

# Random Variables in High School <sup>1</sup>



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## ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book introduces random variables through high school probability. All problems in the book are from NCERT mathematics textbooks from Class 9-12. A lot of college level concepts related to random variables are covered in the process. The content is sufficient for random variable simulations using Python/C. There is no copyright, so readers are free to print and share.

September 18, 2024

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## 1 AXIOMS

## 1.1 Formulae

## 1.1.1

$$A \cup B \triangleq A + B, A \cap B \triangleq AB. \quad (1.1.1.1)$$

1.1.2 Boolean Axioms: For  $A \in \{0, 1\}$ ,

$$A + A' = 1 \quad (1.1.2.1)$$

$$AA' = 0 \quad (1.1.2.2)$$

## 1.1.3 De Morgan's Law

$$A'B' = (A + B)' \quad (1.1.3.1)$$

## 1.1.4 Axioms of Probability

a)

$$0 \leq \Pr(A) \leq 1 \quad (1.1.4.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(1) = 1 \quad (1.1.4.2)$$

c) If  $AB = 0$ , i.e.  $A, B$ , are mutually exclusive,

$$\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B). \quad (1.1.4.3)$$

## 1.1.5

$$\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) \quad (1.1.5.1)$$

*Proof.*

$$A = A(B + B') = AB + AB' \quad (1.1.5.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(AB') \because (AB)(AB') = 0, \quad (1.1.5.3)$$

from (1.1.4.3). Similarly,

$$A + B = A(B + B') + B \quad (1.1.5.4)$$

$$= B(A + 1) + AB' \quad (1.1.5.5)$$

$$= B + AB' \quad (1.1.5.6)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A + B) = \Pr(B) + \Pr(AB') \because BAB' = 0 \quad (1.1.5.7)$$

From (1.1.5.3) and (1.1.5.7), we obtain (1.1.5.1).  $\square$ 

## 1.1.6 From (1.1.5.3) and (1.1.4.1),

$$\Pr(A) \geq \Pr(AB) \quad (1.1.6.1)$$

1.1.7 If  $A, B$  are independent,

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) \Pr(B) \quad (1.1.7.1)$$

1.1.8 Let  $A + B = 1, AB = 0$ . Then it is possible to define a real number  $X$  such that

$$X = 0 \implies A \text{ and } X = 1 \implies B \quad (1.1.8.1)$$

$$\text{or, } \Pr(A) = \Pr(X = 0), \Pr(B) = \Pr(X = 1) \quad (1.1.8.2)$$

$X \in \{0, 1\}$  is then defined to be a *random variable* with the *distribution*

$$p_X(n) = \begin{cases} \Pr(A) & X = 0, \\ \Pr(B) & X = 1. \end{cases} \quad (1.1.8.3)$$

Using (1.1.4.2),

$$\sum_n p_X(n) = 1. \quad (1.1.8.4)$$

1.1.9

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \quad (1.1.9.1)$$

If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, from (1.1.9.1) and (1.1.7.1),

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A) \Pr(B)}{\Pr(B)} = \Pr(A) \quad (1.1.9.2)$$

1.1.10

$$\Pr(A'|B) = \frac{\Pr(A'B)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \quad (1.1.10.1)$$

1.1.11 Bayes' Theorem

$$\Pr(E_1|A) = \frac{\Pr(E_1) \Pr(A|E_1)}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \Pr(E_i) \Pr(A|E_i)} \quad (1.1.11.1)$$

## 1.2 Definitions

1.2.1 If a leap year is selected at random, what is the chance that it will contain 53 tuesdays?

**Solution:** The number of days in the leap year can be expressed as

$$366 = 52 \times 7 + 2 \quad (1.2.1.1)$$

The probability of one of the two remaining days being a Tuesday is  $\frac{2}{7}$ .

1.2.2 In a lottery, a person choses six different natural numbers at random from 1 to 20, and if these six numbers match with the six numbers already fixed by the lottery committee, he wins the prize. What is the probability of winning the prizes in the game? [Hint : order of the numbers is not important.]

**Solution:** The desired probability is given by

$$\frac{1}{{}^{20}C_6} = \frac{1}{38,760} = 0.0000258 \quad (1.2.2.1)$$

### 1.3 Boolean Logic

1.3.1 Which of the following cannot be the probability of an event ?

- a)  $\frac{2}{3}$                       b)  $-1.5$                       c)  $15\%$                       d)  $0.7$

**Solution:** We see that

$$\Pr(E) = -1.5 \quad (1.3.1.1)$$

violates (1.1.4.1). Hence, it cannot be a probability of any event.

1.3.2 If  $\Pr(E) = 0.05$ , what is the probability of 'not E'?

**Solution:** From (1.1.4.2) and (1.1.4.3), the desired probability is

$$\Pr(E') = 1 - \Pr(E) = 0.95 \quad (1.3.2.1)$$

1.3.3 Check whether the following probabilities  $\Pr(A)$  and  $\Pr(B)$  are consistently defined

- a)  $\Pr(A) = 0.5$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.7$ ,  $\Pr(A \cap B) = 0.6$   
b)  $\Pr(A) = 0.5$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.7$ ,  $\Pr(A \cup B) = 0.8$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(A) < \Pr(AB) = 0.6 \quad (1.3.3.1)$$

which violates (1.1.6.1). Inconsistent.

b) Given that

$$\Pr(A) = 0.5, \Pr(B) = 0.7, \Pr(A + B) = 0.8 \quad (1.3.3.2)$$

From (1.1.5.1), we get,

$$\Pr(AB) = 0.5 + 0.7 - 0.8 \quad (1.3.3.3)$$

$$= 0.4 \quad (1.3.3.4)$$

$\therefore$  no axioms are violated, the given probabilities are consistently defined

1.3.4 Given  $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{5}$ . Find  $\Pr(A + B)$  if  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events.

**Solution:** From (1.1.4.3),

$$\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) = \frac{4}{5} \quad (1.3.4.1)$$

1.3.5 If  $E$  and  $F$  are events such that  $\Pr(E) = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\Pr(F) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\Pr(EF) = \frac{1}{8}$ , find

- a)  $\Pr(E + F)$   
b)  $\Pr(E'F')$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(E + F) = \Pr(E) + \Pr(F) - \Pr(EF) = \frac{5}{8} \quad (1.3.5.1)$$

b) From (1.1.3.1),

$$(E'F') = (E + F)' \quad (1.3.5.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(E'F') = \Pr((E + F)') \quad (1.3.5.3)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(E + F) = \frac{3}{8} \quad (1.3.5.4)$$

upon substituting from (1.3.5.1).

1.3.6 Events  $E$  and  $F$  are such that  $P(\text{not } E \text{ or not } F) = 0.25$ , state whether  $E$  and  $F$  are mutually exclusive.

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(E' + F') = \Pr((EF)') \quad (1.3.6.1)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(EF) \quad (1.3.6.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(EF) = 0.75 \quad (1.3.6.3)$$

$\therefore \Pr(EF) \neq 0$ ,  $E$  and  $F$  are not mutually exclusive.

1.3.7  $A$  and  $B$  are events such that  $\Pr(A) = 0.42$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.48$  and  $\Pr(A \text{ and } B) = 0.16$ .

Determine

- a)  $\Pr(\text{not } A)$
- b)  $\Pr(\text{not } B)$
- c)  $\Pr(A \text{ or } B)$

**Solution: Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(A') = 1 - \Pr(A) = 0.58 \quad (1.3.7.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(B') = 1 - \Pr(B) = 0.52 \quad (1.3.7.2)$$

c)

$$\Pr(A+B) = 0.42 + 0.48 - 0.16 = 0.74 \quad (1.3.7.3)$$

1.3.8 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two independent events with  $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $\Pr(B) = \frac{4}{9}$  then,  $\Pr(A'B')$

- a)  $\frac{4}{15}$
- b)  $\frac{8}{45}$
- c)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- d)  $\frac{2}{9}$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A'B') = \Pr((A+B)') \quad (1.3.8.1)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr((A+B)) \quad (1.3.8.2)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(A) - \Pr(B) + \Pr(A)\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.8.3)$$

$$= \frac{2}{9} \quad (1.3.8.4)$$

from (1.1.7.1) and (1.1.5.1).

1.3.9  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A) = 0.54$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.69$  and  $\Pr(AB) = 0.35$ .

Find

a)  $\Pr(A+B)$

b)  $\Pr(A'B')$

c)  $\Pr(AB')$

d)  $\Pr(BA')$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(A+B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) \quad (1.3.9.1)$$

$$= 0.88 \quad (1.3.9.2)$$

b) By De Morgan's Law,

$$A'B' = (A+B)' \quad (1.3.9.3)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A'B') = \Pr(A+B)' \quad (1.3.9.4)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(A+B) \quad (1.3.9.5)$$

$$= 0.12 \quad (1.3.9.6)$$

c) From (1.1.5.3),

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(AB') \quad (1.3.9.7)$$

$$\implies \Pr(AB') = 0.19 \quad (1.3.9.8)$$

d) Similarly,

$$\Pr(BA') = \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) = 0.34. \quad (1.3.9.9)$$

1.3.10 If  $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{5}$  find  $\Pr(A \cap B)$  if  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events.

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A)\Pr(B) = \frac{3}{25} \quad (1.3.10.1)$$

1.3.11 Let  $E$  and  $F$  be events with  $\Pr(E) = \frac{3}{5}$ ,  $\Pr(F) = \frac{3}{10}$  and  $\Pr(EF) = \frac{1}{5}$ . Are  $E$  and  $F$  independent?



**Solution:** From the given information,

$$\Pr(E)\Pr(F) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{9}{50}, \quad (1.3.11.1)$$

$$\Pr(EF) = \frac{1}{5} \quad (1.3.11.2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(EF) \neq P(E)P(F) \quad (1.3.11.3)$$

$\therefore E$  and  $F$  are not independent.

1.3.12 Given that the events  $A$  and  $B$  are such that  $P(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $P(A + B) = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $P(B) = p$ . Find  $p$  if they are

- a) mutually exclusive
- b) independent

**Solution:**

a)

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{2} + p \quad (1.3.12.1)$$

$$\therefore p = \frac{1}{10} \quad (1.3.12.2)$$

b)

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{2} + p - \frac{p}{2} \quad (1.3.12.3)$$

$$\therefore p = \frac{1}{5} \quad (1.3.12.4)$$

1.3.13 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\Pr(AB) = \frac{1}{8}$ , find  $\Pr(\text{not } A \text{ and not } B)$ .

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A + B) = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8} \quad (1.3.13.1)$$

$$= \frac{5}{8} \quad (1.3.13.2)$$

Hence,

$$\Pr(A'B') = 1 - \Pr((A + B)) = \frac{3}{8} \quad (1.3.13.3)$$

1.3.14 Events  $A$  and  $B$  are such that

$$\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}, \Pr(B) = \frac{7}{12}, \Pr(A' + B') = \frac{1}{4}. \quad (1.3.14.1)$$

State whether  $A$  and  $B$  are independent.

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(AB) = 1 - \Pr(A' + B') = \frac{3}{4}, \quad (1.3.14.2)$$

$$\Pr(A) \times \Pr(B) = \frac{7}{24} \quad (1.3.14.3)$$

$$\implies \Pr(AB) \neq \Pr(A) \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.14.4)$$

$\therefore A$  and  $B$  are not independent.

1.3.15 Two events  $A$  and  $B$  will be independent, if

- a)  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive
- b)  $\Pr(\text{not } A \cap \text{not } B) = [1 - \Pr(A)][1 - \Pr(B)]$
- c)  $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B)$
- d)  $\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) = 1$

**Solution:**

a) Let

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{2} \implies \Pr(A) \times \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.3.15.1)$$

$$\text{or, } \Pr(AB) = 0 \neq \Pr(A) \times \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.15.2)$$

Hence  $A$  and  $B$  are not independent.

b)

$$\Pr(A'B') = [1 - \Pr(A)][1 - \Pr(B)] \quad (1.3.15.3)$$

$$\implies 1 - \Pr(A + B) = 1 - \Pr(A) - \Pr(B) + \Pr(A) \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.15.4)$$

$$\implies \Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.15.5)$$

Thus,  $A$  and  $B$  are independent.

c) In 1.3.15a,  $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B)$ , but  $A$  and  $B$  are not independent.

d) In 1.3.15a,  $\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) = 1$ , but  $A$  and  $B$  are not independent.

1.3.16 The probability that at least one of the two events  $A$  and  $B$  occurs is 0.6. If  $A$  and  $B$  occur simultaneously with probability 0.3, evaluate  $\Pr(A') + \Pr(B')$ .

**Solution:** Given:

$$\Pr(AB) = 0.3 \quad (1.3.16.1)$$

$$\Pr(A + B) = 0.6 \quad (1.3.16.2)$$

$$= \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) \quad (1.3.16.3)$$

$$\implies 0.6 = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - 0.3 \quad (1.3.16.4)$$

$$\implies 0.9 = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.16.5)$$

But

$$\Pr(A') = 1 - \Pr(A) \quad (1.3.16.6)$$

$$\Pr(B') = 1 - \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.16.7)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(A') + \Pr(B') = 2 - (\Pr(A) + \Pr(B)) \quad (1.3.16.8)$$

$$= 2 - 0.9 = 1.1 \quad (1.3.16.9)$$

1.3.17 Prove that

$$\text{a) } \Pr(A) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(AB')$$

$$\text{b) } \Pr(A + B) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(AB') + \Pr(A'B)$$

**Solution:**

a) See (1.1.5.3).

b) From (1.1.5.3) and (1.1.5.1),

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(AB') \quad (1.3.17.1)$$

$$\Pr(B) = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(A'B) \quad (1.3.17.2)$$

$$\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) \quad (1.3.17.3)$$

yielding item 1.3.17b after addition.

