

# **SESA6085**

Advanced Aerospace Engineering Management

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## 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.

# 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  $P(A) = 1 - P(\bar{A})$ ).

### 1.1.1. 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**.

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

### 1.1.2. 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**

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

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

## 1.2. 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.