## Purchase Example – Calculate Joint Probability

- A sample of 1,000 households were asked about their intentions to purchase a new product sometime during the next 12 months. The same 1,000 households were surveyed 12 months later to see whether they purchased the product. The results are:

Planned to Purchase	Actually Purchased		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	200	50	250
No	100	650	750
Total	300	700	1000

- What is the probability of selecting a household that planned to purchase a new product and actually purchased?

$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually purchased})$

$$= \frac{\text{No of households that planned to purchase and actually purchased}}{\text{Total number of households}} = \frac{200}{1000} = 0.2$$

- What is the probability of selecting a household that planned to purchase a new product and actually did not purchase?

$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually did not purchase})$

$$= \frac{\text{No of households that planned to purchase and actually did not purchase}}{\text{Total number of households}} = \frac{50}{1000} = 0.05$$

21

## Purchase Example – Addition Rule

- A sample of 1,000 households were asked about their intentions to purchase a new product sometime during the next 12 months. The same 1,000 households were surveyed 12 months later to see whether they purchased the product. The results are:

Planned to Purchase	Actually Purchased		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	200	50	250
No	100	650	750
Total	300	700	1000

$$P(\text{planned to purchase}) = 250/1000 = 0.25$$

$$P(\text{actually purchased}) = 300/1000 = 0.3$$

$$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually purchased}) = \frac{200}{1000} = 0.2$$

$P(\text{Planned to purchase or actually purchased})$

$$= P(\text{Planned to purchase}) + P(\text{Actually purchased}) -$$

$$P(\text{Planned to purchase and actually purchased})$$

$$= 0.25 + 0.30 - 0.20 = 0.35$$

22

## Purchase Example – Conditional Probability and Statistical Independence

- A sample of 1,000 households were asked about their intentions to purchase a new product sometime during the next 12 months. The same 1,000 households were surveyed 12 months later to see whether they purchased the product. The results are:

Planned to Purchase	Actually Purchased		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	200	50	250
No	100	650	750
Total	300	700	1000

$$P(\text{planned to purchase}) = 250/1000 = 0.25$$

$$P(\text{actually purchase}) = 300/1000 = 0.3$$

$$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually purchased}) = \frac{200}{1000} = 0.2$$

$$P(\text{planned to purchase}) * P(\text{actually purchase}) = 0.25 * 0.3 = 0.075$$

$P(\text{Actually purchased} | \text{Planned to purchase})$

$$= \frac{P(\text{Planned to purchase and actually purchased})}{P(\text{Planned to purchase})} = \frac{0.2}{0.25} = 0.80$$

As (1)  $P(\text{actually purchased} | \text{planned to purchase}) \neq P(\text{actually purchased})$ ,

(2)  $P(\text{planned to purchase and actually purchased}) \neq P(\text{planned to purchase}) * P(\text{actually purchased})$ ,

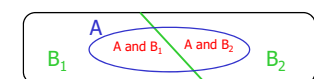
“Planned to purchase” and “Actual purchase” are not statistically independent.

23

## Purchase Example – Law of Total Probability

- If  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  is a partition of the sample space  $S$ , then for any event  $A$ ,

$$P(A) = P(A \text{ and } B_1) + P(A \text{ and } B_2)$$



- A sample of 1,000 households were asked about their intentions to purchase a new product sometime during the next 12 months. The same 1,000 households were surveyed 12 months later to see whether they purchased the product. The results are:

Planned to Purchase	Actually Purchased		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	200	50	250
No	100	650	750
Total	300	700	1000

Let  $A$  = planned to purchase,  $B_1$  = actually purchase,  $B_2$  = did not actually purchase

$$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually purchased}) = 0.2$$

$$P(\text{planned to purchase and actually did not purchase}) = 0.05$$

$P(\text{Planned to purchase})$

$$= P(\text{Planned to purchase and actually purchased})$$

$$+ P(\text{Planned to purchase and did not actually purchase})$$

$$= 0.2 + 0.05 = 0.25$$

Bayes  
Theorem

24

## Worker Example

- A company is considering changing its starting business hour from 8am to 7:30am. The company has 1200 workers, including 450 office and 750 production workers. A census shows that 370 production workers favor the change, and a total of 715 office and production workers favor the change. Is worker type and favor change independent?

