

Chapter 2 Probability:

2.1 Sample Spaces and Events:

A random experiment is any activity or process where the outcome has uncertainty.

Ex: Flip a coin

Roll a die 

Play the Lottery

The Sample Space S of an experiment is the set of all possible outcomes of that experiment.

Ex: 1 coin flip $S = \{\text{Heads, Tails}\}$

roll a die 1 time $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

play the lottery $S = \{\text{win big prize, win small prize, lose}\}$

flip a coin twice: $S = \{\text{HH, HT, TH, TT}\}$

Events: An event is any collection (subset) of outcomes contained in the sample space.

An event A occurs if the experiments outcome is contained in A .

Ex: Flip a coin twice, $S = \{\text{HH, HT, TH, TT}\}$

event A is that we get same number of heads and tails

$$A = \{\text{HT, TH}\}$$

Roll a die once,  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

event A is roll an even number, $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$

Some Set Theory: An event is a set.

Set operations:

1) Complement: The complement of A is the event A' which contains all outcomes of S which are not in A . "A does not occur"

A : roll even #

A' : roll odd #

2) Union: The union of events A and B , written $A \cup B$, is the event consisting of all outcomes in A or B (or both). "A or B (or both) occurs"

A : roll even # $\{2, 4, 6\}$
 B : roll prime # $\{2, 3, 5\}$

$A \cup B = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
 even or prime

3) Intersection: The intersection of events A and B , written $A \cap B$, is the event consisting of all outcomes in A and B . "A and B occur"

$A \cap B = \{2\}$
 even and prime

Example 1: We roll a 6-sided die. 

Find • the sample space S

- the event A for rolling an even number
- the event B for rolling at least 4
- the events A' , $A' \cup B$, $A \cap B$

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, A = \{2, 4, 6\}, B = \{4, 5, 6\}$$

$$A' = \{1, 3, 5\}, A' \cup B = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, A \cap B = \{4, 6\}$$

odd # odd # or at least 4 even and at least 4

The null event or null set is written \emptyset and contains no outcomes.

If $A \cap B = \emptyset$, then A and B are mutually exclusive or disjoint.

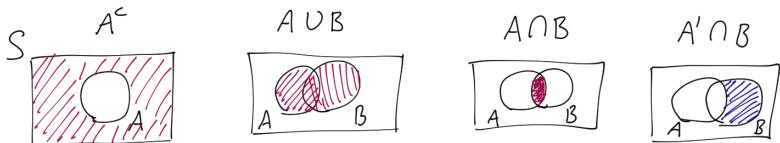
Ex: Rolling a die, $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A = \{2, 4, 6\} \\ B = \{1, 3, 5\} \\ A \cap B = \emptyset \\ A \text{ and } B \text{ are disjoint} \end{array} \right| \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} A = \{1, 2\} \\ B = \{3, 4, 5, 6\} \\ A \text{ and } B \text{ are disjoint} \end{array} \right|$$

We can extend these ideas to 3+ events as well.

For 1, 2, or 3 events, Venn Diagrams can be helpful.

Example 2: Draw a Venn Diagram for A' , $A \cup B$, $A \cap B$, and $A' \cap B$



2.2 Axioms of Probability: Ex: $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  event $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$

Given a sample space S , we want to assign probabilities $P(A)$ to the various events.

We require these axioms to be satisfied:

(i) For any event A , $P(A) \geq 0$

(ii) $P(S) = 1$, "probability that something happens is one"

(iii) If A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots are disjoint events, then $\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Also works for just } 2, 3, 4, \dots \text{ disjoint events} \\ P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i) \end{array} \right)$ $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$

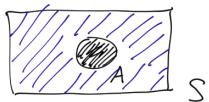
We can use these axioms to derive properties.

Prop. 1: $P(\emptyset) = 0$. Therefore axiom (iii) also works for finitely many events.

$$\underline{\text{Pf:}} \quad P(\emptyset) = P(\emptyset \cup \emptyset \cup \emptyset \cup \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(\emptyset)$$

$$P(\emptyset) = 0 \quad (0+0+0+0+\dots = 0)$$

Prop. 2: For any event A , $P(A) + P(A') = 1$



Prop 3: For any event A , $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$.

$$0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$$

Example 1: Let A and B be disjoint events with $P(A) = 0.3$ and $P(B') = 0.6$.

Find $P(A \cup B)$.

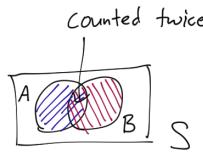
$$P(B) = 1 - P(B') = 1 - 0.6 = 0.4$$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) = 0.3 + 0.4 = \boxed{0.7}$$

disjoint

Inclusion-Exclusion Principle:

For any two events A, B

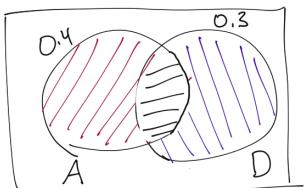


$$\boxed{P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)}$$

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

Example 2: At a certain restaurant, 40% of customers order an appetizer, 30% order a dessert, and 15% order both.

