

# L02. Probability Review

$\Omega$ : set of <sup>outcomes from an experiment</sup> certain events or probability space

$a$ : specific event, any subset of  $\Omega$

$a \subseteq \Omega$  ,  $a \in \mathcal{F}$  (field: all subsets of  $\Omega$ )

$$\Omega = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n\}$$

Ex: Toss a coin

$$\Omega = \{h, t\}$$

$$a_1 = h, a_2 = t, a_3 = \Omega$$

Ex:  $\Omega = \{\text{'roll 1'}, \text{'roll 2'}, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  on a dice.

Q: is  $a_4 = 0$  ev

$$a_1 = \text{'1'}, a_2 = \text{'1' } \cup \text{'2'}, \text{ etc.}$$

Ex2: Measuring time a laser beam 'flights' thro an obstacle and comes back

$$\Omega = \{t \mid t \in (0, T)\}$$

$$a_1 = T/2, a_2 = \{t \mid t \in (t_1, t_2), 0 < t_1 < t_2 < T\}$$

★ A. Axiomatic definition of probability, (Axiom = A proposition that commands itself to general acceptance. A simple proposition).

I)  $p(a) \geq 0$

II)  $p(\Omega) = 1$

(Set operations)  $\begin{matrix} \Omega \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}$

III) if  $a \cap b = \emptyset$  then  
(mutually exclusive events)

$$p(a \cup b) = p(a) + p(b)$$

(Kolmogoroff's word)

B. Relative - frequency def.

Deduced by observation

I, II compatible

II problematic

$$p(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n_a}{n}$$

C. Classical def.

Deduced logically.

$$p(a) = \frac{N_a}{N}$$

Some events 'a' and prob. spaces  $\Omega$  are hard to count.

Ex: 2 dices sum 7.

1/11? 3/21? sums faces

$\frac{6}{36}$  pairs exhaustive

D. Probability as a Measure of Belief

Inductive reasoning: "it is possible that X is guilty or not"

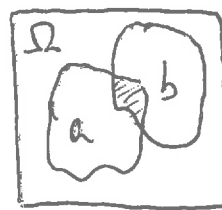
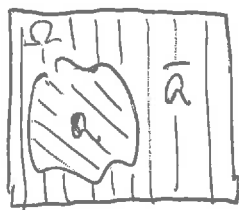
Subjective Knowledge is better than nothing.

Bayes Theory.

Corollaries from Axioms

$$p(0) = 0$$

$$p(a) = 1 - p(\bar{a}) \leq 1$$


 $a \cap b$ 

$$\text{if } a \cap b \neq 0 \quad \text{then} \quad p(a \cup b) = p(a) + p(b) - p(a \cap b)$$

Proof: Since the null element 0 yields  $a + 0 = a$ ,  $a \cap 0 = 0$

$$p(a) = p(a + 0) = p(a) + p(0) \iff p(0) = 0$$

$$\text{Similarly } a + \bar{a} = \Omega \quad a \cap \bar{a} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow p(a) + p(\bar{a}) = p(\Omega) \stackrel{(AII)}{=} 1$$

$$\text{and } a \cup b = a \cup (\bar{a} \cap b), \quad b = (a \cap b) \cup (\bar{a} \cap b)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Rightarrow p(a \cup b) &= p(a) + \underbrace{p(\bar{a} \cap b)} \\ p(b) &= p(a \cap b) + p(\bar{a} \cap b) \end{aligned} \right\} = p(a) + p(b) - p(a \cap b)$$

Def: Experiment. :  $\Omega = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n\}$  outcomes of the experiment.

$F = \{\text{all certain subsets of } \Omega\}$  (Boole field)

$p(a)$   $a \in F$ . event  $a$  belongs to the field  $F$ .

then an experiment is  $E: (\Omega, F, p)$

Ex: experiment of rolling a dice.

$\Omega = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4, \xi_5, \xi_6\}$   $\xi_i$  outcome of rolling 'i' on the dice.