1.3.18  $A$  and  $B$  are events such that  $\Pr(A) = 0.4$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.3$  and  $\Pr(A + B) = 0.5$ . Find  $\Pr(B'A)$ .

**Solution:** Adding (1.3.17.1) and (1.3.17.3),

$$\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(B) + \Pr(AB') \quad (1.3.18.1)$$

$$\implies \Pr(AB') = \Pr(A + B) - \Pr(B) = 0.2 \quad (1.3.18.2)$$

State True or False.

1.3.19 If  $\Pr(A) > 0$  and  $\Pr(B) > 0$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  can be mutually exclusive and independent.

**Solution:** Since  $\Pr(A) > 0$  and  $\Pr(B) > 0$ ,

$$\Pr(A)\Pr(B) > 0 \quad (1.3.19.1)$$

For  $\Pr(A)$  and  $\Pr(B)$  to be mutually exclusive and independent,

$$\Pr(AB) = 0 \quad (1.3.19.2)$$

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A)\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.19.3)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A)\Pr(B) = 0 \quad (1.3.19.4)$$

which contradicts (1.3.19.1). Hence, the above statement is false.

1.3.20 If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events, then  $A'$  and  $B'$  are also independent.

**Solution:** Given that

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A)\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.20.1)$$

If  $A'$  and  $B'$  are independent,

$$\Pr(A'B') = \Pr(A + B)' = 1 - \Pr(A + B) \quad (1.3.20.2)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(A) - \Pr(B) + \Pr(AB) \quad (1.3.20.3)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(A) - \Pr(B) + \Pr(A)\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.20.4)$$

$$= [1 - \Pr(A)][1 - \Pr(B)] \quad (1.3.20.5)$$

$$= \Pr(A')\Pr(B') \quad (1.3.20.6)$$

Hence,  $A'$  and  $B'$  are also independent. Therefore, the given statement is true.

1.3.21 If  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events,  $\Pr(A) = 0.35$  and  $\Pr(B) = 0.45$  then find

- a)  $\Pr(A')$
- b)  $\Pr(B')$
- c)  $\Pr(A + B)$
- d)  $\Pr(AB)$
- e)  $\Pr(AB')$
- f)  $\Pr(A'B')$

**Solution:** See Table 1.3.21.

TABLE 1.3.21

Item	Formula	Value
$\Pr(A')$	$1 - \Pr(A)$	0.65
$\Pr(B')$	$1 - \Pr(B)$	0.55
$\Pr(A + B)$	$\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)$	0.80
$\Pr(AB)$	$\because AB = 0$	0
$\Pr(AB')$	$\Pr(A) - \Pr(AB)$	0.35
$\Pr(A'B')$	$1 - \Pr(A + B)$	0.20

1.3.22 The accompanying Venn diagram shows three events,  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , and also the probabilities of the various intersections (for instance,  $\Pr(AB) = 0.7$ . Determine

- a)  $\Pr(A)$
- b)  $\Pr(BC')$
- c)  $\Pr(A + B)$
- d)  $\Pr(AB')$
- e)  $\Pr(BC)$
- f) Probability that exactly one of the three occurs

**Solution:** See Table 1.3.22. Fig. 1.3.22.1 is used to obtain the input probabilities.

a)

$$BC' = BC'(A + A') = BC'A + BC'A' \quad (1.3.22.1)$$

Also,

$$AB = AB(C + C') \quad (1.3.22.2)$$

$$= ABC + ABC' = ABC' \because AC = 0. \quad (1.3.22.3)$$

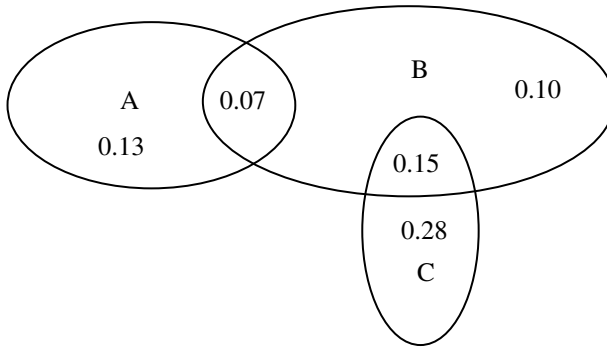


Fig. 1.3.22.1

From (1.3.22.1) and (1.3.22.3),

$$BC' = AB + A'BC' \quad (1.3.22.4)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(BC') = \Pr(AB) + \Pr(A'BC') \quad (1.3.22.5)$$

b) Also,

$$\Pr(B) = \Pr(BC) + \Pr(BC') = 0.17 + 0.15 = 0.32 \quad (1.3.22.6)$$

from Table 1.3.22. This is used to evaluate  $\Pr(A + B)$ .

c)  $\because AC = 0$

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(AB'C') + \Pr(AB'C) = \Pr(AB'C') \quad (1.3.22.7)$$

$$\Pr(B'C) = \Pr(A'B'C) \quad (1.3.22.8)$$

Input		Output		
Probability	Value	Probability	Formula	Value
$\Pr(AB)$	0.07	$\Pr(A)$	$A = AB + AB'$	0.2
$\Pr(AB')$	0.13	$\Pr(BC')$	$BC' = AB + A'BC'$	0.17
$\Pr(BC)$	0.15	$\Pr(A + B)$	$\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)$	0.45
$\Pr(BA'C')$	0.10	$\Pr(AB')$	Given	0.13
$\Pr(CB')$	0.28	$\Pr(BC)$	Given	0.15
$\Pr(AC)$	0	$\Pr(A'BC' + AB'C' + A'B'C)$	$\Pr(AB') + \Pr(CB') + \Pr(BA'C')$	0.51

TABLE 1.3.22

1.3.23 The probability of happening of an event  $A$  is 0.5 and that of  $B$  is 0.3. If  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events, then the probability of neither  $A$  nor  $B$  is \_\_\_\_.

**Solution:**

$$\because \Pr(AB) = 0, \quad (1.3.23.1)$$

$$\Pr((A + B)') = 1 - \Pr(A + B) = 1 - \Pr(A) - \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.23.2)$$

$$= 0.2 \quad (1.3.23.3)$$

which is the desired probability.

1.3.24 If  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events, then

- a)  $\Pr(A) \leq \Pr(B')$
- b)  $\Pr(A) \geq \Pr(B')$
- c)  $\Pr(A) < \Pr(B')$
- d) none of these

**Solution:**

$$\because \Pr(AB) = 0 \quad (1.3.24.1)$$

$$\Pr(A + B) \leq 1 \implies \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) \leq 1 \quad (1.3.24.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A) \leq \Pr(B'). \quad (1.3.24.3)$$

where we have used the axiom of probability.

1.3.25 The probability of an occurrence of event  $A$  is .7 and that of the occurrence of event  $B$  is .3 and the probability of occurrence of both is .4. Is this statement true or false?

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(AB) > \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.25.1)$$

which violates (1.1.6.1). Hence, the given statement is false.

1.3.26 If  $\Pr(A + B) = \Pr(AB)$  for any two events  $A$  and  $B$ , then

- a)  $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B)$
- b)  $\Pr(A) > \Pr(B)$
- c)  $\Pr(A) < \Pr(B)$
- d) none of these

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) = \Pr(A + B) \quad (1.3.26.1)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) = \Pr(AB) \quad (1.3.26.2)$$

$$\implies [\Pr(A) - \Pr(AB)] + [\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)] = 0 \quad (1.3.26.3)$$

However, from (1.1.6.1),

$$\Pr(A) - \Pr(AB) \geq 0 \quad (1.3.26.4)$$

$$\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) \geq 0$$

From (1.3.26.3) and (1.3.26.4),

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(B) = \Pr(AB). \quad (1.3.26.5)$$

1.3.27 If  $A$  and  $B$  are such that  $\Pr(A' \cup B') = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $\Pr(A \cup B) = \frac{5}{9}$ , then  $\Pr(A') + \Pr(B') =$

**Solution:** Using De Morgan's law and axioms of probability,

$$\Pr((A + B)') = \Pr(A'B') \quad (1.3.27.1)$$

$$\Pr(A' + B') = \Pr(A') + \Pr(B') - \Pr(A'B') \quad (1.3.27.2)$$

Adding the above,

$$\Pr(A') + \Pr(B') = 1 + \Pr(A' + B') - \Pr(A + B) = \frac{10}{9} \quad (1.3.27.3)$$

1.3.28 If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $\Pr(\text{exactly one of } A, B \text{ occurs}) = \Pr(B)\Pr(A') + \Pr(A)\Pr(B')$ .

**Solution:**

$$\therefore \Pr(AB) = \Pr(A)\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.28.1)$$

$$\Pr(AB') = \Pr(A)\Pr(B'), \Pr(A'B) = \Pr(A')\Pr(B) \quad (1.3.28.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A'B + AB') = \Pr(A'B) + \Pr(A'B) \quad (1.3.28.3)$$

$$= \Pr(A)\Pr(B') + \Pr(A')\Pr(B). \quad (1.3.28.4)$$

1.3.29 Given two independent events  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $P(A) = 0.3$ ,  $P(B) = 0.6$ . Find

- a)  $P(A \text{ and } B)$
- b)  $P(A \text{ and not } B)$
- c)  $P(A \text{ or } B)$
- d)  $P(\text{neither } A \text{ nor } B)$

1.3.30 The probability distribution of a discrete random variable  $X$  is given below. The value of  $k$  is equal to:

$X$	2	3	4	5
$p_X(n)$	$\frac{5}{k}$	$\frac{7}{k}$	$\frac{9}{k}$	$\frac{11}{k}$

TABLE 1.3.30

- a) 8
- b) 16
- c) 32
- d) 48

**Solution:** From (1.1.8.4),

$$\frac{5}{k} + \frac{7}{k} + \frac{9}{k} + \frac{11}{k} = 1 \quad (1.3.30.1)$$

$$\implies k = 32 \quad (1.3.30.2)$$

1.3.31 State True or False for the given statement: Two independent events are always mutually exclusive.

**Solution:** The given condition can be expressed as

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) \times \Pr(B) \quad (1.3.31.1)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A) = 0 \text{ or } \Pr(B) = 0, \quad (1.3.31.2)$$

which is not always true.

1.3.32 If  $A$  and  $B'$  are independent events, then  $\Pr(A' + B) = 1 - \Pr(A)\Pr(B')$ .

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A' + B) = \Pr((AB')')$$
 (1.3.32.1)

$$= 1 - \Pr(AB')$$
 (1.3.32.2)

$$= 1 - \Pr(A) \Pr(B').$$
 (1.3.32.3)

1.3.33 Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be two independent events such that  $\Pr(E_1) = p_1$  and  $\Pr(E_2) = p_2$   
Describe in words the events whose probabilities are

- a)  $p_1 p_2$
- b)  $(1 - p_1) p_2$
- c)  $1 - (1 - p_1)(1 - p_2)$
- d)  $p_1 + p_2 - 2p_1 p_2$

**Solution:**

a)

$$p_1 p_2 = \Pr(E_1) \Pr(E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.1)

$$= \Pr(E_1 E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.2)

So,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  occur simultaneously.

b)

$$(1 - p_1)(p_2) = \Pr(E'_1) \Pr(E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.3)

$$= \Pr(E'_1 E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.4)

So  $E_1$  does not occur but  $E_2$  occurs.

c)

$$1 - (1 - p_1)(1 - p_2) = 1 - \Pr(E'_1) \Pr(E'_2)$$
 (1.3.33.5)

$$= 1 - \Pr(E'_1 E'_2)$$
 (1.3.33.6)

$$= \Pr(E_1 + E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.7)

So, either  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  or both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  occurs.

d)

$$p_1 + p_2 - 2p_1 p_2 = \Pr(E_1) + \Pr(E_2) - 2\Pr(E_1) \Pr(E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.8)

$$= \Pr(E_1) - \Pr(E_1) \Pr(E_2) + \Pr(E_2) - \Pr(E_1) \Pr(E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.9)

$$= \Pr(E_1)(1 - \Pr(E_2)) + \Pr(E_2)(1 - \Pr(E_1))$$
 (1.3.33.10)

$$= \Pr(E_1) \Pr(E'_2) + \Pr(E_2) \Pr(E'_1)$$
 (1.3.33.11)

$$= \Pr(E_1 E'_2 + E'_1 E_2)$$
 (1.3.33.12)

So, either  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  occurs but not both.

## 1.4 Applications

1.4.1 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two candidates seeking admission in an engineering College. The probability that  $A$  is selected is 0.5 and the probability that both  $A$  and  $B$  are selected



is at most 0.3. Is it possible that the probability of  $B$  getting selected is 0.7?

**Solution:**

$$\because \Pr(AB) \leq 0.3 \quad (1.4.1.1)$$

$$\text{Let } \Pr(AB) = 0.1. \quad (1.4.1.2)$$

From (1.1.5.1)

$$\Pr(A + B) = 0.5 + 0.7 - 0.1 = 1.1 > 1, \quad (1.4.1.3)$$

which violates (1.1.4.1). Hence, it is not possible.

1.4.2 State whether the statement is True or False.

The probability that a person visiting a zoo will see the giraffe is 0.72, the probability that he will see the bears is 0.84 and the probability that he will see both is 0.52.

