



Computer Sciences Dept.

Midterm Exam (Fall 2023/2024)

MATH204 – Probability and Statistics I

Code: EXM-FR 01/1
ED:2.1

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Exam Time: 1h 15 min		Grade:/100

Exercise 1: (27 pts)

We roll a die three times. At each time, we note the obtained number. At the end of the experiment, we obtain a number of 3 digits.

For instance, if we obtain first a 3, then a 2 and finally a 6, then the obtained number is 326.

- How many numbers can be obtained at the end of the experiment?
- How many of these numbers is even?
- How many of these numbers is greater than 400?
- How many of these numbers is less than 200?
- How many of these numbers is at least equal to 352?
- How many of these numbers contains a 1 followed by a 6?

Solution:

- $6 \times 6 \times 6 = 216$ (5)
- $6 \times 6 \times 3 = 108$: The last number must be 2, 4 or 6. (5)
- $3 \times 6 \times 6 = 108$: The first number must be 4, 5 or 6. (5)
- $1 \times 6 \times 6 = 36$: The first number must be 1. (5)
- $(1 \times 1 \times 5) + (1 \times 1 \times 6) + (3 \times 6 \times 6) = 119$: The number has three possibilities: $35x$, where x is one of the numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 - $36x$, where x is one of the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 - xyz , where x is one of the numbers 4, 5 or 6 and y and z may be any number. (2)
- $(1 \times 1 \times 6) + (6 \times 1 \times 1) = 12$: The number has two possibilities: $16x$ or $x16$. (5)

Exercise 2: (23 pts)

An urn contains:

Four red balls numbered 0, 0, 1, 2

Three blue balls numbered 0, 1, 1

And, two white balls numbered 1, 2

We draw randomly and simultaneously two balls from the urn. Consider the following events:

A: "The two balls have the same color"

B: "The two balls have the same number"

C: "The sum of the two numbers of the balls is 2"

D: "The product of the two numbers of the balls is 0"

Calculate $P(A)$, $P(B)$, $P(C)$, $P(D)$ and $P(A \cup B)$.

Solution:

$$|\Omega| = \binom{9}{2},$$

$$|A| = \binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{2}{2},$$

$$|B| = \binom{3}{2} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{2}{2},$$

$$|C| = \binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{1} \binom{2}{1},$$

$$|D| = \binom{3}{1} \binom{6}{1} + \binom{3}{2},$$

$$|A \cap B| = \binom{2}{2} + \binom{2}{2}$$

$$\text{Then, } P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{\binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{2}{2}}{\binom{9}{2}} \quad (5)$$

$$P(B) = \frac{\binom{3}{2} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{2}{2}}{\binom{9}{2}} \quad (5)$$

$$P(C) = \frac{\binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{1} \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{9}{2}} \quad (5)$$

$$P(D) = \frac{\binom{3}{1} \binom{6}{1} + \binom{3}{2}}{\binom{9}{2}} \quad (5)$$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) = \frac{\binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{2}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{2}{2} - \binom{2}{2} - \binom{2}{2}}{\binom{9}{2}} \quad (3)$$

Exercise 3: (12 pts)

A set of 3 red balls, 3 green balls, and 3 yellow balls has to be distributed into three boxes labeled A , B and C .

- What is the total number of ways to distribute these balls.
- Calculate the probability that the box A contains the 3 red balls.
- Calculate the probability that the box A contains the 3 red balls, the box B contains the 3 green balls, and the box C contains the 3 yellow balls.
- Calculate the probability that each box contains 3 balls of same color.

Solution:

a. $|\Omega| = \binom{9}{3,3,3} = 1680$ (3)

b. $\frac{\binom{3}{3}\binom{6}{3,3}}{\binom{9}{3,3,3}} = \frac{1}{84}$ (3)

c. $\frac{\binom{3}{3}\binom{3}{3}\binom{3}{3}}{\binom{9}{3,3,3}} = \frac{1}{1680}$ (3)

d. $\frac{\binom{3}{3}\binom{3}{3}\binom{3}{3} \times 3!}{\binom{9}{3,3,3}} = \frac{3}{560}$ (3)

Exercise 4: (14 pts)

Three events A , B and C are such that $P(A) = 0.4$, $P(B) = 0.7$, $P(C) = 0.2$, $P(\overline{A} \cap \overline{B}) = 0.18$ and $P(A \cup C) = 0.5$.