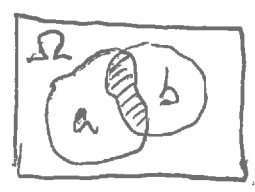
$F = \{0, \underbrace{\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots}_{\text{single}}, \underbrace{\xi_1 \cup \xi_2, \xi_1 \cup \xi_3, \dots}_{\text{pairs}}, \underbrace{\xi_1 \cup \xi_2 \cup \xi_3, \dots}_{\text{triples}}, \dots, \Omega\}$  quad, ...

$$p(\xi_i) = 1/6$$

Q: define other experiments?

Conditional probability: Given two events  $a, b$  and  $p(b) > 0$

$$p(a|b) = \frac{p(a \cap b)}{p(b)} = \frac{p(a, b)}{p(b)}$$



Ex: rolling a dice, the probability of rolling '1' assuming an odd result.

Q:  $p(\{1\} | \{\text{odd}\})$ ?  $\{\text{'odd'}\} = \{1, 3, 5\}$

$\xi_1$	$\xi_3$	$\xi_5$
$\xi_2$	$\xi_4$	$\xi_6$

$$p(\xi_1 | \{\text{odd}\}) = \frac{p(\xi_1 \cap \{1, 3, 5\})}{p(\{1, 3, 5\})} = \frac{p(\xi_1)}{p(\xi_1) + p(\xi_3) + p(\xi_5)} = \frac{1/6}{3/6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

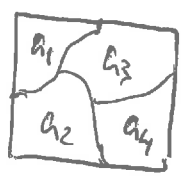
(Only using Axioms!) A.III

Corollary: Product Rule  $p(a, b) = p(a|b)p(b)$

Total Probability  $n$  mutually exclusive  $a_i$   $\setminus a_1 \cup a_2 \cup \dots \cup a_n = \Omega$

$$p(b) = p(b|a_1)p(a_1) + \dots + p(b|a_n)p(a_n)$$

$$= \sum_i^n p(b|a_i)p(a_i) \stackrel{Q?}{=} \sum_i^n p(b, a_i)$$



(note: we'll see later for the cont. case and applied to pdf's)

Q: Ex:  $b = a_4$

$$p(b|a_i) = 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$


$$p(b|b) = \frac{p(b)}{p(b)} = 1$$

$$p(b) = \sum_i^n p(b|a_i)p(a_i) = 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 \cdot p(a_4) = p(a_4)$$

Bayes Theorem

$$p(a_i | b) = \frac{\overbrace{p(b|a_i)p(a_i)}^{\text{product rule } p(b, a_i)}}{\underbrace{p(b)}_{\text{total probability}}} = \frac{p(b|a_i)p(a_i)}{\sum_j^n p(b|a_j)p(a_j)} = \eta p(b|a_i)$$

Ex:  $a_i$ : 'I am ill'  $b$ : {'headache'}  $b'$ : {'headache' 'neck pain' 'fever'}

$p(b|a_i)$  easier to calculate. 

$p(a_i)$  prior  $\bar{a}_i$  'not ill'  $a_i + \bar{a}_i = \Omega$

$$p(b) = p(b | \text{'ill'}) p(\text{'ill'}) + p(b | \text{'no ill'}) p(\text{'no ill'})$$

Independent events

$$p(a, b) = p(a)p(b) \iff a, b \text{ indep. events.}$$

$$\text{Col: } p(a|b) = p(a) \quad p(b|a) = p(b)$$

$$\text{Ex: rolling a dice. } p(\xi_1, \Omega) = p(\xi_1) \underbrace{p(\Omega)}_1$$

Ex: flipping 2 coins

$$p(h, h) = p(h)p(h)$$

$$\Omega_2 = \{hh, ht, th, tt\}$$

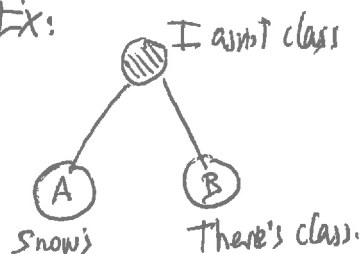
$$\Omega_2 = \Omega_1 \times \Omega_1$$

Conditional independent events:

$$p(a, b | c) = p(a | c) p(b | c)$$

Q: are  $a, b$  indep?  $p(a, b) \neq p(a)p(b)$  not necessarily.

