

Special Topics in Communication Networks

Lecture 1

Why is the
understanding of
randomness important?

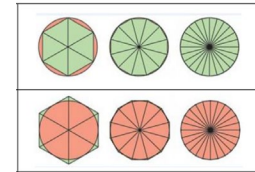
Why we should study the probability?



How can we find π ?

1. Geometric Methods

- **Circumscribed and Inscribed Polygons:** Archimedes used this method with a 96-sided polygon to estimate π as being between 3.1408 and 3.1429.

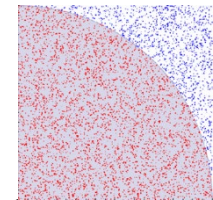


2. Infinite Series

- **Leibniz Formula for π :** $\pi = 4 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots\right)$ simple, yet slow-converging series
- **Nilakantha's Series:** $\pi = 4 \times \left(3 + \frac{1}{2 \times 3 \times 4} - \frac{1}{4 \times 5 \times 6} + \frac{1}{6 \times 7 \times 8} \dots\right)$ A faster-converging series from the 15th century

3. Probabilistic Methods

- **Monte Carlo Simulations:** Randomly generating points, the ratio of points that fall inside the quarter circle to the total number of points



4. Analytical Methods

- **Buffon's Needle:** This is a **probability-based** method involving dropping needles on a surface marked with parallel lines and observing the number of times the needles cross the lines.

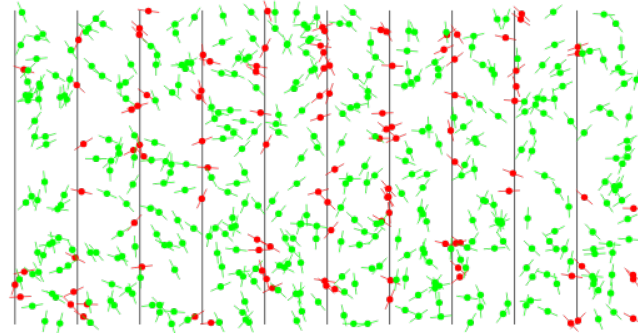
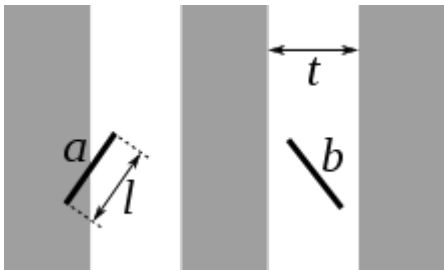
5. Computational Algorithms

- **Machin-like Formulas:** These are formulas that express π as sums of arctangents, which can be computed to high precision using Taylor series expansions. $\frac{\pi}{4} = \text{atan}1$, $\frac{\pi}{4} = 4 \text{atan}\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + \text{atan}\left(\frac{1}{239}\right)$
- **BBP (Bailey-Borwein-Plouffe) Formula:** This formula allows for the calculation of the n th binary digit of π without needing to calculate the preceding $n-1$ digits, facilitating high-precision calculations of π on computers.

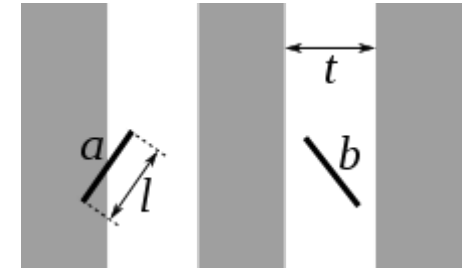
6. Using Built-in Mathematical Functions

Buffon's Needle

- Suppose we have a floor made of parallel strips of wood, each the same width, and we drop a needle onto the floor. What is the probability that the needle will lie across a line between two strips?



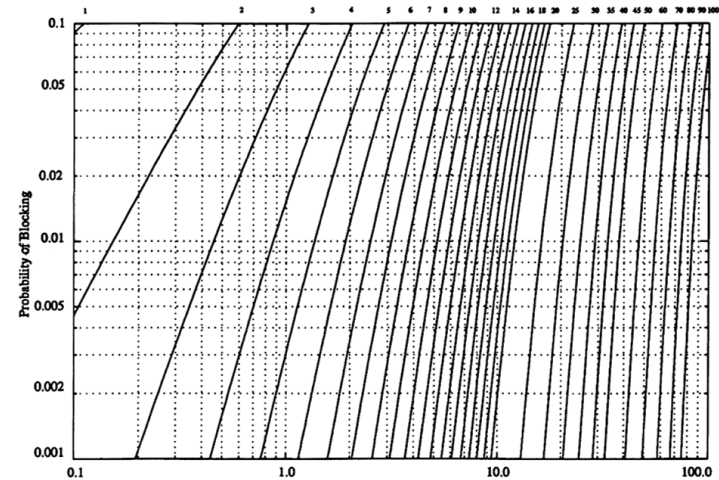
Solution: Buffon's Needle



- Let x be the distance from the center of the needle to the closest parallel line, and let θ be the acute angle between the needle and one of the parallel lines.
- The uniform probability density function (PDF) of x between 0 and $\frac{t}{2}$ is
 - $f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{t}, 0 \leq x \leq \frac{t}{2} \\ 0, \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- The uniform probability density function of θ between 0 and $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is
 - $f_\Theta(\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi}, 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 0, \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- The two random variables, x and θ , are independent,[4] so the joint probability density function is the product
 - $f_{X,\Theta}(x, \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{t\pi}, 0 \leq x \leq \frac{t}{2}, 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 0, \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- The needle crosses a line if $x \leq \frac{l}{2} \sin \theta$
- When $l \leq t$, $p = \int_{\theta=0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{x=0}^{\frac{l}{2} \sin \theta} \frac{4}{t\pi} dx d\theta = \frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{l}{t}$
- How about $l > t$?