**Solution:** Let

$$\Pr(A) = 0.72, \Pr(B) = 0.84, \Pr(AB) = 0.52. \quad (1.4.2.1)$$

Using (1.1.5.1),

$$\Pr(A + B) = 0.72 + 0.84 - 0.52 = 1.04 \quad (1.4.2.2)$$

which violates (1.1.4.1). Hence, false.

- 1.4.3 Suppose an integer from 1 through 1000 is chosen at random, find the probability that the integer is a multiple of 2 or a multiple of 9.

**Solution:** See Table 1.4.3. From (1.1.5.1),

Event	Description	Probability
$A$	$n \bmod 2 = 0$	$\Pr(A) = \frac{500}{1000}$
$B$	$n \bmod 9 = 0$	$\Pr(B) = \frac{111}{1000}$
$AB$	$n \bmod 18 = 0$	$\Pr(AB) = \frac{55}{1000}$

TABLE 1.4.3

$$\Pr(A + B) = \frac{500}{1000} + \frac{111}{1000} - \frac{55}{1000} = \frac{556}{1000} \quad (1.4.3.1)$$

- 1.4.4 If the probabilities for A to fail in an examination is 0.2 and that for B is 0.3, then the probability that either A or B fails is

- a)  $> 0.5$
- b) 0.5
- c)  $\leq 0.5$
- d) 0

**Solution:**

$$\therefore \Pr(A) = 0.2, \Pr(B) = 0.3 \quad (1.4.4.1)$$

$$\Pr(AB) = 0.5 - \Pr(A + B) \quad (1.4.4.2)$$

$$(1.4.4.3)$$

from (1.1.5.1). Thus, from (1.1.4.1),

$$0.5 - \Pr(A + B) \geq 0 \quad (1.4.4.4)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A + B) \leq 0.5 \quad (1.4.4.5)$$

- 1.4.5 It is given that in a group of 3 students, the probability of 2 students not having the same birthday is 0.992. What is the probability that the 2 students have the same birthday?

**Solution:** Let

$$\Pr(E) = 0.992. \quad (1.4.5.1)$$

Then,

$$\Pr(E') = 1 - \Pr(E) = 0.008 \quad (1.4.5.2)$$

- 1.4.6 In class XI of a school 40% of the students study Mathematics and 30% study Biology. 10% of the class study both Mathematics and Biology. If a student is selected at random from the class, find the probability that he will be studying Mathematics or Biology

**Solution:**

$$\therefore \Pr(M) = 0.4, \Pr(B) = 0.3 \Pr(MB) = 0.1, \quad (1.4.6.1)$$

$$\Pr(M + B) = \Pr(M) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(MB) = 0.6 \quad (1.4.6.2)$$

using (1.1.5.1).

- 1.4.7 In an entrance test that is graded on the basis of two examinations, the probability of a randomly chosen student passing the first examination is 0.8 and the probability of passing the second examination is 0.7. The probability of passing atleast one of them is 0.95. What is the probability of passing both?

**Solution:**

$$\therefore \Pr(A) = 0.8, \Pr(B) = 0.7, \Pr(A + B) = 0.95, \quad (1.4.7.1)$$

$$\Pr(AB) = 0.55 \quad (1.4.7.2)$$

using (1.1.5.1).

- 1.4.8 In a class of 60 students, 30 opted for NCC, 32 opted for NSS and 24 opted for both NCC and NSS. If one of these students is selected at random, find the probability that
- The student opted for NCC or NSS.
  - The student has opted neither NCC nor NSS.
  - The student has opted NSS but not NCC.

**Solution:** From the given data,

$$\Pr(A) = \frac{30}{60} = \frac{1}{2}, \Pr(B) = \frac{32}{60} = \frac{8}{15}, \Pr(AB) = \frac{24}{60} = \frac{2}{5}. \quad (1.4.8.1)$$

Thus, the desired probabilities are

a)  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{19}{30}$ , from (1.1.5.1).

b)

$$\Pr(A'B') = 1 - \Pr(A + B) = \frac{11}{30}. \quad (1.4.8.2)$$

c)

$$\Pr(A'B) = \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB) = \frac{2}{15} \quad (1.4.8.3)$$

from (1.1.10.1).

- 1.4.9 The probability of solving a specific problem independently by A and B are  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{3}$  respectively. If both try to solve the problem independently, find the probability that
- the problem is solved
  - exactly one of them solves the problem

**Solution:**

$$\therefore \Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}, \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{3}, \quad (1.4.9.1)$$

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{6} \quad (1.4.9.2)$$

$\therefore A, B$  are independent.

a) From (1.1.5.1),

$$\Pr(A + B) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{3} \quad (1.4.9.3)$$

b)

$$\Pr(AB' + A'B) = \Pr(AB') + \Pr(A'B) \quad (1.4.9.4)$$

$$= \Pr(A) \Pr(B') + \Pr(A') \Pr(B) \quad (1.4.9.5)$$

$$= \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - 2 \Pr(A) \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.4.9.6)$$

1.4.10 One card is drawn at random from a well shuffled deck of 52 cards. In which of the following cases are the events  $E$  and  $F$  independent ?

a)  $E$ : 'the card drawn is spade'

$F$ : 'the card drawn is an ace'

b)  $E$ : 'the card drawn is black'

$F$ : 'the card drawn is a king'

c)  $E$ : 'the card drawn is a king or queen'

$F$ : 'the card drawn is a queen or jack'

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(E) = \frac{13}{52} = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.4.10.1)$$

$$\Pr(F) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13} \quad (1.4.10.2)$$

$$\Pr(EF) = \frac{1}{52} \quad (1.4.10.3)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \Pr(F), \quad (1.4.10.4)$$

the events are independent.

b)

$$\Pr(E) = \frac{26}{52} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.4.10.5)$$

$$\Pr(F) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13} \quad (1.4.10.6)$$

$$\Pr(EF) = \frac{2}{52} = \frac{1}{26} \quad (1.4.10.7)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(EF) \neq \Pr(E) \Pr(F), \quad (1.4.10.8)$$

$E$  and  $F$  are independent.

c)

$$\Pr(E) = \frac{8}{52} = \frac{2}{13} \quad (1.4.10.9)$$

$$\Pr(F) = \frac{8}{52} = \frac{2}{13} \quad (1.4.10.10)$$

$$\Pr(EF) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13} \quad (1.4.10.11)$$

$$\Pr(E) \Pr(F) = \frac{2}{13} \times \frac{2}{13} = \frac{4}{169} \quad (1.4.10.12)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(EF) \neq \Pr(E) \Pr(F) \quad (1.4.10.13)$$

and  $E$  and  $F$  are not independent.

1.4.11 A team of medical students doing their internship have to assist during surgeries at a city hospital. The probabilities of surgeries rated as very-complex, complex, routine, simple or very-simple are respectively, 0.15, 0.20, 0.31, 0.26, .08. Find the probabilities that a particular surgery will be rated

- a) complex or very-complex
- b) neither very-complex nor very simple
- c) routine or complex
- d) routine or simple

**Solution:** The given information is summarised in Table 1.4.11

Variable	Difficulty Levels	Probability
$E_1$	Very-Complex	$\Pr(E_1)=0.15$
$E_2$	Complex	$\Pr(E_2)=0.2$
$E_3$	Routine	$\Pr(E_3)=0.31$
$E_4$	Simple	$\Pr(E_4)=0.26$
$E_5$	Very-Simple	$\Pr(E_5)=0.08$

TABLE 1.4.11

a)

$$\Pr(E_1 + E_2) = \Pr(E_1) + \Pr(E_2) \quad \because E_1 E_2 = 0 \quad (1.4.11.1)$$

$$= 0.15 + 0.20 = 0.35 \quad (1.4.11.2)$$

b)

$$\Pr(E'_1 E'_5) = \Pr((E_1 + E_5)') \quad (1.4.11.3)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(E_1 + E_5) \quad (1.4.11.4)$$

$$= 1 - [\Pr(E_1) + \Pr(E_5)] \quad \because E_1 E_5 = 0 \quad (1.4.11.5)$$

$$= 1 - [0.15 + 0.08] = 0.77 \quad (1.4.11.6)$$

$$(1.4.11.7)$$

c)

$$\Pr(E_3 + E_2) = \Pr(E_3) + \Pr(E_2) \quad \because E_3 E_2 = 0 \quad (1.4.11.8)$$

$$= 0.31 + 0.20 = 0.51 \quad (1.4.11.9)$$

d)

$$\Pr(E_3 + E_4) = \Pr(E_3) + \Pr(E_4) \quad \because E_3 E_4 = 0 \quad (1.4.11.10)$$

$$= 0.31 + 0.26 = 0.57 \quad (1.4.11.11)$$

$$(1.4.11.12)$$

### 1.5 Conditional Probability

1.5.1 Let  $\Pr(A) = \frac{7}{13}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{9}{13}$ ,  $\Pr(AB) = \frac{4}{13}$ . Then  $\Pr(A'|B)$  is equal to

a)  $\frac{6}{13}$

b)  $\frac{4}{13}$

c)  $\frac{4}{9}$

d)  $\frac{5}{9}$

**Solution:** From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(A'|B) = \frac{\Pr(A'B)}{\Pr(B)} \quad (1.5.1.1)$$

$$= \frac{\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{5}{9} \quad (1.5.1.2)$$

using (1.1.5.3).

1.5.2 If  $\Pr(A) = \frac{2}{5}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{3}{10}$  and  $\Pr(AB) = \frac{1}{5}$ , then  $\Pr(A'|B') \Pr(B'|A')$  is equal to

a)  $\frac{5}{6}$

b)  $\frac{5}{7}$

c)  $\frac{25}{42}$

d) 1

**Solution:** From (1.1.5.1),

$$\Pr(A + B) = \frac{1}{2}. \quad (1.5.2.1)$$

From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(A'|B')\Pr(B'|A') = \frac{\Pr(A'B')}{\Pr(B')} \cdot \frac{\Pr(A'B')}{\Pr(A')} \quad (1.5.2.2)$$

$$= \frac{(\Pr(A'B'))^2}{(1 - \Pr(B))(1 - \Pr(A))} \quad (1.5.2.3)$$

$$= \frac{(1 - \Pr(A + B))^2}{(1 - \Pr(B))(1 - \Pr(A))} \quad (1.5.2.4)$$

$$= \frac{25}{42} \quad (1.5.2.5)$$

upon substituting numerical values.

1.5.3  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $\Pr(AB) = \frac{1}{4}$ . Find

- a)  $\Pr(A|B)$
- b)  $\Pr(B|A)$
- c)  $\Pr(A'|B)$
- d)  $\Pr(A'|B')$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{3}{4} \quad (1.5.3.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(B|A) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.5.3.2)$$

c) From (1.1.10.1),

$$\Pr(A'|B) = \frac{\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.5.3.3)$$

d)

$$\Pr(A'|B') = \frac{\Pr(A'B')}{\Pr(B')} \quad (1.5.3.4)$$

$$= \frac{\Pr(A + B)'}{\Pr(B')} = \frac{1 - \Pr(A + B)}{1 - \Pr(B)} \quad (1.5.3.5)$$

$$= \frac{5}{8} \quad (1.5.3.6)$$

using (1.1.5.1) in the numerator.

1.5.4 If  $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{10}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{2}{5}$  and  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{3}{5}$ , then  $\Pr(B|A) + \Pr(A|B)$  equals

- a)  $\frac{1}{4}$
- b)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- c)  $\frac{5}{12}$
- d)  $\frac{7}{12}$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A + B) \quad (1.5.4.1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{10} \quad (1.5.4.2)$$

$$\implies \Pr(B|A) + \Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} + \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{7}{12} \quad (1.5.4.3)$$

upon substituting numerical values.

1.5.5 Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two events such that  $\Pr(A) = \frac{3}{8}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{5}{8}$  and  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{3}{4}$ . Then  $\Pr(A|B)\Pr(A'|B)$  is equal to

a)  $\frac{2}{5}$

b)  $\frac{3}{8}$

c)  $\frac{3}{20}$

d)  $\frac{6}{25}$

**Solution:** From (1.1.5.1)

$$\Pr(AB) = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.5.5.1)$$

Hence,

$$\Pr(A|B) \cdot \Pr(A'|B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \times \frac{\Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \quad (1.5.5.2)$$

$$= \frac{6}{25} \quad (1.5.5.3)$$

using (1.1.5.3) and substituting numerical values.

1.5.6 If  $P(A) = 0.4$ ,  $P(B) = 0.8$  and  $P(B|A) = 0.6$ , then  $P(A \cup B)$  is equal to

a) 0.24

b) 0.3

c) 0.48

d) 0.96

**Solution:** From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(B|A)\Pr(A) = 0.24. \quad (1.5.6.1)$$

yielding

$$\Pr(A + B) = 0.96 \quad (1.5.6.2)$$

from (1.1.5.1).

1.5.7 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{1}{4}$ , then  $\Pr(A'B')$  equals

a)  $\frac{1}{12}$

b)  $\frac{3}{4}$

c)  $\frac{1}{4}$



d)  $\frac{3}{16}$

**Solution:** From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A|B) \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{12} \quad (1.5.7.1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(A'B') = 1 - \Pr(A + B) = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.5.7.2)$$

using (1.1.5.1) and substituting numerical values.

