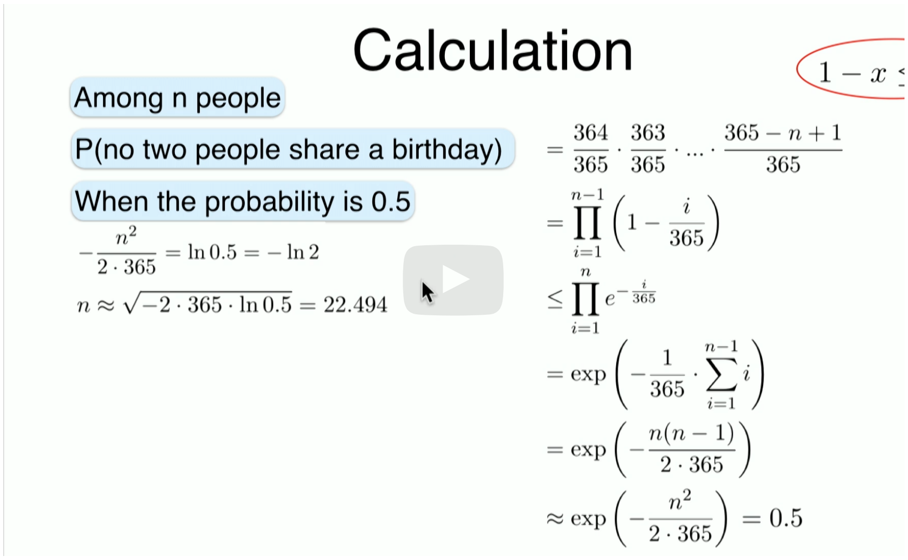
Problem Sets due Jul 4, 2022 07:34 +03

Video



15:51 / 15:51 1.0x

you can see how to calculate these probabilities

for any given number of n.

Alright, so in this (mumbles) lecture

we talked about Sequential Probability

and next we will talk about Total Probability.

See you then.

End of transcript. Skip to the start.

6.3_Sequential_Probability

POLL

The equality P(A∩B)=P(A)P(B) holds whenever the events A and B are

RESULTS

independent	**83%**
disjoint	**14%**
intersecting	**2%**

Submit

Results gathered from 42 respondents.

FEEDBACK

Independent. In fact, that's the definition of independence.

1

0 points possible (ungraded)

An urn contains b black balls and w white balls. Sequentially remove a random ball from the urn, till none is left.

Which of the following observed color sequences would you think is more likely: first all white balls then all black ones (e.g. wwbbb), or alternating white (first) and black, till one color is exhausted, then the other color till it is exhausted (e.g. wbwbb)?

For $b = 4$ and $w = 2$, calculate the probability of:

white, white, black black, black black,

(2/6)*(1/5) * 1 ✔ **Answer:** 0.0666

$\left(\frac{2}{6}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5}\right) \cdot 1$

white, black, white, black, black, black,

(2/6)*(4/5)*(1/4) * 1 ✔ **Answer:** 0.0666

$\left(\frac{2}{6}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \cdot 1$

Try to understand the observed outcome.

Explanation

By sequential probability, it is easy to see that the for any order of the colors, the denominator will be $(b + w)!$ while the numerator will be $b! \cdot w!$.

This can also be seen by symmetry. Imagine that the balls are colored from 1 to $b + w$. Then each of the $(b + w)!$ permutations of the balls is equally likely to be observed, hence will happen with probability $1/\,(b + w)!$, and $b! \cdot w!$ of them will correspnd to each specified order of the colors.

Submit You have used 1 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

2 (Graded)

6/6 points (graded)

An urn contains one red and one black ball. Each time, a ball is drawn independently at random from the urn, and then returned to the urn along with another ball of the same color. For example, if the first ball drawn is red, the urn will subsequently contain two red balls and one black ball.

What is the probability of observing the sequence r,b,b,r,r?

1/60 ✔ **Answer:** 0.016

$\frac{1}{60}$

Explanation

$P(r,b,b,r,r) = P(r) \cdot P(b|r) \cdot P(b|r,b) \cdot P(r|r,b,b) \cdot P(r|r,b,b,r) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{60} = 0.01666..$

.