- Show that A and B are independent events.
- Calculate $P(A \cap \overline{B})$ and $P(A|C)$.

Solution:

a. $P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - (1 - P(\overline{A} \cup \overline{B})) = P(A) + P(B) - 1 + P(\overline{A} \cap \overline{B}) = 0.4 + 0.7 - 1 + 0.18 = 0.28 = P(A) \times P(B)$, so A and B are independent. (6)

b. $P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap \overline{B})$, then $P(A \cap \overline{B}) = P(A) - P(A \cap B) = 0.4 - 0.28 = 0.12$ (4)

$$P(A|C) = \frac{P(A \cap C)}{P(C)} = \frac{P(A) + P(C) - P(A \cup C)}{P(C)} = \frac{0.4 + 0.2 - 0.5}{0.2} = 0.5 \quad (4)$$

Exercise 5: (24 pts)

A. The faces of a coin are numbered 1 and 2. We flip the coin two successive times.

Consider the following events:

S_2 : "The sum of the two appeared numbers is 2"

S_3 : "The sum of the two appeared numbers is 3"

S_4 : "The sum of the two appeared numbers is 4"

Calculate $P(S_2)$, $P(S_3)$ and $P(S_4)$.

B. A box contains 3 red cards and 5 black cards. A game consists of flipping the coin whose faces are numbered 1 and 2 two successive times, then to draw, simultaneously, a number of cards from the box equal to the sum of the two numbers. We consider the following event:

R : "Exactly one red card is drawn from the box"

a. Calculate $P(R|S_2)$ and deduce $P(R \cap S_2)$.

b. Calculate $P(R)$.

c. Knowing that exactly one red ball is drawn, what is the probability that the two faces of the flipped coin were numbered 2?

Solution:

A. $P(S_2) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} (1 + 1) \text{ (4)}$

$$P(S_3) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + 2 \text{ or } 2 + 1) \text{ (4)}$$

$$P(S_4) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} (2 + 2) \text{ (4)}$$

B.

a. $P(R|S_2) = \frac{\binom{3}{1}\binom{5}{1}}{\binom{8}{2}} = \frac{15}{28} \text{ (3)}$

$$P(R \cap S_2) = P(R|S_2)P(S_2) = \frac{15}{28} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{15}{112} \text{ (3)}$$

b. $P(R) = P(R \cap S_2) + P(R \cap S_3) + P(R \cap S_4) = \frac{15}{112} + \frac{\binom{3}{1}\binom{5}{2}}{\binom{8}{3}} \times \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\binom{3}{1}\binom{5}{3}}{\binom{8}{4}} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{15}{112} + \frac{15}{56} + \frac{3}{28} = \frac{54}{112} = \frac{27}{56} \text{ (3)}$

c. $P(S_4|R) = \frac{P(S_4 \cap R)}{P(R)} = \frac{\frac{3}{28}}{\frac{27}{56}} = \frac{2}{9} \text{ (3)}$

Bonus exercise: (≤ 5)

A game consists of flipping a coin, successively, many times. The game stops when obtaining a tail for the first time. What is the minimum number of flips for which the probability to attain is less than 1%?

Solution:

Let n be the number of flips when stopping, and let S_n be the event of stopping after n flips.

$$\text{Then, } P(S_n) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \dots \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2^n}$$

We have:

$$P(S_n) < \frac{1}{100}$$

$$\frac{1}{2^n} < \frac{1}{100}$$

$$2^n > 100$$

$$n \ln 2 > \ln 100$$

$$n > \frac{\ln 100}{\ln 2} = 6.6$$

Thus, the minimum number of flips is 7.