

# TA Lecture 01 - Probability and Counting

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# Outline

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Main Contents Recap

HW Problems

More Exercises

# Summary of Counting

Choose  $k$  objects out of  $n$  objects, the number of possible ways:

	Order Matters	Order Not Matter
with replacement	$n^k$	$\binom{n+k-1}{k}$
without replacement	$n(n-1)\cdots(n-k+1)$	$\binom{n}{k}$

# Multinomial Theorem

## Theorem

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_r)^n = \sum_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r \geq 0} \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_r!} x_1^{n_1} x_2^{n_2} \cdots x_r^{n_r}$$

where  $n_1 + n_2 + \cdots + n_r = n$ .

eg.  $n=2$

## Team Captain (Story Proof)

For any positive integers  $n$  and  $k$  with  $k \leq n$ ,

$$n \binom{n-1}{k-1} = k \binom{n}{k}$$
$$\binom{n}{1} \quad \binom{n}{k}$$

## Vandermonde's Identity (Story Proof)

A famous relationship between binomial coefficients, called *Vandermonde's identity*, says that

$$\binom{m+n}{k} = \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{m}{j} \binom{n}{k-j}$$

# Bose-Einstein Counting

离散

{ order  
replacement

## Theorem

There are  $\binom{n+k-1}{n-1}$  distinct nonnegative integer-valued vectors  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  satisfying the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n = k, x_i \geq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

$$\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$$

e.g.  $x_i \geq 5 \xrightarrow{\text{convert}} a_i = x_i - 5$

integer,  $x \geq 5 \rightarrow ?$

# Naive Definition of Probability

- Assumption 1: finite sample space
- Assumption 2: all outcomes occur equally likely

出现是等概率的 ✓  
否则个数 ✗

## Definition

Let A be an event for an experiment with a finite sample space S. The naive probability of A is

$$P_{\text{naive}}(A) = \frac{|A|}{|S|} = \frac{\text{number of outcomes favorable to } A}{\text{total number of outcomes in } S}.$$

# General Definition of Probability

## Definition

A *probability space* consists of a *sample space*  $S$  and a *probability function*  $P$  which takes an event  $A \subseteq S$  as input and returns  $P(A)$ , a real number between 0 and 1, as output. The function  $P$  must satisfy the following axioms:

- ①  $\underline{P(\emptyset) = 0, P(S) = 1.}$  不相交
- ② If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are disjoint events, then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} A_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} P(A_j)$$

(Saying that these events are disjoint means that they are mutually exclusive:  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  for  $i \neq j$ .

不是 disjoint? 容斥  
独立 & disjoint 关系

# Bonferroni's Inequality

## Theorem

For any  $n$  events  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ , we have

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n) \geq P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_n) - (n - 1).$$

Venn 

# Boole's Inequality

## Theorem

For any events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$ , we have

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i).$$

取等  $\Rightarrow$  disjoint

# Inclusion-Exclusion Formula

☆☆ 容斥

probably 最难 in chapter 1

For any events  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ :

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_i P(A_i) - \sum_{i < j} P(A_i \cap A_j) + \sum_{i < j < k} P(A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k) + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n).$$

交集是更易刻画的概率难

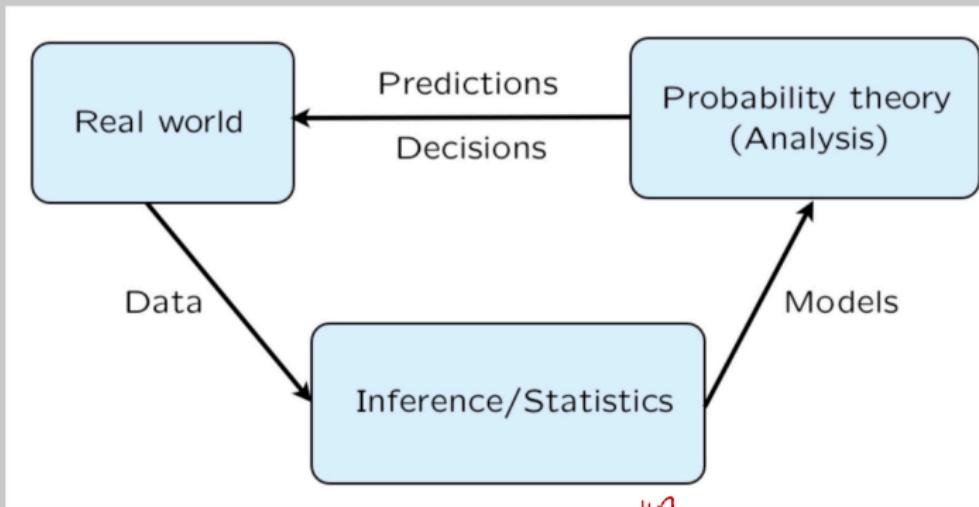
计算量↑ 思维↓

分类讨论

# Probability and Statistics

A framework for analyzing phenomena with uncertain outcomes:

