



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Yahtzee

Peter Chi

Assistant Professor of Statistics
Villanova University

Yahtzee scoring



Multiplication Rule

- k independent processes
- n_i possibilities for each

Total number of possibilities:

$$n_1 \times n_2 \times \dots \times n_k$$

Example. Roll three dice. Total number of configurations:

$$6 \times 6 \times 6 = 6^3$$

```
6^3  
[1] 216
```

Permutations

- k objects
- n total possibilities
- Each possibility used once at most

Total number of configurations:

$$n \times (n - 1) \times \dots \times (n - k + 1) = \frac{n!}{(n - k)!}$$

Example. Number of ways for three dice to land as {2,3,4}:

$$3 \times 2 \times 1 = \frac{3!}{(3 - 3)!} = 3!$$

```
factorial(3)
[1] 6
```

Addition Rule

Given disjoint events A and B :

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

Example 1. Probability of rolling $\{2,3,4\}$ or $\{3,4,5\}$ with three dice

```
factorial(3)/6^3 + factorial(3)/6^3  
[1] 0.05555556
```

Example 2. Probability of rolling three dice landing on the same denomination

```
1/6^3 + 1/6^3 + 1/6^3 + 1/6^3 + 1/6^3 + 1/6^3  
[1] 0.02777778
```

Combinations

- n total objects
- Choose k of them; order does not matter

Total number of ways:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k! \times (n - k)!}$$

Example. Number of ways to choose 2 dice out of 3:

$$\binom{3}{2} = \frac{3!}{2! \times (3 - 2)!} = 3$$

```
choose(3, 2)
[1] 3
```

Combining rules

Example. Roll 10 dice

Number of ways to roll 5 of one denomination and 5 of another:

```
n_denom <- factorial(6) / factorial(4)
```

```
n_groupings <- choose(10, 5) * choose(5, 5)
```

```
n_total <- n_denom * n_groupings  
n_total  
[1] 7560
```



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Let's calculate it!



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Settlers of Catan

Peter Chi

Assistant Professor of Statistics
Villanova University

Introduction to the game



Simulating dice rolls

```
roll_dice <- function(k) {  
  all_rolls <- sample(c(1,2,3,4,5,6),  
                      k,  
                      replace = TRUE)  
  final_answer <- sum(all_rolls)  
  return(final_answer)  
}
```

```
roll_dice(2)  
[1] 7
```

```
replicate(10, roll_dice(2))  
[1] 8 10 10 2 11 5 4 6 11 7
```

The table function

```
rolls <- replicate(10, roll_dice(2))  
rolls  
[1] 8 10 10 2 11 5 4 6 11 7
```

```
table(rolls)  
rolls  
2 4 5 6 7 8 10 11  
1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2
```

Counting the number of occurrences

```
rolls <- replicate(100, roll_dice(1))  
sum(rolls == 3)  
[1] 22
```

```
if(sum(rolls == 3) > 17){  
  print("The value of 3 was rolled more than 17 times")  
}  
  
[1] "The value of 3 was rolled more than 17 times"
```

```
if(sum(rolls == 3) > 17 | sum(rolls == 4) > 17){  
  print("The value of 3 or 4 was rolled more than 17 times")  
}  
  
[1] "The value of 3 or 4 was rolled more than 17 times"
```



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Let's try it!



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Craps

Peter Chi

Assistant Professor of Statistics
Villanova University

Introduction to craps

- Pass line bet - wager made at beginning of a round of play
- Shooter rolls first

The first roll:

- 7 or 11: win bet
- 2, 3, 12: lose bet
- Any other value establishes point

When a point is established



- Shooter's first roll: 5 = point
- Shooter continues to roll
- If 5 rolled before 7 - pass line bet won
- If 7 rolled before 5 - pass line bet lost
- Shooter continues to roll until 5 or 7

While loop

```
roll <- 0

while(roll != 6) {
  roll <- roll_dice(1)
  print(roll)
}
[1] 5
[1] 2
[1] 5
[1] 6
```

Compound condition in a while loop

```
roll <- 0

while( (roll != 6) & (roll != 5) ) {
  roll <- roll_dice(1)
  print(roll)
}
[1] 2
[1] 4
[1] 5
```

The %in% operator

```
roll <- roll_dice(1)
if(roll %in% c(2,4,6) ) {
  print("The roll is even")
}
[1] "The roll is even"

roll
[1] 2
```



PROBABILITY PUZZLES IN R

Let's play some Craps!