

### 3. Counting Sample Points

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One of the problems that the statistician must consider and attempt to evaluate is the **probability of certain events** when an experiment is performed.

In many cases we shall be able to solve a probability problem by counting the number of points in the sample space without actually listing each element.

# multiplication rule

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**Theorem 2.1** If an operation can be performed in  $n_1$  ways, and if for each of these a second operation can be performed in  $n_2$  ways, then the two operations can be performed together in  $n_1 n_2$  ways.

# multiplication rule

**Example 2.13** How many sample points are in the sample space when a pair of dice is thrown once?

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**Solution** The first dice can land in any one of  $n_1 = 6$  ways. For each of these 6 ways the second die can also land in  $n_2 = 6$  ways. Therefore, the pair of dice can land in

$$n_1 n_2 = 6 \times 6 = 36 \quad \text{possible ways.}$$

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**Theorem 2.2** If an operation can be performed in  $n_1$  ways, and if for each of these a second operation can be performed in  $n_2$  ways, and for each of the first two a third operation can be performed in  $n_3$  ways, and so forth, then the sequence of  $k$  operations can be performed in  $n_1 n_2 \dots n_k$  ways.



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**Solution** Since  $n_1 = 2$ ,  $n_2 = 4$ ,  $n_3 = 3$ , and  $n_4 = 5$ , there are

$$n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times n_4 = 2 \times 4 \times 3 \times 5 = 120$$

different ways to order the parts.

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$$n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 = 1 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60.$$

If the units position is not 0, there are a total of

$$n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 = 2 \times 4 \times 4 \times 3 = 96.$$

even four-digit numbers.

# multiplication rule

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If the units position is not 0, there are a total of

$$n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 = 2 \times 4 \times 4 \times 3 = 96.$$

even four-digit numbers.

The total number of even four-digit numbers is  $60 + 96 = 156$ .

# permutation

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How many different orders are possible for drawing 2 lottery tickets from a total of 20?

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The different arrangements are called **permutation**.

**Definition 2.7** A **permutation** is an arrangement of all or part of a set of objects.

# permutation

Consider the three letters  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ .

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There are  $n_1 = 3$  choices for the first position, then  $n_2 = 2$  for the second, leaving only  $n_3 = 1$  choice for the last position, giving a total of

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$$n_1 n_2 n_3 = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \text{ permutations.}$$

# permutation

**Theorem 2.3** The number of permutations of  $n$  distinct objects is  $n!$ .

$n!$  is read ' $n$  factorial'

$$n! = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (3)(2)(1)$$



# permutation

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Using Theorem 2.1, we have  $n_1 = 4$  choices for the first position and  $n_2 = 3$  for the second.

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What's the number of permutations that are possible by taking the four letters two at a time?

Using Theorem 2.1, we have  $n_1 = 4$  choices for the first position and  $n_2 = 3$  for the second.

A total of  $n_1 n_2 = 12$  permutations.

# permutation

In general,  $n$  distinct objects taken  $r$  at a time can be arranged in  $n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots(n-r+1)$  ways.

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**Theorem 2.4** The number of permutations of  $n$  distinct objects taken  $r$  at a time is

$$P_{r,n} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}.$$

# permutation

**Example 2.17** Three awards (research, teaching and service) will be given one year for a class of 25 graduate students in a statistic department. If each student can receive at most one award, how many possible selections are there?

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**Solution** Since the awards are distinguishable, it is a permutation problem. The total number of sample points is

$$P_{3,25} = \frac{25!}{(25-3)!} = 13800.$$



# permutation

**Example 2.18** A president and a treasure are to be chosen from a student club consisting of 50 people. How many different choices of officers are possible if

# permutation

**Example 2.18** A president and a treasure are to be chosen from a student club consisting of 50 people. How many different choices of officers are possible if

- a. there are no restrictions;
- b.  $A$  will serve only if he is president;
- c.  $B$  and  $C$  will serve together or not at all;
- d.  $D$  and  $E$  will not serve together?

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**Example** 4 people are playing bridge, we do not have a new permutation if they all move one position in a clockwise direction. How many different arrangements are there for the bridge game?

By considering one person in a fixed position and arranging the other three in  $3!$  ways.