Ex:



Q: today I haven't missed class.

Q:  $\Omega, \mathbb{F}??$  Introducing r.v.

Random variable (r.v.)

$X(\xi)$ ,  $\xi \in \Omega$  experimental outcome, but not nec. number.  
 assigns a number to every outcome  $\xi$

Ex: dice  $\Omega = \{ \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4, \xi_5, \xi_6 \}$

r.v.  $X(\xi_1) = 10$        $X(\xi_2) = 20$        $X(\xi_i) = 10i$

Ex: Tossing a coin.  $\Omega = \{h, t\}$

r.v.  $X$        $X(h) = 0$        $X(t) = 1$

Ex: Laser time-of-flight:  $\Omega = \{t \mid t \in (0, +)\}$

r.v.  $X(t) = \frac{c}{2} \cdot t$

note: subtle difference since  $\Omega$  was already a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

For most of this class, we need/work with infinite sets of events or 'continuous' events that easily translate to r.v. probability  $\rightarrow$  events. How to create events using r.v.'s??

$X(\xi) \leq x$  conditions on  $X$  are events.

$\{X \leq x\}$

$\{x_1 \leq X \leq x_2\}$

Events defined by r.v.'s!!

Ex: dice.

$\xi$	$X(\xi)$
$\xi_1$	10
$\xi_2$	20
$\vdots$	30
$\vdots$	40
$\vdots$	50
$\xi_6$	60

$\{X \leq 35\} = \{ \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3 \}$

Q:  $\{20 \leq X \leq 35\} = \{ \xi_2, \xi_3 \}$

$\{X \leq 5\} = \emptyset$

## Distribution function

$$P\{X \leq x\} = F_X(x)$$

Non-decreasing function  $F_X(x_1) \leq F_X(x_2), \forall x_1 < x_2$

$$\{X \leq +\infty\} = \Omega$$

$$F_X(+\infty) = P(\Omega) = 1$$

$$\{X \leq -\infty\} = \emptyset$$

$$F_X(-\infty) = P(\emptyset) = 0$$

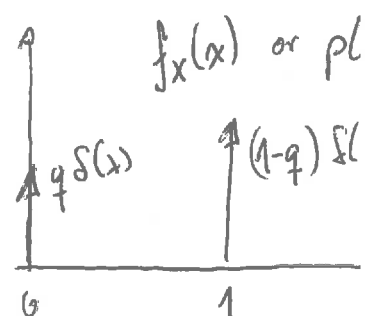
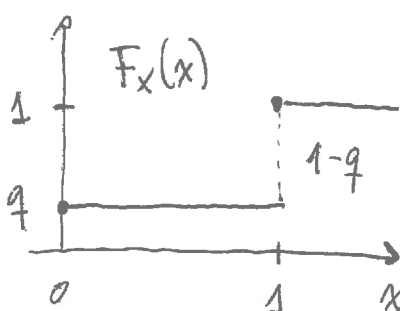
Ex: Tossing a coin  $\Omega = \{h, t\}$

