

LING 473: Day 3

START THE RECORDING
Assignment 1 Review
Probability

Resources Available

- Probability textbook:
 - Charles Grinstead and J. Laurie Snell [*Introduction to Probability*](#) - online on course website
- Resources on course website
 - Unicode, UTF-8, BOM
 - Condor quick-start
- Resource Thread on GoPost

Announcement

- I will be out of town at a conference August 8 and August 10
- Lectures will be recorded and uploaded
- I will be available electronically (email, GoPost)

Project 1

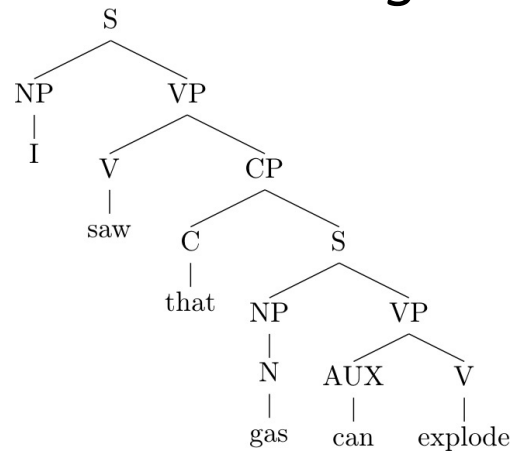
- Due Thursday August 3 at 11:45pm
- Questions?

Assignment 2

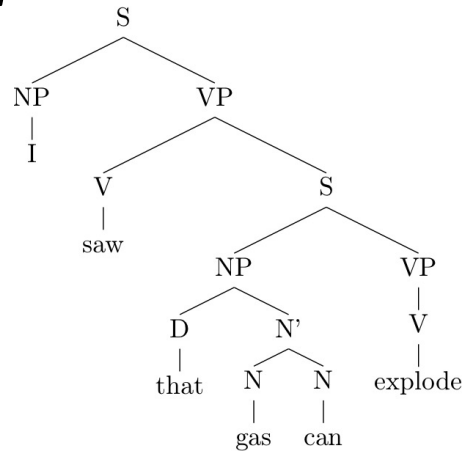
- Due Tuesday August 8 at 4:30pm
- Probability
- Harder than assignment 1, start early

Assignment 1

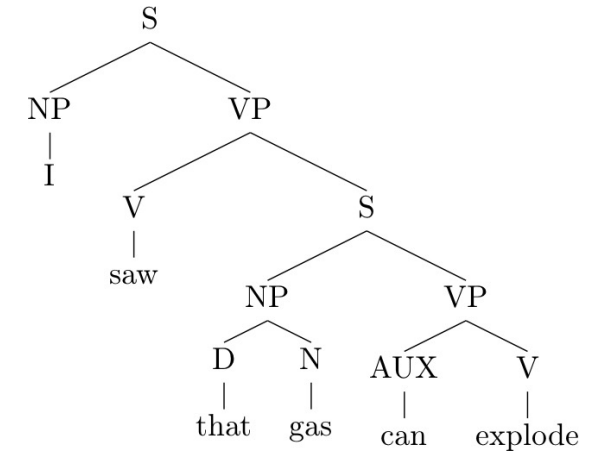
1. Essays get full credit.
2. *I saw that gas can explode*



I saw (realized) that
gas (in general) can explode



I saw that (one) gas can explode



I saw (realized) that (particular) gas
can explode

Assignment 1

3. All possible six letter words (26^6)
minus words with all consonants (21^6)
minus words with all vowels (5^6)
 $26^6 - 21^6 - 5^6 = 223,134,030$

Assignment 1

4. Assuming that we consider identical characters to be indistinguishable in the output:

(萄 萄 萄 萄 橙 橙 苹 梨 蕉)

Repeated groups: 4, 2, 1, 1, 1

$$\frac{9!}{4! \times 2! \times 1! \times 1! \times 1!} = 7,560$$

Assignment 1

5a. How many pairwise comparisons are possible between documents on the same topic?

$$\binom{7}{2} + \binom{9}{2} + \binom{3}{2} = 60$$

5b. How many pairwise comparisons are possible between documents on different topics?

$$(7 \times 9) + (7 \times 3) + (9 \times 3) = 111$$

Assignment 1

6. Extra Credit

Write an expression that gives the number of unordered sets of k items that can be formed from a set of n distinct items while allowing repetition in the output set.