# permutation

**Theorem 2.5** The number of permutations of  $n$  distinct objects arranged in a circle is  $(n - 1)!$

# combinations

**combinations:** the number of ways of selecting  $r$  objects from  $n$  without regard to order.

The number of such combinations is denoted by  $C_{r,n}$ .

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Consider the four letters  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$ .

- the ways of selecting one letter from four?  
 $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  that is

$$C_{1,4} = \frac{4!}{1!(4-1)!} = 4 \text{ ways.}$$



# combinations

- the ways of selecting two letters from four?

*ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd*; that is

$$C_{2,4} = \frac{4!}{2!(4-2)!} = 6 \text{ ways.}$$

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- the ways of selecting three letters from four?

*abc, abd, acd, bcd*; that is

$$C_{3,4} = \frac{4!}{3!(4-3)!} = 4 \text{ ways.}$$

# combinations

**Theorem 2.8** The number of combinations of  $n$  distinct objects taken  $r$  at a time is

$$C_{r,n} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}.$$

# combinations

**Question 1:** What's the number of distinct permutations of  $n$  things of which  $n_1$  are of one kind,  $n_2$  of a second kind, ...,  $n_k$  of a  $k$ th kind?

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hint:  $n$  objects,  $n$  positions

$$C_{n_1, n} C_{n_2, n-n_1} \cdots C_{n_k, n-n_1-\cdots-n_{k-1}} = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_k!}.$$

# combinations

**Example 2.19** In a college football training session, the defensive coordinator needs to have 10 player standing in a row. Among these 10 players, there are 1 freshman, 2 sophomore, 4 juniors and 3 seniors, respectively. How many different ways can they be arranged in a row if only their class level will be distinguished?

# combinations

**Example 2.19** In a college football training session, the defensive coordinator needs to have 10 player standing in a row. Among these 10 players, there are 1 freshman, 2 sophomore, 4 juniors and 3 seniors, respectively. How many different ways can they be arranged in a row if only their class level will be distinguished?

**Solution** The total number of arrangements is

$$\frac{10!}{1!2!4!3!} = 12600.$$



# combinations

**Question 2:** What's the number of arrangements of a set of  $n$  objects into  $r$  cells with  $n_1$  elements in the first cell,  $n_2$  elements in the second, and so forth?

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$$C_{n_1,n} C_{n_2,n-n_1} \cdots C_{n_r,n-n_1-\cdots-n_{r-1}} = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_r!}.$$

# combinations

**Example 2.20** In how many ways can 7 scientists be assigned to one triple and two double hotel rooms?

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**Solution** The total number of possible partitions would be

$$\frac{7!}{3!2!2!} = 210.$$

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In an effort to increase their winnings, gamblers called upon **mathematicians** to provide optimum strategies for various games of chance.

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Some of the mathematicians providing these strategies were Pascal, Leibniz, Fermat, and James Bernoulli.

# Probability of an Event

Probability theory has branched out far beyond games of chance to encompass many other fields associated with chance occurrences, such as politics, business, weather forecasting, and scientific research.



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$P(A)$  is the probability of the event  $A$ , which will give a precise measure of the chance that  $A$  will occur.

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**AXIOM 3**

- a. If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  is a finite collection of mutually exclusive events, then  $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(A_i)$ .
- b. If  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  is an infinite collection of mutually exclusive events, then  $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$ .

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event  $A$ : at least one head occurring.  $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$

$$P(A) = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

# Probability

**Example 2.23** A dice is loaded in such a way that an even number is twice as likely to occur as an odd number. If  $E$  is the event that a number less than 4 occurs on a single toss of the die, find  $P(E)$ .

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## Solution

The sample space is  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $E = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

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The sample space is  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $E = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

assign a probability of  $\omega$  to each odd number, and  $2\omega$  to each even number, we have  $9\omega = 1$ .

# Probability

$1/9$ , and  $2/9$  are assigned to each odd and even number, respectively.