1.5.8 If  $A$  and  $B$  are such events that  $\Pr(A) > 0$  and  $\Pr(B) \neq 1$ , then  $\Pr(A'|B')$  is

a)  $1 - \Pr(A|B)$

b)  $1 - \Pr(A'|B)$

c)  $\frac{1 - \Pr(A+B)}{\Pr(B')}$

d)  $\frac{\Pr(A')}{\Pr(B')}$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A'|B') = \frac{\Pr(A'B')}{\Pr(B')} = \frac{\Pr((A+B)')}{\Pr(B')} \quad (1.5.8.1)$$

$$= \frac{1 - \Pr(A+B)}{\Pr(B')} \quad (1.5.8.2)$$

1.5.9 Two events  $E$  and  $F$  are independent. If  $\Pr(E) = 0.3$ ,  $\Pr(E + F) = 0.5$ , then  $\Pr(E|F) - \Pr(F|E)$  equals

a)  $\frac{2}{7}$

b)  $\frac{3}{35}$

c)  $\frac{1}{70}$

d)  $\frac{1}{7}$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \Pr(F) \quad (1.5.9.1)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(F) = \frac{\Pr(E + F) - \Pr(E)}{1 - \Pr(E)} = \frac{2}{7} \quad (1.5.9.2)$$

using (1.1.5.1) and simplifying. From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(E|F) = \Pr(E), \Pr(F|E) = \Pr(F) \quad (1.5.9.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(E|F) - \Pr(F|E) = \Pr(E) - \Pr(F) = \frac{1}{70} \quad (1.5.9.4)$$

1.5.10 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A|B) = p$ ,  $\Pr(A) = p$ ,  $\Pr(B) = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{5}{9}$ , then  $p =$

**Solution:** From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A|B) \Pr(B) = \frac{p}{3} \quad (1.5.10.1)$$

which, upon substituting in (1.1.5.1) and simplifying results in

$$p + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{p}{3} = \frac{5}{9} \quad (1.5.10.2)$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{1}{3}. \quad (1.5.10.3)$$

1.5.11 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $\Pr(A) > 0$  and  $\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) > 1$ , then

$$\Pr(B|A) \geq 1 - \frac{\Pr(B')}{\Pr(A)} \quad (1.5.11.1)$$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(B|A) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} \quad (1.5.11.2)$$

$$= \frac{\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A + B)}{\Pr(A)} \quad (1.5.11.3)$$

$$= \frac{\Pr(A) + 1 - \Pr(B') - \Pr(A + B)}{\Pr(A)} \quad (1.5.11.4)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\Pr(B')}{\Pr(A)} + \frac{1 - \Pr(A + B)}{\Pr(A)} \quad (1.5.11.5)$$

From (1.1.4.1)

$$1 - \Pr(A + B) \geq 0 \quad (1.5.11.6)$$

Using this in (1.5.11.5) results in (1.5.11.1).

1.5.12 If

$$\Pr(B) = \frac{3}{5}, \Pr(A|B) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } \Pr(A + B) = \frac{4}{5}, \quad (1.5.12.1)$$

$$\text{then } \Pr(A + B') + \Pr(A' + B) = ? \quad (1.5.12.2)$$

**Solution:** From (1.1.9.1),

$$\Pr(AB) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{10} \quad (1.5.12.3)$$

From (1.1.5.3),

$$\Pr(A'B) = \frac{3}{5} - \frac{3}{10} = \frac{3}{10} \quad (1.5.12.4)$$

From (1.1.5.1),

$$\Pr(A) = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{3}{10} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{2}. \quad (1.5.12.5)$$

Again, using (1.1.5.3),

$$\Pr(AB') = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{10} = \frac{1}{5}. \quad (1.5.12.6)$$

Thus, using (1.1.3.1),

$$\Pr(A + B)' + \Pr(A' + B) = 1 - \frac{1}{5} + 1 - \frac{3}{10} = \frac{3}{2}. \quad (1.5.12.7)$$

1.5.13 If  $\Pr(A|B) > \Pr(A)$ , then which of the following is correct :

- a)  $\Pr(B|A) < \Pr(B)$
- b)  $\Pr(AB) < \Pr(A) \Pr(B)$
- c)  $\Pr(B|A) > \Pr(B)$
- d)  $\Pr(B|A) = \Pr(B)$

**Solution:**

$$\because \Pr(A|B) > \Pr(A), \quad \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} > \Pr(A) \quad (1.5.13.1)$$

$$\implies \Pr(AB) > \Pr(A) \Pr(B) \quad (1.5.13.2)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} = \Pr(B|A) > \Pr(B) \quad (1.5.13.3)$$

1.5.14 Let  $A$  and  $B$  be independent events with  $\Pr(A) = 0.3$  and  $\Pr(B) = 0.4$ . Find

- a)  $\Pr(AB)$
- b)  $\Pr(A + B)$
- c)  $\Pr(A|B)$
- d)  $\Pr(B|A)$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(AB) = 0.3 \times 0.4 = 0.12 \quad (1.5.14.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(A + B) = 0.3 + 0.4 - 0.12 = 0.58 \quad (1.5.14.2)$$

c)

$$\Pr(A|B) = \Pr(A) = 0.3 \quad (1.5.14.3)$$

d)

$$\Pr(B|A) = \Pr(B) = 0.4 \quad (1.5.14.4)$$

1.5.15 Compute  $\Pr(A|B)$ , if  $\Pr(B) = 0.5$  and  $\Pr(AB) = 0.32$ .

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{0.32}{0.5} = 0.64 \quad (1.5.15.1)$$

1.5.16 If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events such that  $P(A) \neq 0$  and  $P(B | A) = 1$ , then

a)  $A \subset B$

b)  $B \subset A$

c)  $B = \phi$

d)  $A = \phi$

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(B|A) = 1 \implies \Pr(BA) = \Pr(A) \quad (1.5.16.1)$$

yielding

$$BA = A, \text{ or, } A \subset B \quad (1.5.16.2)$$

1.5.17 You are given that A and B are two events such that  $\Pr(B) = \frac{3}{5}$ ,  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{4}{5}$ , then  $\Pr(A)$  equals

**Solution:**

$$\Pr(AB) = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{10} \quad (1.5.17.1)$$

$$\implies \Pr(A) = \frac{4}{5} - \frac{3}{5} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.5.17.2)$$

1.5.18 Three events A, B and C have probabilities  $\frac{2}{5}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  respectively. Given that  $\Pr(AC) = \frac{1}{5}$  and  $\Pr(BC) = \frac{1}{4}$ , find the values of  $\Pr(C|B)$  and  $\Pr(A'C')$

**Solution:**

a)

$$\Pr(C|B) = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{4} \quad (1.5.18.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(A'C') = 1 - \Pr(A + C) \quad (1.5.18.2)$$

$$= 1 - \left( \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5} \right) = \frac{3}{10} \quad (1.5.18.3)$$

1.5.19 If A and B are two events and  $A \neq \phi$ ,  $B \neq \phi$ , then

a)  $\Pr(A|B) = \Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)$

b)  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)}$

c)  $\Pr(A|B) \Pr(B|A) = 1$

d)  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A)}{\Pr(B)}$

1.5.20 You are given that A and B are two events such that  $\Pr(B) = \frac{3}{5}$ ,  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\Pr(A + B) = \frac{4}{5}$  and  $\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ .  $\Pr(B|A')$  is equal to

## 1.6 Applications

1.6.1 An electronic assembly consists of two subsystems, say A and B. From previous testing procedures, the following probabilities are assumed to be known

$$\Pr(A \text{ fails}) = 0.20 \quad (1.6.1.1)$$

$$\Pr(B \text{ alone fails}) = 0.15 \quad (1.6.1.2)$$

$$\Pr(A \text{ and } B \text{ fails}) = 0.15 \quad (1.6.1.3)$$

Evaluate the following probabilities

a)  $\Pr(A \text{ fails given } B \text{ has failed})$

b)  $\Pr(A \text{ fails alone})$

**Solution:** From the given information,

$$\Pr(A') = 0.20, \Pr(AB') = 0.15, \Pr(A'B') = 0.15 \quad (1.6.1.4)$$

a)

$$\Pr(A'|B') = \frac{\Pr(A'B')}{\Pr(B')} \quad (1.6.1.5)$$

From (1.1.5.3),

$$\Pr(B') = 0.15 + 0.15 = 0.30 \quad (1.6.1.6)$$

$$\Pr(A'|B') = 0.15/0.30 = 0.50 \quad (1.6.1.7)$$

b) Similarly, from (1.1.5.3),

$$\Pr(BA') = \Pr(A') - \Pr(A'B') = 0.20 - 0.15 = 0.05 \quad (1.6.1.8)$$

1.6.2 In a hostel, 60% of the students read Hindi newspaper, 40% read English newspaper and 20% read both Hindi and English newspapers. A student is selected at random.

a) Find the probability that she reads neither Hindi nor English newspapers.

b) If she reads Hindi newspaper, find the probability that she reads English newspaper.

c) If she reads English newspaper, find the probability that she reads Hindi newspaper.

**Solution:** See Table 1.6.2. From the given information,

$$\Pr(A) = \frac{6}{10}, \Pr(B) = \frac{4}{10}, \Pr(AB) = \frac{2}{10} \quad (1.6.2.1)$$

Variable	Event
A	Hindi
B	English

TABLE 1.6.2

a)

$$\Pr(A'B') = \Pr((A+B)') \quad (1.6.2.2)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(A+B) \quad (1.6.2.3)$$

$$= 1 - (\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(AB)) \quad (1.6.2.4)$$

$$= 1 - \left( \frac{6}{10} + \frac{4}{10} - \frac{2}{10} \right) = \frac{2}{10} \quad (1.6.2.5)$$

b)

$$\Pr(B|A) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} = \frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{6}{10}} = \frac{1}{3} \quad (1.6.2.6)$$

c)

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{4}{10}} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.6.2.7)$$

1.6.3 Assume that the chances of a patient having a heart attack is 40%. It is also assumed that a meditation and yoga course reduce the risk of heart attack by 30% and prescription of certain drug reduces its chances by 25%. At a time a patient can choose any one of the two options with equal probabilities. It is given that after going through one of the two options the patient selected at random suffers a heart attack. Find the probability that the patient followed a course of meditation and yoga?

**Solution:** The given information is summarised in Table 1.6.3.

Variable	Description	Probability
A	Person with heat attack	$\Pr(A)=0.40$
$E_1$	Person treated with meditation and yoga	$\Pr(E_1)=0.50$
$E_2$	Person treated with drug	$\Pr(E_2)=0.50$

TABLE 1.6.3

$$\therefore \Pr(A|E_1) = \Pr(A) (1 - (0.30)) = 0.28 \quad (1.6.3.1)$$

$$\Pr(A|E_2) = \Pr(A) (1 - (0.25)) = 0.30 \quad (1.6.3.2)$$

From (1.1.11.1),

$$\Pr(E_1|A) = \frac{\Pr(E_1) \Pr(A|E_1)}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \Pr(E_i) \Pr(A|E_i)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \times 0.28}{\frac{1}{2} \times 0.28 + \frac{1}{2} \times 0.30} = \frac{14}{29} \quad (1.6.3.3)$$

which is the desired probability.

1.6.4 Suppose that 6% of the people with blood group O are left handed and 10% of those with other blood groups are left handed. 30% of the people have blood group O. If a left handed person is selected at random, what is the probability that he/she will have blood group O?

**Solution:** Let  $A$  represent blood group O and  $B$  represent left handedness. From the

given information,

$$\Pr(A) = 0.3, \Pr(B|A) = 0.06, \Pr(B|A') = 0.1. \quad (1.6.4.1)$$

Using (1.1.11.1),

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A)\Pr(B|A)}{\Pr(A)\Pr(B|A) + \Pr(A')\Pr(B|A')} = \frac{9}{44} \quad (1.6.4.2)$$

upon substituting numerical values.

1.6.5 Match the following:

(a) if $E_1$ and $E_2$ are the two mutually exclusive events	(i) $E_1 \cap E_2 = E_1$
(b) if $E_1$ and $E_2$ are the mutually exclusive and exhaustive events	(ii) $(E_1 \cap E_2) \cup (E_1 \cap E_2) = E_1$
(c) if $E_1$ and $E_2$ have common outcomes, then	(iii) $E_1 \cap E_2 = \phi, E_1 \cup E_2 = S$
(d) if $E_1$ and $E_2$ are two events such that $E_1 \subset E_2$	(iv) $E_1 \cap E_2 = \phi$

TABLE 1.6.5

**Solution:**

- a) If  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are mutually exclusive events, then  $E_1 E_2 = \phi$ .
- b) If  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are mutually exclusive and exhaustive events, then  $E_1 E_2 = \phi$  and  $E_1 + E_2 = S$
- c) If  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  have common outcomes, this means:

$$E_1 E_2 \neq 0 \quad (1.6.5.1)$$

Let  $E_a$  be the outcomes that are present in  $E_1$  and not in  $E_2$ . So,

$$E_a = E_1 - E_2 \quad (1.6.5.2)$$

Let  $E_b$  be the outcomes common between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . So,

$$E_b = E_1 E_2 \quad (1.6.5.3)$$

So, we can say that

$$E_1 = E_a + E_b \quad (1.6.5.4)$$

Referring to equation (1.6.5.2) and (1.6.5.3):

$$E_1 = (E_1 - E_2) + (E_1 E_2) \quad (1.6.5.5)$$

- d) If  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are two events such that  $E_1 \subset E_2$ , then let  $E$  be subset of  $E_2$  containing elements other than  $E_1$ . So,

$$E_1 + E = E_2 \text{ and } E_1 E = E_2 \quad (1.6.5.6)$$

Referring to equation (1.6.5.6):

$$E_1 E_2 = E_1 (E_1 + E) \quad (1.6.5.7)$$

$$= (E_1 E_1) + (E_1 E) \quad (1.6.5.8)$$

$$= E_1 \quad (1.6.5.9)$$

Hence,

- a)  $\leftrightarrow (iv)$ ,
- b)  $\leftrightarrow (iii)$ ,
- c)  $\leftrightarrow (ii)$ ,
- d)  $\leftrightarrow (i)$

1.6.6 Two Coins are tossed once, where

(i)  $E$  : Tail appears on one coin,  $F$  : one coin shows head

(ii)  $E$  : no tail appears,  $F$  : no head appears Determine  $\Pr(E | F)$ .