How to define a capacity of trunk lines?

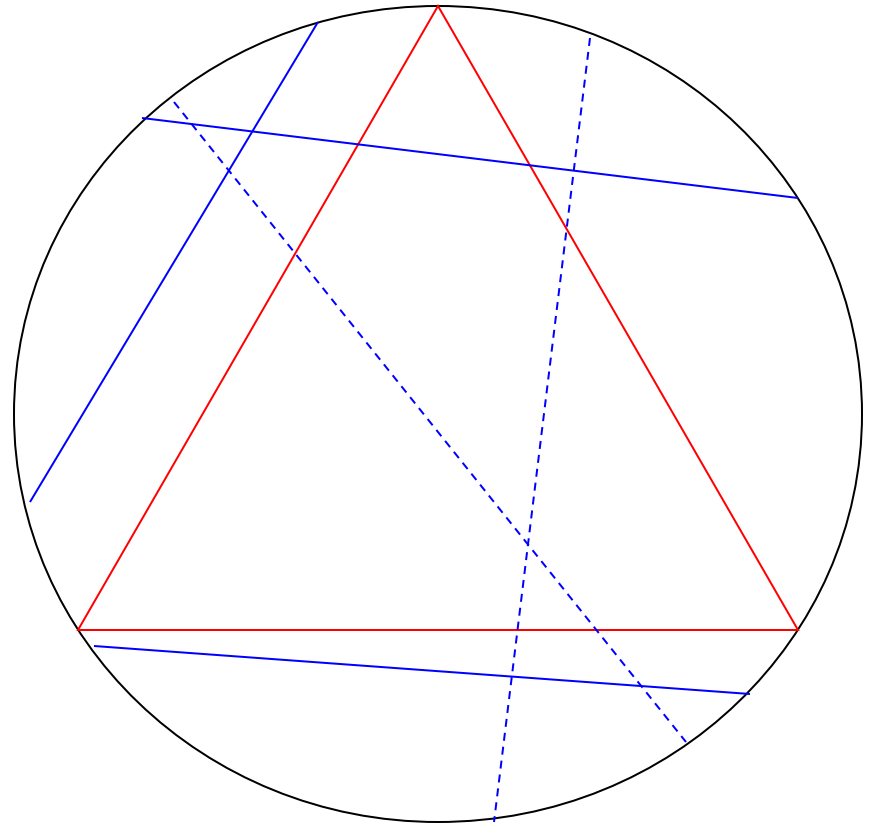
- Blocked calls cleared
- Calls arrive as determined by a Poisson process
- The duration of the time that a user occupies a channel is exponentially distributed
- How many users can be supported for 2% blocking probability for ten of trunked channels in a blocked calls cleared system?
- How many users can be supported 2% blocking probability for ten of trunked channels with an average calling time of 2 mins in an hour?



Bertrand Paradox

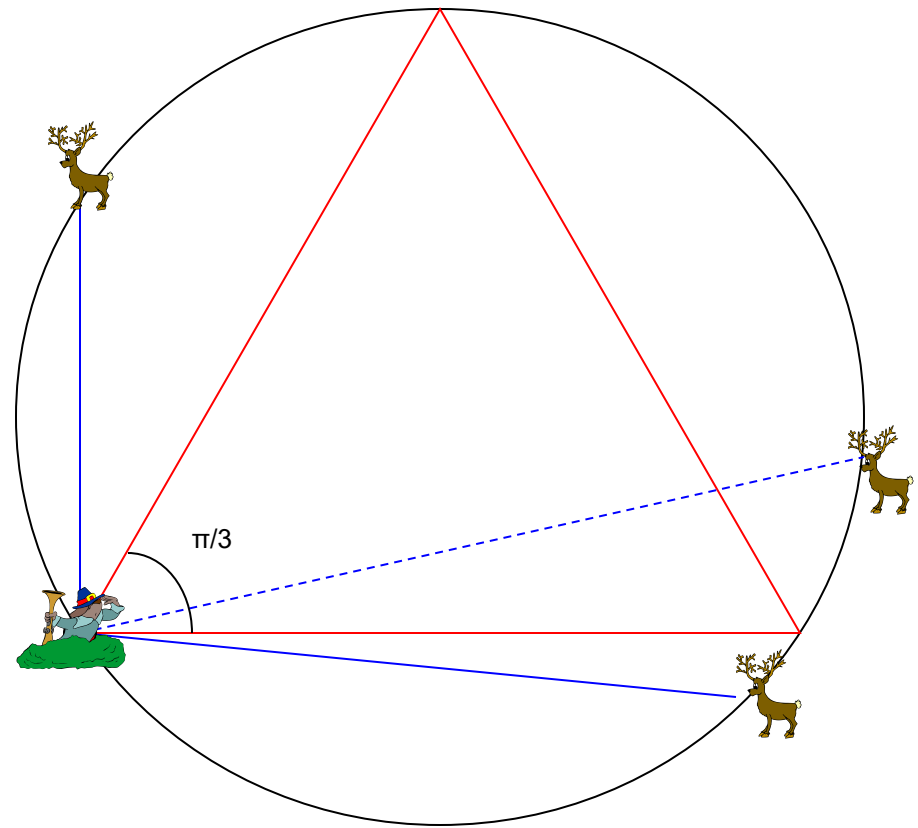
•Consider an equilateral triangle inscribed in a circle. Suppose a chord of the circle is chosen at random. What is the probability that the chord is longer than a side of the triangle?

