

P1 - Probability

STAT 5870 (Engineering)
Iowa State University

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Probability - Interpretation

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- **Relative frequency**: Probability is the proportion of times the event occurs as the number of times the event is attempted tends to infinity.

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Interpretations:

- **Relative frequency**: Probability is the proportion of times the event occurs as the number of times the event is attempted tends to infinity.
- **Personal belief**: Probability is a statement about your personal belief in the event occurring.

Probability - Example

Let C be a successful connection to the internet from a laptop event.

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From our experience with the wireless network and our internet service provider, we believe the probability we successfully connect is 90 %.

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We write $P(C) = 0.9$.

*To be able to work with probabilities, in particular, to be able to compute **probabilities of events**, a mathematical foundation is necessary.*

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The **sample space**, Ω , is the set of all outcomes of an experiment.

Set - examples

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- $2 \in \Omega$
- $1 \notin \Omega$
- $\{2, 3, 4\} \subset \Omega$

Set comparison, operations, terminology

For the following $A, B \subseteq \Omega$ where Ω is the implied universe of all elements under study,

1. **Union** (\cup): A union of events is an event consisting of all the outcomes in these events.

$$A \cup B = \{\omega \mid \omega \in A \text{ or } \omega \in B\}$$

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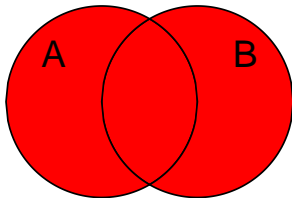
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4. **Set difference** ($A \setminus B$): All elements in A that are not in B , i.e.

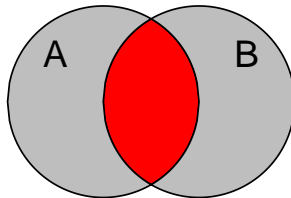
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Venn diagrams

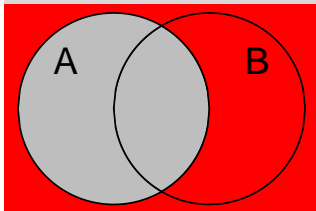
union



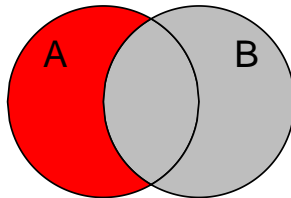
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- $B \setminus A = \{2, 4\}$

Set comparison, operations, terminology (cont.)

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8. **De Morgan's Laws**:

$$(A \cup B)^C = A^C \cap B^C \quad \text{and} \quad (A \cap B)^C = A^C \cup B^C$$

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so, by example,

$$(A \cup B)^C = A^C \cap B^C.$$

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- (i) $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$ for all A
- (ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$.
- (iii) if A_1, A_2, \dots are pairwise disjoint events (i.e. $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ for all $i \neq j$) then

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) &= P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots \\ &= \sum_i P(A_i). \end{aligned}$$

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Whether or not a particular model is realistic is different question.

Example: Draw a single card from a standard deck of playing cards: $\Omega = \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$ Two different, equally valid probability models are:

Model 1

$$P(\Omega) = 1$$

$$P(\text{red}) = 0.5$$

$$P(\text{black}) = 0.5$$

Model 2

$$P(\Omega) = 1$$

$$P(\text{red}) = 0.3$$

$$P(\text{black}) = 0.7$$

Kolmogorov's Axioms (cont.)

These are the basic rules of operation of a probability model

- every valid model must obey these,
- any system that does, is a valid model.

Whether or not a particular model is realistic is different question.

Example: Draw a single card from a standard deck of playing cards: $\Omega = \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$ Two different, equally valid probability models are:

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Mathematically, both schemes are equally valid.

But, of course, our real world experience would prefer model 1 over model 2.

Useful Consequences of Kolmogorov's Axioms

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- Addition Rule of Probability

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

- If $A \subseteq B$, then $P(A) \leq P(B)$.

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$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A).$$

Random CPUs

A box has 500 CPUs with a speed of 1.8 GHz and 500 with a speed of 2.0 GHz. The numbers of good (G) and defective (D) CPUs at the two different speeds are as shown below.

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Then

- $P(S) = 500/1000 = 0.5$
- $P(S \cap D) = 20/1000 = 0.02$.
- $P(D|S) = P(S \cap D)/P(S) = 0.02/0.5 = 0.04$.

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Example: In two tosses of a coin, the result of the first toss does not affect the probability of the second toss being heads.