$$P(h) = q$$

$$P(t) = 1 - q$$

r.v.  $X$   $X(h) = 0$

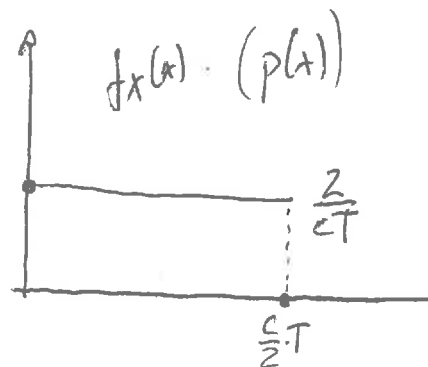
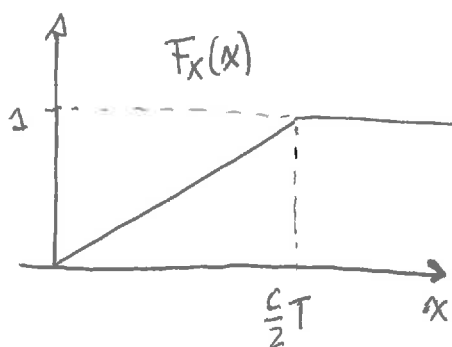
$$X(t) = 1$$



Ex: Laser time-of-flight

$$\Omega = \{t \mid t \in (0, T)\}$$

r.v.  $X(t) = \frac{c}{2}t$



## Probability density function (pdf)

$$p(x) = f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}$$

Intuition: since  $P\{x \leq X \leq x + \Delta x\} = \int_x^{x+\Delta x} f_X(x') dx'$  for  $\Delta x$  small

$$P\{x \leq X \leq x + \Delta x\} \approx f_X(x) \cdot \Delta x$$

$$f_X(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{P\{x \leq X \leq x + \Delta x\}}{\Delta x}$$

$p(x) \geq 0$  (from  $F_X(x)$  being non-decreasing) Q:  $p(x) > 1$ ?

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) dx = F_X(\infty) - F_X(-\infty) = 1$$

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p(x') dx'$$

$$P\{x_1 \leq X \leq x_2\} = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} p(x) dx \quad (\text{probability mass})$$

Q:  $P\{X=x\} = 0$  is it true? Not always, for discrete distributions & Always in the cont. case.

Multiple r.v. : Joint distribution function

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = P\{X \leq x, Y \leq y\}$$

Cartesian product of both Prob. sp

Joint probability density function

$$p(x, y) = f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 F_{XY}(x, y)}{\partial x \partial y}$$

$$p(x, y) \geq 0$$

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^y \int_{-\infty}^x p(x', y') dx' dy'$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q: F_{XY}(x, +\infty) &= F_X(x) \\ F_{XY}(x, -\infty) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Note: The important thing here is that we already have discussed on probability for several events  $a, b$ . The introduction of r.v. was motivated to easily manipulate events on prob. space ( $a \subseteq \Omega$ ) to numbers. and show how to create events from r.v., e.g.  $\{X \leq x\}$

Now for multiples r.v. everything previously explained for events still holds, but we will skip the tedious math.

probability on events

distributions on r.v.

pdf on r.v.

$$p(a) \longrightarrow p\{X \leq x\} = F_x(x) \xrightarrow{\frac{d}{dx}} \boxed{f_x(x) = p(x)}$$

leap of faith here: redefinition of prev. concepts that hold for pdf's too

Product rule

$$p(x, y) = p(x|y) p(y)$$

Total probability

$$p(x) = \int p(x, y) dy \quad (\text{marginalization})$$

(conditioned)

$$p(x|z) = \int p(x, y|z) dy$$

Q: why?  $x' = \{x|z\}$ 

Independent r.v.'s

$$p(x, y) = p(x) p(y)$$

Cond. Ind. r.v.'s

$$p(x, y|z) = p(x|z) p(y|z)$$

Bayes' Theorem

$$p(x|y) = \frac{p(y|x) p(x)}{p(y)} = \frac{p(y|x) p(x)}{\int p(x, y) dx} = \eta p(y|x)$$

↑  
(not depend on  $x$ )

Bayes conditioned

$$p(x|y, z) = \frac{p(y|x, z) p(x|z)}{p(y|z)}$$

Q: Prob Rob p. 14 is that a r.v.?