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Since  $E = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , we have

$$P(E) = \frac{1}{9} + \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{9} = \frac{4}{9}.$$

# Probability

**Example 2.24** In Example 2.23 let  $A$  be the event that an even number turns up and let  $B$  be the event that a number divisible by 3 occurs. Find  $P(A \cup B)$  and  $P(A \cap B)$



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**Solution** We can get  $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$  and  $B = \{3, 6\}$ , therefore,

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$$A \cup B = \{2, 3, 4, 6\} \quad \text{and} \quad A \cap B = \{6\}.$$

assign:  $1/9 \rightarrow$  each odd number,  $2/9 \rightarrow$  each even number,  
we have

$$P(A \cup B) = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{2}{9} + \frac{2}{9} \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{2}{9}.$$

# Probability

**Theorem 2.9** If an experiment can result in any one of  $N$  different equally likely outcomes, and if exactly  $n$  of these outcomes correspond to event  $A$ , then the probability of event  $A$  is

$$P(A) = \frac{n}{N}.$$

# Probability

**Example 2.25** A statistic class for engineers consists of 25 industrial, 10 mechanical, 10 electrical, and 8 civil engineering students. If a person is randomly selected by the instructor to answer a question, find the probability that the student chosen is (a) an industrial engineering major, (b) a civil engineering or an electrical engineering major.

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## Solution

Denote by  $I$ ,  $M$ ,  $E$ , and  $C$  the students majoring in industrial, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering, respectively.

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## Solution

Denote by  $I$ ,  $M$ ,  $E$ , and  $C$  the students majoring in industrial, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering, respectively.

students in the class: equally to be selected;

the total number: 53.



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(a) Since 25 of the 53 students are majoring in industrial engineering, the probability of the event  $I$  is

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(b) Since 18 of the 53 students are civil and electrical engineering majors, it follows that

$$P(C \cup E) = \frac{18}{53}.$$

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**Solution**

The number of ways of being dealt 2 aces from 4 is

$$C_{2,4} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} = 6.$$

# Probability

**Example 2.26** In a poker hand consisting of 5 cards, find the probability of holding 2 aces and 3 jacks.

**Solution**

The number of ways of being dealt 2 aces from 4 is

$$C_{2,4} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} = 6.$$

The number of ways of being dealt 3 jacks from 4 is

$$C_{3,4} = \frac{4!}{3!1!} = 4.$$

# Probability

**Example 2.26** In a poker hand consisting of 5 cards, find the probability of holding 2 aces and 3 jacks.

**Solution**

The number of ways of being dealt 2 aces from 4 is

$$C_{2,4} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} = 6.$$

The number of ways of being dealt 3 jacks from 4 is

$$C_{3,4} = \frac{4!}{3!1!} = 4.$$

There are  $n = 6 \times 4 = 24$  hands with 2 aces and 3 jacks.



# Probability

The total number of 5-card poker hands is

$$N = C_{5,52} = \frac{52!}{5!47!} = 2,598,960.$$

# Probability

The total number of 5-card poker hands is

$$N = C_{5,52} = \frac{52!}{5!47!} = 2,598,960.$$

Therefore, the probability of event  $C$  of getting 2 aces and 3 jacks in a 5-card poker hand is

$$P(C) = \frac{24}{2,598,960} = 0.9 \times 10^{-5}.$$

# frequency and probability

If event  $A$  occurs  $n_A$  times in  $N$  repeated experiments under a certain conditions, then **frequency** of  $A$  occurring in  $N$  experiments is defined as:

$$F_N(A) = \frac{n_A}{N}.$$

# frequency and probability

When  $N$  is large enough, the frequency turns out to have a kind of **stability**.

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When  $N$  is large enough, the frequency turns out to have a kind of **stability**.

i.e., the values of  $F_N(A)$  show fluctuations which become progressively weaker as  $N$  increases, until ultimately  $F_N(A)$  stabilizes to a constant.

# frequency and probability

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Experimenter	Number of tosses	Times of head	Frequency
Buffon	4040	2048	0.5069
Pearson	12000	6019	0.5016
Pearson	24000	12012	0.5005

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Frequency stabilizes to  $1/2$ .



# frequency and probability

**The statistical definition of probability:**

# frequency and probability

## The statistical definition of probability:

The constant to which the frequency of the event  $A$  stabilizes is called the **probability** of the occurrence of event  $A$  ( $P(A)$ ).