- Rules for consistent reasoning
- Used for predictions and decisions



贯穿始终      概率 → 统计

# **Outline**

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## Problem 1

Second Stirling 数

Define  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} n \\ k \end{array} \right\}$  as the number of ways to partition  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

into  $k$  non-empty subsets, or the number of ways to have  $n$  students split up into  $k$  groups such that each group has at least one student. For example,  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 2 \end{array} \right\} = 7$  because we have the following possibilities:

- $\{1\}, \{2, 3, 4\}$
- $\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}$
- $\{2\}, \{1, 3, 4\}$
- $\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}$
- $\{3\}, \{1, 2, 4\}$
- $\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}$
- $\{4\}, \{1, 2, 3\}$

## Problem 1 Continued

Prove the following identities:

(a)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} n+1 \\ k \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} n \\ k-1 \end{array} \right\} + \left( \begin{array}{c} n \\ k \end{array} \right).$$

自己一组  
 $\binom{n}{0}$        $\binom{k}{1}$

Hint: I'm either in a group by myself or I'm not. 没有 Hint 也要想

# Problem 1 Solution

## Problem 1 Countined

(b)

$$\sum_{j=k}^n \binom{n}{j} \left\{ \begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} n+1 \\ k+1 \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

*分析*

Hint: First decide how many people are not going to be in my group.

不和我一组

# Problem 1 Solution

## Problem 2

A norepeatword is a sequence of at least one (and possibly all) of the usual 26 letters a, b, c, . . . , z, with repetitions not allowed. For example, “course” is a norepeatword, but “statistics” is not. Order matters, e.g., “course” is not the same as “source”. A norepeatword is chosen randomly, with all norepeatwords equally likely. Show that the probability that it uses all 26 letters is very close to  $1/e$ .

## Problem 2 Solution

Sample space: # no repeated word  
 $= \sum_{k=1}^{26} \# \text{ of length } k$

$$\frac{\#(26 \dots)}{\sum \#(i \dots)} = \frac{26!}{\sum \binom{26}{k} \cdot k!} = \frac{26!}{\sum_{i=1}^{26} (n-k)!} \approx \frac{1}{e}$$

$1 \sim 26$

$0 \sim 25 \vee 0 \sim 26 \times 1 \sim 26 \times$

$$0! = 1$$

## Problem 3

Given  $n \geq 2$  numbers  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  with no repetitions, a bootstrap sample is a sequence  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  formed from the  $a_j$ 's by sampling with replacement with equal probabilities.

Bootstrap samples arise in a widely used statistical method known as the bootstrap. For example, if  $n = 2$  and  $(a_1, a_2) = (3, 1)$ , then the possible bootstrap samples are  $(3, 3)$ ,  $(3, 1)$ ,  $(1, 3)$ , and  $(1, 1)$ .

## Problem 3 Continued

- (a) How many possible bootstrap samples are there for  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  ?

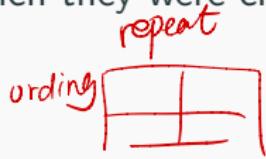
$n^n$

*just definition*

## Problem 3 Solution

## Problem 3 Continued

(b) How many possible bootstrap samples are there for  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ , if order does not matter (in the sense that it only matters how many times each  $a_j$  was chosen, not the order in which they were chosen)?



$$\binom{n+k-1}{n-1}$$
$$\Rightarrow k=n$$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{2n+1}{n-1}$$

## Problem 3 Solution

## Problem 3 Continued

(c) One random bootstrap sample is chosen (by sampling from  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  with replacement, as described above). Show that not all unordered bootstrap samples (in the sense of (b)) are equally likely. Find an unordered bootstrap sample  $\mathbf{b}_1$  that is as likely as <sup>都出現</sup> possible, and an unordered bootstrap sample  $\mathbf{b}_2$  that is as unlikely <sup>不出現</sup> as possible. Let  $p_1$  be the probability of getting  $\mathbf{b}_1$  and  $p_2$  be the probability of getting  $\mathbf{b}_2$  (so  $p_i$  is the probability of getting the specific unordered bootstrap sample  $\mathbf{b}_i$ ). What is  $p_1/p_2$ ? What is the ratio of the probability of getting an unordered bootstrap sample whose probability is  $p_1$  to the probability of getting an unordered sample whose probability is  $p_2$ ?