Example: { a, b, c, d } choose 3 (unordered), but allowing repetition in the output:

$n = 4$ $k = 3$

{ a a a }, { a a b }, { a a c }, { a a d },
{ a b b }, { a b c }, { a b d }, { a c c },
{ a c d }, { a d d }, { b b b }, { b b c },
{ b b d }, { b c c }, { b c d }, { b d d },
{ c c c }, { c c d }, { c d d }, { d d d }

Assignment 1

Proof (hard version)

Divide into groups and count them (remember: $n = 4, k = 3$):

$\{a a a\} \{a a b\} \{a a c\} \{a a d\} \{a b b\}$
 $\{a b c\} \{a b d\} \{a c c\} \{a c d\} \{a d d\}$

$$\binom{4}{2} + 4 = 10$$

$\{b b b\} \{b b c\} \{b b d\} \{b c c\} \{b c d\} \{b d d\}$

$$\binom{3}{2} + 3 = 6$$

$\{c c c\} \{c c d\} \{c d d\}$

$$\binom{2}{2} + 2 = 3$$

$\{d d d\}$

$$\binom{1}{2} + 1 = 1$$

$$\sum_i^n \left(\binom{i}{k-1} + i \right) = \binom{n+k-1}{k} = \binom{n}{k}$$

Assignment 1

Proof (easy version)

$\{a, b, c, d\}$ multichoose 3

Every time we choose, we should add back into the set a copy of whatever we just chose. E.g., if we choose a, we just add another a. If we choose b, we just add another b. We will do this $k - 1$ times.

So we really have a set that looks like this:

$\{a, b, c, d, X, X\}$

Where each X is going to have a value equivalent to whatever the last chosen item was.

So now we have a regular choose function. Our choose is:

$$\binom{n + k - 1}{k}$$

The number of Xs

Combinatorics Summary

$\{a b c\}$

- Permutation: how many different orderings?

$(a b c)(a c b)(b a c)(b c a)(c a b)(c b a)$ $n!$

- Combination: how many different subsets (i.e. of 2)?

$\{a b\}\{a c\}\{b c\}$ $\binom{n}{k}$

allowing repetition in the output

$\{a a\}\{a b\}\{a c\}\{b b\}\{b c\}\{c c\}$ $\binom{n+k-1}{k}$

- Variations: how many different ordered subsets (i.e. of 2)?

$(a b)(a c)(b a)(b c)(c a)(c b)$ $\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$

allowing repetition in the output

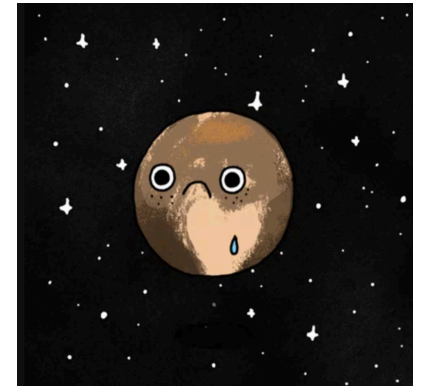
$(a a)(a b)(a c)(b a)(b b)(b c)(c a)(c b)(c c)$ n^k

Probability

- So far we've considered counting and manipulating sets
- **Probability** talks about the **event** of selecting an item from a set.
- This is alternatively called a **trial** or an **observation**.
- We call the set the **sample space** and (arbitrarily) assign the whole set a probability mass of 1.0

Sample Space

- Ω is sometimes used to represent the sample space.
- Sample spaces can be continuous or discrete.
 - Continuous: { *the distance between planets* }
 - Discrete: { Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune }
- $P(\Omega) = 1.0$. (all events are accounted for)



Outcomes

- By convention, events are often represented with an italic capital letter representing the single outcome of a lower-case letter.

