

7.1 An Introduction to Discrete Probability

ch. 7.1 1, 3, 24(a), 33

1. What is the probability that a card selected at random from a standard deck of 52 cards is an ace?

4 of the deck of cards are aces.

$$\frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13} \approx 7.7\%$$

3. What is the probability that a randomly selected integer chosen from the first 100 positive integers is odd?

Among the first 100 positive integers, there are exactly 50 odd.

$$50 / 100 = \frac{1}{2}$$

24. Find the probability of winning a lottery by selecting the correct six integers, where the order in which these integers are selected does not matter, from the positive integers not exceeding

a) 30.

$${}_nC_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\binom{30}{6}} &= \frac{1}{{}_{30}C_6} = \frac{1}{\frac{30!}{(30-6)!6!}} = \frac{24!6!}{30!} = \frac{\cancel{24!}6!}{30 \cdot 29 \cdot 28 \cdot 27 \cdot 26 \cdot 25 \cdot \cancel{24!}} \\ &= \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{30 \cdot 29 \cdot 28 \cdot 27 \cdot 26 \cdot 25} \\ &\approx 0.000001684 \end{aligned}$$

33. What is the probability that Abby, Barry, and Sylvia win the first, second, and third prizes, respectively, in a drawing if 200 people enter a contest and

- a) no one can win more than one prize.
- b) winning more than one prize is allowed.

a) There are $200 \cdot 199 \cdot 198$ equally likely outcomes of the drawings only one of these do Abby, Barry and Sylvia win the 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes, respectively.

$$\frac{1}{200 \cdot 199 \cdot 198} = \frac{1}{7880400}$$

b) There are $200 \cdot 200 \cdot 200$ equally likely outcomes of the drawings only one of these do Abby, Barry and Sylvia win the 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes, respectively.

$$\frac{1}{200 \cdot 200 \cdot 200} = \frac{1}{8,000,000}$$

7.2 Probability Theory

Ch. 7.2 1, 3, 23

1. What probability should be assigned to the outcome of heads when a biased coin is tossed, if heads is three times as likely to come up as tails? What probability should be assigned to the outcome of tails?

$$\text{Given: } P(H) = 3P(T) \\ P(H) + P(T) = 1$$

$$3P(T) + P(T) = 1$$

$$4P(T) = 1$$

$$P(T) = \frac{1}{4} \longrightarrow \text{probability of tail}$$

$$P(H) + \frac{1}{4} = 1$$

$$P(H) = 1 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(H) = \frac{3}{4} \longrightarrow \text{probability of heads}$$

3. Find the probability of each outcome when a biased die is rolled, if rolling a 2 or rolling a 4 is three times as likely as rolling each of the other four numbers on the die and it is equally likely to roll a 2 or a 4.

Let denote by t the probability that a 2 or 4 appears.

$(1-t)$ is the probability that some other number appears.

$$t = 3(1-t)$$

$$t = 3 - 3t$$

$$4t = 3$$

$$t = \frac{3}{4}$$

we assume from the statement of the problem that 2 and 4 are equally likely.

\Rightarrow each of them must have probability $\frac{3}{8}$.

\Rightarrow each of other numbers (1, 3, 5, or 6) must have probability $\frac{(1-t)}{4}$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{(1-\frac{3}{4})}{4} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16}$

23. What is the conditional probability that exactly four heads appear when a fair coin is flipped five times, given that the first flip came up heads?

There are 16 equally likely outcomes of flipping a fair coin five times in which the first flip comes up heads

H H H H T

H H H T H

H H T H H

H T H H H

=> By the definition of conditional probability:

$$\frac{4}{16} = \frac{1}{4}$$