What is the probability a randomly selected customer orders an appetizer or a dessert or both? What is the probability the customer orders neither?



$$P(A \cup D) = 0.4 + 0.3 - 0.15 = \boxed{0.55}$$

$$P(\text{neither}) = 1 - 0.55 = \boxed{0.45}$$

de Morgan's
Law

$$P((A \cup D)')$$

$$= P(A' \cap D')$$

We can also apply Inclusion-Exclusion for 3 events:

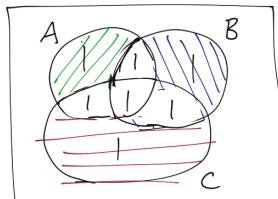
For any events A, B, C

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) =$$

$$P(A) + P(B) + P(C)$$

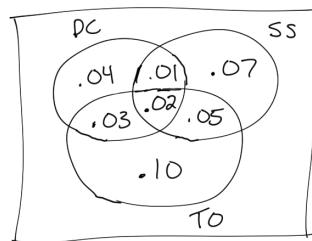
$$- P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C)$$

$$+ P(A \cap B \cap C)$$



Example 3: At a certain CPU manufacturing facility, for a specific CPU model,

- 10% of the CPUs have a defective core (DC)
- 15% fail to meet the speed standards (SS)
- 20% fail to meet the thermal output standards (TO)
- 3% have DC and SS
- 5% have DC and TO
- 7% have SS and TO
- 2% have DC, SS, and TO.



Find the probability a randomly selected CPU has

(a) DC, SS, or TO :

$$P(DC \cup SS \cup TO) = 0.04 + 0.07 + 0.10 + 0.03 + 0.02 + 0.05 = 0.32$$

$$(b) DC \text{ but not TO. } P(DC \cap TO') = 0.04 + 0.01 = 0.05$$

Equally Likely Outcomes:

For many experiments, each of the N outcomes are equally likely.

For each outcome, the probability is $\frac{1}{N}$

For any event A , $P(A) = \frac{\# \text{ outcomes in } A}{N}$

Example 4: We roll 2 fair 6-sided dice.

What is the probability the sum of the dice is 7?

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	○
2	.	.	.	○	.	.
3	.	.	○	.	.	.
4	.	○
5	○
6	○

$P(\text{sum } 7) = \frac{\# \text{ ways for sum to be } 7}{\text{total } \# \text{ of rolls}}$

$$= \frac{6}{36} = \boxed{\frac{1}{6}}$$

2.3 Counting Techniques

When an experiment has N equally likely outcomes,

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{# of outcomes in } A}{N}$$

We will discuss three techniques to help us count the outcomes in an event.

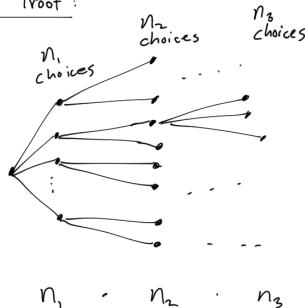
1) Multiplication Rule: Suppose we are counting the ways to pick objects

in a list. There are n_1 choices for the first position. Then regardless of the first position, there are n_2 choices for the second position.

So on, until regardless of the previous positions, there are n_k choices for the k^{th} position.

Then there are $n_1 n_2 \cdots n_k$ ways to do this.

Picture Proof:



$$n_1 \cdot n_2 \cdot n_3$$

Example 1: At a certain restaurant, you order an entree, a side, and a drink.

There are 6 entrees, 5 sides, and 10 drinks to pick from. How many different orders are possible?

Multiplication Rule

$$6 \cdot 5 \cdot 10 = 300 \text{ total orders.}$$

2) Permutations:

(distinct)

Say we have n objects and we select k of them where order matters.

Each of these ordered subsets is called a permutation. The number of

$$\text{permutations is } P_{k,n} = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (n-k+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$$

Ex: $\{A, B, C, D, E\}$ order 3 of them

$$P_{3,5} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3}{B \ A \ E}$$

factorial

$$n! = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

$$\frac{n!}{(n-k)!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1}{(n-k)(n-k-1) \cdots \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1} = n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)$$

Example 2: If a musician knows 10 pieces that can be included in a performance,

how many different ways can 5 pieces be selected for the performance?