1. A third
2. A half
3. A quarter



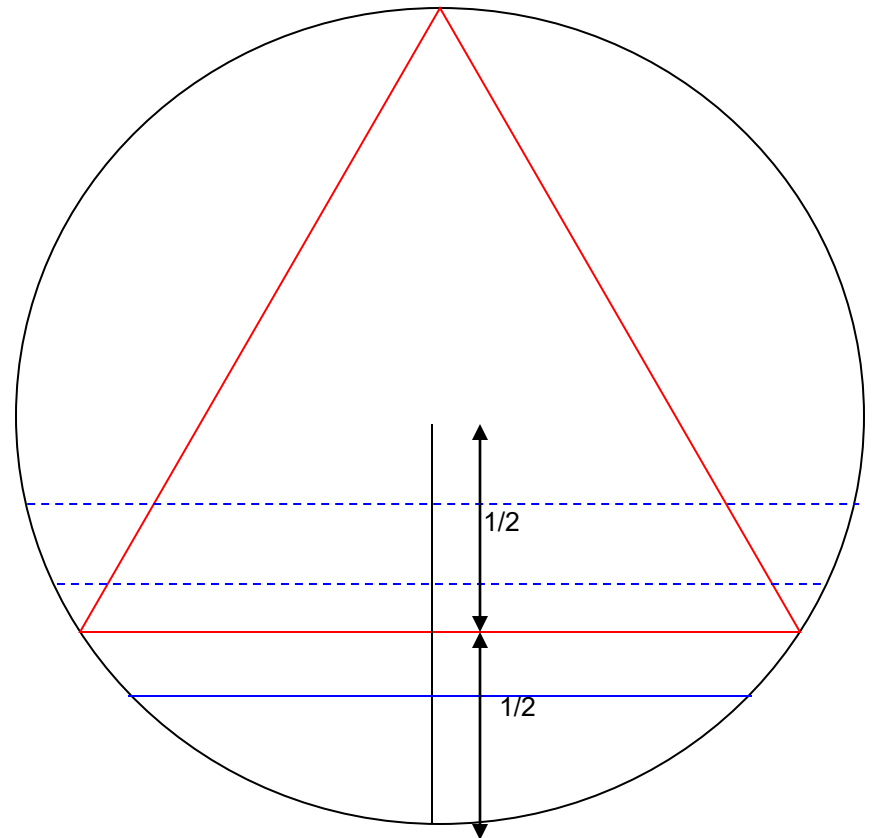
Solution 1: Bertrand Paradox

- Choose a point on the circumference and rotate the triangle so that the point is at one vertex.
- Choose another point on the circle and draw the chord joining it to the first point.
- For points on the arc between the endpoints of the side opposite the first point, the chord is longer than a side of the triangle.
- The length of the arc is one third of the circumference of the circle, therefore the probability a random chord is longer than a side of the inscribed triangle is **one third**.