$$\Omega = \{ a \ a \ b \ c \}$$

A is the event of selecting 'a' from Ω

B is the event of selecting 'b' from Ω

C is the event of selecting 'c' from Ω

- A^C is the complement of A (the event of not A)
 - $A + A^C$ takes up the entire event space. E.g., $P(A \text{ or } A^C) = 1.0$
- An event can be any subset of Ω
 - All individual outcomes are an event
 - An event could be a combination of different outcomes: D is the event of choosing 'a' or 'b'
 - An event could be multiple outcomes: Q is the event of choosing 'a' followed by 'b'

Rolling 2 dice

- The single occurrence of rolling a red die and a black die must have one of the following outcomes (red, black)

$$\Omega = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), \\ (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), \\ (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), \\ (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), \\ (5, 1), (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 4), (5, 5), (5, 6), \\ (6, 1), (6, 2), (6, 3), (6, 4), (6, 5), (6, 6) \}$$

- There are $6 \times 6 = 36$ outcomes; they are mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive
- But there are many other events that we can talk about...

Some 2-dice Events

- A particular outcome

$$A = \{ (3, 6) \}$$

- Both dice are the same

$$E = \{ (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6) \}$$

- The total is 5

$$F = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \}$$

- The total is prime

$$G = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 4), (1, 6), (2, 1), (2, 3), (2, 5), (3, 2), (3, 4), (4, 1), (4, 3), (5, 2), (5, 6), (6, 1), (6, 5) \}$$



Definition of Probability

- Let P be a function that satisfies the following:

$$P(\Omega) = 1$$

all possible outcomes are accounted for

$$\forall A \subseteq \Omega : 0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$$

probabilities are non-negative real numbers less than 1

$$\forall \{A, B\} \subseteq \Omega, A \cap B = \emptyset^* : P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

for any pair of events that are mutually exclusive, the union of their occurrence is the sum of their probabilities

* \emptyset denotes the empty set, $\{ \}$

Definition of Probability

- For every trial, an event either occurs, or does not occur
 $\forall A \subseteq \Omega : P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$
- Each event $A \subseteq \Omega$ can be thought of as partitioning the probability space

Mutual Exclusivity

- It is impossible for two **mutually exclusive** events to co-occur on the same trial
- For the 2 dice example, each of the 36 basic outcomes are mutually exclusive with each other, and the entire set is **collectively exhaustive**
- Therefore, one way of defining P is to assume that these outcomes are all equally likely:

$$E = \{ (1, 6) \}$$
$$P(E) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{36} = .0278$$

Compositional Events

- Events which are not in the set of mutually-exclusive, collectively-exhaustive events can be **composed** from them
- Compositional events are handy for grouping together certain types of events that we might be interested in
- If the function P describes a valid probability space, then the definition of well-formed P allows us to calculate P for mutually exclusive compositional events

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

- Every trial has an outcome, which may satisfy multiple events; this can be illustrated with Venn Diagrams