1.6.7 A fair die is rolled. Consider events  $E = 1, 3, 5$ ,  $F = 2, 3$  and  $G = 2, 3, 4, 5$ . Find

- a)  $\Pr(E | F)$  and  $\Pr(F | E)$
- b)  $\Pr(E | G)$  and  $\Pr(G | E)$
- c)  $\Pr(E \cup F | G)$  and  $\Pr(E \cap F | G)$

**Solution:**

1.6.8 A child's game has 8 triangles of which 3 are blue and rest are red, and 10 squares of which 6 are blue and rest are red. One piece is lost at random. Find the probability that it is a

- a) triangle
- b) square
- c) square of blue colour
- d) triangle of red colour

**Solution:**

1.6.9 At a fete, cards bearing numbers 1 to 1000, one number on a card, are put in a box. Each player selects one card at random and that card is not replaced. If the selected card has a perfect square greater than 500, the player wins a prize. What is the probability that

- a) the first player wins a prize
- b) the second player wins a prize, if the first has won?

**Solution:**

1.6.10 Without repetition of the numbers, four digit numbers are formed with the numbers 0,2,3,5. The probability of such a number divisible by 5 is

- a)  $\frac{1}{5}$
- b)  $\frac{4}{5}$
- c)  $\frac{1}{30}$
- d)  $\frac{5}{9}$

**Solution:**

1.6.11 Four cards are successively drawn without from a deck of 52 playing cards. What



is the probability that all the four cards are kings?

- 1.6.12 Suppose you have two coins which appear identical in your pocket. You know that one is fair and one is 2-headed. If you take one out, toss it and get a head, what is the probability that it was a fair coin?
- 1.6.13 A box has 5 blue and 4 red balls. One ball is drawn at random and not replaced. Its colour is also not noted. Then another ball is drawn at random. What is the probability of second ball being blue? **Solution:**
- 1.6.14 A bag contains 4 white and 5 black balls. Another bag contains 9 white and 7 black balls. A ball is transferred from the first bag to the second and then a ball is drawn at random from the second bag. Find the probability that the ball drawn is white.
- 1.6.15 An item is manufactured by three machines A, B and C. Out of the total number of items manufactured during a specified period, 50% are manufactured on A, 30% on B and 20% on C, 2% of the items produced on A and 2% of items produced on B are defective, and 3% of these products produced on C are defective. All the items are stored at one godown. One item is drawn at random and is found to be defective. What is the probability that it was manufactured on machine A? **Solution:**
- 1.6.16 Two natural numbers  $r, s$  are drawn one at a time, without replacement from the set  $S = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . Find  $P[r \leq p | s \leq p]$
- 1.6.17 There are two bags, one which contains 3 black balls and 4 white balls while the other contains 4 black balls and 3 white balls. A die is thrown. If it shows up 1 or 3, a ball is taken from the first bag; but if shown up any other number, a ball is taken from the second bag. Find the probability of choosing a black ball.
- 1.6.18 A shopkeeper sells three types of flower seeds A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub> and A<sub>3</sub>. They are sold as a mixture where the proportions are 4:4:2 respectively. The germination rates of the three types of seeds are 0.45, 0.60 and 0.35. Calculate the probability:
- a) of a randomly chosen seed to germinate
  - b) that it will not germinate given that the seed is of type A<sub>3</sub>,
  - c) that it is of the type A<sub>2</sub> given that a randomly chosen seed does not germinate.
- 1.6.19 Three bags contains a no of red and white balls as follows:  $B_1$ : 3 red balls,  $B_2$ : 2 red balls and 1 white ball,  $B_3$ : 3 white balls The probability that bag  $i$  will be chosen and a ball is selected is  $i/6, i=1, 2, 3$ . what is the probability that (i) a red ball will be selected? (ii) a white ball will be selected?
- Solution:**
- 1.6.20 Refer to Question 41 above. If a white ball is selected, what is the probability that it came from

- a) Bag 2
- b) Bag 3

**Solution:**

1.6.21 If  $P(A) = \frac{4}{5}$  and  $P(AB) = \frac{7}{10}$ , then  $P(B|A)$  is equal to

**Solution:**

1.6.22 A flashlight has 8 batteries out of which 3 are dead. If two batteries are selected without replacement and tested, find the probability that both are dead.

1.6.23 Assume that in a family, each child is equally likely to be a boy or a girl. A family with three children is chosen at random. The probability that the eldest child is a girl given that the family has at least one girl is

- a)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- c)  $\frac{2}{3}$
- d)  $\frac{4}{7}$

1.6.24 In a college, 30% students fail in physics, 25% fail in mathematics and 10% fail in both. One student is chosen at random. The probability that she fails in physics if she has failed in mathematics is

- a)  $\frac{1}{10}$
- b)  $\frac{5}{9}$
- c)  $\frac{9}{20}$
- d)  $\frac{1}{3}$

### 1.7 Random Variables

1.7.1 State whether the statement is True or False. The probabilities that a typist will make 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or more mistakes in typing a report are, respectively, 0.12, 0.25, 0.36, 0.14, 0.08, 0.11.

**Solution:** From the given information, we obtain the distribution

$$p_X(k) = \begin{cases} 0.12 & k = 0 \\ 0.25 & k = 1 \\ 0.36 & k = 2 \\ 0.14 & k = 3 \\ 0.08 & k = 4 \\ 0.11 & k \geq 5 \end{cases} \quad (1.7.1.1)$$

Since

$$\sum_{i=0}^5 p_X(k) = 1.06 > 1 \quad (1.7.1.2)$$

violates (1.1.4.1), the given statement is false.

1.7.2 State which of the following are not the probability distributions of a random variable. Give reasons for your answer.

a) 

$X$	0	1	2
$P(X)$	0.4	0.4	0.2

c) 

$Y$	-1	0	1
$P(Y)$	0.6	0.1	0.2

b) 

$X$	0	1	2	3	4
$P(X)$	0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.3

d) 

$X$	0	1	2	3	4
$P(Z)$	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.05

**Solution:**

a) The given distribution satisfies (1.1.4.1) and (1.1.8.4), so it is a valid probability distribution.

b)

$$p_X(3) = -0.1 < 0 \quad (1.7.2.1)$$

which violates (1.1.4.1). Hence, not a probability distribution.

c)

$$\sum_{k=-1}^1 p_X(k) = 0.9 < 1 \quad (1.7.2.2)$$

which violates (1.1.8.4). So, not a probability distribution.

d)

$$\sum_{k=0}^4 p_X(k) = 1.05 > 1 \quad (1.7.2.3)$$

which violates (1.1.8.4). So, not a probability distribution.

1.7.3 A die has two faces each with number '1', three faces each with number '2' and one face with number '3'. If die is rolled once, determine

a)  $\Pr(2)$

b)  $\Pr(1 \text{ or } 3)$

c)  $\Pr(\text{not } 3)$

**Solution:** The given information is summarized in the following table 1.7.3

RV	Description	Probability
$X = 1$	Die rolls to 1	$\frac{1}{3}$
$X = 2$	Die rolls to 2	$\frac{1}{2}$
$X = 3$	Die rolls to 3	$\frac{1}{6}$

TABLE 1.7.3: Random variable X

a)

$$\Pr(X = 2) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.7.3.1)$$

b) Since

$$X = 1 \text{ or } X = 3 \equiv X \in \{1, 3\} \quad (1.7.3.2)$$

$$X = 1 \text{ and } X = 3 \equiv X = \phi \quad (1.7.3.3)$$

$$\Pr(X \in \{1, 3\}) = \Pr(X = 1) + \Pr(X = 3) - \Pr(X = \phi) \quad (1.7.3.4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} \quad (1.7.3.5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.7.3.6)$$

c)

$$\Pr(X \neq 3) = 1 - \Pr(X = 3) \quad (1.7.3.7)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{6} \quad (1.7.3.8)$$

$$= \frac{5}{6} \quad (1.7.3.9)$$

1.7.4 A die marked 1, 2, 3 in red and 4, 5, 6 in green is tossed. Let  $A$  be the event, 'the number is even,' and  $B$  be the event, 'the number is red'. Are  $A$  and  $B$  independent?

**Solution:** Let

$$X = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if number is odd} \\ 1, & \text{if number is even} \end{cases} \quad (1.7.4.1)$$

$$Y = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if number is green} \\ 1, & \text{if number is red} \end{cases} \quad (1.7.4.2)$$

From the given information,

$$\Pr(X = 1) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}, \Pr(Y = 1) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.7.4.3)$$

$$\Pr(X = 1, Y = 1) = \frac{1}{6} \quad (1.7.4.4)$$

Now,

$$\Pr(X = 1) \times \Pr(Y = 1) = \frac{1}{4} \quad (1.7.4.5)$$

$$\implies \Pr(X = 1, Y = 1) \neq \Pr(X = 1) \times \Pr(Y = 1) \quad (1.7.4.6)$$

Hence,  $A$  and  $B$  are not independent.

1.7.5 A fair coin and an unbiased die are tossed. Let  $A$  be the event 'head appears on the coin' and  $B$  be the event '3 on the die'. Check whether  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events or not.

## 2 RANDOM VARIABLES

### 2.1 Examples

2.1 One card is drawn from a well-shuffled deck of 52 cards. Find the probability of getting

- A king of red colour
- A face card
- A red face card
- The jack of hearts

- e) A spade
- f) The queen of diamonds

**Solution:**

2.2 Five cards—the ten, jack, queen, king and ace of diamonds, are well-shuffled with their face downwards. One card is then picked up at random.

- a) What is the probability that the card is the queen?
- b) If the queen is drawn and put aside, what is the probability that the second card picked up is (a) an ace? (b) a queen?

**Solution:**

2.3 A bag contains 5 red balls and some blue balls. If the probability of drawing a blue ball is double that of a red ball, determine the number of blue balls in the bag.

**Solution:**

2.4 A card is selected from a pack of 52 cards.

- (a) How many points are there in the sample space?
- (b) Calculate the probability that the card is an ace of spades.
- (c) Calculate the probability that the card is (i) an ace and (ii) black card.

**Solution:**

2.5 Four cards are drawn from a well-shuffled deck of 52 cards. What is the probability of obtaining 3 diamonds and one spade.

**Solution:**

2.6 In a certain lottery 10,000 tickets are sold and ten equal prizes are awarded. What is the probability of not getting a prize if you buy (a) one ticket (b) two tickets (c) 10 tickets ?

**Solution:**

2.7 Out of 100 students, two sections of 40 and 60 are formed. If you and your friend are among the 100 students, what is the probability that

- a) you both enter the same section?
- b) you both enter the different sections?

**Solution:**

2.8 The number lock of a suitcase has 4 wheels each labelled with ten digits i.e. from 0 to 9. The lock opens with a sequence of four digits with no repeats. What is the probability of a person getting the right sequence to open the suitcase.

**Solution:**

2.9 Two cards are drawn at random and without replacement from a pack of 52 playing cards. Find the probability that both the cards are black.

**Solution:**

2.10 A box of oranges is inspected by examining three randomly selected oranges drawn without replacement. If all the three oranges are good, the box is approved for sale, otherwise, it is rejected. Find the probability that a box containing 15 oranges out of which 12 are good and 3 are bad ones will be approved for sale.

2.11 Two balls are drawn at random with replacement from a box containing 10 black and 8 red balls. Find the probability that

- a) both balls are red.  
 b) first ball is black and second is red.  
 c) one of them is black and other is red.
- 2.12 In a hostel, 60% of the students read Hindi newspaper, 40% read English newspaper and 20% read both Hindi and English newspapers. A student is selected at random.
- a) Find the probability that she reads neither Hindi nor English newspapers.  
 b) If she reads Hindi newspaper, find the probability that she reads English newspaper.  
 c) If she reads English newspaper, find the probability that she reads Hindi newspaper.

2.13 The probability of obtaining an even prime number on each die, when a pair of dice is rolled is

- a) 0  
 b)  $\frac{1}{3}$   
 c)  $\frac{1}{12}$   
 d)  $\frac{1}{36}$

**Solution:**

2.14 A bag contains 4 red and 4 black balls, another bag contains 2 red and 6 black balls. One of the two bags is selected at random and a ball is drawn from the bag which is found to be red. Find the probability that the ball is drawn from the first bag.

**Solution:**

2.15 Cards with numbers 2 to 101 are placed in a box. A card is selected at random. Find the probability that the card has

- (i) an even number  
 (ii) a square number

**Solution:**

2.16 The king, queen and jack of clubs are removed from a deck of 52 playing cards and then well shuffled. Now one card is drawn at random from the remaining cards. Determine the probability that the card is

- (i) a club  
 (ii) 10 of hearts

**Solution:**

2.17 A team of medical students doing their internship have to assist during surgeries at a city hospital. The probabilities of surgeries rated as very complex, complex, routine, simple or very simple are respectively, 0.15, 0.20, 0.31, 0.26, .08. Find the probabilities that a particular surgery will be rated

- a) complex or very complex;  
 b) neither very complex nor very simple;  
 c) routine or complex  
 d) routine or simple

**Solution:**

2.18 A card is selected from a pack of 52 cards.

- (a) How many points are there in the sample space?  
 (b) Calculate the probability that the card is an ace of spades.

