

1. For a group of 7 people, find the probability that all 4 seasons (winter, spring, summer, fall) occur at least once each among their birthdays, assuming that all seasons are equally likely.

ANS:

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First of all, number all the seasons. Now define

$$A_i = \{i\text{th season}\}$$

we want $P(\cap_{i=1}^4 A_i)$

$$P(\cap_{i=1}^4 A_i) = 1 - P((\cap_{i=1}^4 A_i)^c) = 1 - P(\cup_{i=1}^4 A_i^c)$$

$$= 1 - \left(P(A_1^c) + P(A_2^c) + P(A_3^c) + P(A_4^c) - P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c) - P(A_1^c \cap A_3^c) - P(A_1^c \cap A_4^c) - P(A_2^c \cap A_3^c) - P(A_2^c \cap A_4^c) - P(A_3^c \cap A_4^c) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c) + \dots + P(A_2^c \cap A_3^c \cap A_4^c) - P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c \cap A_4^c) \right)$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{i=1}^4 (-1)^{k+1} \binom{4}{k} \frac{(4-k)^7}{4^7} \quad \text{--- \{using symmetry\}}$$

$$= 1 - 4 \frac{3^7}{4^7} + 6 \frac{2^7}{4^7} - 4 \frac{1^7}{4^7}$$

2. 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?

ANS:

Ans:

$A_i = \{ \text{Alice has not any of classes at } i\text{-th day in week} \}$

we want $P(\cap_{i=1}^5 A_i^c)$

$$P(\cap_{i=1}^5 A_i^c) = P((\cup_{i=1}^5 A_i)^c) = 1 - P(\cup_{i=1}^5 A_i)$$

$$= 1 - (P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(A_3) + P(A_4) + P(A_5) - P(A_1 \cap A_2) - \dots - P(A_4 \cap A_5) + \dots - P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3 \cap A_4 \cap A_5))$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{k=1}^5 (-1)^{k+1} \binom{5}{k} P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_k)$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{k=1}^5 (-1)^{k+1} \binom{5}{k} \frac{\binom{30-6k}{7}}{\binom{30}{7}}$$