

Introduction

Probability is used to measure how likely an uncertain event is to occur. The core of probability is to provide measuring tools.

As an example:

- Roll of two dice, lottery, flip of a coin, etc

Counting

Definition 1 (n-tuple)

An n-tuple is an order set of n-elements taken from a set.

Example 2.0.1

Colors on a stripped flag from top to bottom

- (blue, white, red) (Columbia)
- ordered because (blue, white, red) not equal (red, white, blue) (U.S)

Lemma 2.0.2

For 2-tuple (a, b) . Suppose $a \in A$ with n_1 elements, and $b \in B$ with n_2 elements, then there are: $n_1 * n_2$ possibilities for the tuple (a, b) .

Example 2.0.3

A team of one boy and one girl is to be made from a group of 5 girls and 2 boys. How many different teams are there

Solution

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} G_1B_1 & G_2B_1 & G_3B_1 & G_4B_1 & G_5B_1 \\ G_1B_2 & G_2B_2 & G_3B_2 & G_4B_2 & G_5B_2 \end{array}$$

$$5 * 2 = 10.$$

Lemma 2.0.4

Suppose an experiment consists r different outcomes, with the i -th outcome having n_i possibilities, then together there are:

$$n_1 \times n_2 \times \dots \times n_r = \prod_{i=1}^r n_i.$$

Possibilities for the experiment.

Exercise 2.0.5

How many different licence plates if we have 3 letters followed by 3 numbers, how many unique license plates are there

Solution

$$26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 17,576,000$$

Definition 2 (Permutations)

A permutation of $\{1, \dots, k\}$ is a k-tuple such that numbers cannot repeat

Example 2.0.6

- How many 3-tuples made of letters a, b, c?
- 3^3 as seen before
- How many 3-tuples made of letters a, b, c with no repetition

- $3 \times 2 \times 1 = 3! = 6$
- Each of these arrangements are called a permutation
- The order matters!

$$n! = n \times (n - 1) \times \dots \times 2 \times 1$$

- We define $0! = 1$

Example 2.0.7

How many 3-tuples without lepton are there, made of the letters: a, b, c, d, e, f, g?

Solution

$$7 \times 6 \times 5 = \frac{7!}{(7-3)!} = (7)_3$$

Definition 3

If there are k slots for $1, 2, \dots, n$ then the number of arrangements is **the number of k -tuples that can be selected from $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ without repeating elements and is given by:**

$$(n)_k := n \times (n - 1)(n - 2) \times \dots \times (n - k + 1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}.$$

Sets

Definition 4

A set is an unordered collection of different elements.

Quick note, is that we use "()" for tuples, and "{}" for sets.

Example 3.0.1

- Colors on a painting
- Unordered because a painting does not have any order
- different because will NOT count the same color twice

Example 3.0.2

How many subsets of 3 elements are there, made of letters a,b,c,d,e,f,g?

- For each subset of size 3, we counted $3! = 6$ permutations
- We counted $(7)_3$ possible 3-tuples with different elements (arrangements)
- Therefore, we divide the number of arrangements by 6:

$$\frac{(7)_3}{3!} = \frac{7!}{4!3!} = \frac{210}{3} = 35.$$

When order matters, there is $k!$ different orderings of the k items selected.

- If we have n items and want select k of them, # (combinations)

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

Definition 5 (Choose Operator)

Define the choose operator as:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n.$$

This operator is pronounced as "N, choose K" which is the number of ways to pick k objects from a set of n dissidents objects.

Exercise 3.0.3

How many handshakes take place between a group of 6 people if everyone needed to shake hands with everyone else.

Same question: how many combinations of 2 numbers among $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

Solution

$$\binom{6}{2} = \frac{6!}{4!2!} = \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 \times 2} = \frac{6 \times 5}{2 \times 1} = 15$$

Exercise 3.0.4

5 women and 4 men take an exam. We rank them from top to bottom, according to their performance. There are no ties.

