

SESA6085

Advanced Aerospace Engineering Management

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Contents

Definitions	3
1. Lecture 1	4
1.1. Probability Fundamentals, Rules and Notation	4
1.2. Statical Independence	4
1.3. Statistical Dependence	4
1.4. Probability Fundamentals, Rules and Notation Cont.	5
1.5. Mutual Exclusivity	5
1.6. Sequence Diagrams	5
1.7. Baye's Theorem	6
2. Lecture 2	7
2.1. Frequency Histograms	7
2.2. Definition of a PDF	7
2.3. Definition of a CDF	7
2.4. Reliability Function	8
2.5. Hazard Function	8

List of Figures

Figure 1 Example of a sequence diagram.	5
Figure 2 Example of a frequency histogram.	7
Figure 3 Graph of the reliability function and CDF on a PDF.	8

List of Tables

Definitions

$P(A)$	Probability of a general event A occurring.	N	Total number of equally likely possible outcomes in the sample space.
n	Number of favorable outcomes (ways in which event A occurs)	$P(AB)$	Probability of events A and B occurring.
$P(A + B)$	Probability of events A or B occurring.	$P(A B)$	Probability of event A given event B has already occurred
$P(A)$	Probability of event A given event B has already occurred	$P(\bar{A})$	Probability of event A not occurring.
s-independent	statistically independent events	s-dependent	statistically dependent events
$f(t)$	Probability Distribution Function (PDF)	$F(t)$	Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)
$R(t)$	Reliability Function	$h(t)$	Hazard Function

1. Lecture 1

1.1. Probability Fundamentals, Rules and Notation

The most basic definition of the probability for a general event A occurring is **the ratio of the number of favorable outcomes n to the total number of equally likely possible outcomes N** , this is shown in a mathematical representation in **Eq. 1**.

$$P(A) = \frac{n}{N} \quad (1)$$

Where:

- $P(A)$: The probability of outcome A .
- N : Total number of equally likely possible outcomes in the sample space.
- n : Number of favorable outcomes (ways in which event A occurs)

Note that **Eq. 1** is only for events of equal probability, for example rolling a dice. Instead if **N is the number of experiments** then **Eq. 2** applies, implying that the larger the number of experiments the closer to **Eq. 1** the probability becomes.

$$P(A) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{N} \right) \quad (2)$$

This module uses the following notation for the probability of combined events, these are:

- $P(A)$: Probability of event A occurring.
- $P(AB)$: Probability of events A and B occurring.
- $P(A + B)$: Probability of events A or B occurring.
- $P(A|B)$: Probability of event A given event B has already occurred.
- $P(\bar{A})$: Probability of event A not occurring (note that $P(A) = 1 - P(\bar{A})$).

1.2. Statical Independence

If two events are **statistically independent** (s-independent) from one another (meaning that the probability of one event occurring is completely separate from another event happening or not happening), then **Eq. 3** is true.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P(A|B) = P(A|\bar{B}) = P(A) \\ P(B|A) = P(B|\bar{A}) = P(B) \end{array} \right\} \text{s-independent} \quad (3)$$

Furthermore, the joint probability of two s-independent events can be represented in the forms shown in **Eq. 4** with the further expressions derived from subbing in **Eq. 3**, **Eq. 4** is also known as the **product or series rule**.

$$P(AB) = P(A)P(B) \} \text{s-independent} \quad (4)$$

1.3. Statistical Dependence

If two events are instead **statistically dependent** (s-dependent) from one another (the probability of one event happening or not happening **does** have an effect of the probability of another event), then the adjoint probability of these two events is shown in **Eq. 5**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P(AB) = P(A)P(B|A) \\ P(AB) = P(A|B)P(B) \end{array} \right\} \text{s-dependent} \quad (5.1)$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(AB)}{P(A)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{s-dependent and } P(A) \neq 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (5.2)$$

1.4. Probability Fundamentals, Rules and Notation Cont.

Generally speaking the probability of one event **or** another event occurring , whether they are s-dependant or s-independent is given by equation **Eq. 6**.

$$P(A + B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(AB) \quad (6.1)$$

$$P(A + B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A)P(B) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{s-independent} \end{array} \right. \quad (6.2)$$

Note that the $P(AB)$ in **Eq. 6** must be subtracted as it is counted twice in the first two terms.

