

ELEMENTARY COMBINATORICS & PROBABILITY

Lecture 8

Conditional probability, Bayes' rule

LAST TIME

- Probability of an event
- Frequentist interpretation of probability (Python)

TODAY

- Conditional probability
- The law of total probability
- Bayes' rule

WARM-UP

TWO COIN FLIPS

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$$P(E) = \frac{C(4, 2)}{2^4} = \frac{4!}{2^6} = \frac{3}{8}$$

NUMBERED BALLS

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$$P(E) = \frac{2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 3}{5 \cdot 5} = \frac{13}{25}$$

MORE BALLS

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$$P(E) = \frac{C(4, 2) \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2}{5^4} = \frac{6^3}{5^4} = 0.3456$$

CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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Note: $P(M \& 65+) = P(M|65+) \cdot P(65+)$

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$$P(X_1 + X_2 = 7 | \text{multiple spots}) = \frac{4}{5 \cdot 5} = \frac{4}{25} = 0.16$$

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BOWLS AND BALLS

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$$P(X_1 + X_2 = 5) = \frac{4}{36} = \frac{1}{9}$$

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THE LAW OF TOTAL PROBABILITY

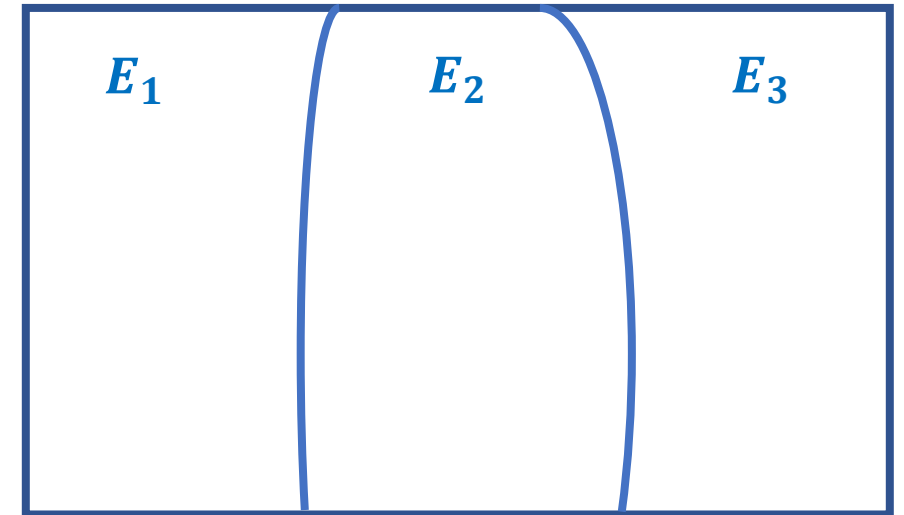
https://youtu.be/U3_783xznQI

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Suppose that the sample space S is split into n disjoint events:

$$S = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n,$$

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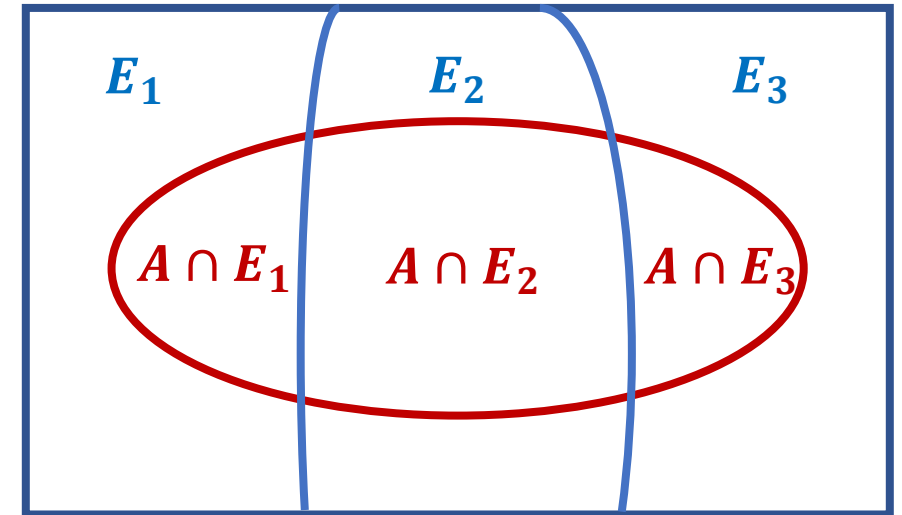
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Then $P(A)$ can be computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(A, E_1) + P(A, E_2) + \cdots + P(A, E_n) = \\ &= P(A|E_1) \cdot P(E_1) + P(A|E_2) \cdot P(E_2) + \\ &\quad + \cdots + P(A|E_n) \cdot P(E_n) \end{aligned}$$



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COINS

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TRY IT!

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SAME THING, BUT IN TERMS OF PROBABILITY

$$P(D) = 0.01, \quad P(+ \mid D) = P(- \mid \text{no } D) = 0.9, \quad P(D \mid +) = ?$$

$$P(D \mid +) = \frac{P(+ \text{ and } D)}{P(+)} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned} P(+) &= P(+ | D) \cdot P(D) + P(+ | \text{no } D) \cdot P(\text{no } D) = \\ &= 0.9 \cdot 0.01 + 0.1 \cdot 0.99 = 0.108 \end{aligned}$$

SAME THING, BUT IN TERMS OF PROBABILITY

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BAYES' RULE

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(AB)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A)}{P(B)} \cdot P(A)$$

BAYES' RULE: AN OVERVIEW

<https://youtu.be/BcvLAW-JRss>

BALLS IN TWO BOWLS

- There are two bowls: bowl A contains 2 blue and 3 red balls, and bowl B contains 1 blue and 4 red balls. A blue ball was randomly picked from one of the bowls. What's the probability that it was bowl A?

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COINS

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$$P(H) = \frac{4}{9}, \quad P(E_F|H) =$$

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$$P(H) = \frac{4}{9}, \quad P(E_F|H) = \frac{P(H|E_F) \cdot P(E_F)}{P(H)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{9}}{\frac{4}{9}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

LET'S PRACTICE!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hI1P9_YRMh4RRoL6RjvTwh6ynGd1YLS8-jVR0wp49M/edit?usp=sharing