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*Quiz 4 today  
Good luck!*



# 206 Discrete Structures II

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# Probabilities - Outline for this month

- Sample spaces and events
- Basics of probability
- Independence, conditional probability
- Random variables, expectation, variance

Basic building blocks

Intermediate

Advanced

# Probability – Last time and today...

- Experiment
  - Toss a fair coin 10 times
- Sample Space ( $\Omega$ )
  - All possible outcomes of the experiment
- Simple Event
  - Any element of the sample space
- Compound Event
  - Subsets of the sample space
- Probability Distribution - Axioms

# Probabilities

- Experiment
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- Event
  - Outcome(s) that you are interested in understanding

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# Probability - Sample Space

- Consider an experiment whose outcome *is not predictable with certainty*.
- However, although the outcome of the experiment will not be known in advance, let us suppose that *the set of all possible outcomes is known*.
- This set of all possible outcomes of an experiment is known as the **sample space** of the experiment and is denoted by  $S$ .

# Probability – Sample Space Examples

- If the outcome of an experiment consists of the determination of the gender of a newborn child, then

$$S = \{g, b\}$$

- If the experiment consists of flipping two coins, then the sample space consists of the following four points,

$$S = \{(H,H), (H,T), (T,H), (T,T)\}$$

- If the outcome of an experiment is the order of finish in a race among the 7 horses having post positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, then

$$S = \{\text{all } 7! \text{ Permutations of } (1,2,3,4,5,6,7)\}$$

# Probability – Sample Space Examples

- Toss a coin 10 times

$$\Omega = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (H, H, H, \dots, H) \\ (H, T, \dots) \\ (T, T, \dots, T) \end{array} \right\}, |\Omega| = 2^{10}$$



# Probability – Sample Space Examples

- Roll two dice

$$\Omega = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1,1), (1,2), \dots, (1,6) \\ (2,1), (2,2), \dots, (2,6) \\ \vdots \\ (6,1), (6,2), \dots, (6,6) \end{array} \right\}, \quad |\Omega| = 6 \cdot 6$$

# Probability – Sample Space Examples



Experiment: people vote

$$\Omega = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (H, H, \dots, H, T, \dots, T) \\ (T, T, \dots, T) \\ (H, H, H, T, \dots, T) \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\}, |\Omega| = 2^{350 \times 10^6}$$

# Probability – Sample Space Examples

- Toss a coin until you see a H

$$\Omega = \{H, TH, TTH, TTTH, \dots\}$$

$$|\Omega| = \infty$$

# Probability

- Experiment
  - Toss a fair coin 10 times
- Sample Space ( $\Omega$ )
  - All possible outcomes of the experiment
- Event
  - Outcome(s) that you are interested in understanding (or counting...)

# Probability – Events Examples

**Probability** is the likelihood that an **event** will occur.

- Toss a coin 10 times

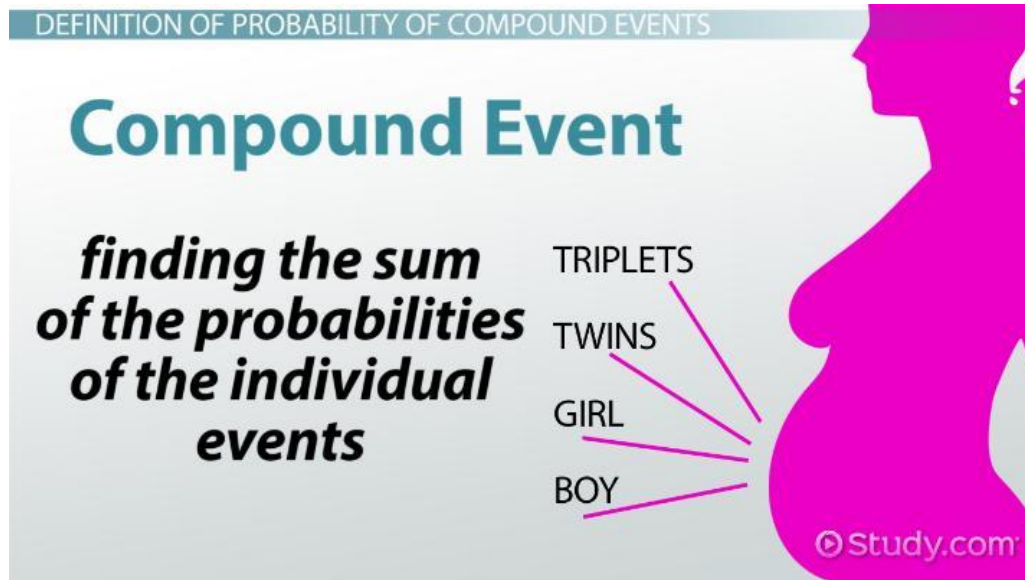
Any subset of  $\Omega$  is an Event.