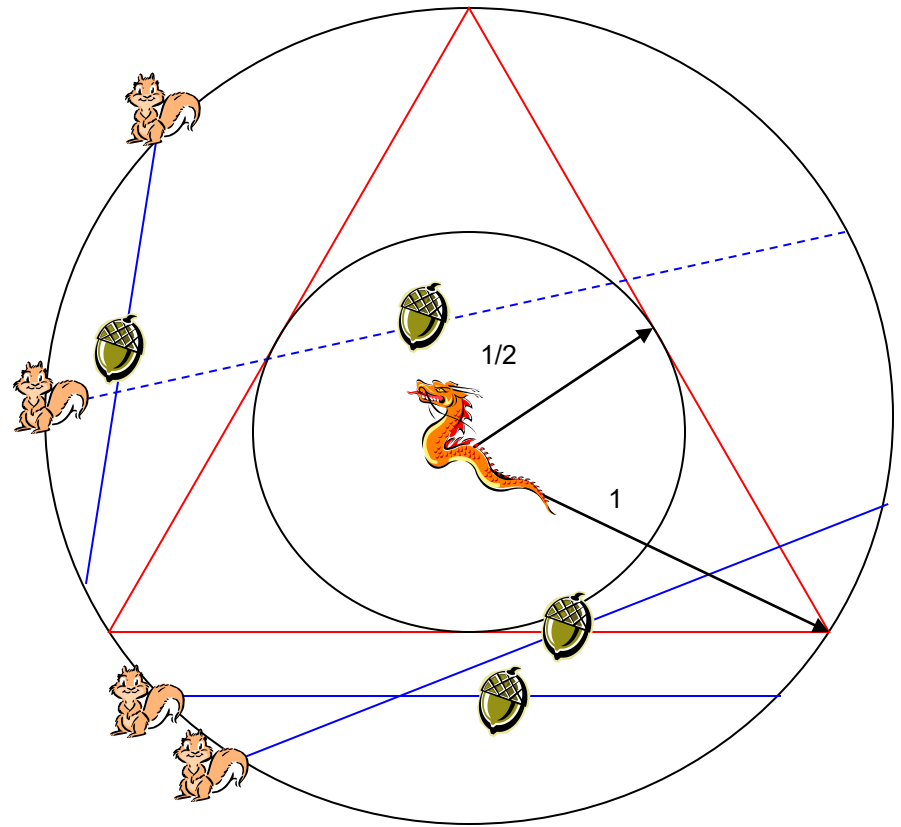
Solution 2: Bertrand Paradox

- Choose a radius of the circle and rotate the triangle so a side is perpendicular to the radius.
- Choose a point on the radius and construct the chord whose midpoint is the chosen point.
- The chord is longer than a side of the triangle if the chosen point is nearer the center of the circle than the point where the side of the triangle intersects the radius.
- Since the side of the triangle bisects the radius, it is equally probable that the chosen point is nearer or farther.
- Therefore the probability a random chord is longer than a side of the inscribed triangle is **one half**.



Solution 3: Bertrand Paradox

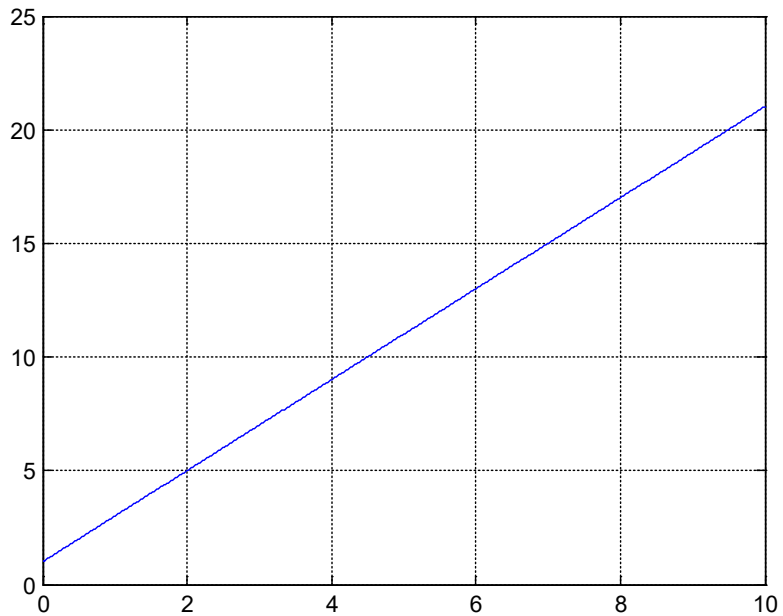
- Choose a point anywhere within the circle and construct a chord with the chosen point as its midpoint.
- The chord is longer than a side of the inscribed triangle if the chosen point falls within a concentric circle of radius $1/2$.
- The area of the smaller circle is one fourth the area of the larger circle, therefore the probability a random chord is longer than a side of the inscribed triangle is **one fourth**.



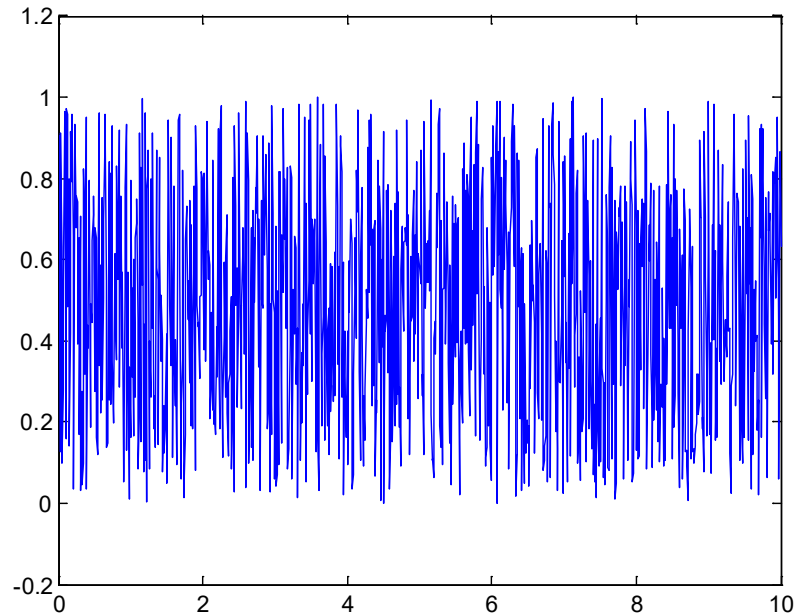
Our Interest and Goals

- Study special topics in communications regarding probabilities and stochastic processes
 - Reinforced learning
 - Queueing, etc.
- Study related tools to characterize non-deterministic signals
 - Random processes, statistics
- Study tools to characterize uncertainty
 - Probability theory, random events, random variables