- 1.) How many possible rankings.
- 2.) What if we rank men and women separately?
- 3.) As in (ii), but Julie has the third place in women's rankings.

(i) A ranking is just another name for a permutation of nine people. The answer is $9!$

(ii) There are $5!$ permutations for women and $4!$ Permutations for men. Since any ranking for men can be "tupled" with any ranking of men, by the counting principle, the total number is: $5!4!$

(iii) We exclude Julie from consideration, because her place is already reserved. There are four women left now, so the permutations is $4!$, which is the same as the men so we have the final answer: $4!$

3.1 Properties of choose numbers

Symmetry: $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}$

- For every subset of 2 elements $\{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$, there is a subset of 6 elements: its complement:

- For example,

$$\{3, 5\} \leftrightarrow \{1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8\}.$$

- This is a one-to-one correspondence. So there are equally many subsets of two elements and subsets of six elements. Hence, $\binom{8}{2} = \binom{8}{6}$

Example 3.1.1

Among 4 married couples, we want to select a group of 3 people that is not allowed to contain a married couple. How many choices?

Solution

Number of choices if the group can contain married couples(s):

$$N_1 = \binom{8}{3} = \frac{8!}{3! * 5!} = 56.$$

Number of choices if the group contains at least one married couple(s)? Then it can only contain one couple.

$$N_2 = \binom{4}{1} \times \binom{6}{1} = 24.$$

We can arrive at this equation because out of the 4 couples, we will only be choosing one group of married couples, then we are left with 6 people and will be choosing 1 from that group.

The number of choices that the group does not have a couple:

$$N_1 - N_2 = 32.$$

Alternatively: there are $8 \times 6 \times 4$ ways of permuting 3 people where no married couple is contained. However, the order plays a role in this calculation, which we do not want. Therefore, there are $\frac{8*6*4}{3!} = 32$.

3.1.1 Reduction Property

The reduction property is defined as:

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

- Consider counting subsets $E \subset \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ of size 2. There are two possibilities:
 - $5 \in E$. Then E (take away) 5 is one-element subset of $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$; There are $\binom{4}{1}$ such subsets.
 - $5 \notin E$. Then E is a two-element subset of $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ There are $\binom{4}{2}$ such subsets.

Hence, adding the two cases we get: $\binom{5}{2}$

Binomial Theorem

First we can Note:

$$(x + y)^2 = x^2 + 2xy + y^2,$$

$$(x + y)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2y + y^3.$$

- Coefficients are taken from the corresponding lines in Yang Hui's triangle
- Why? Since $(x + y)^3 = (x + y)(x + y)(x + y)$, the coefficients before x^2y is just the number of ways of getting one y and hence two X's. For example:

$$\binom{3}{2}$$

$$(x + y)^3 = \binom{3}{0} x^3 + \binom{3}{1} x^2y + \binom{3}{2} xy^2 + \binom{3}{3} y^3.$$

The general form being:

$$(x + y)^n = \binom{n}{0} x^n + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1}y + \dots + \binom{n}{n} y^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{n-k} y^k.$$

4.1 Power Set

Example 4.1.1

How many subsets are there of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

- For each $0 \leq k \leq n$, there are $\binom{n}{k}$ different subsets of size k. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}.$$

- Use the Binomial Theorem to simplify:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 1^k 1^{n-k} = (1 + 1)^n = 2^n.$$

- For each set, an element either belong to a set or does (2 choices for each element, 2^n choices for all subsets.

Definition 6 (Power Set)

For a set A, the power set of A is the set of its subsets and is often denoted 2^A

Multinomial Coefficients

Example 5.0.1

Putting 10 balls into 3 baskets: 5 into red basket, 2 into blue and 3 into yellow. How many combinations?

Solution

$$\binom{10}{5} \binom{5}{2} \binom{3}{3} = \frac{10!}{5!(10-5)!} * \frac{5!}{3!(5-3)!} = \frac{10!}{5!3!2!}$$

Definition 7 (Multinomial Coefficients)

A set of n distinct items is to be divided into r distinct groups of respective sizes n_1, \dots, n_r where $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_r = n$.