(c) Calculate the probability that the card is (i) an ace and (ii) black card.

**Solution:**

2.19 The probability that a non leap year selected at random will contain 53 sundays.

**Solution:**

2.20 One of the four persons John, Rita, Aslam or Gurpreet will be promoted next month. Consequently the sample space consists of four elementary outcomes  $S = \text{John promoted, Rita promoted, Aslam promoted, Gurpreet promoted}$  You are told that the chances of John's promotion is same as that of Gurpreet, Rita's chances of promotion are twice as likely as Johns. Aslam's chances are four times that of John.

a) Determine

- i)  $P(\text{John promoted})$
- ii)  $P(\text{Rita promoted})$
- iii)  $P(\text{Aslam promoted})$
- iv)  $P(\text{Gurpreet promoted})$

b) If  $A = \text{John promoted or Gurpreet promoted}$ , find  $P(A)$ .

**Solution:**

2.21 A card is drawn from a deck of 52 cards. Find the probability of getting a king or a heart or a red card.

**Solution:**

2.22 The probability that a student will pass his examination is 0.73, the probability of the student getting a compartment is 0.13, and the probability that the student will either pass or get compartment is 0.96. State True or False.

**Solution:**

2.23 A card is selected from a pack of 52 cards

- (a) How many points are there in the sample space?
- (b) Calculate the probability that the cards is an ace of spades.
- (c) Calculate the probability that the card is (i) an ace (ii)black card.

2.24 In a non-leap year, the probability of having 53 tuesdays or 53 wednesdays is

**Solution:**

2.25 There are 1000 sealed envelopes in a box, 10 of them contain a cash prize of Rs 100 each, 100 of them contain a cash prize of Rs 50 each and 200 of them contain a cash prize of Rs 10 each and rest do not contain any cash prize. If they are well shuffled and an envelope is picked up out, what is the probability that it contains no cash prize?

**Solution:**

2.26 A die is thrown and a card is selected at random from a deck of 52 playing cards. The probability of getting an even number on the die and a spade card.

**Solution:**

2.27 If 4-digit numbers greater than 5,000 are randomly formed from the digits 0, 1, 3, 5, and 7, what is the probability of forming a number divisible by 5 when:

a) The digits are repeated?

b) The repetition of digits is not allowed?

**Solution:**

2.28 Consider the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{G}, P)$  where  $\Omega = [0, 2]$  and  $\mathcal{G} = \{\emptyset, \Omega, [0, 1], (1, 2]\}$ . Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two functions on  $\Omega$  defined as

$$X(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega \in [0, 1] \\ 2 & \text{if } \omega \in (1, 2] \end{cases}$$

and

$$Y(\omega) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } \omega \in [0, 1.5] \\ 3 & \text{if } \omega \in (1.5, 2]. \end{cases}$$

Then which one of the following statements is true?

- (A)  $X$  is a random variable with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ , but  $Y$  is not a random variable with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ .
- (B)  $Y$  is a random variable with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ , but  $X$  is not a random variable with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ .
- (C) Neither  $X$  nor  $Y$  is a random variable with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ .
- (D) Both  $X$  and  $Y$  are random variables with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ .

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**Solution:**

2.29 A die is loaded in such a way that each odd number is twice as likely to occur as each even number. Find  $P(G)$ , where  $G$  is the event that a number greater than 3 occurs on a single roll of the die.

**Solution:**

2.30 All the jacks, queens and kings are removed from a deck of 52 playing cards. The remaining cards are well shuffled and then one card is drawn at random. Giving ace a value 1 similar value for other cards, find the probability that the card has a value

- a) 7
- b) greater than 7
- c) less than 7

2.31 A Lot consists of 48 mobile phones of which 42 are good, 3 have only minor defects and 3 have major defects. Varnika will buy a phone if it is good but the trader will only buy a mobile if it has no major defects. One phone is selected at random from the lot. What is the probability that it is

- a) acceptable to Varnika?
- b) acceptable to the trader?

**Solution:**

2.32 A student says that if you throw a die, it will show up 1 or not 1. Therefore, the probability of getting 1 and the probability of getting 'not 1' each is equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Is this correct? Give reasons.

**Solution:**

2.33 Four candidates A, B, C, D have applied for the assignment to coach a school cricket team. If A is twice as likely to be selected as B, and B and C are given about



the same chance of being selected, while C is twice as likely to be selected as D, what are the probabilities that

- a) C will be selected?
- b) A will not be selected?

2.34 A bag contain 24 balls of which  $x$  balls are red,  $2x$  are white and  $3x$  are blue. A ball is selected at random, What is the probability that it is

- a) not red ?
- b) white ?

If the letters of the word ASSASSINATION are arranged at random. Find the Probability that

- (a) Four S's come consecutively in the word
- (b) Two I's and two N's come together
- (c) All A's are not coming together
- (d) No two A's are coming together

2.35 One urn contains two black balls (labelled B1 and B2) and one white ball. A second urn contains one black ball and two white balls (labelled W1 and W2). Suppose the following experiment is performed. One of the two urns is chosen at random. Next a ball is randomly chosen from the urn. Then a second ball is chosen at random from the same urn without replacing the first ball.

- a) What is the probability that two black balls are chosen?
- b) What is the probability that two balls of opposite colour are chosen?

**Solution:**

### 3 CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

#### 3.1 Examples

3.1 Given that E and F are events such that  $P(E) = 0.6$ ,  $P(F) = 0.3$  and  $P(EF) = 0.2$ , find  $P(E | F)$  and  $P(F | E)$ .

3.2 Compute  $\Pr(A|B)$ , if  $\Pr(B) = 0.5$  and  $\Pr(AB) = 0.32$ .

3.3 Probability that A speaks truth is  $\frac{4}{5}$ . A coin is tossed. A reports that a head appears. The probability that actually there was head is

- a)  $\frac{4}{5}$
- b)  $\frac{1}{5}$
- c)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- d)  $\frac{3}{5}$

3.4 Compute  $\Pr(A|B)$ , if  $\Pr(B) = 0.5$  and  $\Pr(AB) = 0.32$ .

3.5 If  $\Pr(A) = 0.8$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0.5$  and  $\Pr(B|A) = 0.4$ , find

- a)  $\Pr(AB)$
- b)  $\Pr(A|B)$
- c)  $\Pr(A + B)$

**Solution:**

- 3.6 Mother, Father and Son line up at random for a family picture. Determine  $\Pr(E | F)$  where  $E$ : Son on one end,  $F$ : Father in middle

**Solution:**

- 3.7 Assume that each born child is equally likely to be a boy or a girl. If a family has two children, what is the conditional probability that both are girls given that

- a) The youngest is a girl
- b) At least one is a girl

**Solution:**

- 3.8 An instructor has a question bank consisting of 300 easy True / False questions, 200 difficult True / False questions, 500 easy multiple choice questions and 400 difficult multiple choice questions. If a question is selected at random from the question bank, what is the probability that it will be an easy question given that it is a multiple choice question?

**Solution:**

- 3.9 If  $\Pr(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\Pr(B) = 0$ , then  $\Pr(A | B)$  is

- a) 0
- b)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- c) not defined
- d) 1

- 3.10 If  $A$  and  $B$  are events such that

$$\Pr(A|B) = \Pr(B|A) \quad (3.10.1)$$

then

- a)  $A \subset B$  but  $A \neq B$
- b)  $A = B$
- c)  $A \cap B = \phi$
- d)  $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B)$

**Solution:**

- 3.11 Consider the experiment of throwing a die, if a multiple of 3 comes up, throw the die again and if any other number comes, toss a coin. Find the conditional probability of the event 'the coin shows a tail', given that 'at least one die shows a 3'.

**Solution:**

- 3.12 Two cards are drawn at random and without replacement from a pack of 52 playing cards. Find the probability that both the cards are black.

**Solution:**

- 3.13 Let  $A$  and  $B$  be independent events with  $P(A) = 0.3$  and  $P(B) = 0.4$ . Find

- a)  $P(A \cap B)$
- b)  $P(A \cup B)$
- c)  $P(A|B)$
- d)  $P(B|A)$

- 3.14 An urn contains 5 red and 5 black balls. A ball is drawn at random, its colour is noted and is returned to the urn. Moreover, 2 additional balls of the colour drawn

are put in the urn and then a ball is drawn at random. What is the probability that the second ball is red?

**Solution:**

- 3.15 A bag contains 4 red and 4 black balls, another bag contains 2 red and 6 black balls. One of the two bags is selected at random and a ball is drawn from the bag which is found to be red. Find the probability that the ball is drawn from the first bag.
- 3.16 Of the students in a college, it is known that 60% reside in hostel and 40% are day scholars (not residing in hostel). Previous year results report that 30% of all students who reside in hostel attain A grade and 20% of day scholars attain A grade in their annual examination. At the end of the year, one student is chosen at random from the college and he has an A grade, what is the probability that the student is a hostlier?

**Solution:**

- 3.17 In answering a question on a multiple choice test, a student either knows the answer or guesses. Let  $\frac{3}{4}$  be the probability that he knows the answer and  $\frac{1}{4}$  be the probability that he guesses. Assuming that a student who guesses at the answer will be correct with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$ . What is the probability that the student knows the answer given that he answered it correctly?

**Solution:**

- 3.18 A laboratory blood test is 99% effective in detecting a certain disease when it is in fact, present. However, the test also yields a false positive result for 0.5% of the healthy person tested (i.e. if a healthy person is tested, then, with probability 0.005, the test will imply he has the disease). If 0.1 percent of the population actually has the disease, what is the probability that a person has the disease given that his test result is positive ?

**Solution:**

- 3.19 There are three coins. One is a two headed coin (having head on both faces), another is a biased coin that comes up heads 75% of the time and third is an unbiased coin. One of the three coins is chosen at random and tossed, it shows heads, what is the probability that it was the two headed coin ?

**Solution:**

- 3.20 An insurance company insured 2000 scooter drivers, 4000 car drivers and 6000 truck drivers. The probability of an accidents are 0.01, 0.03 and 0.15 respectively. One of the insured persons meets with an accident. What is the probability that he is a scooter driver?
- 3.21 A factory has two machines A and B. Past record shows that machine A produced 60% of the items of output and machine B produced 40% of the items. Further, 2% of the items produced by machine A and 1% produced by machine B were defective. All the items are put into one stockpile and then one item is chosen at random from this and is found to be defective. What is the probability that it was produced by machine B?
- 3.22 . Two groups are competing for the position on the Board of directors of a corporation. The probabilities that the first and the second groups will win are 0.6 and 0.4 respectively. Further, if the first group wins, the probability of introducing a new product is 0.7 and the corresponding probability is 0.3 if the second group wins. Find the probability that the new product introduced was by the second group.

**Solution:**

- 3.23 Suppose a girl throws a die. If she gets a 5 or 6, she tosses a coin three times and notes the number of heads. If she gets 1, 2, 3 or 4, she tosses a coin once and notes whether a head or tail is obtained. If she obtained exactly one head, what is the probability that she threw 1, 2, 3 or 4 with the die?]
- 3.24 A manufacturer has three machine operators A, B and C. The first operator A produces 1% defective items, where as the other two operators B and C produce 5% and 7% defective items respectively. A is on the job for 50% of the time, B is on the job for 30% of the time and C is on the job for 20% of the time. A defective item is produced, what is the probability that it was produced by A?
- 3.25 A card from a pack of 52 cards is lost. From the remaining cards of the pack, two cards are drawn and are found to be both diamonds. Find the probability of the lost card being a diamond.
- 3.26 Probability that A speaks truth is  $\frac{4}{5}$ . A coin is tossed. A reports that a head appears. The probability that actually there was head is
- $\frac{4}{5}$
  - $\frac{1}{5}$
  - $\frac{1}{2}$
  - $\frac{2}{5}$

**Solution:**

- 3.27 If A and B are two events such that  $A \subset B$  and  $\Pr(B) \neq 0$ , then which of the following is correct ?
- $\Pr(A | B) = \frac{\Pr(B)}{\Pr(A)}$
  - $\Pr(A | B) < \Pr(A)$
  - $\Pr(A | B) \geq \Pr(A)$
  - None of these

**Solution:**

- 3.28 A and B are two events such that  $\Pr(A) \neq 0$ . Find  $\Pr(B | A)$ , if
- A is a subset of B
  - $A \cap B = \phi$

**Solution:**

- 3.29 A couple has two children.
- Find the probability that both children are males, if it is known that at least one of the children is male.
  - Find the probability that both children are females, if it is known that the elder child is a female.

**Solution:**

- 3.30 Suppose that 5% of men and 0.25% of women have grey hair. A grey haired person is selected at random. What is the probability that this person being male? Assume that there are equal number of males and females.

**Solution:**

- 3.31 Suppose we have four boxes A,B,C and D containing coloured marbles as given in Table 3.31. One of the boxes has been selected at random and a single marble is

TABLE 3.31: Question Table

drawn from it. If the marble is red, what is the probability that it was drawn from

1) Box A ?

2) Box B ?

3) Box C ?

**Solution:**

- 3.32 Bag I contains 3 red and 4 black balls and Bag II contains 4 red and 5 black balls. One ball is transferred from Bag I to Bag II and then a ball is drawn from Bag II. The ball so drawn is found to be red in colour. Find the probability that the transferred ball is black.

**Solution:**

- 3.33 Box A contains 25 slips of which 19 are marked Rs 1 and others are marked Rs 5 each. Box B contains 50 slips of which 45 are marked Rs 1 and others are marked Rs 13 each. Slips of both boxes are poured into a third box and reshuffled. A slip is drawn at random. What is the probability that it is marked other than Rs 1?