## Problem 3 Solution

完全不一样  $\frac{n!}{n^n}$

— —  $\frac{1}{n^n}$  这一种情况出现的概率

↑  
得到其中一个 ✓ 共 n 个

甚至没有问原因  $\rightarrow$  intuitively

## Problem 4

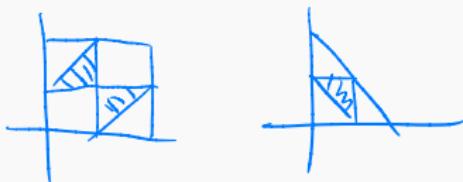
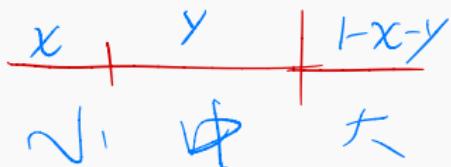
You get a stick and break it randomly into three pieces. What is the probability that you can make a triangle using such three pieces?

几何概形

线性规划

## Problem 4 Solution

$$l=1$$



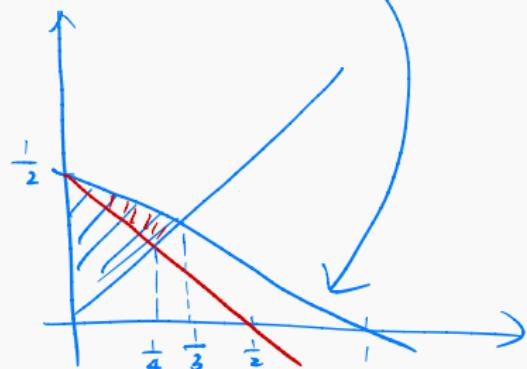
同底

$$x < y < 1-x-y$$

$$y < \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}x$$

$$x+y > 1-x-y$$

$$l = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}} = 1 - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$



## Problem 4 Solution

随机扔 2 次  $\Rightarrow$  先扔一个再扔一个



$x$  random sample uniformly on  $(0, 1)$

$y$  random sample uniformly on  $(0, 1-x)$

$$x \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1) \quad y \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1-x)$$

$$x+y > 1-x-y \Rightarrow x+y > \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x+(1-x-y) > y \Rightarrow y < \frac{1}{2} \quad y > \frac{1}{2}x$$

$$y+(1-x-y) > x \Rightarrow x < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}-x}^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{1-x} \frac{1}{1-y} dy dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{1-x} (\frac{1}{2} - (\frac{1}{2} - x)) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x}{1-x} dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{1-x} - 1 dx$$

$$= -\ln(1-x) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} = \ln 2 + \frac{1}{2}$$

## Problem 5

生日问题 \*

thinking from the opposite.

In the birthday problem, we assumed that all 365 days of the year are equally likely (and excluded February 29). In reality, some days are slightly more likely as birthdays than others. For example, scientists have long struggled to understand why more babies are born 9 months after a holiday. Let  $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{365})$  be the vector of birthday probabilities, with  $p_j$  the probability of being born on the  $j$ th day of the year (February 29 is still excluded, with no offense intended to Leap Dayers). The  $k$ th elementary symmetric polynomial in the variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is defined by

$$e_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_k}.$$

## Problem 5 Continued

This just says to add up all of the  $\binom{n}{k}$  terms we can get by choosing and multiplying  $k$  of the variables. For example,  $e_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$ ,  $e_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2 + x_1x_3 + x_2x_3$ , and  $e_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2x_3$ . Now let  $k \geq 2$  be the number of people.

- (a) Find a simple expression for the probability that there is at least one birthday match, in terms of  $p$  and an elementary symmetric polynomial.

## Problem 5 Solution

$$k > 365 \quad p = 1$$

$$2 \leq k \leq 365$$

at least one match  $\Leftrightarrow 1 - p$  no match

$$= \underbrace{|-k|}_{\text{e}_k} e_k(\vec{p})$$

## Problem 5 Continued

不严谨  $\Rightarrow$  取极限情况 简单例子描述

- (b) Explain intuitively why it makes sense that  $P(\text{at least one birthday match})$  is minimized when  $p_j = \frac{1}{365}$  for all  $j$ , by considering simple and extreme cases.

## Problem 5 Solution

e.g.  $k=2$   $P(\text{at least one birthday matches})$

$$= 1 - \mathbb{P}(\text{no birthday matches})$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^{365} p_i \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} p_i p_j$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{365} p_i^2$$
$$\geq 365 \cdot \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{365} p_i}{365} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{365}, \quad \forall i \quad p_i = \frac{1}{365}$$

## Problem 5 Continued

(c) The famous arithmetic mean-geometric mean inequality says that for  $x, y \geq 0$

$$\frac{x+y}{2} \geq \sqrt{xy}.$$

This inequality follows from adding  $4xy$  to both sides of  $x^2 - 2xy + y^2 = (x - y)^2 \geq 0$ . Define  $\mathbf{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_{365})$  by  $r_1 = r_2 = (p_1 + p_2)/2, r_j = p_j$  for  $3 \leq j \leq 365$ . Using the arithmetic mean-geometric mean bound and the fact, which you should verify, that