WiFi example

In trying to connect my laptop to the internet, I need

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Since we have independence, we know

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \times P(B) = 0.9 \times 0.6 = 0.54.$$

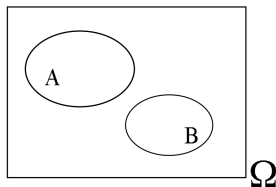
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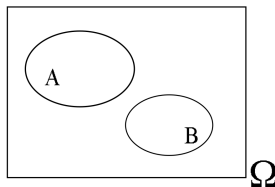
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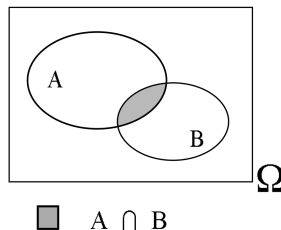


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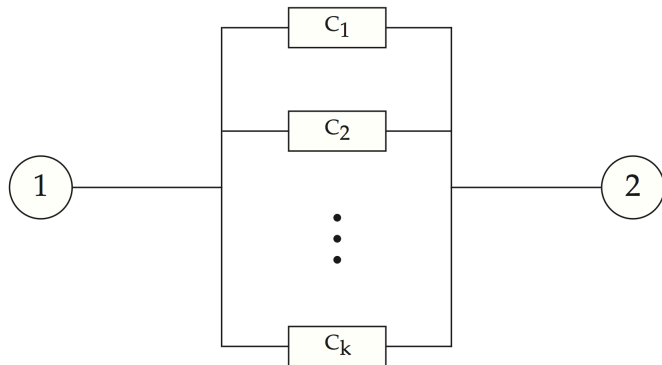


If A and B are independent events, the probability of their intersection can be computed as the product of their individual probabilities:

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$$

Parallel system - Definition

A **parallel** system consists of K components c_1, \dots, c_K arranged in such a way that the system works if **at least one** of the K components functions properly.

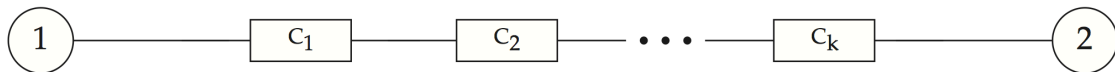


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Reliability - Definition

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Example: The reliability of the WiFi-ISP network (assuming independence) is 0.54.

Reliability of parallel systems with independent components

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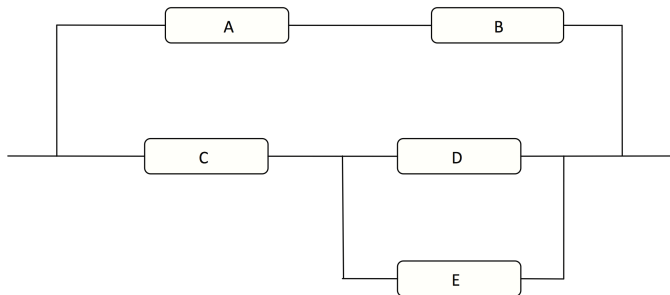
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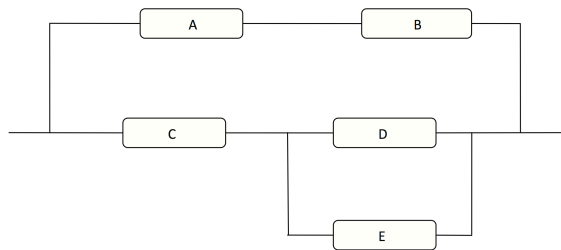
Reliability example

Each component in the system shown below is operable with probability 0.92 independently of other components. Calculate the reliability.



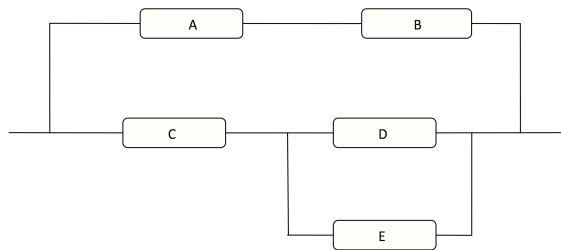
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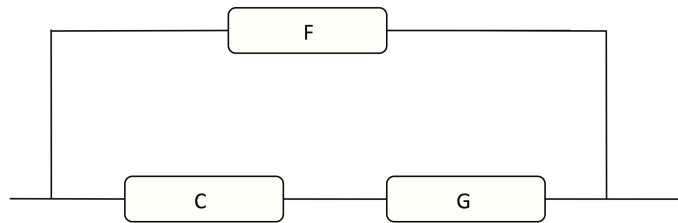
Each component in the system shown below is operable with probability 0.92 independently of other components. Calculate the reliability.