**Solution:**

- 3.34 Bag I contains 3 black and 2 white balls, Bag II contains 2 black and 4 white balls. A bag and a ball is selected at random. Determine the probability of selecting a black ball.

**Solution:**

- 3.35 While shuffling a pack of 52 playing cards, 2 cards are dropped. Find the probability that the missing cards to be of different colours.

**Solution:**

- 3.36 A bag contains  $(2n + 1)$  coins. It is known that  $n$  of these coins have a head on both sides where as the rest of the coins are fair. A coin is picked up at random from the bag and is tossed. If the probability that the toss results in a head is  $\frac{31}{42}$ , determine the value of  $n$ .

**Solution:**

- 3.37 An urn contains  $m$  white and  $n$  black balls. A ball is drawn at random and is put back into the urn along with  $k$  additional balls of the same colour as that of the ball drawn. A ball is again drawn at random. Show that the probability of drawing a white ball now does not depend on  $k$ .

**Solution:**

- 3.38 If  $\Pr(AB) = \frac{7}{10}$  and  $\Pr(B) = \frac{17}{20}$ , then  $\Pr(A|B)$  equals

- a)  $\frac{14}{17}$
- b)  $\frac{20}{17}$
- c)  $\frac{7}{8}$
- d)  $\frac{1}{8}$

- 3.39 A letter is known to have come either from TATANAGAR or from CALCUTTA. On the envelope, just two consecutive letter TA are visible. What is the probability that the letter came from TATANAGAR.

**Solution:**

- 3.40 A bag contain  $(2n+1)$  coins. It is known that  $n$  of these coins have a head on both sides where as the rest of the coins are fair. A coin is picked up at random from the bag and is tossed. If the probability that the toss results in a head is  $\frac{31}{42}$ , determine the value of  $n$ .
- 3.41 By examining the chest X ray, the probability that TB is detected when a person is actually suffering is 0.99. The probability of an healthy person diagnosed to have TB is 0.001. In a certain city, 1 in 1000 people suffers from TB. A person is selected at random and is diagnosed to have TB. What is the probability that he actually has TB?

#### 4 BERNOULLI

- 4.1 A letter is chosen at random from the word 'ASSASSINATION'. Find the probability that letter is

- a) a vowel  
b) a consonant

. **Solution:** The number of vowels is 6 and consonants is 7.

a)

$$\Pr(X) = \frac{6}{13} \quad (4.1.1)$$

b)

$$\Pr(Y) = \frac{7}{13} \quad (4.1.2)$$

- 4.2 A box contains 12 balls, out of which  $x$  are black. If one ball is drawn at random from the box, what is the probability that it will be a black ball? If 6 more black balls are put in the box, the probability of drawing a black ball is now double of what it was before. Find  $x$ .

**Solution:** From Table 4.2,

Random Variable	Sample space	Value	Event	Probability
$X_1$	12	0	not choosing black ball	$12-x/12$
		1	choosing black ball	$x/12$
$X_2$	18	0	not choosing black ball	$12-x/18$
		1	choosing black ball	$x+6/18$

TABLE 4.2

$$\Pr(X_1 = 1) = \frac{x}{12} \quad (4.2.1)$$

Since

$$\Pr(X_2 = 1) = 2 \Pr(X_1 = 1), \quad (4.2.2)$$

$$\frac{x+6}{18} = 2 \left( \frac{x}{12} \right) \quad (4.2.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3 \quad (4.2.4)$$

- 4.3 Gopi buys a fish from a shop for his aquarium. The shopkeeper takes out one fish at random from a tank containing 5 male fish and 8 female fish . What is the probability that the fish taken out is a male fish?

**Solution:**

Let

$$X = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the chosen fish is male} \\ 0, & \text{if the chosen fish is female} \end{cases} \quad (4.3.1)$$

Then

$$\Pr(X = 1) = \frac{5}{13} \quad (4.3.2)$$

- 4.4 A bag contains 3 red balls and 5 black balls. A ball is drawn at random from the bag. What is the probability that the ball drawn is

- (i) red ?
- (ii) not red?

**Solution:** Let

$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if drawn ball is red} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (4.4.1)$$

- (i) Probability that the drawn ball is red

$$\Pr(X = 1) = \frac{3}{8} \quad (4.4.2)$$

$$(4.4.3)$$

- (ii) Probability that the drawn ball is not red

$$\Pr(X = 0) = 1 - \frac{3}{8} = \frac{5}{8} \quad (4.4.4)$$

- 4.5 A lot consists of 144 ball pens of which 20 are defective and the others are good. Nuri will buy a pen if it is good, but will not buy if it is defective. The shopkeeper draws one pen at random and gives it to her. What is the probability that

- a) She will buy it?
- b) She will not buy it?

**Solution:**

- 4.6 A school has five houses A, B, C, D and E. A class has 23 students, 4 from house A, 8 from house B, 5 from house C, 2 from house D and rest from house E. A single student is selected at random to be the class monitor. The probability that the selected student is not from A, B and C is

**Solution:**

- 4.7 A bag contains slips numbered from 1 to 100. If Fatima chooses a slip at random from the bag, it will either be an odd number or an even number. Since this situation has only two possible outcomes, so, the probability of each is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Justify.

**Solution:**

- 4.8 A letter of English alphabets is chosen at random. Determine the probability that the

letter is a consonant.

**Solution:**

- 4.9 A carton of 24 bulbs contain 6 defective bulbs. One bulb is drawn at random. What is the probability that the bulb is not defective? If the bulb selected is defective and it is not replaced and a second bulb is selected at random from the rest, what is the probability that the second bulb is defective?

**Solution:**

- 4.10 An integer is chosen between 0 and 100. What is the probability that it is  
a) divisible by 7  
b) not divisible by 7

**Solution:**

- 4.11 In an examination, 20 questions of true-false type are asked. Suppose a student tosses a fair coin to determine his answer to each question. If the coin falls heads, he answer true; if it falls tails, he answer false. Find the probability that he answers at least 12 questions correctly.

**Solution:**

- 4.12 If the letters of the word **ALGORITHM** are arranged at random in a row what is the probability the letters GOR must remain together as a unit?

**Solution:**

- 4.13 Six new employees, two of whom are married to each other, are to be assigned six desks that are lined up in a row. If the assignment of employees to desks is made randomly, what is the probability that the married couple will have nonadjacent desks?

**Solution:**

- 4.14 There are four men and six women on the city council. If one council member is selected for a committee at random, how likely is it that it is a woman?

**Solution:**

- 4.15 A girl calculates that the probability of her winning the first prize in a lottery is 0.08. If 6000 tickets are sold, how many tickets has she bought?

(A) 40 (B) 240 (C) 480 (D) 750

- 4.16 Three numbers are chosen from 1 to 20. Find the probability that they are not consecutive

a)  $\frac{186}{190}$

b)  $\frac{187}{190}$

c)  $\frac{188}{190}$

d)  $\frac{18}{{}^{20}C_3}$

**Solution:**

- 4.17 Seven persons are to be seated in a row. What is the probability that two particular persons sit next to each other?

**Solution:**



- 4.18 A single letter is selected at random from the word 'PROBABILITY'. The probability that it is a vowel is
- 4.19 The probability of getting a bad egg in a lot of 400 is 0.035. The number of bad eggs in the lot is

**Solution:**

- 4.20 someone is asked to take a number from 1 to 100. The probability that it is a prime number is

**Solution:**

## 5 MULTINOMIAL

- 5.1 A box contains 5 red marbles, 8 white marbles and 4 green marbles. One marble is taken out of the box at random. What is the probability that the marble taken out will be

**Solution:**

- a) red ?
- b) white ?
- c) not green?

**Solution:**

- 5.2 A box contains 3 orange balls, 3 green balls and 2 blue balls. Three balls are drawn at random from the box without replacement. The probability of drawing 2 green balls and one blue ball is

a)  $\frac{3}{28}$

b)  $\frac{2}{21}$

c)  $\frac{1}{28}$

d)  $\frac{167}{168}$

- 5.3 A game of chance consists of spinning an arrow which comes to rest pointing at one of the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 (see Fig. 5.3.1), and these are equally likely outcomes. What is the probability that it will point at:

- a) 8?
- b) an odd number?
- c) a number greater than 2?
- d) a number less than 9?

**Solution:**

- 5.4 A box contains 10 red marbles, 20 blue marbles and 30 green marbles. 5 marbles are drawn from the box, what is the probability that

- a) all will be blue?
- b) atleast one will be green?

**Solution:**

- 5.5 A box of oranges is inspected by examining three randomly selected oranges drawn without replacement. If all the three oranges are good, the box is approved for sale,

otherwise, it is rejected. Find the probability that a box containing 15 oranges out of which 12 are good and 3 are bad ones will be approved for sale.

**Solution:**

5.6

5.7 A bag contains 5 red and 3 blue balls. If 3 balls are drawn at random without replacement the probability that exactly two of the three balls were red, the first ball being red is

## 6 UNIFORM

6.1 A die is thrown, find the probability of following events:

- a) A prime number will appear
- b) A number greater than or equal to 3 will appear
- c) A number less than or equal to one will appear
- d) A number more than 6 will appear
- e) A number less than 6 will appear

**Solution:**

6.2 All the jacks, queens and kings are removed from a deck of 52 playing cards. The remaining cards are well shuffled and then one card is drawn at random. Giving ace a value 1 similar value for other cards, find the probability that the card has a value

- a) 7
- b) greater than 7
- c) less than 7

6.3 Two dice are numbered 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 1,1,2,2,3,3 respectively. They are thrown and the sum of then numbers on them is noted. Find the probability of getting each sum from 2 to 9 separately **Solution:**

## 7 BINOMIAL

7.1 A die is thrown twice. What is the probability that

- a) 5 will not come up either time?
- b) 5 will come up at least once?

**Solution:**

7.2 Three coins are tossed once. Find the probability of getting

- a) 3 heads
- b) 2 heads
- c) atleast 2 heads
- d) atmost 2 heads
- e) no head
- f) 3 tails
- g) exactly two tails
- h) no tail
- i) atmost two tails

**Solution:**

- 7.3 In a game, the entry fee is Rs 5. The game consists of a tossing a coin 3 times. If one or two heads show, Sweta gets her entry fee back. If she throws 3 heads, she receives double the entry fees. Otherwise she will lose. For tossing a coin three times, find the probability that she
- loses the entry fee.
  - gets double entry fee.
  - just gets her entry fee.

**Solution:**

- 7.4 A game consists of tossing a one rupee coin 3 times and noting its outcome each time. Hanif wins if all the tosses give the same result i.e., three heads or three tails, and loses otherwise. Calculate the probability that Hanif will lose the game
- 7.5 A coin is tossed three times, where. Determine  $\Pr(E | F)$  where
- $E$  : head on third toss,  $F$  : heads on first two tosses
  - $E$  : at least two heads,  $F$  : at most two heads
  - $E$  : at most two tails,  $F$  : at least one tail

**Solution:**

- 7.6 A die is tossed thrice. Find the probability of getting an odd number at least once.

**Solution:**

- 7.7 Find the probability distribution of

- number of heads in two tosses of a coin.
- number of tails in the simultaneous tosses of three coins.
- number of heads in four tosses of a coin.

**Solution:**

- 7.8 Find the probability distribution of the number of successes in two tosses of a die, where a success is defined as

- number greater than 4
- six appears on at least one die

**Solution:**

- 7.9 There are 5% defective items in a large bulk of items. What is the probability that a sample of 10 items will include not more than one defective item?

**Solution:**

- 7.10 Five cards are drawn successively with replacement from a well-shuffled deck of 52 cards. What is the probability that

- all the five cards are spades?
- only 3 cards are spades?
- none is a spade?

**Solution:**

- 7.11 The probability that a bulb produced by a factory will fuse after 150 days of use is 0.05. Find the probability that out of 5 such bulbs

- none
- not more than one

- c) more than one
  - d) at least one
- will fuse after 150 days of use.

**Solution:**

- 7.12 A bag consists of 10 balls each marked with one of the digits 0 to 9. If 4 balls are drawn successively with replacement from the bag, what is the probability that none is marked with the digit 0?

**Solution:**

- 7.13 How many times must a man toss a fair coin so that the probability of having at least one head is more than 90%?
- 7.14 In an examination, 20 questions of true-false type are asked. Suppose a student tosses a fair coin to determine his answer to each question. If the coin falls heads, he answer true; if it falls tails, he answer false. Find the probability that he answers at least 12 questions correctly.

**Solution:**

- 7.15 Find the probability of getting 5 twice in 7 throws of a dice.

**Solution:**

- 7.16 On a multiple choice examination with three possible answers for each of the five questions, what is the probability that a candidate would get four or more correct answers just by guessing?

**Solution:**

- 7.17 Find the probability of throwing at most 2 sixes in 6 throws of a single die.

**Solution:**

- 7.18 Suppose that 90 % of people are right-handed. What is the probability that atmost 6 of a random sample of 10 people are right-handed.

**Solution:**

- 7.19 An urn contains 25 balls of which 10 balls bear a mark 'X' and the remaining 15 bear a mark 'Y'. A ball is drawn at random from the urn, its mark is noted down and it is replaced. If 6 balls are drawn in this way, find the probability that

- a) all will bear 'X' mark.
- b) not more than 2 will bear 'Y' mark.
- c) at least one ball will bear 'Y' mark.
- d) the number of balls with 'X' mark and 'Y' mark will be equal.

**Solution:**

- 7.20 An urn contains 5 red and 2 black balls. Two balls are randomly drawn. Let X represent the number of black balls. What are the possible values of X? Is X a random variable ?

