

# Chapter 3 - Probability

Kenan Sooklall

**Dice rolls.** (3.6, p. 92) If you roll a pair of fair dice, what is the probability of

(a) getting a sum of 1?

- 0% the smallest sum you can get with 2 fair dice is 2

(b) getting a sum of 5?

- There are 4 different combinations (1,4),(4,1),(2,3),(3,2), therefore the probability is  $4/36 = 1/9 = 11.11\%$

(c) getting a sum of 12?

- The only way to get 12 is two 6s therefore  $1/36 = 2.78\%$
-

**Poverty and language.** (3.8, p. 93) The American Community Survey is an ongoing survey that provides data every year to give communities the current information they need to plan investments and services. The 2010 American Community Survey estimates that 14.6% of Americans live below the poverty line, 20.7% speak a language other than English (foreign language) at home, and 4.2% fall into both categories.

(a) Are living below the poverty line and speaking a foreign language at home disjoint?

- Living below the poverty line and speaking a foreign language at home are not disjoint variables since they can both occur at the same time. In other words  $P(\text{Living below the poverty line and speaking a foreign language at home}) \neq 0$

(b) Draw a Venn diagram summarizing the variables and their associated probabilities.

```
plot(c(-2, 2), c(-2, 2), type = "n", main="Venn Diagram", xaxt="none", yaxt="none", xlab='', ylab='')

radius = 1
lx = -0.5
ly = 0
theta = seq(0, 2 * pi, length = 200) # angles for drawing points around the circle

rx = 0.5
ry = 0
theta = seq(0, 2 * pi, length = 200) # angles for drawing points around the circle

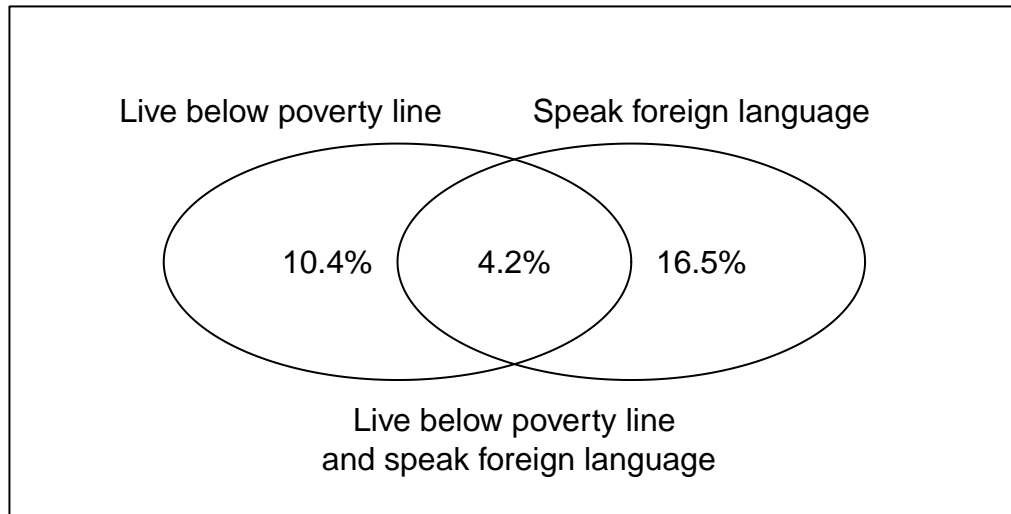
# draw the circle
lines(x = radius * cos(theta) + lx, y = radius * sin(theta) + ly)
lines(x = radius * cos(theta) + rx, y = radius * sin(theta) + ry)

text(-1, 1.25, 'Live below poverty line')
text(-0.8, 0, '10.4%')

text(0.8, 1.25, 'Speak foreign language')
text(0.8, 0, '16.5%')

text(0, -1.5, 'Live below poverty line\n and speak foreign language')
text(0, 0, '4.2%')
```

## Venn Diagram



(c) What percent of Americans live below the poverty line and only speak English at home?

- $P(\text{Americans live below the poverty line and only speak English}) = 10.4\%$

(d) What percent of Americans live below the poverty line or speak a foreign language at home?

- $P(\text{Americans live below the poverty line or speak a foreign language at home}) = P(\text{Americans live below the poverty line}) + P(\text{speaking a foreign language at home}) - P(\text{Americans live below the poverty line and speak a foreign language at home}) = 0.146 + 0.207 - (0.042) = 31.1\%$

(e) What percent of Americans live above the poverty line and only speak English at home?

- $1 - P(\text{Americans live below the poverty line and only speak English}) = 1 - 10.4\% = 89.6\%$

(f) Is the event that someone lives below the poverty line independent of the event that the person speaks a foreign language at home?

- $A = P(\text{someone lives below the poverty line}) * P(\text{speaks a foreign language at home}) = 0.146 * 0.207 = 3.02\%$
- $B = P(\text{someone lives below the poverty line \& speaks a foreign language at home}) = 4.2\%$
- $A \neq B$  therefore these events are not independent

**Assortative mating.** (3.18, p. 111) Assortative mating is a nonrandom mating pattern where individuals with similar genotypes and/or phenotypes mate with one another more frequently than what would be expected under a random mating pattern. Researchers studying this topic collected data on eye colors of 204 Scandinavian men and their female partners. The table below summarizes the results. For simplicity, we only include heterosexual relationships in this exercise.