2 Dice Events

- Both dice are the same

$$E = \{ (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6) \}$$

$$P(E) = .0278 \times 6 = .1667$$

- The total is 5

$$F = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \}$$

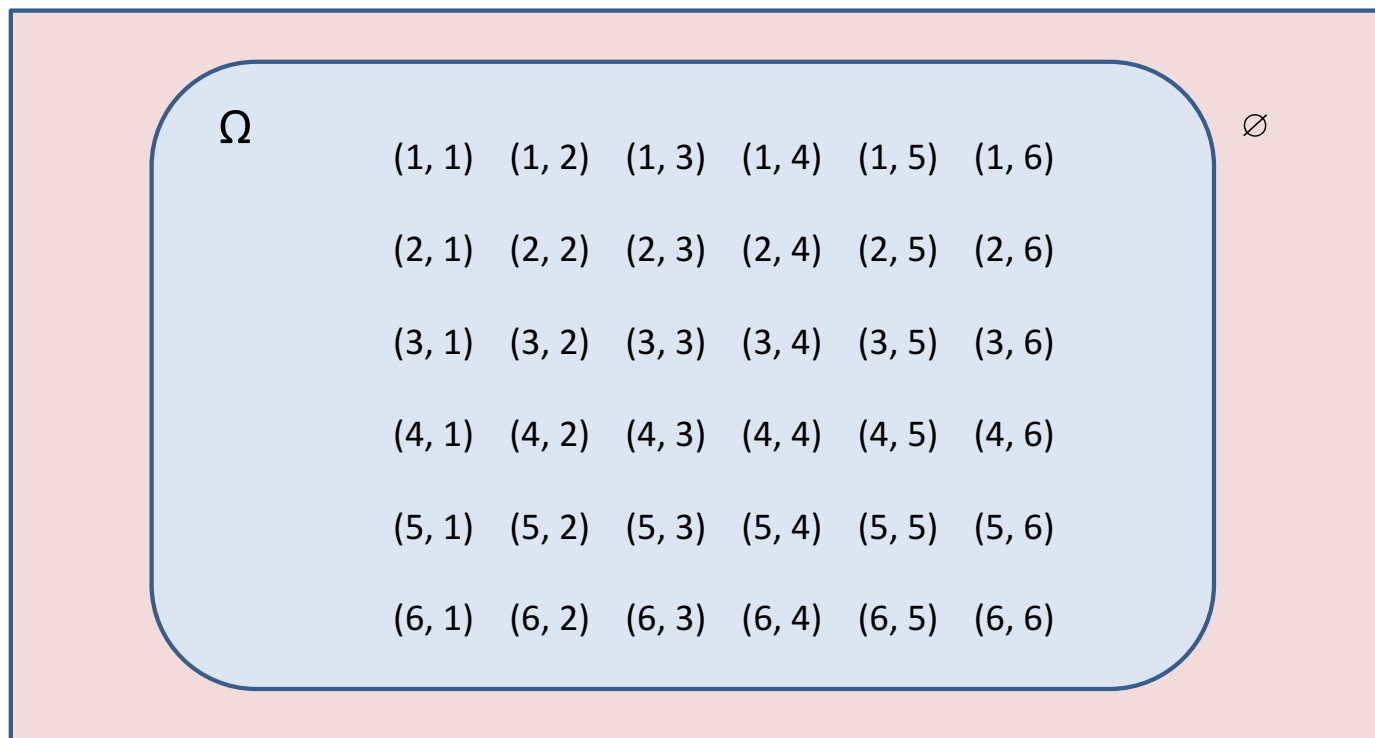
$$P(F) = .0278 \times 4 = .1111$$

- The total is prime

$$G = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 4), (1, 6), (2, 1), (2, 3), (2, 5), (3, 2), (3, 4), (4, 1), (4, 3), (5, 2), (5, 6), (6, 1), (6, 5) \}$$

$$P(G) = .0278 \times 15 = .4167$$

Outcomes in Probability Space



Intersecting Events

- The previous slide shows that compositional events can be mutually exclusive

E and F are mutually exclusive

$$E \cap F = \emptyset$$

E and G are **not** mutually exclusive

$$E \cap G = \{ (1, 1) \}$$

F and G are **not** mutually exclusive

$$F \cap G = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \} = F$$

More on Adding Probabilities

- We have seen how to calculate probability of $P(A \text{ or } B)$ when A and B are mutually exclusive

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B), A \cap B = \emptyset$$

- If they are not, we can subtract the probability of the intersecting area

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

Probability of both dice being the same, *or* their total being prime in a single trial

$$\begin{aligned} P(E \cup G) &= P(E) + P(G) - P(E \cap G) \\ &= .1667 + .4167 - .0278 \\ &= .5556 \end{aligned}$$

Joint Probability

- On the previous slide we knew that $P(E \cap G) = .0278$ by noting that only 1 of the 36 mutually exclusive, collectively exhaustive outcomes is in the set intersection $E \cap G$
- More generally though, how can we compute $P(E \cap G)$ from $P(E)$ and $P(G)$?
- $P(E \cap G)$, or $P(E \text{ and } G)$, or $P(EG)$ is the probability that two events both occur in the same trial
- This is called the **joint probability**
- For mutually exclusive events, the joint probability is obviously zero:

$$\forall \{A, B\} \subseteq \Omega, A \cap B = \emptyset : P(A \cap B) = 0$$

Joint Probability

Recall our example

$$E = \{ (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6) \}$$

“both dice are the same”

$$F = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \}$$

“the total is 5”

$$\forall \{A, B\} \subseteq \Omega, A \cap B = \emptyset : P(A \cap B) = 0$$

$$E \cap F = \emptyset, \therefore P(E \cap F) = 0$$



The probability is zero, meaning it is not possible for both dice to be the same **and** for the total to be 5 on the same trial.