What is the probability of observing 3 red and 2 black balls?

1/6 ✔ **Answer:** 1/6

$\frac{1}{6}$

What is the probability of observing 7 red and 9 black balls?

1/17 ✔ **Answer:** 1/17

$\frac{1}{17}$

Explanation

It can be verified that for any sequence with n_r red balls and n_b black balls, the probability $p = n_r! \cdot n_b! / (n_r + n_b + 1)!$.

Hence the probability of observing n_r red balls and n_b black balls is $n_r! \cdot n_b! / (n_r + n_b + 1)! \binom{n_r+n_b}{n_b} = \frac{1}{n_r+n_b+1}$.

? **Hint (1 of 1):** (Part 2) Note that any sequence with 3 red and 2 black balls, e.g. r,r,r,b,b is observed with the same probability.

Next Hint

Submit You have used 1 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

3

0 points possible (ungraded)

A box has seven tennis balls. Five are brand new, and the remaining two had been previously used. Two of the balls are randomly chosen, played with, and then returned to the box. Later, two balls are again randomly chosen from the seven and played with. What is the probability that all four balls picked were brand new.

Submit You have used 0 of 4 attempts

4

0 points possible (ungraded)

A box contains six tennis balls. Peter picks two of the balls at random, plays with them, and returns them to the box. Next, Paul picks two balls at random from the box (they can be the same or different from Peter's balls), plays with them, and returns them to the box. Finally, Mary picks two balls at random and plays with them. What is the probability that each of the six balls in the box was played with exactly once?

2/75

Answer: 2/75

$\frac{2}{75}$

Explanation

The probability that every ball picked was played with exactly once is the probability that the 2 balls Paul picks differ from the 2 Peter picked, and that the 2 balls Mary picks differ from the 4 Peter or Paul picked. This probability is

$$\frac{\binom{6-2}{2}}{\binom{6}{2}} \cdot \frac{\binom{6-2-2}{2}}{\binom{6}{2}} = \frac{\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{6}{2}} \cdot \frac{\binom{2}{2}}{\binom{6}{2}} = \frac{6}{15} \cdot \frac{1}{15} = \frac{2}{75}.$$

Submit

You have used 1 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

5 (Graded)

2/2 points (graded)

A bag contains 4 white and 3 blue balls. Remove a random ball and put it aside. Then remove another random ball from the bag. What is the probability that the second ball is white?

- 3/6
- 4/6
- 3/7
- 4/7

Explanation

This can be done in two simple ways.

First, by symmetry. There are 4 white balls and 3 blue balls. The second ball picked is equally likely to be any of the 7 balls, hence the probability that it is white is 4/7.

Second, by total probability. The probability that the second ball is white is the probability that the first is white and the second is white namely $\frac{4}{7} \cdot \frac{3}{6}$, plus the probability that the first is blue and the second is white, namely $\frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{4}{6}$, and $\frac{4}{7} \cdot \frac{3}{6} + \frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{4}{6} = \frac{4}{7}$.
Note that the first, symmetry, argument is easier to extend to the third ball picked etc. But both derivation are of interest, and you may want to use the total-variation for a general case with W white balls and R red balls.

? **Hint (1 of 1):** This problem can be solved using basic symmetry agruments, or using total probability discussed in the next section.

Next Hint

Submit You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

6

0 points possible (ungraded)
An urn contains 15 white and 20 black balls. The balls are withdrawn randomly, one at a time, until all remaining balls have the same color. Find the probability that:

- all remaining balls are white (if needed, see hints below),

- there are 5 remaining balls.

Submit You have used 0 of 4 attempts

7 Tennis matches

0 points possible (ungraded)
Eight equal-strength players, including Alice and Bob, are randomly split into 4 pairs, and each pair plays a game, resulting in four winners. Find the probability that:

both Alice and Bob will be among the four winners, neither Alice and Bob will be among the four winners.

Submit

You have used 0 of 4 attempts

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