

## How to approach a Probability Problem:-

Step 0 :- Identify the Random Experiment.

Step 1 :- Identify the Sample Space. ( $\Omega$ )

Step 2 :- Identify the event of interest

Step 3 :- Calculate the probability of each member of the sample space

Step 4 :- Calculate the probability of the event of interest.

What is the probability the 2 people in a class of 105 have the same birthday?

Random Experiment:

Pick a Seq. of 105 numbers between 1 to 365 independently and uniformly at random

Sample Space:-

$$\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, 365\}^{105}$$

Event of interest:

$$E = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \Omega : \exists i, j (i \neq j) \wedge (x_i = x_j)\}$$

$\bar{E}$  = set of all sequences where no 2 entries are the same.

Probability of each outcome

$$P(\bar{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{365}\right)^{105} \text{ for every } \bar{x} \in \Omega$$

Probability of event:

$$P(E) = |E| \cdot P(\bar{x}) = \frac{|E|}{(365)^{105}} = 1 - P(\bar{E})$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{E}) &= \frac{|\bar{E}|}{(365)^{105}} \\ &= \frac{365}{(365)^{105}} \\ &= \frac{(365)(364)!}{(260)!(365)^{105}} \\ &= \frac{(364) \dots (259)}{(365) \dots (365)}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $n = 365$ ,  $k = 105$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{E}) &= \frac{n^k}{n^k} \\ &= \frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{n-(k-1)}{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 1 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{k-1}{n}\right) \\
 &\leq e^{-\frac{1}{n}} e^{-\frac{2}{n}} \cdots e^{-\frac{k-1}{n}} \\
 P(\bar{E}) &\leq e^{-\frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{k(k-1)}{2}\right)} \leq e^{-\frac{k^2}{2n}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Putting values back in

$$P(\bar{E}) \leq e^{-\frac{1}{365} \left(\frac{105 \cdot 104}{2}\right)}$$

$$1 - P(E) \leq e^{-\frac{1}{365} \left(\frac{105 \cdot 104}{2}\right)}$$

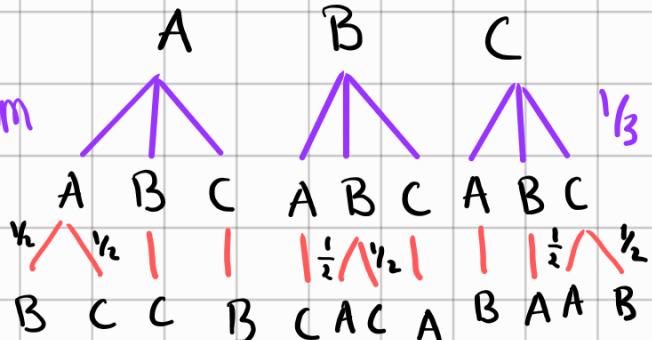
$$P(E) \geq 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{365} \left(\frac{105 \cdot 104}{2}\right)}$$

## Monty Hall Problem:-

① Host randomly picks a door at random.



② Contestant picks a door at random



③ Host opens an empty door

$$\Omega = \{AAB, AAC, ABC, ACB, BAC, BBA, BBC, BCA, CAB, CBA, CCA, CCB\}$$

$E$  = When staying wins.

$$= \left\{ AAB, AAC, BBA, BBC, CCA, CCB \right\} \rightarrow P(E) \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{18}$$

$$P(E) = \left( \frac{1}{18} \right) 6 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(\bar{E}) = \frac{2}{3}$$

Coin tossing problem: (LLM)