Random versus Deterministic



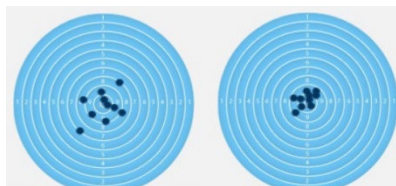
$Y=2X+1$



Random Noise

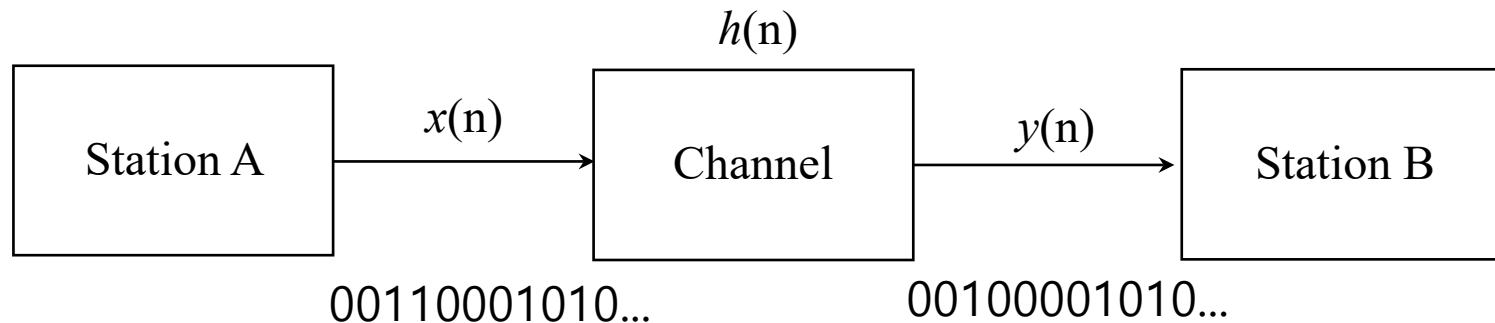
Randomness around us

- At bus stop
 - Waiting time for bus
 - The number of people to take a bus
- At a bank
 - Waiting time for service
 - Service time
 - The number of customers to wait for
- Bet/Game
 - Toss a coin: Head or Tail
 - Roll a dice: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Shooting game



Typical Electrical Engineering Problems (1/3)

- A noisy binary communication channel
 - The channel can be twisted pair, coaxial cable, fiber optic cable, or wireless medium.
 - The channel introduces noise and thereby bit errors.



Typical Electrical Engineering Problems (2/3)

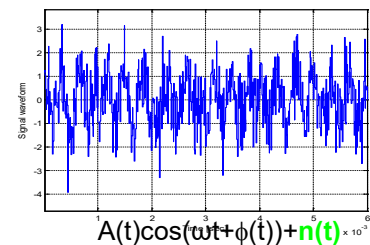
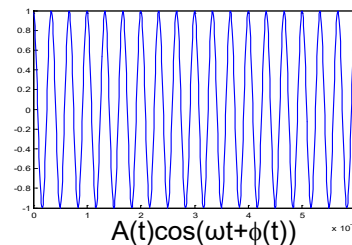
- Desired target signal is buried in noise.

$$x(t) = A(t) \cos(\omega t + \phi(t)) + n(t)$$

signal signal noise

Diagram illustrating the equation $x(t) = A(t) \cos(\omega t + \phi(t)) + n(t)$. Arrows point from the labels "signal", "signal", and "noise" below to the terms $A(t) \cos(\omega t + \phi(t))$, $A(t) \cos(\omega t + \phi(t))$, and $n(t)$ respectively in the equation above.

- Determine the presence or absence of the desired signal.
- Filter the signal out of noise.
- Demodulate the signal.

