

MATH440 Lecture 3

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1 2.5 Independence of events

review: conditional probability.

Let s be a sample space with events $A, B \subset S$

$$P(B) > 0$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \therefore$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

Independence

Two events A and B are independent if

$$P(A|B) = P(A)$$

and dependent otherwise.

This is to say that the probability of A does not depend on whether or not event B occurs.

Two events A and B are also independent if

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$

This is because we know the following logic:

$$P(A|B) = P(A)$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(A)P(B)$$

Theorem

Let A and B be two independent events. Then A^C, B^C are also independent.

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$

We have to then show the following to proof the indepedence of the complements:

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P(A^C)P(B^C)$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P((A \cup B)^C)$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = 1 - P(A \cup B)$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = 1 - [P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = 1 - [P(A) + P(B) - P(A)P(B)]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = 1 - P(A) - P(B) + P(A)P(B)]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = [1 - P(A)] - P(B) + P(A)P(B)]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P(A^C) - [P(B)(1 - P(A))]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P(A^C) - [P(B)(P(A^C))]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P(A^C)[1 - P(B)]$$

$$P(A^C \cap B^C) = P(A^C)P(B^C)$$

Indepdent Events:

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

Mutually exclusive events:

$$P(A \cap B) = \emptyset$$

The major take away is that when two events are independent the intersection is the product of the two events **Independence of more than two events**

Given A_1, \dots, A_n independent events are said to be independent if for every set of indices i_1, \dots, i_k

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap, \dots, \cap A_{i_k}) = P(A_{i_1})P(A_{i_2}) \dots P(A_{i_k})$$