# Events – Simple Event



- A **simple event** is an **event** where all possible outcomes are equally likely to occur.
- So the **probability** of **simple events** will have **all possible outcomes equally likely to happen or occur**.
- E.g., when you toss a coin, there are two possible outcomes – heads or tails, and the **probability** of heads or tails is equal.

# Events - Compound Event



- A **compound event** is one in which there is more than one possible outcome.
- Determining the **probability** of a **compound event** involves finding the sum of the **probabilities** of the individual **events** and, if necessary, removing any overlapping **probabilities**.

# Probability – Events Examples

- Toss a coin 10 times

Event 1: H appears 6 times

Compound Event



Event 2: only see heads

Simple Event



# Probability – Events Examples

- Roll two dice

$$\Omega = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1,1), (1,2), \dots, (1,6) \\ \vdots \\ (6,1), (6,2), \dots, (6,6) \end{array} \right\}$$

Simple Event : first die = 6, second die = 5  $\rightarrow (6,5)$

Compound Event : first die equals second die  
 $\rightarrow (1,1), (2,2), (3,3), \dots, (6,6)$

# Probability – Events Examples

- Toss a coin until you see a H.

Simple Event : Get an H on first try.

Compound Event : Don't get an H on first try.

# Events - Operations

- $A'$   $\longrightarrow$  Complement of  $A$
- $A \cap B$   $\longrightarrow$  intersection
- $A \cup B$   $\longrightarrow$  union

# Disjoint Events

- $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint events if  $A \cap B = \phi$