Joint Probability

- Perhaps it is the case that

$$P(E \cap G) = P(E) P(G)$$

Let's try it

$$.0278 \stackrel{?}{=} .1667 \times .4167$$

$$.0278 \stackrel{?}{=} .0694$$

No. This means that events E and G are not **independent**

Independent Events

- 2 events are **mutually exclusive** if they cannot both occur as the outcome of a single trial
- 2 events are **independent** if the occurrence of one does not affect the probability of the other occurring in the trial
- Does event A provide any information that would bias the outcome of event B?
 - If so, A and B are *not* independent events; they are **dependent**
- Events E , F and G in the 2-dice example are *not* independent of each other ($\{E, F\}$, $\{F, G\}$ and $\{E, G\}$)
 - Even though E and F are mutually exclusive

Adding an independent event to our example

Let's start with event F and try to think of an event that would be independent of F

$$F = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \}$$

“the total is 5”

$$P(F) = .1111$$

It's not so easy to come up with an event that, in the same trial, will give us no information about F .

Such an event must meet the following criteria:

- Since F does not partition Ω equally, an event that is independent of F must partition Ω equally, so as not to bias for or against F .
- For the same reason, the event must also partition F equally.

Any ideas?

An event that is independent of F

“the red die shows an odd number”

$$H = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), \\ (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), \\ (5, 1), (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 4), (5, 5), (5, 6) \}$$

$$P(H) = .5$$



$$F = \{ (1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1) \}$$

“the total is 5”

$$P(F) = .1111$$

$$H \cap F = \{ (1, 4), (3, 2) \}$$

$$P(H \cap F) = .0555 \stackrel{?}{=} P(H) P(F) \stackrel{?}{=} .5 \times .111$$



Independent Events

When two events are independent, the probability of both occurring in the same trial is

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

- Actually, the reverse of this is the *definition* of independence
- This is how we can test for independence of events
 - we can compare the probability $P(A \cap B)$ —obtained from counting—to the product of $P(A)$ and $P(B)$. If they are equal, the events are independent

Conditional Probability

- But what if two events are not independent? How do we compute $P(A \cap B)$ from $P(A)$ and $P(B)$?
- We must know how the events are related
- $P(A|B)$ is notation for the probability of event A , assuming that event B has co-occurred in the same trial
- This is called conditional probability
- “the probability of A , given B ”
- Think of a constrained probability space which contains only those outcomes which satisfy event B
 - or a ‘pre-filter’ which selects only outcomes which satisfy B

Conditional Probability

- Because the reduced sample space is limited to events which satisfy B , we exclude from A any outcomes that do not satisfy B : $P(A \cap B)$
- This lets us express the conditional probability in terms of the reduced sample space

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

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

- If $P(B)$ is 0, then $P(A|B)$ is undefined

Marginal Probability

- Conditional probability introduces the idea that you might have information about *part* of a trial
- In the following equation, we are assuming that we can estimate or provide $P(B)$ for an incomplete trial

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

- $P(B)$ here is called the **marginal probability**

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

joint probability = conditional probability \times marginal probability



Conditional probability and independence

- Note that conditional probability degrades gracefully in the case of independent events
- Assuming A and B are independent events:

$$P(AB) = P(A) P(B)$$

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

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

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



If A and B are independent, then what you may know about one doesn't affect the probability of the other

Summary of Event Probability

- $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$
- $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$
- If $P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B)$, then A and B are called independent events
- Otherwise

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

- Conditional probability

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

Next Week

- Tuesday
 - Random Variables, the Chain Rule, and Probability Distributions
- Thursday
 - Project 1 due at 11:45 p.m.