



# Probability and Statistics

## Course Descriptions

### Aim of the course

### Basic Definitions

Lecture 1.  
Class 1.  
Time: 8:30- 10:30  
Department: BIT

# Descriptive and Inferential Statistics

Statistics can be Divided into two basic types:

- Descriptive Statistics:
- Inferential Statistics:

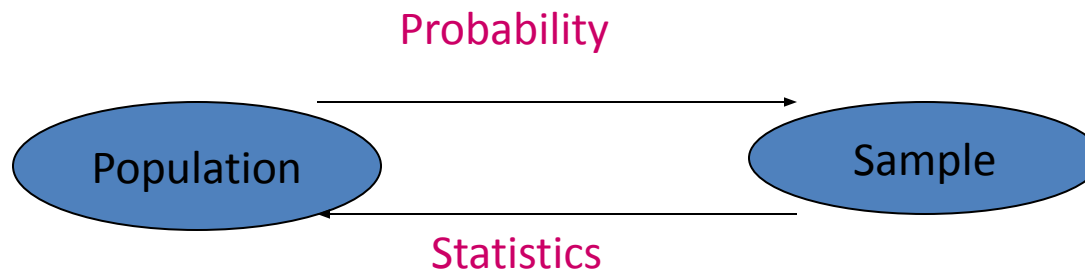
Methods that making decisions or predictions about a population based on sampled data.

How is that?

By **Probability**

# Why Learn Probability?

- Nothing in life is certain. In everything we do, we measure the chances of successful outcomes, from business to medicine to the weather
- A probability provides a quantitative description of the chances or likelihoods associated with various outcomes
- It provides a bridge between descriptive and inferential statistics



# Probabilistic vs Statistical Reasoning

## If I live in California

- Suppose I know exactly the proportions of car makes in California. Then I can find the probability that the first car I see in the street is a Ford. This is **probabilistic reasoning** as I know the population and predict the sample
- Now suppose that I do not know the proportions of car makes in California, but would like to estimate them. I observe a random sample of cars in the street and then I have an estimate of the proportions of the population. This is **statistical reasoning**

# Basic Concepts

- An **experiment** is the process by which an observation (or measurement) is obtained.
- An **event** is an outcome of an experiment, usually denoted by a capital letter.

# Experiments and Events

- **Experiment: Record an age**
  - A: person is 30 years old
  - B: person is older than 65
- **Experiment: Toss a die**
  - A: observe an odd number
  - B: observe a number greater than 2

# Basic Concepts

- Two events are **mutually exclusive** (يستبعد أحدهما الآخر) if, when one event occurs, the other cannot, and vice versa.

- Experiment: Toss a die**

—A: observe an odd number

Not Mutually  
Exclusive

—B: observe a number greater than 2

—C: observe a 6

—D: observe a 3

Mutually  
Exclusive

B and C?  
B and D?

# Basic Concepts

- An event that cannot be decomposed is called a **simple event**.

(الحدث الذي لا يمكن أن يتحلل يسمى حدث بسيط)

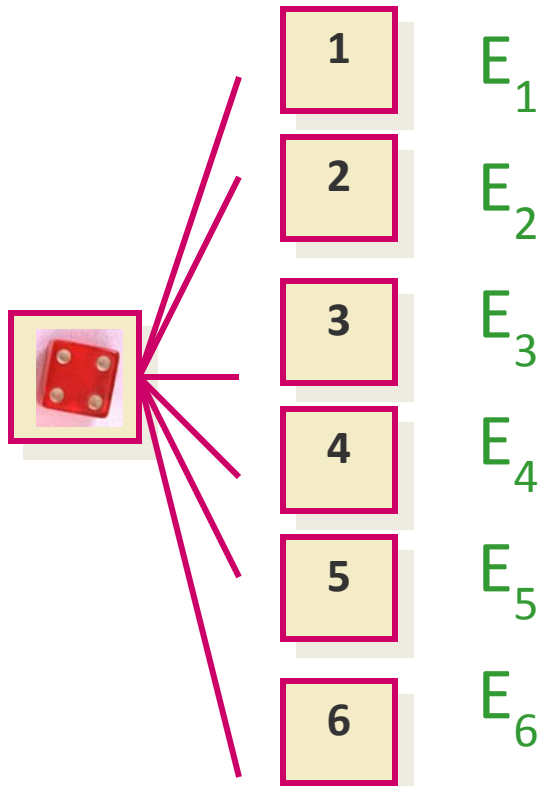
- Denoted by **E** with a subscript.
- Each simple event will be assigned a probability, measuring “how often” it occurs.
- The set of all simple events of an experiment is called the **sample space, S**.



