

IMPORTANT THEOREMS

(25)

- 1) Define conditional probability. Show that it satisfy all the axioms of probability.

Soⁿ

• Conditional Probability :-

classical Defⁿ : Conditional probability of the occurrence of the event B given that A has already been occurred, denoted by $P(B|A)$, is defined as,

$$P(B|A) = \frac{N(A \cap B)}{N(A)}, \text{ provided } N(A) > 0.$$

where, $N(A)$ is the no. of cases favorable to the event A, $N(A \cap B)$ is the no. of cases favorable to the simultaneous occurrence of A and B.

If N be the total no. of equally likely elementary cases then

$$P(B|A) = \frac{N(A \cap B)/N}{N(A)/N} = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)}, \text{ where } P(A) > 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(B|A) P(A).$$

Axiomatic Defⁿ : Consider the probability space (Ω, \mathcal{A}, P) where Ω is the sample space, \mathcal{A} is the σ -field of the subspace of Ω and P is the probability function defined on \mathcal{A} .

Let $A \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow P(A) > 0$, then conditional probability of occurrence of any event B belonging to \mathcal{A} given that A has already been occurred is defined as.

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

• Conditional Probability satisfies all the axioms of Probability:

i) We have $P(A \cap B) \geq 0 \forall B$ and $(B|A)$; and $P(A) > 0$.

$$\text{So, } \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} \geq 0 \forall B.$$

i.e., $P(B|A) \geq 0$ for any $B \in \mathcal{A}$.

\Rightarrow Axiom I of probability.

ii) Since, $(\Omega \cap A) = A$.
 $\therefore P(\Omega \cap A) = \frac{P(\Omega \cap A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(A)} = 1$ ($\because P(A) > 0$).

\Rightarrow Axiom II of probability.

iii) Let us consider a sequence of disjoint events $\{E_n\}$.
 $E_n \in \mathcal{E} \forall n$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } P\left[\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \mid A\right] &= \frac{P\left[\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) \cap A\right]}{P(A)}, \quad P(A) > 0. \\ &= \frac{P\left[\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (E_n \cap A)\right]}{P(A)} \quad \text{where } \{E_n \cap A\} \text{ is also} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(E_n \cap A)}{P(A)} \quad \text{a sequence of} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{P(E_n \cap A)}{P(A)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(E_n \mid A) \quad \text{disjoint event.} \\ &\quad \text{as } \{E_n\} \text{ is so, and} \\ &\quad (E_n \cap A) \in \mathcal{E} \forall n. \\ &\quad \text{[by the axiom of} \\ &\quad \text{unconditional prob.}] \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow Axiom III of probability

Hence the proof.

2) What do you mean by stochastic independence of events?

Solⁿ \rightarrow The event A is said to be Stochastically independent of the event B if occurrence of A does not depend upon the occurrence or non-occurrence of B, i.e. $P(A|B) = P(A)$, $P(B) > 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = P(A).$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

Similarly B is said to be Stochastically independent of the event A if

$$P(B|A) = P(B), \quad P(A) > 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

Note that the expression (i) is symmetric in A & B, Hence instead of saying A is independent of B or B is independent of A, one must say A & B are independent of each other.

Remark: If two events are mutually exclusive then they will not be stochastically independent of each other.

3) State and prove Compound Probability Theorem.

Solⁿ

Statement \rightarrow (Compound Probability) The probability of simultaneous occurrence of A and B is given by the product of the unconditional probability of the event A by the conditional probability of B, supposing that A actually occurred. In other words.

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B|A).$$

Proof \rightarrow

Let there be n no. of all possible outcomes, of these

n_A = no. of outcomes favorable to A.

n_B = no. of outcomes favorable to B.

n_{AB} = no. of outcomes favorable to A and B.

Then, $P(A) = \frac{n_A}{n}$, $P(A \cap B) = \frac{n_{AB}}{n}$ and $P(B|A) = \frac{n_{AB}}{n_A}$.

$$P(A \cap B) = \frac{n_{AB}}{n}$$

$$= \frac{n_A}{n} \times \frac{n_{AB}}{n_A} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{It is supposed that A has} \\ \text{actually been occurred,} \\ \text{i.e., } P(A) > 0 \text{ and hence } n_A > 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$= P(A) P(B|A).$$

Hence the theorem is proved.

In general case, if A_1, \dots, A_n be any events in Ω , then by induction

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = P(A_1) P(A_2|A_1) P(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2) \dots P(A_n|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}),$$

provided $P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}) > 0$.

— This is called 'Law of Multiplication'.

Implication I

4) State & prove the theorem of total probability.

Solⁿ →

Total Probability

Theorem: Let (Ω, \mathcal{A}, P) be the probability space, suppose $\{H_n\}$ is a sequence of mutually exclusive and exhaustive events such that $P(H_n) > 0 \forall n$, $H_n \in \mathcal{A} \forall n$.

Then the probability of any event $B \in \mathcal{A}$ is given by

$$P(B) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(H_n) P(B|H_n)$$

Proof: Since $\{H_n\}$ is a sequence of mutually exclusive and exhaustive events,

$$\therefore \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} H_n = \Omega.$$

Now, $B = B \cap \Omega$.

$$\therefore P(B) = P\left[B \cap \left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} H_n\right)\right] = P\left[\bigcup_n (B \cap H_n)\right]$$

Note that $H_i \cap H_j = \emptyset \forall i \neq j$

$$\Rightarrow (B \cap H_i) \cap (B \cap H_j) = \emptyset \forall i \neq j.$$

Clearly, $\{B \cap H_n\}$ is also a sequence of mutually disjoint events $\in \mathcal{A}$.

Hence by Axiom-III, we have $\rightarrow P\left(\bigcup_n (B \cap H_n)\right) = \sum_n P(B \cap H_n)$.

Thus, $P(B) = \sum_n P(B \cap H_n)$.

So, $P(B) = \sum_n P(H_n) P(B|H_n)$ [From the axiom of compound probability]

Hence the proof.

Implication:- The implication of this result is that the unconditional probability of the event B can be obtained as the weighted average of the conditional probabilities.

Application of Total Probability Theorem:

1. A box has 12 red and 6 black balls. A ball is selected from the box. If it is red, it is returned to box. If the ball is black, it and 2 additional balls are added to the box. Find the probability that a second ball drawn from the box is
(i) red (ii) black.

Sol. Let R_i and B_i respectively be the event that the i^{th} ball drawn is red and that the i^{th} ball drawn is black for $i=1, 2$.

$$P(R_1) = \frac{12}{18}, \quad P(B_1) = \frac{6}{18}$$

$$P(R_2|R_1) = \frac{12}{18}, \quad P(R_2|B_1) = \frac{12}{20}$$

$$P(B_2|R_1) = \frac{6}{18}, \quad P(B_2|B_1) = \frac{8}{20}$$

$$(i) P(R_2) = P(R_1)P(R_2|R_1) + P(B_1)P(R_2|B_1)$$

$$= \frac{12}{18} \times \frac{12}{18} + \frac{6}{18} \times \frac{12}{20}$$

$$= \frac{29}{45}$$

$$(ii) P(B_2) = P(R_1)P(B_2|R_1) + P(B_1)P(B_2|B_1)$$

$$= \frac{12}{18} \times \frac{6}{18} + \frac{6}{18} \times \frac{8}{20}$$

$$= \frac{16}{45}$$