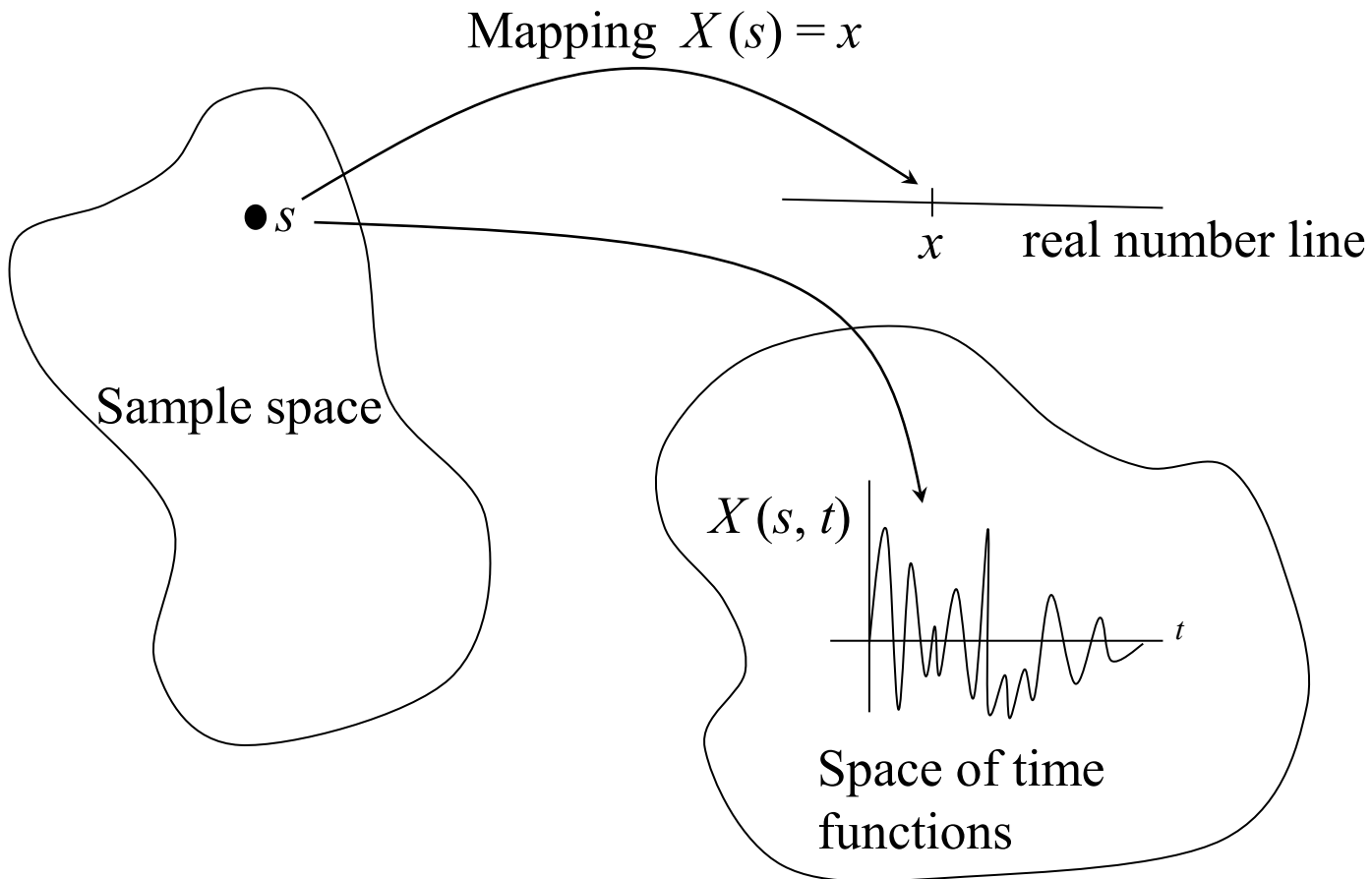


Typical Electrical Engineering Problems (3/3)

- In large computer networks, there are limited resources (e.g., bandwidth, routers, switches, printers and other devices) that need to be shared by the users.
 - User jobs/packets are queued and assigned service based on predefined criteria.
 - Demand is uncertain and service time is also uncertain.
 - Delay from the time the service is requested to the time it is completed is uncertain.
- Similar considerations exist for telephone networks, multiuser computer networks, and other communication networks.

Random Variables and Random Processes

- We will study them details later



Probability Space

- A probability space $(S, \mathcal{F}(S), P)$ is a triple made up of three elements
 1. S : Sample space
 2. $\mathcal{F}(S)$: A collection of sets S , event space
 3. The probabilities of $P(E)$ for each $E \in \mathcal{F}(S)$
 $P(\cdot): \mathcal{F}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$

Sample Space (S , $F(S)$, P)

- Experimental **outcomes** are unpredictable
- The set of all possible outcomes is known
- The **sample space** S of an experiment is defined as the set of all possible outcomes of the experiment.
 - The flipping of a coin: $S = \{H, T\}$
 - The rolling of a die: $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
 - The flipping of two coins: $S = \{(H, H), (H, T), (T, H), (T, T)\}$
 - The lifetime of a car: $S = [0, \infty)$
- **An Event** is any subset E of the sample space S ($E \subset S$ or $E \in F(S)$)
 - $E = \{H\}$, $E = \{1\}$, $E = \{1, 3, 5\}$ $E = \{(H, H), (T, T)\}$

Basic Set Theory Definitions

- The set containing all possible elements of interest is called the universe, universal set or **space** S .
- The set containing no elements is called the **empty set** or **null set**.
- For any two events E and $F \subset S$, we define the event
 - $E \cup F$: the event $E \cup F$ will occur if either E or F (the union of E and F)
 - $E \cap F$ (or EF): the event EF consists of all outcomes which are both in E and in F
 - $E = \{1,3,5\}, F = \{1,2,3\}, E \cup F = ? E \cap F = ?$
 - If $EF = \emptyset$, then E and F are said to be **mutually exclusive**.
 - For more than two events, we can define unions and intersections such as $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n$ and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n$, where E_n s are events
- E^c : the **complement** of E , E^c will occur if and only if E does not occur
 - $S = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}, E = \{1,3,5\}, E^c = \{2,4,6\}, S^c = \emptyset$ or $\{\}$
- Two sets E and F are **equal** if they contain exactly the same elements.