先证

$$\begin{aligned} e_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ = & x_1 x_2 e_{k-2}(x_3, \dots, x_n) \\ & + (x_1 + x_2) e_{k-1}(x_3, \dots, x_n) \\ & + e_k(x_3, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 5 Continued

show that

$$P(\text{at least one birthday match} \mid \mathbf{p})$$

$$\geq P(\text{at least one birthday match} \mid \mathbf{r})$$

with strict inequality if  $\mathbf{p} \neq \mathbf{r}$ , where the given  $\mathbf{r}$  notation means that the birthday probabilities are given by  $\mathbf{r}$ . Using this, show that the value of  $\mathbf{p}$  that minimizes the probability of at least one birthday match is given by  $p_j = \frac{1}{365}$  for all  $j$ .

## Problem 5 Solution

$$\begin{aligned} P(C \dots | P) &= 1 - k! e_k c_P \\ &= 1 - k! \left( p_1 p_2 e_{k-2}(p_3 \dots p_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (p_1 + p_2) e_{k-1}(p_3 \dots p_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e_k(p_3 \dots p_n) \right) \\ &\geq 1 - k! \left( \frac{(p_1 + p_2)^k}{4} e_{k-2}(p_3 \dots p_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (p_1 + p_2) e_{k-1}(p_3 \dots p_n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e_k(p_3 \dots p_n) \right) \\ &= P(C \dots | r) \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 6

 小浣熊干脆面 集卡

If each box of a brand of crispy instant noodle contains a coupon, and there are 108 different types of coupons. Given  $n \geq 200$ , what is the probability that buying  $n$  boxes can collect all 108 types of coupons? You also need to plot a figure to show how such probability changes with the increasing value of  $n$ . When such probability is no less than 95%, what is the minimum number of  $n$ ?

## Problem 6 Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & P(\text{all collect}) \\ &= 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{108} \bar{z}_i^n\right) \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{108} (-1)^{i-1} P\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^{108} z_i\right) \\ &= 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{108} (-1)^{i-1} \binom{108}{i} \left(\frac{108-i}{108}\right)^n \end{aligned}$$

zi 第 i 张没补  
收集到

$$95\% \Rightarrow 823$$

# Outline

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# BH CH1 # 38 (Choose a Right Tool Given Keywords)

Standford  
UI

BT  $\Rightarrow$  MIT

There are  $n$  balls in a jar, labeled with the numbers  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . A total of  $k$  balls are drawn, one by one with replacement, to obtain a sequence of numbers.

- (a) What is the probability that the sequence obtained is strictly increasing?

$$\frac{\binom{n}{k}}{n^k}$$

$1, 2, 3 \quad \} \neq$   
 $1, 3, 2 \quad } \text{order?}$   
 $3, 1, 2 \quad \times$   
replacement?  $\times$

## BH CH1 # 38 Solution

## BH CH1 # 38 Continued

order X  
replacement ✓

- (b) What is the probability that the sequence obtained is

increasing?



$$\frac{\binom{n+k-1}{k}}{n^k}$$

$$t_1 + \dots + t_n = k$$

# BH CH1 # 38 Solution

## BH CH1 # 52 (Inclusion-Exclusion)

Alice attends a small college in which each class meets only once a week. She is deciding between 30 non-overlapping classes. There are 6 classes to choose from for each day of the week, Monday through Friday. Trusting in the benevolence of randomness, Alice decides to register for 7 randomly selected classes out of the 30, with all choices equally likely. What is the probability that she will have classes every day, Monday through Friday? (This problem can be done either directly using the naive definition of probability, or using inclusion-exclusion.)

# BH CH1 # 52 Solution

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \begin{array}{cc} \text{天} & \text{课} \\ 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \frac{3}{1}$$

$$\frac{\binom{5}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{2} \cdot b^3 + \binom{5}{1} \cdot \binom{6}{3} \cdot b^4}{\binom{11}{3}} \cdot 64$$

$$\frac{144}{377}$$

$$\binom{30}{7}$$

$$- - -$$

$$P(A^c) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^5 B_i\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^5 (-1)^{i+1} P\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^{i-1} B_j\right)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{ 客观: } B_i: \text{第}i \text{ 天无课}$$

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$$

↓  
天无课

$$P(B_1) = \frac{\binom{24}{7}}{\binom{30}{7}}$$

$$P(B_1 \cap B_2) = \frac{\binom{18}{7}}{\binom{30}{7}}$$

$$P(B_1 \cap B_2) = \frac{\binom{12}{7}}{\binom{20}{7}}$$