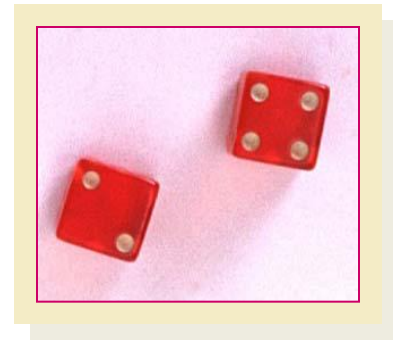
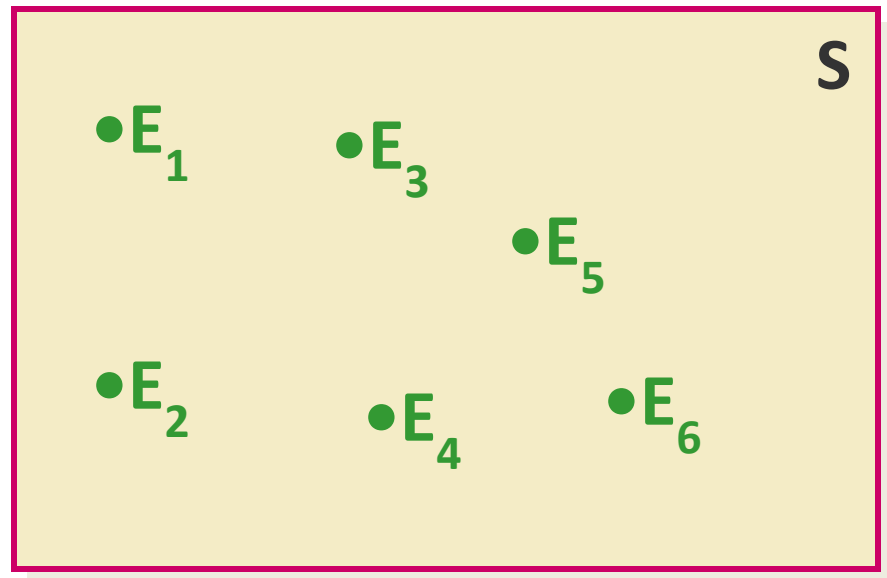
# Example

- The die toss:

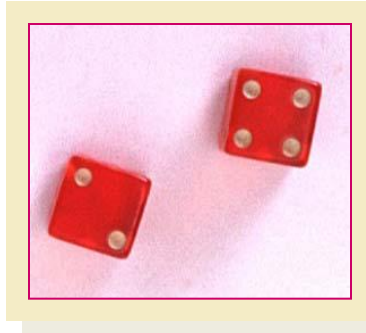
- Simple events:      Sample space:



$$S = \{E_1, E_2, E_3, E_4, E_5, E_6\}$$



# Basic Concepts



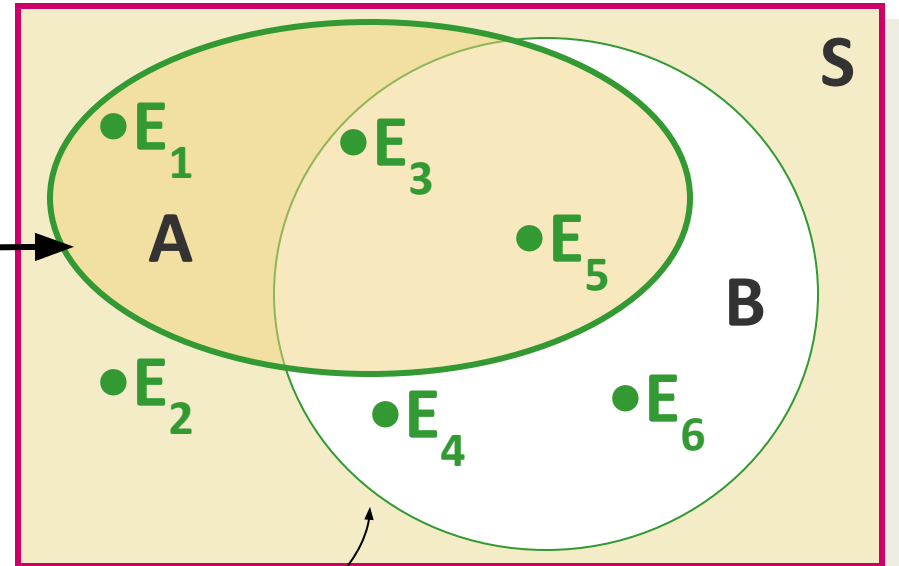
- An **event** is a collection of one or more **simple events**.

- **The die toss:**

A: an odd number  
–B: a number  $> 2$

$$A = \{E_1, E_3, E_5\}$$

$$B = \{E_3, E_4, E_5, E_6\}$$



# The Probability of an Event

- The probability of an event  $A$  measures “how often”  $A$  will occur. We write  $P(A)$ .
- Suppose that an experiment is performed  $n$  times. The relative frequency for an event  $A$  is

$$\frac{\text{Number of times } A \text{ occurs}}{n} = \frac{f}{n}$$

- If we let  $n$  get infinitely large,

$$P(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f}{n}$$

# The Probability of an Event

- $P(A)$  must be between 0 and 1.
  - If event  $A$  can never occur,  $P(A) = 0$ . If event  $A$  always occurs when the experiment is performed,  $P(A) = 1$ .
- The sum of the probabilities for all simple events in  $S$  equals 1.
- The **probability of an event  $A$**  is found by adding the probabilities of all the simple events contained in  $A$ .

# Finding Probabilities



- Probabilities can be found using
  - Estimates from empirical studies (تقديرات من الدراسات التجريبية)
  - Common sense estimates based on equally likely events. (تقديرات الحس السليم على أساس الأحداث المحتملة على قدم المساواة)
- **Examples:**
  - Toss a fair coin.  $P(\text{Head}) = 1/2$
  - Suppose that 10% of the Iraqi population has red hair. Then for a person selected at random,

$$P(\text{Red hair}) = .10$$

# Using Simple Events

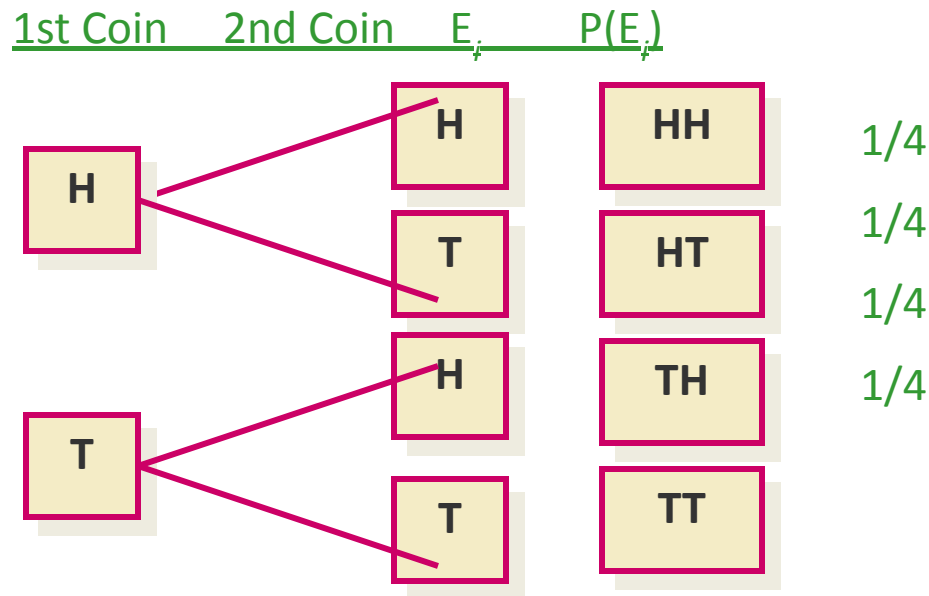
- The probability of an event  $A$  is equal to the sum of the probabilities of the simple events contained in  $A$
- If the simple events in an experiment are **equally likely**, you can calculate

$$P(A) = \frac{n_A}{N} = \frac{\text{number of simple events in } A}{\text{total number of simple events}}$$

# Example 1



Toss a fair coin twice. What is the probability of observing at least one head?