Event Space $(S, \mathcal{F}(S), P)$

- Intuitively, is a collection of events which we are interested in computing the probability of.
- Mathematically, is a family of subset of sample space S closed under certain set operations as below:
 1. If $E \in \mathcal{F}(S)$, then $E^c \in \mathcal{F}(S)$
 2. If $E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{F}(S)$, then $E_1 \cup E_2 \in \mathcal{F}(S)$
 3. If $E_1, E_2, E_3 \dots \in \mathcal{F}(S)$, then $\bigcup_{i=\{1,\dots,\infty\}} E_i \in \mathcal{F}(S)$
- A family of sets satisfying these three properties is called a σ -field

Probabilities Defined on Events (S, F(S), P)

- For each event E of a sample space S, we assume that a number P(E) is defined and satisfies the following three conditions:
 1. $0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$
 2. $P(S) = 1$
 3. For any sequence of events E_1, E_2, \dots that are mutually exclusive, that is, events for which $E_n E_m = \emptyset$ when $n \neq m$, then
$$P(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(E_n)$$
- We refer to P(E) as the **probability** of the event E.
 - E.g) the coin flipping $P(\{H\}) = P(\{T\}) = 1/2$
 - The die rolling:
$$P(\{1\}) = P(\{2\}) = P(\{3\}) = P(\{4\}) = P(\{5\}) = P(\{6\}) = 1/6$$
$$P(\{1,3,5\}) = P(\{1\}) + P(\{3\}) + P(\{5\}) = 1/2$$

Properties of Probability (1/2)

- $P(S)=1$
 - $P(E)+P(E^c)=P(S)$
 - $P(E) = 1 - P(E^c)$
 - $P(\emptyset)=0$
 - If $EF = \emptyset$, then $P(EF) = 0$

- $P(E \cup F)=P(E)+P(F)-P(EF)$
 - If $E \subset F$, then $P(E) \leq P(F)$

- $P(E \cup F \cup G)$

$$= P(E) + P(F) - P(EF) + P(G) - P(EG \cup FG)$$

$$= P(E) + P(F) - P(EF) + P(G) - P(EG) - P(FG) + P(EFG)$$

$$= P(E) + P(F) + P(G) - P(EF) - P(EG) - P(FG) + P(EFG)$$

- $P(E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3 \cup \dots \cup E_n)$

$$= \sum_i P(E_i) - \sum_{i < j} P(E_i E_j) + \sum_{i < j < k} P(E_i E_j E_k) + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} P(E_1 E_2 \dots E_n)$$

The Principle of Total Probability

Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be a set of mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive events:

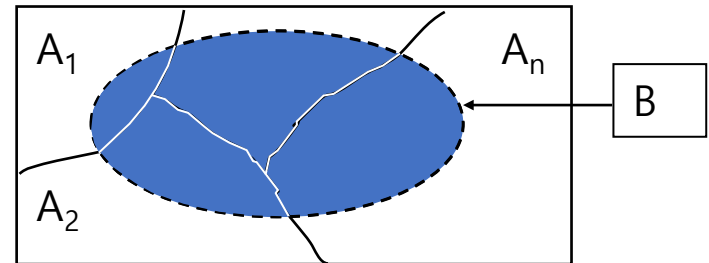
$$A_k A_j = 0 \quad k \neq j$$

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^n A_j = S$$

$$\text{then } \sum_{j=1}^n \Pr[A_j] = 1$$

Now let B be any event in S . Then,

$$\Pr[B] = \Pr[BA_1] + \Pr[BA_2] + \dots + \Pr[BA_n]$$



Conditional Probability

- If we let E and F denote the events, then the probability $P(E|F)$ is **the conditional probability** that E occurs given that F has occurred
 - Because we know that F has occurred, it follows that F becomes our new sample space and hence the event EF occurs will equal the probability of EF relative to the probability of F . That is
$$P(E|F) = P(EF)/P(F) \quad (1.5)$$
- Ex) A family has two children. What is the conditional probability that boys given that at least one of them is a boy? Assume that the sample space S is given by $S = \{(b,b), (b,g), (g,b), (g,g)\}$, and all outcomes are equally likely
 - $P(B|A) = P(BA)/P(A) = P(\{(b,b)\})/P(\{(b,b), (b,g), (g,b)\})$
 $= (1/4)/(3/4) = 1/3$

Independent Events

- Two events E and F are said to **independent** if $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
- By (1.5) this implies that E and F are independent if $P(E|F) = P(E)$
 - $P(E|F) = P(EF)/P(F) = P(E)P(F)/P(F) = P(E)$
- Two event E and F that are not independent are said to be **dependent**
- The definition of independence can be extended to more than two events. The events E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n are said to be independent if for every subset E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r , $r \leq n$ of these events

$$P(E_1 E_2 \dots E_r) = P(E_1)P(E_2) \dots P(E_r)$$
- Ex) Let $E = \{1, 2\}$, $F = \{1, 3\}$, $G = \{1, 4\}$, $P(\{1\}) = P(\{2\}) = P(\{3\}) = P(\{4\})$
 - $P(EF) = P(E)P(F) = 1/4$
 - $P(EG) = P(E)P(G) = 1/4$
 - $P(FG) = P(F)P(G) = 1/4$ (Mutually independent)
 - However, $1/4 = P(EFG) \neq P(E)P(F)P(G) = 1/8$. Hence, the events EFG are not jointly independent.

