

# Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables  
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**12.13.6.12 Question:** Suppose we have four boxes A,B,C and D containing coloured marbles as given below:

Box	Marble colour		
	Red	White	Black
A	1	6	3
B	6	2	2
C	8	1	1
D	0	6	4

One of the boxes has been selected at random and a single marble is drawn from it. If the marble is read, what is the probability that it was drawn from

- 1) Box A ?
- 2) Box B ?
- 3) Box C ?

**Answer:** 1)  $\frac{1}{15}$       2)  $\frac{2}{5}$       3)  $\frac{8}{15}$

## Solution:

Let  $E$  be the event that the drawn marble is red.

Let  $E_1$  be the event that the selected box is A.

Let  $E_2$  be the event that the selected box is B.

Let  $E_3$  be the event that the selected box is C.

Let  $E_4$  be the event that the selected box is D.

Probability of chosen box being A given that drawn marble is red is given by:  $P(E_1|E)$

Probability of chosen box being B given that drawn marble is red is given by:  $P(E_2|E)$

Probability of chosen box being C given that drawn marble is red is given by:  $P(E_3|E)$

Here,

$$P(E|E_1) = \frac{1}{10} \quad P(E|E_2) = \frac{6}{10}$$

$$P(E|E_3) = \frac{8}{10} \quad P(E|E_4) = \frac{0}{10}$$

$$P(E_1) = P(E_2) = P(E_3) = P(E_4) = \frac{1}{4}$$

Now by Bayes' theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} P(E_1|E) &= \frac{P(E|E_1).P(E_1)}{P(E|E_1).P(E_1)+P(E|E_2).P(E_2)+P(E|E_3).P(E_3)+P(E|E_4).P(E_4)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{6}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{8}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{0}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{40}}{\frac{15}{40}} \\ &= \frac{1}{15} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(E_2|E) &= \frac{P(E|E_2).P(E_2)}{P(E|E_1).P(E_1)+P(E|E_2).P(E_2)+P(E|E_3).P(E_3)+P(E|E_4).P(E_4)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{6}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{6}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{8}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{0}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{6}{40}}{\frac{15}{40}} \\ &= \frac{6}{15} \\ &= \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(E_3|E) &= \frac{P(E|E_3).P(E_3)}{P(E|E_1).P(E_1)+P(E|E_2).P(E_2)+P(E|E_3).P(E_3)+P(E|E_4).P(E_4)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{8}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{6}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{8}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{0}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{4}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{8}{40}}{\frac{15}{40}} \\ &= \frac{8}{15} \end{aligned}$$