

MATH 425

9/9/2022

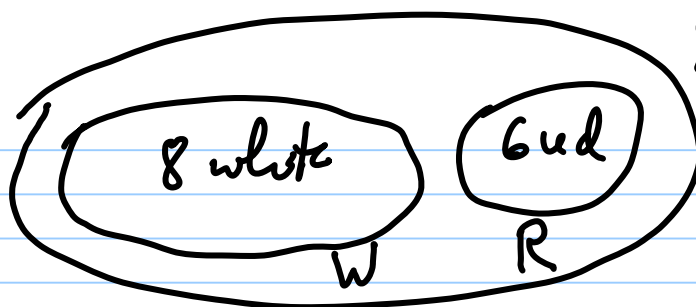
Note Title

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Miscellaneous probability problems based on finite sample spaces with equally likely outcomes.

Example: A bowl contains 8 white and 6 red balls. If we draw 5 balls randomly (w/o replacement), what is the probability that we drew 2 white and 3 red balls?

Solution:



X = set of all balls

$$|X| = 14$$

↑
number of elements

S = set of all 5-element subsets of X.

$$|S| = \binom{14}{5}$$

E = those 5-element subsets of X which contain 2 white and 3 red balls

$$|W| = 8$$

= choosing a 2-element subset of W

$$|E| = \binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{3}$$

and a 3-element subset of R
 $|R| = 6$

$$P(E) = \frac{\binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{3}}{\binom{14}{5}}$$

"hypergeometric"

Example: Do the same experiment with replacement.
Bowl contains 8 white and 6 red balls.

Choose a ball randomly, record its color then throw it back. Do this 5 times. What is the probability that we have chosen a white ball two times and a red ball 3 times?

Solution: This time, the sample space contains ordered 5-tuples of element of X : $\underbrace{X \times \dots \times X}_5 = X^5 = S$

$$|S| = 14^5$$

E = ordered 5-tuples in S where two entries
are in W and three entries are in R

$$\binom{5}{2} \cdot 8^2 \cdot 6^3$$

↑ where did the whole ones occur ($= \binom{5}{3}$)

↑
where the
red ones occurred

$$\frac{|E|}{|S|} = \binom{5}{2} \cdot \frac{8^2 \cdot 6^3}{14^5} = \binom{5}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{8}{14}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{6}{14}\right)^3$$

↑ ↑
probabilities of choosing
a white vs red ball
in one trial

"binomial"

Example: We have m blue balls and n red balls.
we order them randomly. What is the probability of
a given order of colors?

Solution: Orders of colors are equally likely.
 $|S| = \binom{m+n}{n}$ $S = \{\text{orders of colors}\}$

Answer: $\frac{1}{\binom{m+n}{n}}$

Problems involving cards

"Standard card deck"

↑
Poker, Bridge
(no wild cards)

4 suits

♠ spade

♣ club

♥ heart

♦ diamond

52 cards total



Each suit contains 13 cards of the following
denominations:

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J, Q, K, A

Jack Queen King Ace
↓ ↙ ↘ ↗
J Q K A

In Poker (most basic rules) you draw 5 cards and you look for certain patterns, which have certain values in the game. General rule: less likely patterns are more valuable.

Straight flush: 5 cards in a sequence in the same suit (A can be counted as the top card or as 1).

Example:

How likely is a straight flush?

Solution: $S = \{ \text{subsets of 5 cards out of 52} \}$
unordered

$$|S| = \binom{52}{5}$$

$E =$ cards of the same suit,

A 2 3 4 5
2 ... 6
3 7
4 8
5 9
6 ... 10

7 ... J
8 ... Q
9 ... K
10 J Q K A

$$\frac{10 \cdot 4 \leftarrow \text{suits}}{\binom{52}{5}}$$

Example: How likely is a flush?

= 5 cards in the same suit but not a straight flush.

Solution: $|S| = \binom{52}{5}$

$$|E| = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{suits}}}{4} \cdot \left(\binom{13}{5} - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Straight flushes}}}{10} \right)$$

$$P(E) = \frac{4 \cdot \left(\binom{13}{5} - 10 \right)}{\underline{\underline{\binom{52}{5}}}}$$

(HW) (7) In a class, there are 10 men and 15

women. A committee of 6 people is chosen randomly. What is the probability that 4 men and 2 women are chosen?

⑧ In this class of 10 men and 15 women, people are chosen at random to answer questions (everybody is equally likely to be chosen, regardless of whether they answered a question before). If there are 10 questions,

what is the probability that 5 will be answered by men and 5 by women?

⑨ The scrabble tiles for "MISSISSIPPI" were scrambled and then arranged randomly in a row. What is the probability that MISSISSIPPI is spelled again?