		<i>Partner (female)</i>			Total
		Blue	Brown	Green	
<i>Self (male)</i>	Blue	78	23	13	114
	Brown	19	23	12	54
	Green	11	9	16	36
	Total	108	55	41	204

- (a) What is the probability that a randomly chosen male respondent or his partner has blue eyes?
- $P(\text{Mb or Pb}) = P(\text{Mb}) + P(\text{Pb}) - P(\text{Mb \& Pb}) = (114 / 204) + (108 / 204) - (78 / 204) = 0.7059 = 70.59\%$
- (b) What is the probability that a randomly chosen male respondent with blue eyes has a partner with blue eyes?
- $P(\text{Pb} \mid \text{Mb}) = 78/114$
- (c) What is the probability that a randomly chosen male respondent with brown eyes has a partner with blue eyes? What about the probability of a randomly chosen male respondent with green eyes having a partner with blue eyes?
- $P(\text{Pb} \mid \text{Mbr}) = 19/ 54$
  - $P(\text{Pb} \mid \text{Mg}) = 11 / 36$
- (d) Does it appear that the eye colors of male respondents and their partners are independent? Explain your reasoning.
- It appears they are not independent since the largest values for both happen when they are the same

**Books on a bookshelf.** (3.26, p. 114) The table below shows the distribution of books on a bookcase based on whether they are nonfiction or fiction and hardcover or paperback.

	<i>Format</i>		<i>Total</i>
	Hardcover	Paperback	
<i>Type</i>	Fiction	13	59
	Nonfiction	15	8
	Total	28	67
			95

- (a) Find the probability of drawing a hardcover book first then a paperback fiction book second when drawing without replacement.

- $(28 / 95) * (67 / 94) = 21\%$

- (b) Determine the probability of drawing a fiction book first and then a hardcover book second, when drawing without replacement.

- $(72 / 95) * (28 / 94) - (13 / 93) = 8.86\%$

- (c) Calculate the probability of the scenario in part (b), except this time complete the calculations under the scenario where the first book is placed back on the bookcase before randomly drawing the second book.

- $(72 / 95) * (28 / 94) - (13 / 95) = 8.89\%$

- (d) The final answers to parts (b) and (c) are very similar. Explain why this is the case.

- There are a lot of book (95) so sampling with/without replacement will only change the percentage by ~1%

---

**Baggage fees.** (3.34, p. 124) An airline charges the following baggage fees: \$25 for the first bag and \$35 for the second. Suppose 54% of passengers have no checked luggage, 34% have one piece of checked luggage and 12% have two pieces. We suppose a negligible portion of people check more than two bags.

- (a) Build a probability model, compute the average revenue per passenger, and compute the corresponding standard deviation.

```
df <- data.frame('i'=c('x', 'P(X = x)'), 'Zero_bag'=c(0,0.54), 'One_bag'=c(25, 0.34), 'Two_bag'=c(35, 0.12))
df
```

```
##           i Zero_bag One_bag Two_bag Total
## 1         x      0.00  25.00  35.00      -
## 2 P(X = x)      0.54   0.34   0.12      1
```

```
E_x <- 0*0.54 + 25*0.34 + 35*0.12
Std <- ((0 -12.7)^2 * 0.54 + (25 -12.7)^2 * 0.34 + (35 -12.7)^2 * 0.12)^0.5
```

Expected \$12.7/per passenger Standard dev \$14.07 (b) About how much revenue should the airline expect for a flight of 120 passengers? With what standard deviation? Note any assumptions you make and if you think they are justified.

$n = 120$

Revenue =  $n * 0 * 0.54 + n * 25 * 0.34 + n * 35 * 0.12 = \$5220.12$

**Income and gender.** (3.38, p. 128) The relative frequency table below displays the distribution of annual total personal income (in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars) for a representative sample of 96,420,486 Americans. These data come from the American Community Survey for 2005-2009. This sample is comprised of 59% males and 41% females.

<i>Income</i>	<i>Total</i>
\$1 to \$9,999 or loss	2.2%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	4.7%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	15.8%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	18.3%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	21.2%
\$50,000 to \$64,999	13.9%
\$65,000 to \$74,999	5.8%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	8.4%
\$100,000 or more	9.7%

- (a) Describe the distribution of total personal income.
- The distribution looks normal. The largest values are in the center and taper off on both ends
- (b) What is the probability that a randomly chosen US resident makes less than \$50,000 per year?
- $\text{sum}(0.022 + 0.047 + 0.158 + 0.183 + 0.212) = 62.2\%$
- (c) What is the probability that a randomly chosen US resident makes less than \$50,000 per year and is female? Note any assumptions you make.
- I assume females are approximately evenly distributed for each bucket, therefore about 50% of the 41% would make less than 50k a year.
  - $\text{sum}(0.022 + 0.047 + 0.158 + 0.183 + 0.212) * 0.5 * 0.41 = 12.75\%$
- (d) The same data source indicates that 71.8% of females make less than \$50,000 per year. Use this value to determine whether or not the assumption you made in part (c) is valid.
- My assumption of even distribution is incorrect, it looks like females make significantly less than males in the upper end of the graph