Roll 2 dice

—  $A$ : die 1 = 1, die 2 = 1

—  $B$ : die 1 = 2, die 2 = 2

$$A \cap B = \phi$$

—  $A$ : sum of dice = 2

—  $B$ : sum of dice = 3

$(1, 1)$

$(1, 2), (2, 1)$

$$A \cap B = \phi$$

# Probability

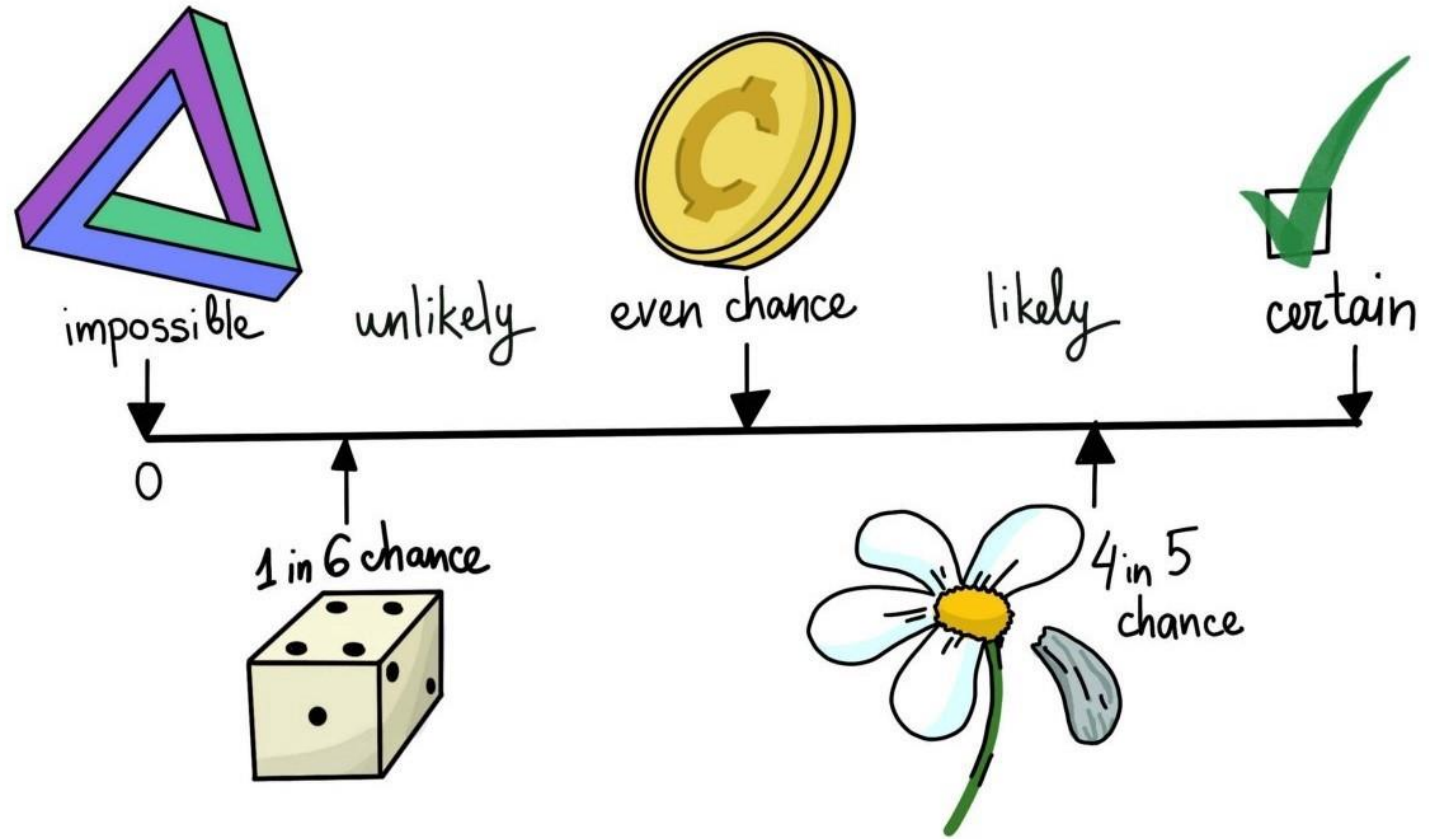
- Experiment
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- Probability Distribution - Axioms

# Probability

- Fix experiment and sample space  $\Omega$ .

A **probability distribution**  $P$  assigns a number  $P(A)$  to each event  $A$ .

- $P$  needs to satisfy certain basic axioms.

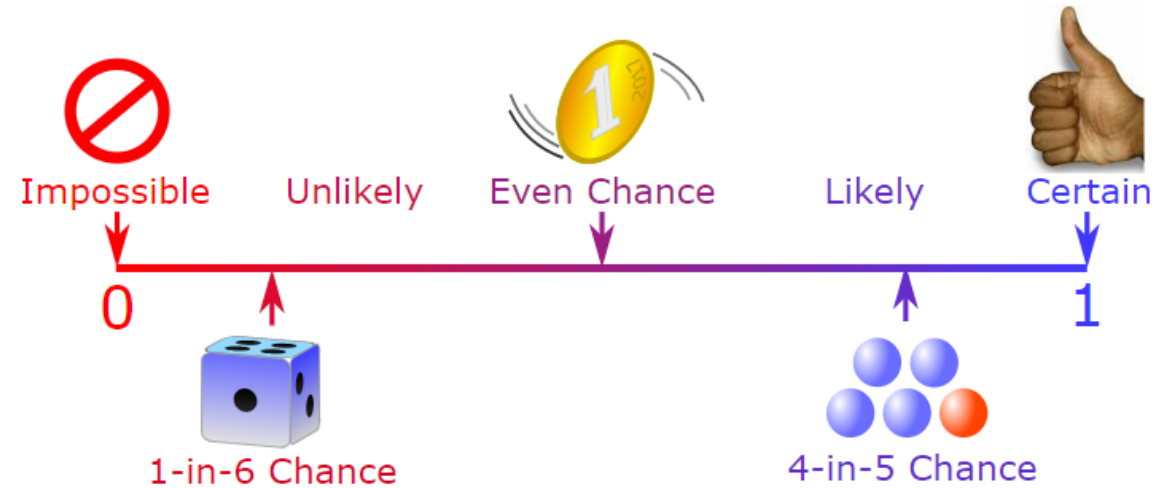


# Axioms of Probability

- $P(A) \geq 0$

- $P(\Omega) = 1$

- For a collection of disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$ 
  - $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$



Probability is always between 0 and 1

# Equally Likely Outcomes

Consider experiment and a finite sample space  $\Omega$

- For every **simple event**  $e \in \Omega$ , assign  $P(e) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|}$
- For every **compound event**  $A$ , assign  $P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|}$
- Then,  $P$  is a valid probability distribution.

