

Probability Summary Sheet

$$\text{Probability} = \frac{\# \text{ outcomes corresponding to that event}}{\text{total } \# \text{ of outcomes}}$$

Prob. = 1 \rightarrow event is certain to occur

Prob. = 0 \rightarrow event is certain to NOT occur

The sum of all the probabilities is *always* equal to one, in other terms:

$$1 = \sum_i \text{Pr}(i)$$

\cup denotes union – often said as “or”

\cap denotes intersection – often said as “and”

Adding Probabilities

Disjoint – When two events are not related to one another, one event will not occur if the other does.

When events are disjoint:

$$\text{Pr}(A \text{ or } B) = \text{Pr}(A \cup B) = \text{Pr}(A) + \text{Pr}(B)$$

When events are not disjoint:

$$\text{Pr}(A \cup B) = \text{Pr}(A) + \text{Pr}(B) - \text{Pr}(A \cap B)$$

Probability Distributions

Uniform – All outcomes are equally likely

Non-Uniform – Some outcomes are more likely than others

Estimating Distributions

Repeat trials of random events, over a large number of trials, will approximately yield the true distribution. (*See Module 1 part 3.3 for interactive example*)