1.5. Mutual Exclusivity

Two events can be said top be mutually exclusive if they **cannot occur at the same time as one another**. This means that the adjoint probability and or probability can be written in the form shown in **Eq. 7**.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P(AB) = 0 \\ P(A + B) = P(A) + P(B) \end{array} \right\} \text{If A and B are Mutually Exclusive} \quad (7)$$

If instead there are **multiple mutually exclusive events** which together yield the probability of another event, then then probability of that event can be written in the form given by **Eq. 8**.

$$P(A) = \sum_i P(AB_i) = \sum_i P(A|B_i)P(B_i) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If A and all Bs are Mutually Exclusive} \end{array} \right. \quad (8)$$

1.6. Sequence Diagrams

Sequence diagrams act as an easy way of visualizing complex interactions and can be used to calculate overall probabilities, an example of a sequence diagram is shown in **Figure 1**.

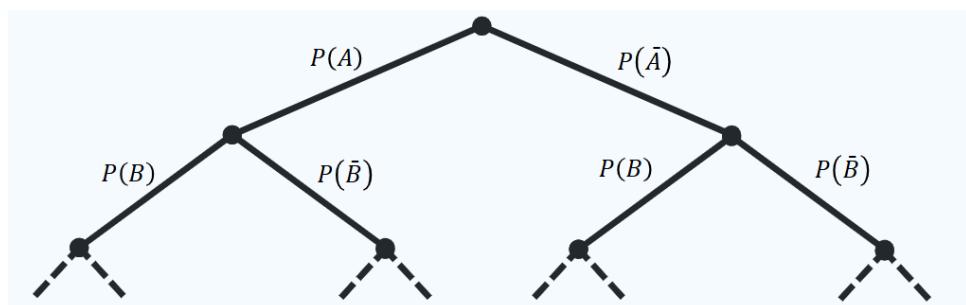


Figure 1: Example of a sequence diagram.

Probabilities down a leg are **and** probabilities and are therefore multiplied given that they are **statistically independent**. **Or** probabilities can be calculated by adding together subsequent probabilities.

1.7. Baye's Theorem

By rearranging **Eq. 5** a simple form of **Baye's theorem** which is shown in **Eq. 9**.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)} \quad \text{Given } P(B) \neq 0 \quad (9)$$

Eq. 9 can be further developed by substituting in **Eq. 8** which yields the **generalized Baye's theorem** shown **Eq. 10**.

$$P(A_j | B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_j P(B|A_j)P(A_j)} \quad (10)$$

Note that in **Eq. 10** A_j is the jth event effecting the event B . If the probability of event B depends on the probability of event A both happening and not happening then **Eq. 10** simplifies down to a form called the **binary partition** form, shown in **Eq. 11**.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|\bar{A})P(\bar{A})} \quad (11)$$

2. Lecture 2

2.1. Frequency Histograms

A **frequency histogram** is a type of bar chart which is used to represent the distribution of data, on the **x axis** are bins of data and the **y axis** represents the frequency that occurs within that bin, an example of a frequency histogram is shown in **Figure 2**.