- 7.21 Find the probability distribution of

- a) number of heads in two tosses of a coin.
- b) number of tails in the simultaneous tosses of three coins.
- c) number of heads in four tosses of a coin.

- 7.22 Find the probability distribution of the number of successes in two tosses of a die, where a success is defined as
- number greater than 4
  - six appears on at least one die
- 7.23 From a lot of 30 bulbs which include 6 defectives, a sample of 4 bulbs is drawn at random with replacement. Find the probability distribution of the number of defective bulbs.
- 7.24 A coin is biased so that the head is 3 times as likely to occur as tail. If the coin is tossed twice, find the probability distribution of number of tails.
- 7.25 A coin is tossed twice, what is the probability that atleast one tail occurs?
- Solution:**
- 7.26 From a lot of 30 bulbs which include 6 defectives, a sample of 4 bulbs is drawn at random with replacement. Find the probability distribution of the number of defective bulbs.
- 7.27 Suppose  $X$  is a binomial distribution  $B\left(6, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ . Show that  $X = 3$  is the most likely outcome. (Hint :  $P(X = 3)$  is the maximum among all  $P(x_i), x_i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ )
- 7.28 A fair coin is tossed four times, and a person win Re 1 for each head and lose Rs 1.5 for each tail that turns up.  
From the sample space calculate how many different amounts of money you can have after four tosses and the probability of having each of these amounts.
- Solution:**
- 7.29 It is known that 10 % of certain articles manufactured are defective. What is the probability that in a random sample space of 12 such articles, 9 are defective?
- Solution:**
- 7.30 A coin is tossed two times. Find the probability of getting at most one head.
- Solution:**
- 7.31 An experiment succeeds twice as often as it fails. Find the probability that in the next six trials, there will be atleast 4 successes. **Solution:**
- 7.32 A die is thrown 5 times. Find the probability that an odd number will come up exactly three times. **Solution:**
- 7.33 A coin is tossed 3 times. List the possible outcomes. Find the probability of getting (i) all heads (ii) at least 2 heads
- Solution:**
- 7.34 Ten coins are tossed. What is the probability of getting atleast 8 heads?
- 7.35 A factory produces bulbs. The probability that any one bulb is defective is  $\frac{1}{50}$  and they are packed in boxes of 10. From a single box, find the probability that
- none of the bulb is defective
  - exactly two bulbs are defective
  - more than 8 bulbs are working properly
- Solution:**
- 7.36 A lot of 100 watches is known to have 10 defective watches. If 8 watches are selected (one by one with replacement) at random, what is the probability that there will be at least one defective watch?

7.37 The Probability of a man hitting target is 0.25. He shoots 7 times. What is the probability of his hitting atleast twice?

7.38 Explain why the experiment of tossing a coin three times is said to have binomial distribution

**Solution:**

7.39 A person buys a lottery ticket in 50 lotteries in each of which his chance of winning a prize is  $\frac{1}{100}$ . What is the probability that he will win a prize

- (a) atleast once
- (b) exactly once
- (c) atleast twice ?

7.40 The probability that a person is not a swimmer is 0.3. The probability that out of 5 persons 4 are swimmers is

- a)  ${}^5C_4 (0.7)^4 (0.3)$
- b)  ${}^5C_1 (0.7) (0.3)^4$
- c)  ${}^5C_4 (0.7) (0.3)^4$
- d)  $(0.7)^4 (0.3)$

**Solution:**

7.41 Suppose a random variable  $X$  follows binomial distribution with parameters  $n$  and  $p$ , where  $0 < p < 1$ . If  $\Pr(X = r)/\Pr(X = n - r)$  is independent of  $n$  and  $r$ , then  $p$  equals,

- a)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- c)  $\frac{1}{5}$
- d)  $\frac{1}{7}$

**Solution:**

7.42 The probability of guessing correctly at least 8 out of 10 answers on a true-false type examination is

**Solution:**

7.43 In a family having three children, there may be no girl, one girl, two girls, or three girls. So the probability of each is  $1/4$ . Is this correct? Justify your answer.

7.44 Two cards are drawn from a well shuffled deck of 52 playing cards with replacement. The probability, that both cards are queens, is

- A  $\frac{1}{13} \times \frac{1}{13}$
- B  $\frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{13}$
- C  $\frac{1}{13} \times \frac{1}{17}$
- D  $\frac{1}{13} \times \frac{4}{51}$

**Solution:**

7.45 Eight coins are tossed together. The probability of getting exactly 3 heads is

- a)  $\frac{1}{256}$
- b)  $\frac{7}{32}$
- c)  $\frac{5}{32}$
- d)  $\frac{3}{32}$

7.46 If  $X$  follows binomial distribution with parameters  $n = 5$ ,  $p$  and

$$p_X(2) = 9p_X(3) \quad (7.46.1)$$

then  $p$  is ?

7.47 A box has 100 pens of which 10 are defective. What is the probability that out of a sample of 5 pens drawn one by one with replacement at most one is defective?

- (a)  $\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^5$
- (b)  $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^4$
- (c)  $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^5$
- (d)  $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^5$

7.48 If  $X$  follows a binomial distribution with parameters  $n = 5$ ,  $p$  and  $p_X(2) = 9p_X(3)$  then  $p$  is?

7.49 A die is thrown again and again until three sixes are obtained. Find the probability of obtaining third six on sixth throw of a die.

**Solution:**

7.50 A fair coin is tossed four times and a person win Re 1 for each head and lose Re 1.5 for each tail that turns up. from the sample space calculate how many different amounts of money you can have after four tosses and the probability of having each of these amounts.

## 8 MISCELLANEOUS

8.1 The random variable  $X$  has a probability distribution  $\Pr(X)$  of the following form, where  $k$  is some number

$$\Pr(X) = \begin{cases} k, & x = 0 \\ 2k, & x = 1 \\ 3k, & x = 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (8.1.1)$$

- a) Determine the value of  $k$
- b) Find  $\Pr(X < 2), \Pr(X \leq 2), \Pr(X \geq 2)$

**Solution:**

- 8.2 State which of the following are not the probability distributions of a random variable. Give reasons for your answer

i

ii

iii

iv

- 8.3 A random variable  $X$  has the following probability distribution

Determine

i  $k$

ii  $P(X < 3)$

iii  $P(X > 6)$

iv  $P(0 < X < 3)$

- 8.4 The random variable  $X$  has a probability distribution  $P(X)$  of the following form, where  $k$  is some number :

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} k, & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 2k, & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 3k, & \text{if } x = 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

i Determine the value of  $k$ .

ii Find  $P(X < 2)$ ,  $P(X \leq 2)$ ,  $P(X \geq 2)$

- 8.5 A game consists of spinning an arrow which comes to rest pointing at one of the regions (1, 2 or 3) (Fig. 13.1). Are the outcomes 1, 2 and 3 equally likely to occur? Give reasons.

**Solution:**

- 8.6 Apoorv throws two dice once and computes the product of the numbers appearing on the dice. Peehu throws one die and squares the number that appears on it. Who has the better chance of getting the number 36? Why?

**Solution:**

- 8.7 6 boys and 6 girls sit in a row at random. The probability that all the girls sit together is

i  $\frac{1}{432}$

ii  $\frac{12}{431}$



iii  $\frac{1}{132}$

iv none of the above

- 8.8 A card is selected from a deck of 52 cards. The probability of its being a red face card is
- 8.9 A die is loaded in such a way that each odd number is twice as likely to occur as each even number. Find  $P(G)$ , where  $G$  is the event that a number greater than 3 occurs on a single roll of the die.
- 8.10 Determine the probability  $p$ , for each of following events.
- An odd number appears in a single roll of dice.
  - Atleast one head appears in two tosses of fair coin.
  - A king, 9 of hearts or 3 of spades appears in drawing a single card from a well shuffled deck of 52 cards.
  - The sum of 6 appears in single toss of a pair of fair dice.
- 8.11 Determine the probability  $p$ , for each of the following events.
- An odd number appears in a single toss of a fair die.
  - At least one head appears in two tosses of a fair coin.
  - A king, 9 of hearts, or 3 of spades appears in drawing a single card from a well shuffled ordinary deck of 52 cards.
  - The sum of 6 appears in a single toss of a pair of fair dice.
- 8.12 The probability distribution of a random variable  $X$  is given below:

$X$	0	1	2	3
$P(X)$	$k$	$\frac{k}{2}$	$\frac{k}{4}$	$\frac{k}{8}$

- Determine the value of  $k$ .
- Determine  $P(X \leq 2)$  and  $P(X > 2)$ .
- Find  $P(X \leq 2) + P(X > 2)$ .

**Solution:**

8.13

- 8.14 Three persons, A, B and C, fire at a target in turn, starting with A. Their probability of hitting the target are 0.4, 0.3 and 0.2 respectively. The probability of two hits is

- 0.024
- 0.188
- 0.336
- 0.452

**Solution:**

item If two events are independent, then

- they must be mutually exclusive
  - the sum of their probabilities must be equal to 1
  - (A) and (B) both are correct
  - None of the above is correct
- 8.15 Three letters are dictated to three persons and an envelope is addressed to each of

them, the letters are inserted into the envelopes at random so that each envelope contains exactly one letter. Find the probability that at least one letter is in its proper envelope.

## APPENDIX

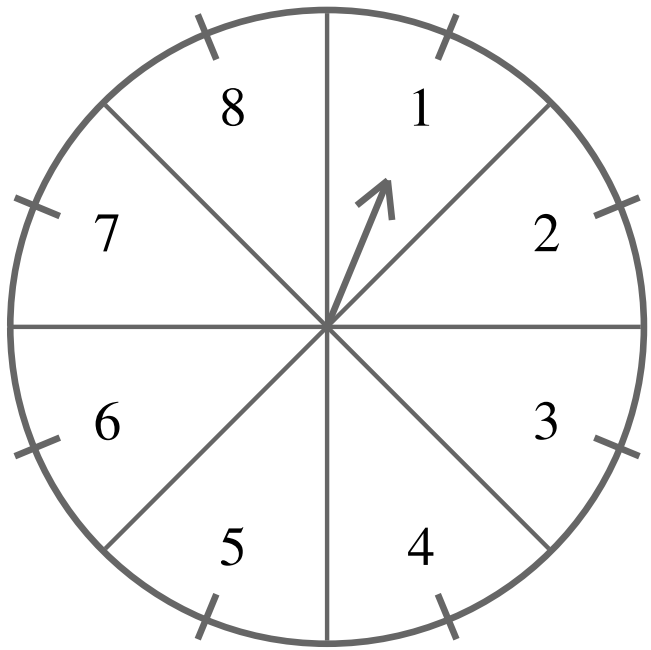


Fig. 5.3.1: Spinner

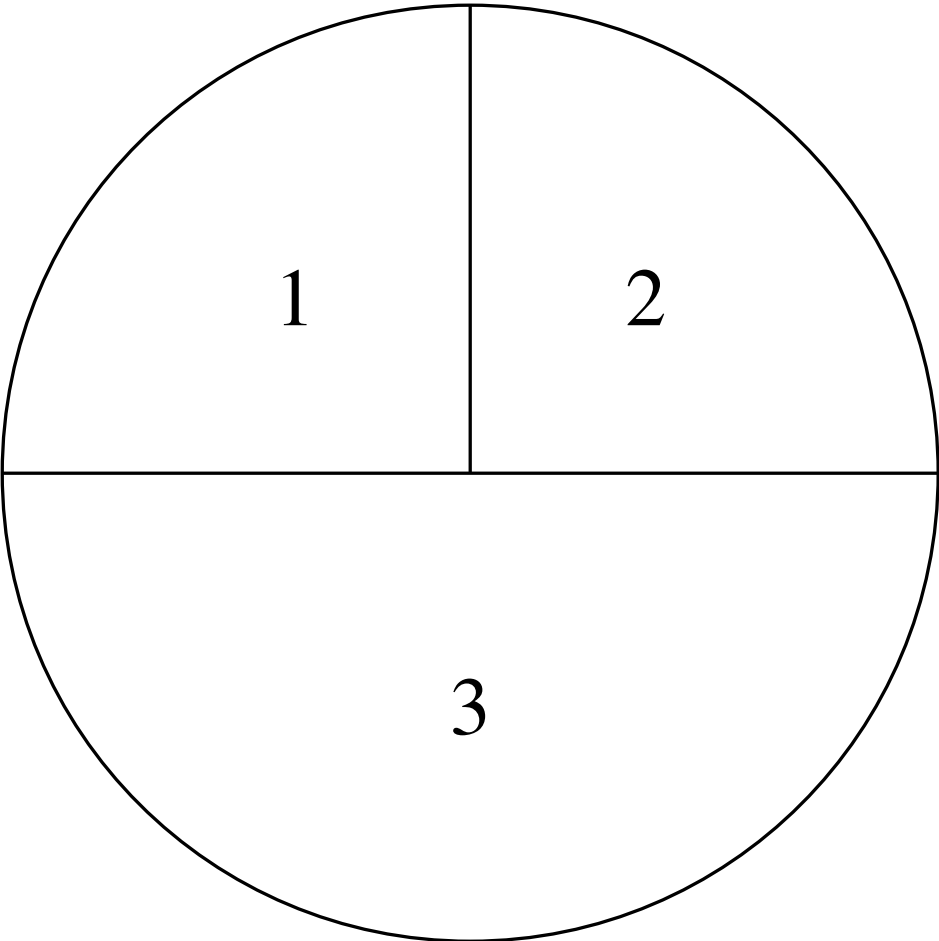


Fig. 8.5.1: Fig.13.1