Worker type	Favor change?		Total
	Favor	Not favor	
Office	?	?	450
Production	370	?	750
Total	715	?	1200

25

## Worker Example

- Is worker type and favor change independent?

Worker type	Favor change?		Total
	Favor	Not favor	
Office	345	105	450
Production	370	380	750
Total	715	485	1200

$$P(\text{favor change}) = \frac{715}{1200} = 0.596$$

$$P(\text{favor change} | \text{office worker}) = \frac{P(\text{office worker and favor})}{P(\text{office worker})} = \frac{345/1200}{450/1200} = 0.767$$

$$P(\text{favor change} | \text{production worker})$$

$$= \frac{P(\text{production worker and favor})}{P(\text{production worker})} = \frac{370/1200}{750/1200} = 0.4933$$

$$P(\text{Production workers and Favor change})$$

$$= \frac{370}{1200} = 0.3083$$

$$P(\text{Production workers}) \times P(\text{Favor change})$$

$$= \frac{750}{1200} \times \frac{715}{1200} = 0.3724$$

As (1)  $P(\text{favor change} | \text{production worker}) \neq P(\text{favor change})$

(2)  $P(\text{Production workers and Favor change}) \neq P(\text{Production workers}) \times P(\text{Favor change})$ ,

"Worker type" and "favor change" are not statistically independent.

26

## Part 3

- Basic Probability Concepts
- Conditional Probability
- Counting Rules

27

## Counting Rule 1

- For a sample space with a large number of possible outcomes, counting rules can be used to compute probabilities
- Counting rule 1:
  - If any one of  $k$  different mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive events can occur on each of  $n$  trials, the number of possible outcomes is equal to
 
$$k^n$$
  - Example:** If you roll a fair die 3 times then there are  $6^3 = 216$  possible outcomes

28

## Counting Rule 2

- If there are  $k_1$  events on the first trial,  $k_2$  events on the second trial, ... and  $k_n$  events on the  $n^{\text{th}}$  trial, the number of possible outcomes is

$$(k_1)(k_2)\cdots(k_n)$$

- **Example:** You want to go to a park, eat at a restaurant, and see a movie on a holiday. There are 3 parks, 4 restaurants, and 6 movie choices. How many different possible choices are there for you?
  - Answer:  $(3)(4)(6) = 72$  different choices

29

## Counting Rule 3

- The number of ways that  $n$  items can be arranged **in order** is  $n! = (n)(n-1)\cdots(1)$   
where  $n!$  is called  **$n$  factorial**
- **Example:** You have five books to put on a bookshelf. How many different ways can these books be placed on the shelf?
  - Answer:  $5! = (5)(4)(3)(2)(1) = 120$  different possibilities

30

## Counting Rule 4

- **Permutations:** The number of ways of arranging  $x$  objects selected from  $n$  objects **in order** is

$$\begin{aligned} {}_nP_x &= n(n-1)\cdots(n-x+1) \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)\cdots(n-x+1)(n-x)(n-x-1)\cdots 1}{(n-x)(n-x-1)\cdots 1} \\ &= \frac{n!}{(n-x)!} \end{aligned}$$

- **Example:** You have five books and are going to put three on a bookshelf. How many different ways can the books be ordered on the bookshelf?

□ Answer:  ${}_5P_3 = \frac{5!}{(5-3)!} = \frac{120}{2} = 60$  different ways

31

## Counting Rule 5

- **Combinations:** The number of ways of selecting  $x$  objects from  $n$  objects, **irrespective of order**, is

$${}_nC_x = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!}$$

- Note that  ${}_nC_x(x!) = {}_nP_x$

- **Example:** You have five books and are going to select three to read. How many different combinations are there, ignoring the order in which they are selected?

■ Answer:  ${}_5C_3 = \frac{5!}{3!(5-3)!} = \frac{120}{(6)(2)} = 10$  different combinations

32