

## Week 11

- Classical Probability
- Probability Spaces
- Conditional Probability
- Independence

# Summary So far:

Arrangement of  $r$  objects chosen from  $n$  distinct objects

Ex: arrangement of 3 objects  
from  $\{1, \dots, 10\}$

## Terminologies

$r$ -permutation  
 $r$ -combination  
 $r$ -subset  
 $r$ -sequence

## Notations

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

$$C(n, r) = \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!}$$

Order

$N$

## Repetition

$N$

e.g:  $(3, 9, 9)$

Name:  $r$ -sequence

$$\# : n^r$$

e.g:  $(3, 1, 9) \neq (1, 9, 3)$

Name:  $r$ -perm.

$$\# : P(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \\ = n \times (n-1) \times \dots \times (n-r+1)$$

e.g:  $\{2x^{\text{"1"}}, 1x^{\text{"9"}}\}$

Name:  $r$ -collection

$$\# : \binom{n+r-1}{r-1}$$

e.g:  $\{3, 1, 9\} = \{3, 9, 1\}$

Name:  $r$ -subset/ $r$ -comb.

$$\# : C(n, r) = \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!}$$

Idea: Division rule

**Summary:** Allocation of  $n$  objects into  $K$  boxes.

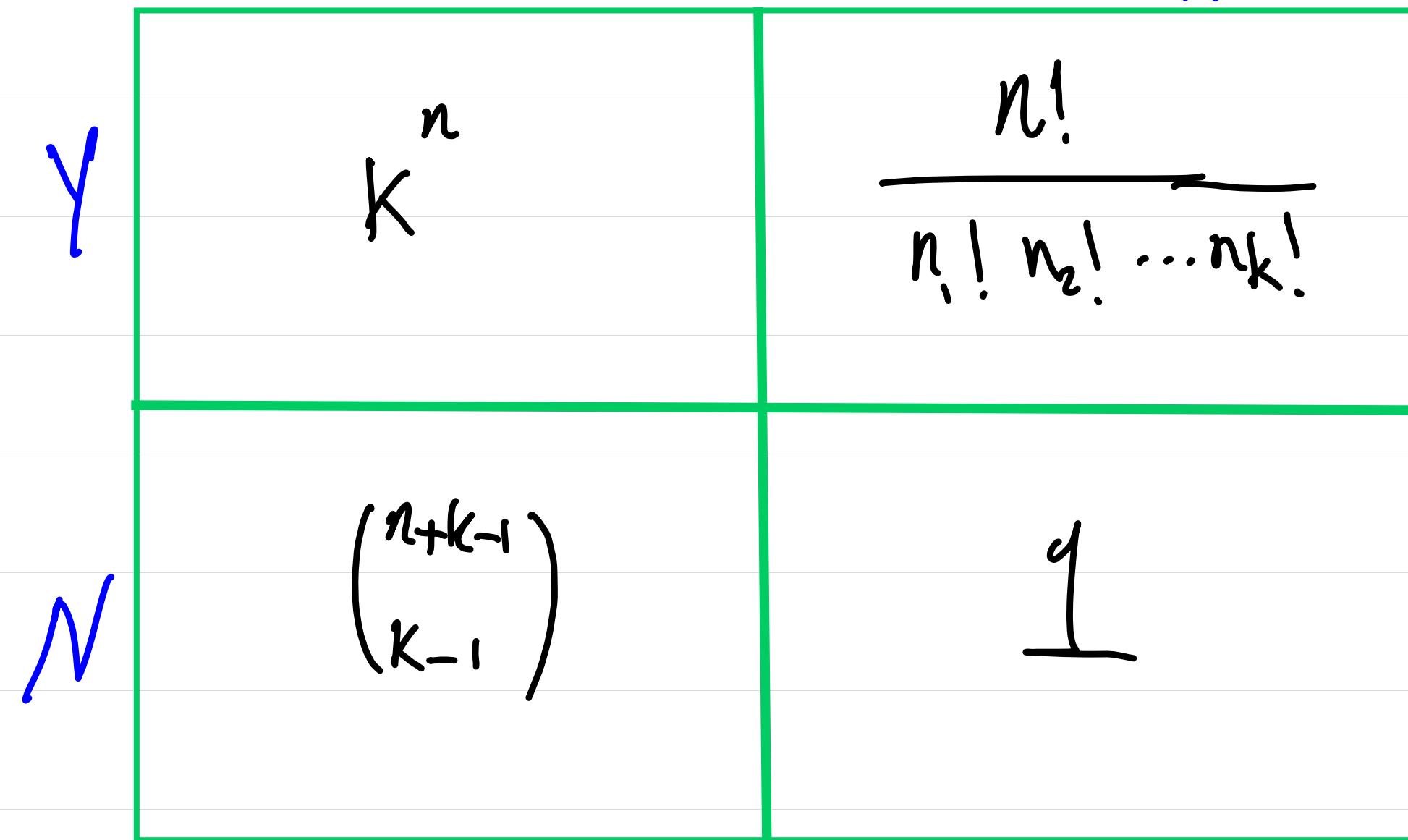
(order in the box doesn't matter)

↓ Constraints?