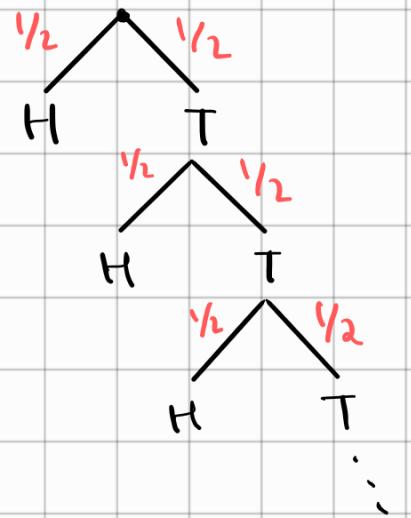
$E$  - First player wins

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

$$E = \{H, T^2H, T^4H, \dots\}$$

$$P(T^k H) = \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}$$

$$P(E) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{32} + \dots = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1 - \frac{1}{4}} = \frac{2}{3},$$



3 Match Series:

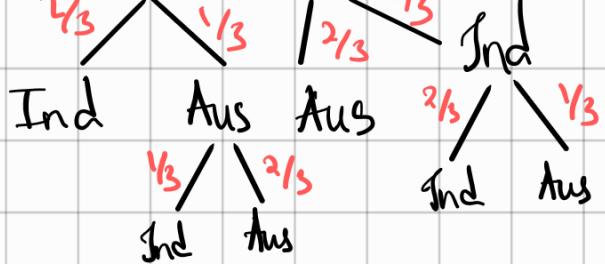
If a team wins a match, the probability that they win the next match increases to  $\frac{2}{3}$

$E$  - First team wins



$$P(E) = \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{7}{9}$$



## Definitions:-

\* A **discrete probability space** is a pair  $(\Omega, p)$  where  $\Omega$  is a countable set and  $p$  is a function from  $\Omega$  to  $[0,1]$  such that

$$\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega) = 1$$

- (a)  $\Omega$  is called the **sample space**
- (b)  $p$  is called the **probability mass function**.
- (c) Any subset of  $\Omega$  is called an **event**.
- (d) We extend  $p: \Omega \rightarrow [0,1]$  to a fn.

$$P: 2^\Omega \rightarrow [0,1] \text{ by}$$

$[2^\Omega$  is the powerset of  $\Omega]$

$$P(E) = \sum_{\omega \in E} p(\omega) \text{ for every } E \subseteq \Omega$$

P is called the **probability function**.

## Some properties of P.

$$(i) P(\Omega) = 1$$

$$(ii) P(\emptyset) = 0$$

$$(iii) (A \subseteq B) \rightarrow (P(A) \leq P(B))$$

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

$$(v) P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$$

**[Special case of inclusion exclusion principle]**

## Common pmf's:-

i)  $P$

ii)  $\delta$

iii)  $\pi$

iv)  $\lambda$

$$P(\Omega) = \alpha$$

(i) Binoulli-d :  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}$ .  $p(1) = \alpha$

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

(ii) Uniform :  $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .  $p(x) = \frac{1}{n} \forall x \in \Omega$

(iii) Binomial :  $\Omega = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$   $p(k) = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \alpha^k (1-\alpha)^{n-k} \forall k \in \Omega$

(iv) Geometric :  $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$   $p(i) = (1-\alpha) \alpha^{i-1} \forall i \in \Omega$

(v) Poisson :  $\Omega = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$   $p(i) = e^{-\lambda} \left[ \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \right] \forall i \in \Omega$

(vi) Generalized Binomial :  $\Omega = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

$$p(k) = \binom{n}{k} \alpha^k (1-\alpha)^{n-k} \forall k \in \Omega$$

## \* Conditional Probability:

If A and B are events on the same probability space  $(\Omega, P)$  and  $P(B) \neq 0$ ,

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

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

$$P_B(-) = P(-|B)$$

$$P_B : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

$$P_B(w) = \begin{cases} \frac{P(w)}{P(B)} ; w \in B \\ 0 ; w \notin B \end{cases}$$

## \* Law of Total Probability:

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(E_i) P(E_i|A)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Medical test :-

A = A tested person has cancer

B = The person's test comes +ve

\* 1 in 1000 people have cancer

\* Test is 99% accurate.

