

School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS), Ahmedabad University

Probability and Stochastic Processes (MAT277)

Homework Assignment-1

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1. While tossing a biased die, calculate the probability that face 3 has turned up, Given Alex tells either face 3 or face 6 has turned up.

(a) We are given that,

Face	1	2	3	4	5	6
Probability	0.2	0.22	0.11	0.25	0.15	0.07

Let A be the event that face 3 has turned up and B be the event that face 6 has turned up.

$$\therefore P(A) = 0.11 \quad \& \quad P(B) = 0.07$$

We know that these two are mutually exclusive events, hence:

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore P(A \cup B) &= P(A) + P(B) \\ &= 0.11 + 0.32 \\ &= 0.43\end{aligned}$$

Clearly, here we have to find the conditional probability, $P(A \mid A \cup B)$

$$\begin{aligned}P(A \mid A \cup B) &= \frac{P(A \cap (A \cup B))}{P(A \cup B)} \\ &= \frac{P(A)}{P(A \cup B)} \\ &= \frac{0.11}{0.43} \\ &= 0.2558139535.\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore P(A \mid A \cup B) \approx 0.2559$$

Hence, the probability that face 3 has turned up, given either face 3 or face 6 has turned up is approx 25.59%

2. There exists two events **E1** & **E2** such that $P(E1 \mid E2) = 0.45$, $P(E2 \mid E1) = 0.5$ and $P(E1 \cup E2) = 0.4$

(a) Calculate $P(E1 \cap E2)$:

According to Conditional Probability theorem we can say,

$$P(E1 \mid E2)P(E2) = P(E2 \mid E1)P(E1)$$

$$0.45P(E2) = 0.5P(E1)$$

Applying Basic Probability theorem:

$$P(E1 \cup E2) = P(E1) + P(E2) - P(E1 \cap E2)$$

$$0.4 = 0.9P(E2) + P(E2) - P(E1 \cap E2)$$

$$\therefore P(E1 \cap E2) = 1.9P(E2) - 0.4$$

Now, Substituting these values in equation:

$$P(E1 \mid E2) = \frac{P(E1 \cap E2)}{P(E2)}$$

$$0.45 = \frac{1.9P(E2) - 0.4}{P(E2)}$$

$$0.4 = 1.45P(E2)$$

$$\therefore P(E2) = 0.275$$

Substituting value of $E2$ in equation 1, we get

$$\therefore P(E1) = 0.2475$$

(b) Comment on the dependency relation between event $E1$ and $E2$:

When event $E2$ occurs, there's a 45% chance that event $E1$ will occur. On the other hand if event $E1$ occurs, there's a 50% chance that event $E2$ will occur. This shows that the events are unsymmetrically related.

Also upon calculating it was found that, there's some shared occurrence happening between two of the given events, as probability of them happening together was found to be 12.25%