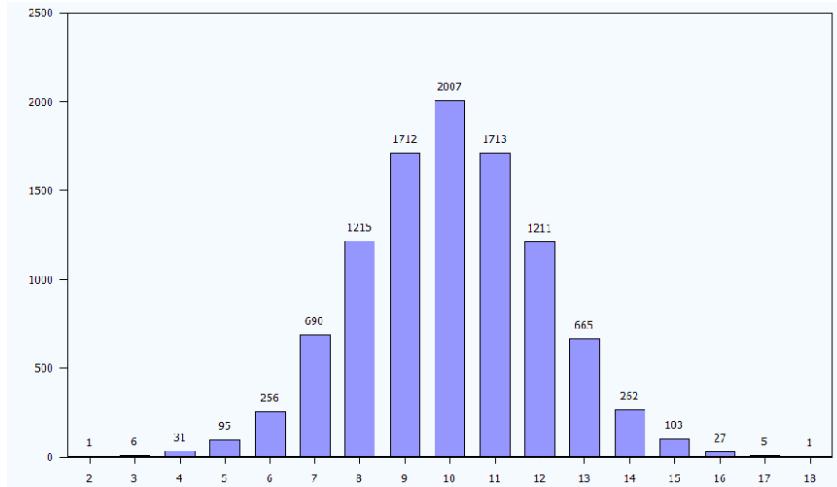


Figure 2: Example of a frequency histogram.

As we increase the number of samples taken, effectively decreasing the width of each bin, then the data will approach a smooth curve.

2.2. Definition of a PDF

As the frequency histogram bin width approaches an infinitesimal width, the histogram approaches a continuous curve known as the **Probability Density Function** (PDF). A PDF has one criteria in that the **area under the curve must be equal to 1**, the mathematical definition of a PDF is shown in **Eq. 12**.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)dt = 1 \quad (12)$$

PDFs can be used to find the probability that a certain value t is that value. In terms of reliability engineering its the **probability that a component fails** at the time t .

2.3. Definition of a CDF

A **Cumulative Distribution Function** (CDF) yields the probability that a given value will fall between the limits of $-\infty$ and t_1 , its mathematical definition is shown in **Eq. 13**.

$$F(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t_1} f(t)dt \quad (13)$$

2.4. Reliability Function

Reliability is the probability that a component will survive from a time $t = 0$ to a time $t = t_1$ and its mathematical definition is shown in **Eq. 14**, with a graph depicting the reliability function shown in **Figure 3**.

$$R(t) = 1 - F(t) = 1 - \int_{-\infty}^{t_1} f(t)dx \equiv \int_x^{\infty} f(t)dx \quad (14)$$

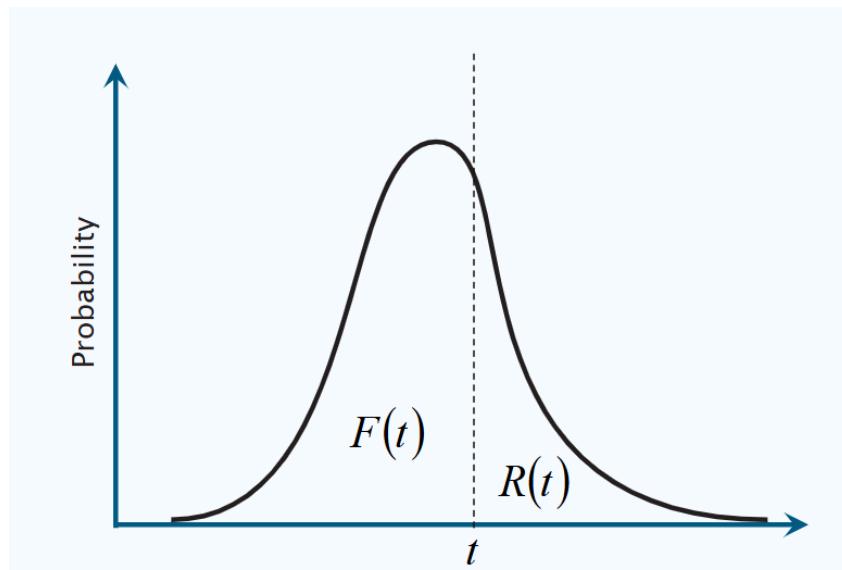


Figure 3: Graph of the reliability function and CDF on a PDF.

2.5. Hazard Function

Also known as the hazard rate the **hazard function** gives the probability of failure at a time t , given that there has not already been a failure. The mathematical definition for the hazard function is shown in **Eq. 15**.

$$h(t) = \frac{f(t)}{R(t)} = \frac{f(t)}{1 - R(t)} \quad (15)$$

The hazard function can be thought of as a measure of the probability of eminent failure at t or the proneness of failure after t . Note that there does exist a cumulative hazard function which is not assessed as well as methods to rearrange between all of these functions.