Bayes' Formula

- Suppose that F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n are mutually exclusive events such that $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i$, then

- $E = ES = E(\bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n EF_i$
- $P(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(EF_i)$
 $= \sum_{i=1}^n P(E|F_i) P(F_i)$ from (1.5) (1.8)

- $P(F_i|E) = \frac{P(E|F_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(E|F_i) P(F_i)}$ from (1.5) (1.9)

- Equation (1.9) is known as Bayes' Formula

- Ex) $F \cup F^c = S$

- $P(E) = P(ES) = P(E(F \cup F^c)) = P(EF \cup EF^c) = P(EF) + P(EF^c)$
 $= P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^c) P(F^c) = P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^c) (1 - P(F))$
- $P(F|E) = P(E|F)P(F)/P(E) = P(E|F)P(F)/(P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^c) P(F^c))$

Example of Bayes' Formula

- Ex. 1.13] In answering a question on a multiple-choice test a student either knows the answer or guesses. Let p be the probability that she knows the answer and $1-p$ the probability that she guesses. Assume that a student who guesses at the answer will be correct with probability $1/m$, where m is the number of multiple-choice alternatives. What is the conditional probability that a student knew the answer to a question given that she answered it correctly?
 - Let C and K denote respectively the event that the student answers the question correctly and the event that she actually knows the answer. Now
 - $$\begin{aligned} P(K|C) &= P(KC)/P(C) \\ &= P(C|K)P(K)/(P(C|K)P(K) + P(C|K^c)P(K^c)) \\ &= p/(p + (1/m)(1 - p)) \\ &= mp/(1 + (m - 1)p) \end{aligned}$$
 - Thus, for example, if $m = 5$, $p = 1/2$, then the probability that a student knew the answer to a question she correctly answered is $5/6$.

Example 1 of Probability

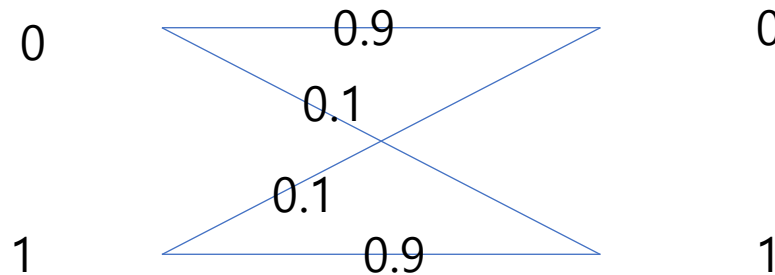
- Consider an experiment with a coin and a die. We define event A as an outcome with “head” of the coin and an even number of the die. Even B is defined as an outcome with a number greater than 3. Find the following answers
 - $P(A)$
 - $P(B)$
 - $P(AB)$
 - $P(A|B)$
 - $P(B|A)$

Answer: Example 1

- $P(A) = 3/12 = 1/4$
- $P(B) = 6/12 = 1/2$
- $AB = \{H4, H6\}, P(AB) = 2/12 = 1/6$
- $P(A|B) = P(AB)/P(B) = 1/3$
- $P(B|A) = P(AB)/P(A) = 2/3$

Example 2 of Probability

- Let A_1 (A_0) and B_1 (B_0) be the event that 1 (0) is sent and the event that 1(0) is received, respectively.
- Assumption
 - $P(A_0) = 0.8$, $P(A_1) = 1 - P(A_0) = 0.2$,
 - The probability of error, i.e., $p = P(B_1|A_0) = P(B_0|A_1)$, is 0.1



- Find
 - The error probability at the receiver
 - The probability that 1 is sent when the receiver decides 1.

Answer: Example 2

- Parameters

- $P(A_0) = 0.8, P(A_1) = 1 - P(A_0) = 0.2, P(B_1|A_0) = P(B_0|A_1) = 0.1$

- The error probability at the receiver

- $P(\text{error}) = P(A_0B_1) + P(A_1B_0) = P(B_1|A_0)P(A_0) + P(B_0|A_1)P(A_1) = 0.1$

- The probability that 1 is sent when the receiver decides 1.

- $$P(A_m|B) = \frac{P(B|A_m)P(A_m)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A_m)P(A_m)}{\sum_{n=1}^N P(B|A_n)P(A_n)}$$
- $$P(A_1|B_1) = \frac{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1)}{P(B_1)} = \frac{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1)}{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1) + P(B_1|A_0)P(A_0)} = \frac{0.9 \times 0.2}{0.9 \times 0.2 + 0.1 \times 0.8} = 0.69$$