# Chapter 1

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# Probability

### Intro

Probability is a measure of one's belief in the occurrence of future events

e.g.

a policy holder making a claim in the next year

### How to assign probabilities?

- 1. subjectively
- 2. relative frequency
  - repeat the study condition (identical) for M times
  - record times event occurred (m)
  - probability = relative frequency = m / M where  $\lim_{M\to\infty} m/M = P(A)$
- 3. Axiomatic Model Based
  - use mathematical theory to assign probabilities (what we will learn)

### Notation

Def: A random experiment is an experiment that produces outcomes that can't be predicted w/ certainty

Def: A performance of such experiment: trial

Def: A result: Outcome

Def: Sample Space: set of all possible outcomes of an experiment

• Denote *S* 

Ex: Toss a coin 3 times.

$$S = \begin{cases} HHH HHT HTH HTT \\ THH THT TTH TTT \end{cases}$$

Ex : number of positive tests during a week.  $S = \{0, 1, 2, ...\}$ 

Ex : highest temp. on labor day.  $S = \{40 < \omega < 120\}$ 

Ex : An event is a subset of sample space, S, as  $(A, B, C...) \subseteq S$ 

Def :  $\omega$  : "omega" an outcome occurs

- if A contains  $\omega$ , we say A occurred
- if A does not contain  $\omega$ , A did not occur

i.e.  $\omega \in A$ , A occurred,  $\omega \notin A$ , A did not occur

e.g. Toss coin 3 times. A = getting @ least 2 heads

 $A = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, THH\}$ . If I toss the coin 3 times and get HTH, then A occurred if I get TTH, A did not occur

## Set Theory

- *A* is a subset of *S* if  $\omega \in A \implies \omega \in S$
- Union :  $A \cup B = \{\omega : \omega \in A \text{ or } \omega \in B\}$
- intersection :  $A \cap B = \{\omega : \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in B\}$
- complement :  $\overline{A} = \{ \omega \in S : \omega \notin A \}$

Notate :  $A_1 \cap A_2 \cap ... \cap A_n = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i$ 

Notate :  $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup ... \cup A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$ 

Notate :  $\emptyset$  = null event (empty set)

Notate : S = sure event (always occur)

Def : An event is called elementary (simple) event if it contains only 1 outcome

Def: mutually exclusive (disjoint)

•  $A \cap B = \emptyset \implies$  no common outcome

 $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  are all mutually exclusive if they are pairwise mutually exclusive i.e.

$$A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$$
 for all  $i \neq j$ 

Ex: Toss a coin 3 times

A: at least 2 heads

$$A = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, THH\}$$

B: 1st toss = tails

$$B = \{THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{THH\} \implies$$
 not mutually exclusive  $A \cup B = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$   $\overline{A \cup B} = \{HTT\}$   $\overline{A} = \{HTT\}$   $\overline{B} = \{HTT, HHH, HHT, HTH\}$ 

### DeMorgan's Law

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$$

$$\overline{A\cap B}=\overline{A}\cup\overline{B}$$