Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

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10.15.1.4: Which of the following cannot be the probability of an event ?

1)
$$\frac{2}{3}$$
 2) -1.5 3) 15% 4) 0.7

Answer:

Probability of an event E, written as P(E):

$$P(E) = \frac{\text{Number of outcomes favourable to } E}{\text{Total Number of possible outcomes in sample space}}$$

From the definition of probability P(E), number of favourable outcomes is always less than or equal to the number of all possible outcomes.

$$0 \le P(E) \le 1 \tag{1}$$

1)
$$\frac{2}{3}$$

Since
$$0 \le \frac{2}{3} \le 1$$
, From (1)

It can be probability of an event.

$$2) -1.5$$

Since
$$-1.5 < 0$$
, From (1)

It cannot be a probability of any event.

3) 15%

$$15\% = \frac{15}{100}$$

Since
$$0 \le \frac{15}{100} \le 1$$
 , From (1)

It can be probability of an event.

4) 0.7

Since
$$0 \le 0.7 \le 1$$
, From (1)

It can be a probability of an event.