Permutation

$$P_{5,10} = \boxed{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}$$
$$\frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \boxed{\frac{10!}{(10-5)!}}$$

(distinct)

3) Combinations: Say we have n objects and want to pick an unordered subset of k

of them. These unordered subsets are called combinations. The number of combinations is $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}{k!} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)! k!}$
read " n choose k "

Ex:

$$\{A, B, C, D, E\}$$
$$\text{Orderings: } \begin{matrix} A & B & C \\ B & A & C \\ C & B & A \\ \vdots & & \end{matrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} A & B & C \\ B & A & C \\ C & B & A \end{matrix} \right\} 3! = 6 \quad \binom{5}{3} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3}{3!}$$

Example 3: Out of 20 students in a class, 3 are randomly picked to form a committee.

If the committee positions are identical, what is the probability that student A is on the committee and student T is not?

Equally Likely Outcomes

$$P(\text{student A is on committee, student T is not}) = \frac{\# \text{ ways to include A but not T}}{\text{total } \# \text{ ways to form committee}}$$
$$\text{total } \# \text{ ways} = \binom{20}{3} = \frac{20 \cdot 19 \cdot 18}{3!}$$
$$= \boxed{\frac{\binom{18}{2}}{\binom{20}{3}}}$$

ways to include A but not T

$$\binom{18}{2} = \frac{18 \cdot 17}{2!}$$

Example 4: You pick a 6-digit pin number at random. Ex: 287230

What is the probability there are no repeated digits in the pin?

$$P_{6,10} = \frac{10!}{(10-6)!}$$

$$P(\text{no repeated digits}) = \frac{\# \text{ pins with no repeated digits}}{\text{total } \# \text{ pins}}$$

\nearrow Permutations
 \searrow Multiplication Rule

$$= \boxed{\frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5}{10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10}}$$

Multiplication Rule: decisions do not impact later choices, order matters

Permutation: no repeats, order matters

Combination: no repeats, order doesn't matter

2.4 Conditional Probability:

How does $P(A)$ change when we learn additional information that event B happened?

Example 1: A store sells 2 models of ovens, and some units are defective.

	working	defective	
model A	55	5	60
model B	30	10	40
	85	15	100

What is the probability a randomly selected oven is defective? $\boxed{\frac{15}{100}}$

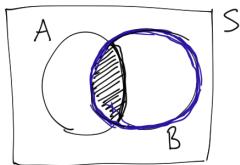
What is the conditional probability the oven is defective given that it is a model B oven? $\boxed{\frac{10}{40}}$

For two events A and B , with $P(B) > 0$, the conditional probability of A given B

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

A "given" B

Picture:



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

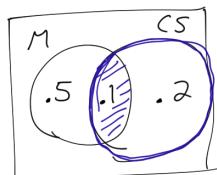
know

Example 2: In a certain class, 60% of the students are math majors,

30% are CS majors, and 10% are both.

What is the probability a randomly selected student is a math major given they are a CS major?

$$P(M|CS) = \frac{P(M \cap CS)}{P(CS)} = \frac{0.1}{0.3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$



We can rearrange $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$ to get the

Multiplication Rule for $P(A \cap B)$:

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

$$P(A) \cdot P(B|A)$$

Example 3: A hat contains papers with the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on them.

We draw two numbers randomly from the hat without replacing them.

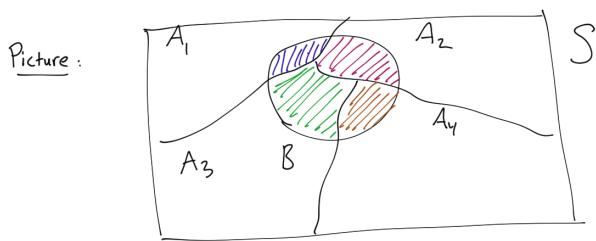
What is the probability the first number picked is odd and the second is even?

$$P(1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd} \cap 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ even}) = P(1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd}) \cdot P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ even} | 1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd}) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{4} = \boxed{\frac{3}{10}}$$

Law of Total Probability: Let A_1, \dots, A_k be disjoint events that make up

the entire sample space, $A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_k = S$. Then for any event B ,

$$P(B) = P(B|A_1)P(A_1) + \dots + P(B|A_k)P(A_k).$$



LoTP: $P(B) = P(B|A_1)P(A_1) + \dots + P(B|A_k)P(A_k)$

Example 4: A hat contains papers with the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on them.

We draw two numbers randomly from the hat without replacing them.

What is the probability the second number is even?

$$A_1 = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd}\}, \quad A_2 = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ even}\}$$

$$P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ even}) = P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ even} | 1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd}) \cdot P(1^{\text{st}} \text{ odd}) + P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ even} | 1^{\text{st}} \text{ even}) \cdot P(1^{\text{st}} \text{ even})$$

$$= \left[\frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{5} \right] = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{1}{10} = \boxed{\frac{2}{5}}$$

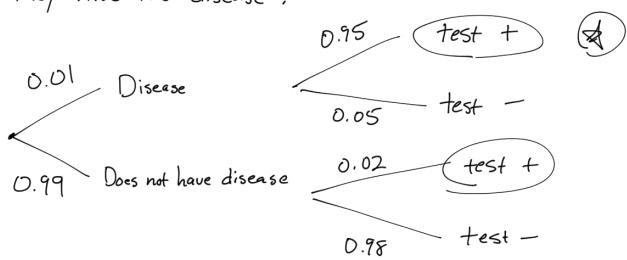


Bayes Theorem: Let A_1, \dots, A_k be disjoint and make up the entire sample space.