1. Serial components A and B can be replaced by a component F that operates with probability $P(A \cap B) = (0.92)^2 = 0.8464$.
2. Parallel components D and E can be replaced by component G that operates with probability $P(D \cup E) = 1 - (1 - 0.92)^2 = 0.9936$.

Reliability example (cont.)

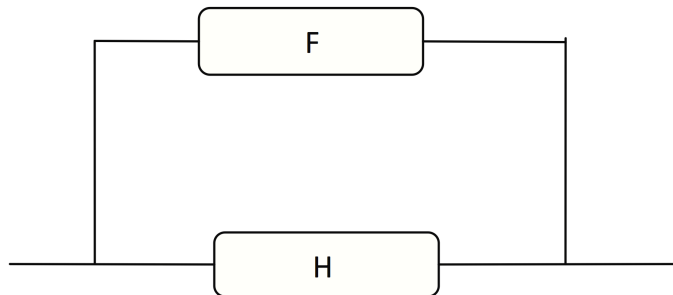
Updated circuit:



3. Serial components C and G can be replaced by a component H that operates with probability $P(C \cap G) = (0.92)(0.9936) = 0.9141$.

Reliability example (cont.)

Updated circuit:



4. Parallel components F and H are in parallel, so the reliability of the system is
- $$P(F \cup H) = 1 - (1 - 0.8464)(1 - 0.9141) \approx 0.99.$$

Partition

Definition

A collection of events B_1, \dots, B_K is called a **partition** (or **cover**) of Ω if

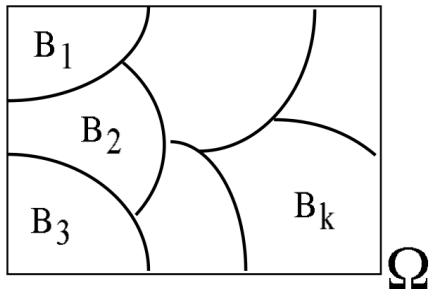
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- the union of the events is Ω (i.e., $\bigcup_{k=1}^K B_k = \Omega$).



Example

Consider the sum of two 6-sided die, i.e.

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- any A and A^C where $A \subseteq \Omega$

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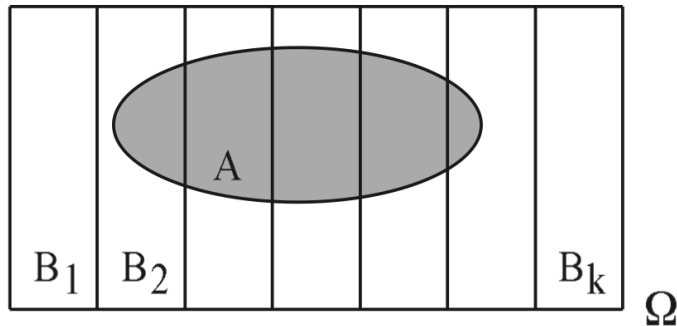
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Law of Total Probability - Graphically



Law of Total Probability - Example

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In the come out roll of craps, you win if the roll is a 7 or 11. By the law of total probability, the probability you win is

$$P(\text{Win}) = \sum_{i=2}^{12} P(\text{Win}|i)P(i) = P(7) + P(11)$$

since $P(\text{Win}|i) = 1$ if $i = 7, 11$ and 0 otherwise.

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$$\begin{aligned} P(B_k|A) &= \frac{P(A \cap B_k)}{P(A)} && \text{conditional probability} \\ &= \frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{P(A)} && \text{conditional probability} \\ &= \frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^K P(A|B_k)P(B_k)} && \text{Law of Total Probability} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}P(7|\text{Win}) &= \frac{P(\text{Win}|7)P(7)}{\sum_{i=2}^{12} P(\text{Win}|i)P(i)} \\&= \frac{P(7)}{P(7)+P(11)}.\end{aligned}$$

Bayes' Rule: CPU testing example

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If the test device says the CPU is defective, what is the probability that the CPU is actually defective?

CPU testing (cont.)

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 &= \frac{0.94 \times 0.02}{0.94 \times 0.02 + [1 - 0.95] \times [1 - 0.02]} \\
 &= 0.28
 \end{aligned}$$

Probability Summary

- Probability Interpretation
- Sets and set operations
- Kolmogorov's Axioms
- Conditional Probability
- Independence
- Reliability
- Law of Total Probability
- Bayes' Rule