$$\begin{aligned} P(A|B) &= \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A) \cdot P(A)}{P(B|A) \cdot P(A) + P(B|\bar{A}) \cdot P(\bar{A})} \quad [\text{True positive}] \\ &= \frac{\frac{99}{100} \cdot \frac{1}{1000}}{\frac{99}{100} \cdot \frac{1}{1000} + \frac{1}{100} \cdot \frac{999}{1000}} \\ &= \frac{99}{1098} = \frac{11}{122} \approx 9\%. \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Generally, medical tests talk with false positives and false negative for better clarity. This is because a test can be 99.9% accurate by just saying No all the time, given it is for a sufficiently rare disease.

\* Bayes Rule:

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

→ Law of total probability.

\* Independence:

⇒ We say 2 events from a probability space ( $\Omega, \mathcal{P}$ ) are independent if

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

e.g.: For a 6 sided die,  $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $P$ -uniform

$$A = \{3, 6\} \quad B = \{2, 4, 6\} \Rightarrow A \cap B = \{6\}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$P(A) = \frac{1}{3} \quad P(B) = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$\equiv$

$\Rightarrow$  We say events  $A, B, C$  are mutually independent if

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

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

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

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

### \* Mutual Independence:

Events  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  over the probability space  $(\Omega, P)$  are said to be mutually independent if for every subcollection of events, the probability of the intersection is equal to the product of the individual probabilities.

$$\forall I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i\right) = \prod_{i \in I} P(A_i)$$

3 fair coins

$$\Omega = \{\text{HHH}, \dots, \text{TTT}\}$$

$$A_{12} = \{ \text{first \& second toss match} \} \quad P(A_{12}) = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\{ \text{HHT, HHH, TTT, TTH} \}$$

$$A_{23} = \text{Toss 2 = Toss 3}$$

$$A_{31} = \text{Toss 3 = Toss 1}$$

$$P(A_{13}) = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(A_{31}) = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$A_{12} \cap A_{23} = \{TTT, HHH\} \quad P(A_{12} \cap A_{23}) = \frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= P(A_{12})P(A_{23})$$

$A_{12}, A_{23}, A_{31}$  are pair-wise independent

$$P(\underbrace{A_{12} \cap A_{23} \cap A_{31}}_{\{HHH, TTT\}}) = \frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{4} \neq P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3)$$

∴  $P_{\text{canon}}$

$$\Omega = \{HH, \dots, TT\}$$

$$A_1 = \{HT, HH\} \quad (\text{Tails is Head}) \quad P(A_1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$A_2 = \{HH, TH\} \quad (\text{Tails is Head}) \quad P(A_1 \cap A_2) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$A_3 = \{HT, TT\} \quad (\text{Tails = Tails}) \quad P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\Omega = \{6, 12, 15, 45, 10, 20\} \quad P_{\text{uniform}}$$

$$A_2 = \text{multiples of } 2 \text{ in } \Omega = \{6, 12, 10, 20\}$$

$$A_3 = \dots \quad 3 \dots \quad \{6, 12, 15, 45\}$$

$$A_5 = \dots \quad 5 \dots \quad \{15, 45, 10, 20\}$$

$$\Omega = \{30, 7, 11, 2^1, \dots, 2^8, 3^1, \dots, 3^8, 5^1, \dots, 5^8\} \quad P_{\text{uniform}}$$

$$A_2 = \text{multiples of } 2 = \{30, 2^1 \dots 2^8\} \quad P(A_2) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$A_3 = \text{multiples of } 3 = \{30, 3^1, \dots, 3^8\} \quad P(A_3) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$A_5 = \text{multiples of } 5 = \{30, 5^1, \dots, 5^8\} \quad P(A_5) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(A_2 \cap A_3) = \frac{1}{27} \neq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(A_2 \cap A_3 \cap A_5) = \frac{1}{27}, \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3}$$