Then $P(A_j | B) = \frac{P(A_j \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A_j) P(A_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i) P(A_i)}$

Example 5: In a certain population, 1 in 100 people have a certain disease.

Given someone has the disease, the diagnostic test has a 95% chance of being positive. Given someone does not have the disease, the test has a 98% of being negative. If a random person received a positive test result, what is the probability they have the disease?



$$P(\text{disease} | \text{positive}) = \frac{0.01 \cdot 0.95}{0.01 \cdot 0.95 + 0.99 \cdot 0.02} = \frac{0.0095}{0.0095 + 0.0198} = \frac{0.0095}{0.0293} = \boxed{.324}$$

2.5 Independence:

A and B are independent events if $P(A|B) = P(A)$. Otherwise they are dependent.

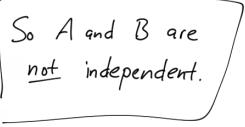
Interpretation: B happening has no effect on whether or not A happens.

Example 1: We roll a fair 6-sided die.  Let A be the event

that the roll is even. Let B be the event that the roll is at least 4.

Are A and B independent?

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{2, 4, 6\} & P(A|B) &= \frac{2}{3} \\ B &= \{4, 5, 6\} & P(A) &= \frac{3}{6} \end{aligned}$$

 So A and B are
not independent.

Proposition:

Two events A and B are independent iff $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$.

Proof: $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B) \cdot P(B) = P(A) \cdot P(B).$

 Multiplication Rule definition of independent events 

Example 2: There are 2 computers in an office. Assume each has a 10%

chance of needing repairs this month, independently of each other. What is the probability both computers will need repairs this month?

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{both need repairs}) &= P(1^{\text{st}} \text{ needs repair}) \cdot P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ needs repair}) \\ &= 0.1 \cdot 0.1 = \boxed{0.01} \end{aligned}$$

Independence for more than 2 events:

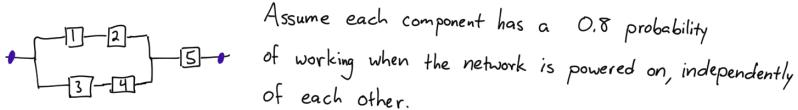
Events A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent if for every $k=2, 3, \dots, n$,

and every subset of indices i_1, \dots, i_k ,

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}) = P(A_{i_1}) \cdot P(A_{i_2}) \cdot \dots \cdot P(A_{i_k})$$

Ex: $P(A_2 \cap A_4 \cap A_5 \cap A_{10}) = P(A_2) \cdot P(A_4) \cdot P(A_5) \cdot P(A_{10})$

Example 3: Consider 5 electrical components in this network:

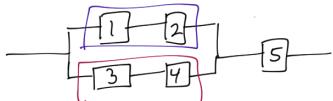


For the system to work, either a path of working components must go from one end to the other. (In this case, either {1,2,5} all work, OR {3,4,5} all work.)

What is the probability that the system works?

Many possible approaches

Method 1:



Idea: we need at least one of the groups $\{1, 2\}$ and $\{3, 4\}$ to work.

Then we also need 5 to work no matter what.

$$P(1 \text{ and } 2 \text{ work}) = 0.8 \cdot 0.8 = 0.64$$

$$P(3 \text{ and } 4 \text{ work}) = 0.8 \cdot 0.8 = 0.64$$

$$P(\text{at least one of } \{1, 2\} \text{ and } \{3, 4\} \text{ work}) = 1 - P(\{1, 2\} \text{ and } \{3, 4\} \text{ both don't work})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 - P(\{1, 2\} \text{ doesn't work}) \cdot P(\{3, 4\} \text{ doesn't work}) = 1 - (1 - 0.64)(1 - 0.64) \\ &\quad = 1 - (0.36)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Lastly, we also need 5 to work:

$$P(\text{system works}) = \boxed{(1 - (0.36)^2) \cdot 0.8} \approx \boxed{0.696}$$

Method 2: We need either path A: $\{1, 2, 5\}$ to all work, or path B: $\{3, 4, 5\}$ to all work.

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) \quad (\text{inclusion-exclusion})$$

$$= (0.8)^3 + (0.8)^3 - (0.8)^5 \approx \boxed{0.696}$$

This method is nice with 2-3 paths, but inclusion-exclusion gets tricky with 4+ paths.