(Proof on next slide)



# Equally Likely Outcomes

- Proof:
- $P(A) \geq 0$  since  $|A| \geq 0$
- $P(\Omega) = \frac{|\Omega|}{|\Omega|} = 1$
- Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  be disjoint events. Then
- $$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = \frac{|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{|A_1|}{|\Omega|} + \frac{|A_2|}{|\Omega|} + \dots = P(A_1) + P(A_2) \dots$$
- We have proved that all 3 axioms are true.

# Probability – Calculate it

- Toss a coin.

$$\Omega = \{H, T\}$$

For equally likely outcome

$$P(H) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(T) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{|A|}{2}$$

# Probability

- Roll two dice. For any compound event A, of size  $|A|$  ...

$$|N| = 36$$

For equally likely outcomes

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{36}$$

# More Implications – Prove it!

- $P(A') = 1 - P(A)$

—  $A$  and  $A'$  are disjoint

$$\Rightarrow P(A) + P(A') = P(A \cup A') = P(\Omega) = 1$$

# More Implications – Prove it!

- $P(A) \leq 1$

$$\text{— } P(A) + P(A') = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A) \leq 1$$

$$P(A') \leq 1$$

# More Implications

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

- Inclusion/Exclusion for Probabilities
- Extends to more than 2 Set S

# Union Bound

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

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B) \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Union bound} \\ \text{Boole's inequality} \end{array}$$

**5 min**  
**Take a Break**





# Interpretation of Probability

- For a collection of disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$ 
  - $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$

→ sum rule  
for  
probability

Interpretation of  $P(A)$

If  $P(A) = 0.6$

- If we repeat experiment  $N$  times ( $N$  is very large)
- Then the outcome will lie in  $A$ ,  $0.6N$  of the times

# Uniform Distribution

- A fair coin is tossed 100 times. What is the probability that we get exactly 50 heads.

$$\Omega \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} H, H, \dots, H \\ T, T, \dots, T \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad |\Omega| = 2^{100}$$

$$A \rightarrow \text{all outcomes with exactly 50 Heads}, \quad |A| = \binom{100}{50}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{\binom{100}{50}}{2^{100}}$$

# Uniform Distribution

- If we roll a white die and a black die (both fair), what is the probability that the sum is 7 or 11?

$A \rightarrow$  sum is 7

$B \rightarrow$  sum is 11

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cup B) &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) \\ &= P(A) + P(B) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} + \frac{|B|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{6}{36} + \frac{2}{36} = \frac{8}{36} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\Omega| = 36$$

$$|A| = \left| \{ (1,6), (6,1), (2,5), (5,2), (3,4), (4,3) \} \right| = 6$$

$$|B| = \left| \{ (6,5), (5,6) \} \right| = 2$$

# Uniform Distribution

- If we roll a white die and a black die (both fair), what is the probability that the sum is 7 **or die 1 is more than 3**?

$A \rightarrow$  sum is 7

$B \rightarrow$  die 1 more than 3

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

$$= \frac{|A|}{|S|} + \frac{|B|}{|S|} - \frac{|A \cap B|}{|S|} = \frac{6}{36} + \frac{18}{36} - \frac{3}{36}$$

$$|A| = 6$$

$$|B| = |\{(4,1), (5,1), (6,1), (4,2), (5,2), (6,2), (4,3), (5,3), (6,3), (4,4), (5,4), (6,4), (4,5), (5,5), (6,5), (4,6), (5,6), (6,6)\}| = 18$$

$$|A \cap B| = |\{(4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}| = 3$$

How many people are needed so that at least 2 of them have the same birthday, with probability above 95%?

