

Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables
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22. Two dice are thrown at the same time and the product of numbers appearing on them is noted. Find the probability that the product is less than 9.

Answer: $\frac{4}{9}$.

Solution:

X = Outcome of the first dice

Y = Outcome of the second dice

The outcome of each dice can be $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

We first solve the question for a general case N, i.e the case where the product of numbers appearing on the die are less than N

From equation (3)

$$P(XY < N) =$$

$$\left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1(N)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{2}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{3}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{4}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{5}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{6}\right)\right\}$$

Calculation for N=9:

Using formulae (4) and (5)

$$P(XY < 9) =$$

$$\left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1(9)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{9}{2}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{9}{3}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{9}{4}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{9}{5}\right)\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6}F_Y1\left(\frac{9}{6}\right)\right\}$$

$$(1) \quad P(XY < 9) = \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times 1\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{4}{6}\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{2}{6}\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{2}{6}\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{6}\right\} + \left\{\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{6}\right\}$$

$$(2) \quad P(XY < 9) = \frac{4}{9}$$

Conclusion :

The probability that the product is less than 9 is $\frac{4}{9}$

$$P(XY < N) = \sum_{k=1}^6 P(X = k) \left[F_Y\left(\frac{N}{k}\right) - P(Y = \frac{N}{k}) \right]$$

$$F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{k}\right) = F_Y\left(\frac{N}{k}\right) - P(Y = \frac{N}{k})$$

(3)

$$P(XY < N) = \sum_{k=1}^6 P(X = k) F_Y1\left(\frac{N}{k}\right)$$

(4)

$$P(X = k) = \frac{1}{6}, k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$$

(5)

$$F_Y(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{[k]}{6}, & \text{if } k \text{ in } [1, 6] \\ 1, & k > 6 \\ 0, & k < 1 \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where P(X) is the probability mass function of X,
 $F_Y(x)$ is the cumulative distribution function of Y.