

Probability and Counting | Statistics 110 | Lecture 1

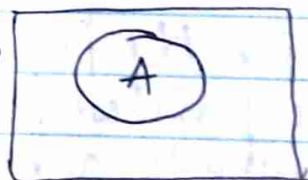
Words, sentences, clarity, honesty

Applications :-

- (i) History: Mosteller-Wallace Federalist papers (History of US)
- (ii) Govt: IQSS (Harvard) Institute for Quantitative Social Science
- (iii) Finance → Stats 123
- (iv) Gambling → the historical roots of the subject are exactly in games of chances - gambling
Fermat-Pascal (1650's)
- (v) Life - statistics is the logic of uncertainty (maths is the logic of certainty)
Everyone has a lot of uncertainties and probability
probability and statistics are how we quantify and update our beliefs and deal with uncertainty.

A sample space is the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment.

An event is a subset of the sample space. S



Naive definition of Probability

(Only use this when we have strong justification for doing so)

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{\# favourable outcomes to } A}{\text{\# possible outcomes}}$$

↓
event

Assumptions - ~~all~~

- (i) All outcomes are equally likely
- (ii) finite sample space

Reasonable assumption in some problems where we have some kind of symmetry.

Counting

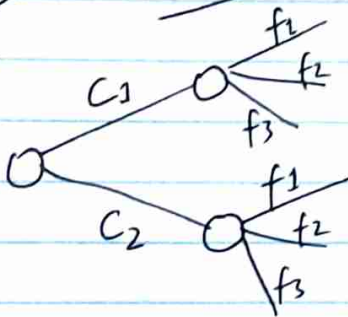
Multiplication Rule: If we have an experiment with n_1 possible outcomes, and for each outcome of 1st experiment there are n_2 outcomes for 2nd expt, ..., for each outcome of $(r-1)$ th expt, there are n_r outcomes for r th experiment, then overall there are $n_1 n_2 \dots n_{r-1} n_r$ possible outcomes.

Proof

Induction

Example

icecream $\begin{cases} 3 \text{ flavours } (f_1, f_2, f_3) \\ 2 \text{ type of cones } (c_1, c_2) \end{cases}$



6 possibilities $= 2 \times 3$ (choose cone first, flavour next)
 $= 3 \times 2$ (choose flavour first, cone next)

Example

prob. of full house of poker, 5 card hand

Individual cards are ranked, from highest to lowest

A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2

Suits

clubs \clubsuit
 diamonds \diamondsuit
 hearts \heartsuit
 spades \spadesuit

Suits are not ranked

Completely shuffled and all 5 cards are equally likely.

$$\frac{13C_1 \times 4C_3 \times 12C_1 \times 4C_2}{52C_5}$$

Choose 3 out of 4.

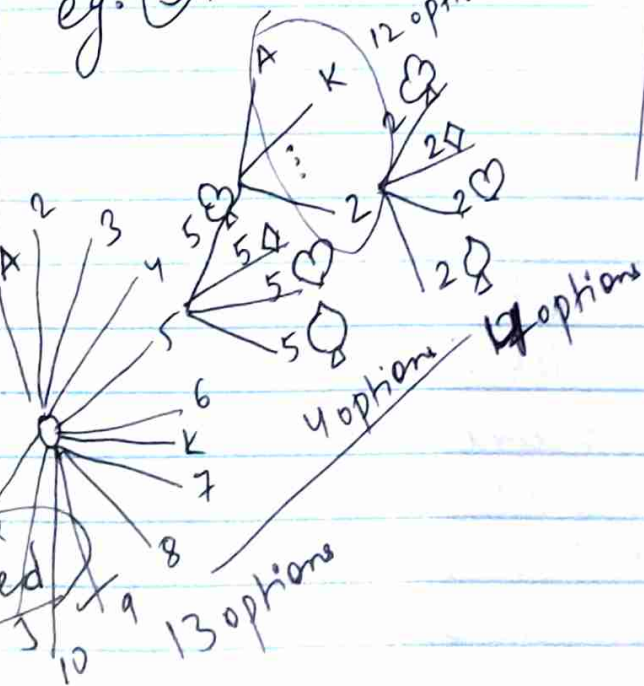
Can choose any one of 13 cards

eg. (3) 7's, (2) 10's

full house | full boat

boat | full hand

3 cards of 1 rank, 2 cards of another rank
 eg. 3 \clubsuit 3 \heartsuit 3 \spadesuit
 6 \clubsuit 6 \heartsuit



Binomial coefficient

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}, \quad 0 \text{ if } k > n$$

of subsets of size k , of group of n people where order does not matter

$$\frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot (n-k+1)}{k!}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-k)! k!}$$

→ We could have chosen them in any order, so we have to divide it by $k!$ because we overcounted by that factor

Sampling table: we have some population of items or people or anything and we are drawing
Choose K objects out of n
How many ways of doing that is a sample
are there to do it?

Order matters

order doesn't matter

Sample with replacement

$$n^k$$

Without replacement

$$n P_k$$

$$\frac{n+k-1}{k} C_k$$

$$n C_k \text{ or } \binom{n}{k}$$

pick K times from a set of n objects, where order does not matter, with replacement.
i.e., we pick 1 object, place it back, then pick another or same object, place it back, we do this K times.