

## Chapters 2: Sequential Experiments

### Tree Diagram (2.1)

Sequential experiments consist of many *subexperiments* performed in sequence and an observation taken after each action.

- A **tree diagram** displays the outcome of the subexperiments
  - Label of branches are probabilities and conditional probabilities
- Example: consider a bucket with 3 white balls and 2 red balls. Draw 3 balls in sequence without replacement
  - Events  $W_f = \{\text{"white ball first"}\}$ ,  $R_s = \{\text{"red ball second"}\}$ .

- Tree diagram

- Example: successful detection of plane by a radar system
  - Events  $A = \{\text{"plane present"}\}$ ,  
 $B = \{\text{"radar sounds alarm"}\}$

- $P[B|A] = 0.99$

$$P[B|A^c] = 0.1$$

- Determine  $P[B \cap A^c]$   
 $P[B^c \cap A]$

## Counting Methods (2.2)

- Introduce methods for determining the number of outcomes in sample space of sequential experiment
  - k-permutation: ordered sequence of k distinguishable objects
  - k-combination: unordered combination of k distinguishable object
- **Experiment 1:** consider a bucket with 5 balls labeled {"A", "B", "C", "D", "E"}
  - Draw (*or sample*) two balls at random, in succession, and replace ball after observation

- Counting  $k$  **ordered** samples of  $n$  distinguishable objects with **replacement** (Thm 2.4):

$$\# \text{ of outcomes} = n^k$$

- Example above:

- **Experiment 2:** consider the bucket with 5 labeled balls

- Draw (*or sample*) two balls at random, in succession, and do not replace ball after observation

- Generalize for the choice of  $k$  objects out of  $n$  distinguishable objects

- Counting  $k$  **ordered** samples of  $n$  distinguishable objects **without replacement** (Thm 2.2):

$$\# \text{ of outcomes} = (n)_k = n(n-1)(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$$

- **Experiment 3:** consider the bucket with 5 labeled balls

- Draw (*or sample*) **unordered combination** of two balls, at random, and without replacing the ball after each observation

- Generalize for  $k$  number of samples out of  $n$  distinguishable objects

- Counting  $k$  **unordered** samples of  $n$  distinguishable objects **without replacement** (Thm 2.3):

$$\# \text{ of outcomes} = \binom{n}{k} = \frac{(n)_k}{k!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

- **Experiment 4:** consider the bucket with 5 labeled balls
  - Draw (*or sample*) **unordered combination** of two balls, at random, and replacing the ball after each observation

- Generalize for  $k$  number of samples out of  $n$  distinguishable objects

- Counting  $k$  **unordered** samples of  $n$  distinguishable objects with **replacement**

$$\# \text{ of outcomes} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$$

- Example: binary code transmission
  - $P[\text{"transmitting 2 ones in a sequence of 5 bits"}]$

- Example: binary receiver
  - Transmitter sends 5 zeros in sequence to represent “zero,” and 5 ones to represent “one”
  - Receiver rules that a receiver sequence represent “zero” if 3 or more zeros are detected, otherwise receiver rules sequence represent “one”
  - Receiver makes decision error with probability  $t$
  - Q: what would be the probability of interpreting “zero” if a sequence for “one” is transmitted?





- We generalize our last example to propose the following experiment
  - We have  $n_1$  red balls and  $n_2$  white balls
  - Event  $A = \{\text{"draw } k \text{ red balls out of } n_3 \text{ total"}\}$
- Example: consider bucket with 30 red balls and 70 white balls. Find probability of getting  $k$  red balls out a draw of 20 balls.

- Binomial Probability Law (Thm 2.8): the probability of  $n_0$  failures and  $n_1$  successes in  $n = n_0 + n_1$  independent trials is

$$\begin{aligned} P["n_0 \text{ fails and } n_1 \text{ success}"] &= \binom{n}{n_1} (1-p)^{n-n_1} p^{n_1} \\ &= \binom{n}{n_0} (1-p)^{n_0} p^{n-n_0} \end{aligned}$$

where  $p = P[\text{"success"}]$  and  $1-p = P[\text{"fail"}]$

Note: applies to sequential experiments in which subexperiments are independent and have 2 outcomes (*Bernoulli trials*)