

PROBABILITY VECTORS

Why

We can identify probability distributions with vectors.

Definition

Let $p: \Omega \to \mathbf{R}$ be a probability distribution on a finite set $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_n\}$. Given a numbering $a: \{1, \ldots, n\} \to A$ of A, we can associate p with the vector $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ defined by $x_i = p(\omega_i)$ for $i = 1, \ldots, n$. We call this vector z the *probability vector* associated with p.