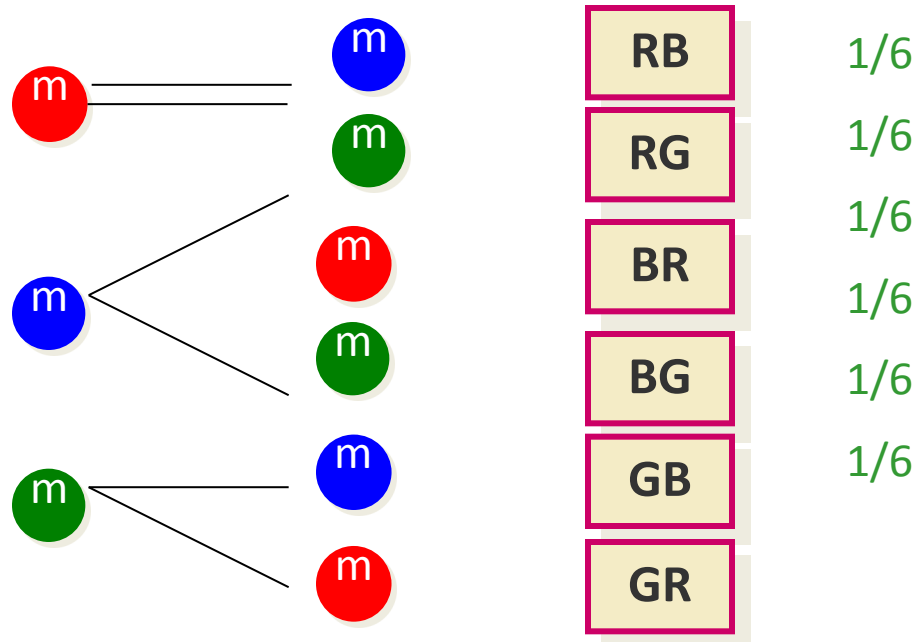


$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{at least 1 head}) &= P(E_1) + P(E_2) + P(E_3) \\ &= 1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4 = 3/4 \end{aligned}$$

# Example 2

A bowl contains three M&Ms<sup>®</sup>, one red, one blue and one green. A child selects two M&Ms (sequentially) at random. What is the probability that at least one is red?