Number of possible divisions is

$$\binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} := \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_r!}.$$

- Multinomial Coefficient decomposes as

$$\binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} = \binom{n}{n_1} \binom{n-n_1}{n_2} \dots \binom{n_r}{n_r}.$$

- When $r=2$, we just get the binomial coefficient, the choose function.

Theorem 5.0.2 (Multinomial Theorem)

We can define:

$$(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_r)^n = \sum_{n_1 + \dots + n_r = n} \binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} a_1^{n_1} a_2^{n_2} \dots a_r^{n_r}$$

Set Theory

Definition 8 (Subsets)

Let Ω be a set, that is a collection of elements or points.

- A is a subset of Ω , denoted $A \subset \Omega$, if it is a set composed of elements of Ω
- Given an element ω of Ω and a subset A of Ω , either
 - ω belongs to A, denoted $\omega \in A$
 - ω does not belong to A, denoted $\omega \notin A$.

Example 6.0.1

Let $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, examples of subsets are:

$$A = \{2, 4, 6\}, B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}.$$

There are alternative ways to specify a set, namely we can equivalently write:

$$A = \{\omega \in \Omega, \omega \text{ is even} \}, B = \{\omega \in \Omega : 1 \leq \omega \leq 4\}.$$

Notes:

- Subsets of the form ω are called singletons
- Note that $\omega \in w$ but ω is not the same as w

Definition 9 (Intersections and Union's)

For A, B two subsets of Ω , either:

- $A \subset B$: A is a subset of B: $\forall \omega \in A, \omega \in B$
- $A \not\subset B$: A is not a subset of B: $\exists \omega \in A, \omega \notin B$

Moreover, if $A \subset B$ and $B \subset A$, then $A = B$

- Ω is a subset of Ω
- the empty set is denoted \emptyset is a subset of Ω
- for any subset A of Ω , $\emptyset \subset A \subset \Omega$

6.1 Set operations

Definition 10

Let A, B be two subsets of a set Ω .

1. Intersection, $A \cap B = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in B\}$
2. Union, $A \cup B = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ or } \omega \in B\}$
3. Complement of A, $A^c = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \notin A\}$
4. Set difference $A \setminus B := \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \notin B\}$

Note:

- $A^c = \Omega/A$
- $A / B = A \cap B^c$

Definition 11 (Disjoint Sets)

Two sets A, B are disjoint if $A \cap B = \emptyset$.

Definition 12 (Cardinality)

The cardinality of a finite set A is the number of elements in the set and is denoted $|A|$

6.2 Some Rules

1. Commutative laws:

$$A \cup B = B \cup A, A \cap B = B \cap A.$$

2. Associative Laws:

$$(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C).$$

3. Distributive Laws:

$$(A \cup B) \cap C = (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C).$$

Lemma 6.2.1 (Demorgan's Laws)

For two subsets A, B of a set Ω ,

$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c.$$

Proof 1

The general outline of the proof is:

1. Left \subset Right: For any $x \in (A \cup B)^c$, then $x \in A^c \cap B^c$
2. Right \subset Left: For any $x \in A^c \cap B^c$, then $x \in (A \cup B)^c$

Notes:

- The set Ω can be infinite
- We distinguish countable sets (s.t that these sets can be mapped to a subset of \mathbb{N} with every mapping different than the others), often called discrete sets.
- and uncountable sets, for example \mathbb{R} , are often called continuous sets (such sets cannot be mapped to \mathbb{N} with a mapping that is distinct for all elements)

Definition 13

Given a sequence of subsets A_i of Ω we define:

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{+\infty} A_i = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A_i \text{ for at least one index } i \in \{1, 2, \dots\}\}.$$

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{+\infty} A_i = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A_i \text{ for all indexes } i \in \{1, 2, \dots\}\}.$$