

There will be two sections in this chapter. One on set theory and one on combinatorics

## 1 Set theory

Formula for  $P(E, F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(EF)$ . For a die example coming up to or less than 3, there is two sets

$$E = \{1, 2, 3\} F = \{3\} \quad (1)$$

This yields

$$P(E, F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(EF) = \frac{3}{6} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{3}{6} \quad (2)$$

The expansion of the formula is the following:

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A \cup (B \cup C)) = P(A) + P(B \cup C) - P(A(B \cup C)) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(BC) - P(A(B \cup C)) \quad (3)$$

It can be shown that

$$P(A(B \cup C)) = P(AB \cup AC) = P(AB) + P(AC) - P(ABC) \quad (4)$$

Therefore

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(BC) - P(AB) - P(AC) + P(ABC) \quad (5)$$

Also it is important to note that

$$P[A \cup C | B] = \frac{P[(A \cup C) \cap B]}{P[B]} = \frac{P[(A \cap B) \cup (C \cap B)]}{P[B]} = \frac{P[(A \cap B)] \cup P[(C \cap B)]}{P[B]} = P[A|B] + P[C|B] \quad (6)$$

The above equation gives us idea of the total law of probability . If sample space  $S$  is defined into  $N$  partitions  $B_1, \dots, B_N$  such that  $S = \cup_{i=1}^N B_i$  and  $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$ , then  $P[A]$  can be rewritten in this form:

$$P[A] = P[A \cap S] = P[A \cap (\cup_{i=1}^N B_i)] = P[(A \cap B_1) \cup (A \cap B_2) \dots (A \cap B_N)] \quad (7)$$

This gives us

$$P[A] = \sum_{i=1}^N P[A \cap B_i] \quad (8)$$

, which given the formula above yields

$$P[A] = \sum_{i=1}^N P[A|B_i]P[B_i] \quad (9)$$

This can be used in problems when probability can be expanded into a tree form ( e.g. calculating probability of selecting a red balls from  $N$  urns, each having  $P[A_i]$  red ball proportion).

## 2 Combinatorics

There is an urn with  $k$  red balls and  $N - k$  black balls. We want to define event where red ball is chosen followed by a black one *with replacement*. This is represented by the event  $E = \{(z_1, z_2) : z_1 = 1, \dots, k, z_2 = k + 1, \dots, N\}$ . This is defined as

$$P[E] = \frac{N_E}{N_S} = \frac{k(N - k)}{N^2} = \frac{k}{N}(N - k)\frac{1}{N} = \frac{k}{N}\left(1 - \frac{k}{N}\right) \quad (10)$$

Observe that if we set  $p = \frac{k}{N}$  we will get a proportion  $p(1 - p)$ . Now, consider sampling *without replacement*.

$$P[E] = \frac{k(N - k)}{N(N - 1)} = \frac{k}{N} \frac{(N - k)N}{N} \frac{1}{N - 1} = p(1 - p) \frac{N}{1 - N} \quad (11)$$

There are two options to consider,

1. Sampling with replacement - we use  $N^n$  formula
2. Sampling without replacement - there is two options in here
  - (a) ordered sample - for which we will use  $\frac{N!}{(N - n)!}$ . These are referred to as permutations, and expressed as:

$$\frac{N!}{(N - n)!} = \frac{N(N - 1)(N - 2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}{N(N - 1)(N - 2) \cdots (N - n + 1)(N - n)} \quad (12)$$

This is sometimes referred to as  $x$  to the  $k$  falling, and can be rewritten as

$$x^k = (N)_k = x(x + 1)(x + 2) \cdots (x + k - 1) = \prod_{i=0}^{k-1} (x + i) \quad (13)$$

- (b) unordered sample - for which we will use the binomial coefficient  $nk = \frac{N!}{n!(N - n)!}$ . These are called combinations.

In general, there is fewer results for combinations, than permutations. Also, as the well-known fact states a combination lock is actually a permutation lock. For a permutation lock both sequences  $\{1, 4, 6, 9\}$  and  $\{1, 4, 6, 9\}$  are different. While for a combination lock both are treated as one sequence.