1st M&M   2nd M&M    $E_i$     $P(E_i)$

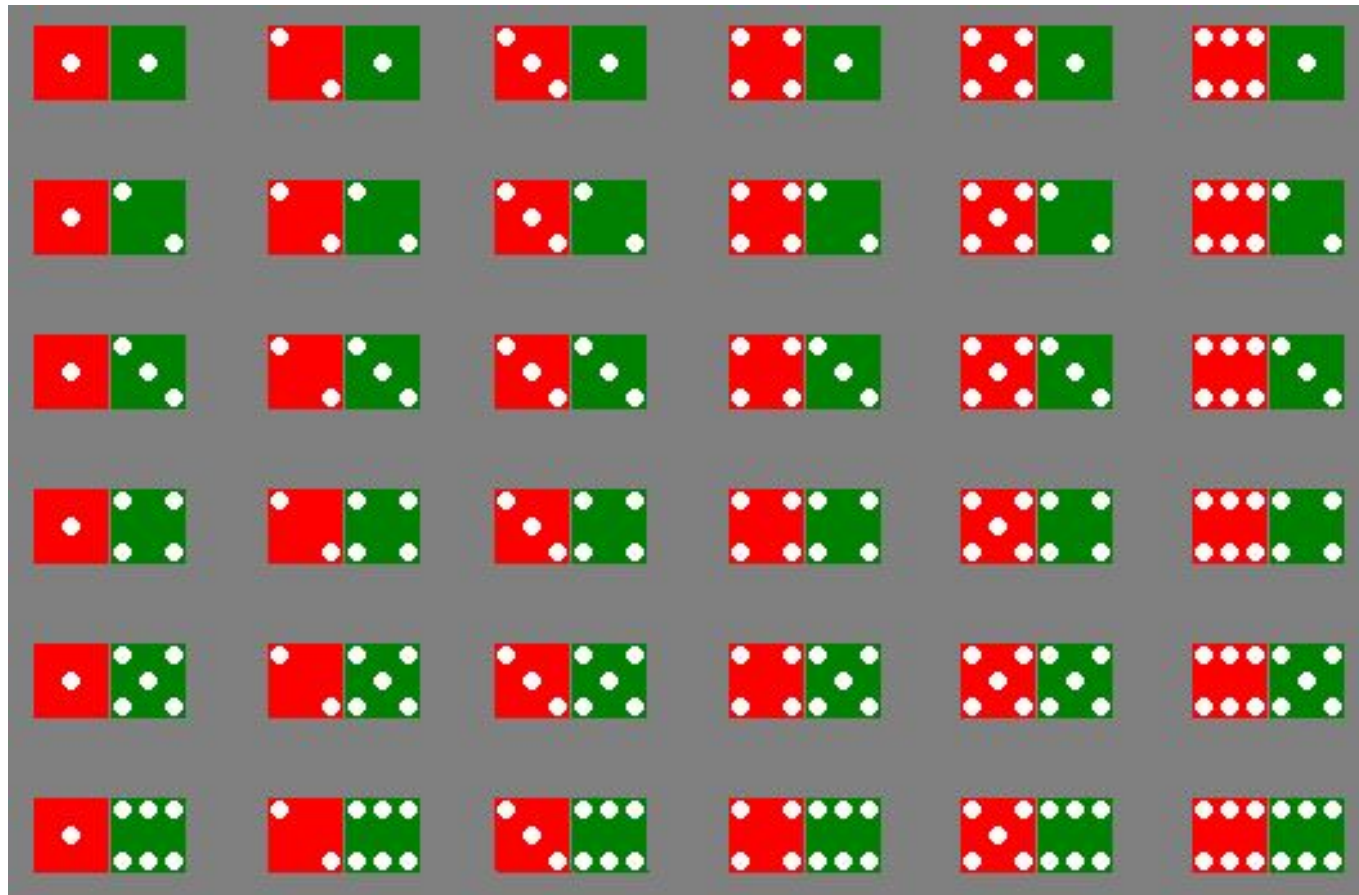


$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{at least 1 red}) &= P(RB) + P(BR) + P(RG) + P(GR) \\ &= 4/6 = 2/3 \end{aligned}$$



# Example 3

The sample space of throwing a pair of dice is



# Example 3

Event	Simple events	Probability
Dice add to 3	(1,2),(2,1)	2/36
Dice add to 6	(1,5),(2,4),(3,3), (4,2),(5,1)	5/36
Red die show 1	(1,1),(1,2),(1,3), (1,4),(1,5),(1,6)	6/36
Green die show 1	(1,1),(2,1),(3,1), (4,1),(5,1),(6,1)	6/36

# Counting Rules

- Sample space of throwing 3 dice has 216 entries, sample space of throwing 4 dice has 1296 entries, ...
- At some point, we have to stop listing and start thinking ...
- We need some counting rules



# The *mn* Rule

- If an experiment is performed in two stages, with *m* ways to accomplish the first stage and *n* ways to accomplish the second stage, then there are *mn* ways to accomplish the experiment.
- This rule is easily extended to *k* stages, with the number of ways equal to

$$n_1 n_2 n_3 \cdots n_k$$

**Example:** Toss two coins. The total number of simple events is:

$$2 \times 2 = 4$$



# Examples



**Example:** Toss three coins. The total number of simple events is:

$$2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$$

**Example:** Toss two dice. The total number of simple events is:

$$6 \times 6 = 36$$

**Example:** Toss three dice. The total number of simple events is:

$$6 \times 6 \times 6 = 216$$



# THANK YOU