

11 Sep 2025

Thursday, September 11, 2025 1:59 PM

Enumerating equally likely outcomes

- Assume a large but finite sample space Ω , $|\Omega| = N$

Want $P(A)$ where $A \subseteq \Omega$, $A \in \mathcal{P}_\Omega$

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{# THINGS IN } A}{N}$$

Product Rule of counting:

- If a job consists of k separate experiments, the i th of which can be done in n_i ways, then the job can be done in $n_1 * n_2 * \dots * n_k$ ways

SAMPLING

w/o REP. w/ REPLACEMENT

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ordered Permu. | $\frac{n!}{(n-1)!}$ | n^r |
| Not ordered Comb. | $\frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!}$ | $\binom{n+r-1}{r}$ |

$\binom{n}{r}$

Example: How many ways to get exactly one pair in a five card poker hand?

Split problem into simpler tasks, then combine them afterwards

- 1) Select denomination of the pair (1, 2, ... Queen, King)
- 2) Select suits associated with pair
- 3) Select denomination of other 3 cards
- 4) Select suits of other 3 cards

1) Only 13 possible numbers $\binom{13}{1}$

2) Pick 2 of the 4 suits for those cards (order doesn't matter) $\binom{4}{2}$

3) 12 remaining numbers, can't have any pairs there (without replacement) $\binom{12}{3}$

4) Remaining cards can be any of the suits (4 suits, 3 cards) : 4^3

1 1 2 1 1 4 1 1 2 1 3

Ans. (1) (2) (3) 4

Rule of Sum: eletta

Example: How many ways I can fly between SLC and NYC

- 1) Southwest: connects through Denver. 4 Routes between NYC and Denver. 5 routes between Denver and SLC
- 2) Delta: 2 direct NYC:SLC
- 3) United: NYC:Chicago (8), Chicago:SLC (3)

Find the possibilities for each airline, then add together:

- 1) $4 \cdot 5 = 20$
 - 2) 2 total
 - 3) $8 \cdot 3 = 24$
- Ans. $20 + 2 + 24 = 46$

Inclusion/Exclusion $|S| = N$

Want to enumerate elements in A i.e. $N_A = |A|$

Sometimes easier to enumerate: $N_{A^c} = |A^c| \quad \therefore N_A = N - N_{A^c}$

Uniform Probability over continuous domain

Consider: $S' \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

Assume events occur with uniform probability.

$$\text{Then for } A \subseteq S', \quad P(A) = \frac{\int_A ds}{\int_{S'} ds}$$

Conditional Probability

If $A, B \subseteq S'$ and $P(B) > 0$, $P(A \cap B)$

$$\text{Cond. Prob. } A \text{ given } B: P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Adding conditions redefines sample space. Sample space goes from S to B

Retraining this in conditional forms:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Often use law of total probability

$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(B|c_i)P(c_i)$$

$c_i \cap c_j = \emptyset \quad \bigcup_{i=1}^n c_i = S'$

Example: 3 prisoner example

3 prisoners: A, B, C

All sentenced to death, but one will be selected to be pardoned

Warden knows who will be selected, A asks warden to tell him one of the people who is being executed

If B is pardoned, say C. If C is pardoned, say A. If A is pardoned, say B or C (50/50)

Warden says B is being executed. A is happy because thinks now his probability is 1/2. Prisoner C thinks now C has a 2/3 chance of being pardoned

Event A: A is pardoned (same for B & C)

Event W: Warden says B will be executed

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Pris. PARDONED | Prob. PARDON | WARDEN SAYS | P(W X PARDONED) |
| A | $\frac{1}{3}$ | B, C | $P(w A) = \frac{1}{2}$ |
| B | $\frac{1}{3}$ | B | $P(w B) = 0$ |
| C | $\frac{1}{3}$ | C | $P(w C) = 1$ |

$$P(A|w) = \frac{P(A \cap w)}{P(w)} = \frac{P(w|A)P(A)}{P(w|A)P(A) + P(w|B)P(B) + P(w|C)P(C)}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 0 + 1\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(c|w) = \dots \frac{2}{3}$$

Independent Events

Two events A, B are statistically independent if: $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ DENOTED $A \perp\!\!\!\perp B$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(B)} = P(A)$$

Theorem: If A and B are independent events the following pairs are also independent:

$$A \perp\!\!\!\perp B \Rightarrow A \perp\!\!\!\perp B^c, A^c \perp\!\!\!\perp B, A^c \perp\!\!\!\perp B^c$$

$$\text{PROOF: } P(A \cap B^c) = P(A) - P(A \cap B) = P(A) - P(A)P(B) \stackrel{A \perp\!\!\!\perp B}{=} P(A)(1 - P(B)) \\ = P(A)P(B^c)$$

Mutual Independence

A collection of events A_1, \dots, A_n is mutually independent if any subcollection A_{i_1}, \dots, A_{i_k} we have:

$$P\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^k A_{i_j}\right) = \prod_{j=1}^k P(A_{i_j})$$