

Basic Probability.

Sample Space. A set S that consists of all possible outcomes of a random experiment is the sample space, and each outcome is a sample point.
e.g. dice roll is $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

If we toss a coin twice and use 0, 1 to represent outcomes the sample space is $\{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)\}$.

Finite Sample Space: Countably infinite sample space, also discrete sample space.

Events: An event is a subset A of sample space S . e.g. if we toss a coin twice and expect heads once, the subset is $\{(0, 1), (1, 0)\}$.

Empty set: The empty set \emptyset is the impossible event.

Set operations:

1. $A \cup B$ either A or B (union)
2. $A \cap B$ both A and B (intersection)
3. A' not A (complement of A).
4. $A - B = A \cap B'$ A but not B , also $A' = S - A$

Mutually exclusive: A and B are disjoint and $A \cap B = \emptyset$.

e.g. say at least one head occurs is " A " and " B " is the second toss is tail.

$$A = \{HT, TH, HH\}, B = \{HT, TT\}$$

$$\therefore A \cup B = \{HT, TH, HH, TT\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{HT\}$$

$$A' = \{TT\}$$

$$A - B = \{TH, HH\}$$

Estimate
probability:

If event can occur in h different ways, the probability of event is h/n

Frequency:

If after n repetitions of an experiment, where n is large, probability is h/n , the empirical probability.

Axioms:

1. For every event A in class C , $P(A) \geq 0$
2. For certain events S in C , $P(S) = 1$.
3. For mutually exclusive events A_1, A_2 in class C , $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$

Theorems:

1. $P(A_1) \leq P(A_2)$ and $P(A_2 - A_1) = P(A_2) - P(A_1)$
2. For every event A , $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$.
3. $P(\emptyset) = 0$
4. If A' is the complement of A then $P(A') = 1 - P(A)$.
5. If $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$, where A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are mutually exclusive then $P(A) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_n)$

Also, if $A = S$ then

$$P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_n) = 1$$

6. If A and B are any two events then $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$

More generally if A_1, A_2, A_3 are any three events then

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3) &= P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(A_3) \\ &\quad - P(A_1 \cap A_2) - P(A_2 \cap A_3) - P(A_3 \cap A_1) \\ &\quad + P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3). \end{aligned}$$

7. For any events $P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B')$

Example:

2 or 5 on roll of die: assign equal probabilities $P(1) = P(2) = \dots = P(6) = 1/6$
 $P(2 \cup 5) = P(2) + P(5) = 1/3$.

Conditional
Probability:

$P(B|A)$ = "probability of B given A has occurred"

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} \quad \text{or} \quad P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B|A).$$

Example:

Probability single toss of die is number less than 4 if (a). no other info and (b) it is given that the toss resulted in an odd number.

(a). Let B denote event {less than 4}

$$P(B) = P(1) + P(2) + P(3) = 1/2$$

(b). Let A = {odd number}

$$P(A) = 1/2 \text{ and } P(A \cap B) = 1/3$$

$$\therefore P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{1/3}{1/2} = 2/3.$$

Theorems:

1. For any three events A_1, A_2, A_3 :

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1)P(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2)$$

$$2. P(A) = P(A_1)P(A|A_1) + P(A_2)P(A|A_2) + \dots + P(A_n)P(A|A_n)$$

Independent

Events:

If $P(B|A) = P(B)$ i.e B not affected by A then A and B are independent events.

e.g. $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

A_1, A_2, A_3 are pairwise independent if $P(A_j \cap A_k) = P(A_j)P(A_k)$, $j \neq k$.

and $P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3)$.

Bayes Theorem:

Suppose A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are mutually exclusive. If A is any event we have:

$$P(A_k | A) = \frac{P(A_k)P(A|A_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^n P(A_j)P(A|A_j)}$$

i.e. the probability of events A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n that cause A to occur.

Permutations:

Given n distinct objects arranged in r ways, there are n ways of choosing the 1st object, n-1 ways of choosing the 2nd object and n-r+1 ways of choosing the rth.

$$nPr = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots (n-r+1)$$

in the particular case where $r=n$, $nPr = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 1 = n!$

$$nPr = n! / (n-r)!$$

Example:

Number of arrangements of 3 letters from A, B, C, D, E, F, G:

$$7P_3 = 7! / 3! = 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 = 210.$$

Theorem:

Suppose a set S of n objects of which n_1 are of one type, n_2 of another, and n_k of the k th type, here $n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$:

$$nPr_1, r_2, \dots, r_k = n! / n_1! n_2! \dots n_k!$$

Example:

The number of different permutations of MISSISSIPPI which has 1M, 4Is, 4S and 2Ps:

$$11! / 1! 4! 4! 2! = 34,650.$$

Combinations:

A permutation is about order and arrangement, but combinations ignores order.

$$\binom{n}{r} = nCr = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} = \frac{n(n-1) \dots (n-r+1)}{r!} = \frac{nPr}{r!}$$

Also, $\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n}{n-r}$ or $nCr = nC_{n-r}$

Example:

$$8C_3 = \binom{8}{3} = 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 / 3! = 56.$$

Binomial

Coefficient:

$$(x+y)^n = x^n + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} y^n.$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y)^4 &= x^4 + \binom{4}{1} x^3 y + \binom{4}{2} x^2 y^2 + \binom{4}{3} x y^3 + \binom{4}{4} y^4 \\ &= x^4 + 4x^3 y + 6x^2 y^2 + 4x y^3 + y^4. \end{aligned}$$

Stirling's

When n is large and direct evaluation of $n!$ is impractical:

Approximation:

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi n} n^n e^{-n} \quad \text{where } e = 2.71828 \dots$$