No

$(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_K)$  (provided  $\sum_{i=1}^K n_i = n$ )

Objects  
distinguishable



## Summary: Generalized PHP

Theorem: If  $N$  objects are placed into  $k$  boxes, then there is at least one box containing at least  $\lceil N/k \rceil$  objects.

Today's Quiz:  $(x+y+z)^n = (x+y+z)(x+y+z)\dots(x+y+z)$

Q1) # terms before grouping?

Q2) # term after grouping?

Q3) # of times  $x^{n_1}y^{n_2}z^{n_3}$  appears before grouping (i.e. the coefficient of  $x^{n_1}y^{n_2}z^{n_3}$  after grouping)

No. It will be in your assignment.

## Probability (ch. 7)

Q) What is Probability?

A) To study the chance/likelihood/Risk/Certainty/Uncertainty of some event happening.

Let's make some statement involving Probability:

The chance of you getting A+ in Course is 10%.

The chance of rolling an even number on a <sup>fair</sup> die is 0.5.

\*\* We will be Precise \*\*

■ In this course, as with the previous topics, we first define what probability is.

■ We will be precise as always. We are now formal Mathematician / Scientists.

Study of Prob. is useful in many fields including

Medicine, Computer Science, Statistics, AI, ML

randomized algorithms  
Complexity analysys

## Handwavy / Not formal Probability

- Let's first answer a probability question by our intuition
- This helps us develop a precise definition of probability

Ex1: Suppose you flip two fair coins. What is the chance they are different?

Possible outcomes:  $\{HH, HT, TH, TT\} \leftarrow S$

Successful outcomes:  $\{HT, TH\} \leftarrow E$

Thus, by intuition, The success prob. =  $\frac{\# \text{ successful outcomes}}{\# \text{ total outcomes}} = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$

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

## Precise (classical) Probability

Defn:

- 1- An experiment is a well defined procedure with a set of possible outcomes.
    - An outcome is a complete description of the result of an experiment
  - 2- The set of all outcomes is called the sample space  $S$ .
  - 3- An event  $E$  is a subset of sample space
- Two assumptions:
- ① The sample space is finite.
  - ② All outcomes are equally likely.

Defn Cont'd.

4. The Probability of an event  $E$ , denoted by  $P(E)$  is

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}.$$

(Q) The Probabilities is always between Zero and 1. why?

proof: Since,  $|E| > 0$  and  $|S| > 0$ ,  $P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|} > 0$ .

Since  $E \subseteq S$ , we have  $|E| \leq |S|$ .

Then  $P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|} \leq 1$ .

Ex2: Flip 10 fair coins. What is the probability of getting exactly 5 heads?

Experiment? flipping 10 coins.

Sample Space  $S$ ?  $S = \{(c_1, \dots, c_{10}) : \forall i \ c_i \in \{H, T\}\}$

Event  $E$ ?  $E = \{(c_1, \dots, c_{10}) \in S : \text{exactly 5 of } c_i's \text{ are } H\}$

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|} = \frac{\binom{10}{5}}{2^{10}} \approx 0.25$$

EX3: In poker, a flush is 5 cards of the same suit.  
 What is the probability of being dealt a flush?

D(♦)	H(♥)	C(♣)	S(♠)
1			
2			
:			
13			

(labeled cards)

Experiment: picking 5 numbered cards from 52 cards.

Sample space S:  $S = \{\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_5\} : \forall i C_i \in A_D \cup A_H \cup A_C \cup A_S\}$

Event E:  $E = \{X \in S : X \subseteq A_D \vee X \subseteq A_H \vee X \subseteq A_C \vee X \subseteq A_S\}$

Probability E:

$$\frac{|E|}{|S|} = \frac{4 \times \binom{13}{5}}{\binom{52}{5}}$$

Note that,  $E = E_D \cup E_H \cup E_C \cup E_S$ , where  $E_D = \{X \in S : X \subseteq A_D\}$

**Remark:** We could also model this probability problem as ordered hands and the result would have been the same. Can you argue why?

**Remark:** choose  $S$  so that it has all the relevant information/features (to express  $E$ ), and for which counting is easy.

## Ex 4: Birthday Problem

What is the probability that two people in class (of 30 people) have the same birthday?

**Experiment:** Assign each person in class a birthday from  $\{1, \dots, 365\}$  uniformly at random.

Sample space  $S$ :  $S = \{(a_1, \dots, a_{30}) : a_i \in \{1, \dots, 365\}\} = \{1, \dots, 365\}^{30}$

Event  $E$ :  $E = \{(a_1, \dots, a_{30}) \in S : \exists i \neq j \ (a_i = a_j)\}$

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$$

$$|S| = 365^{30}$$

$$\text{Note that } |E| = |S| - |\bar{E}|. \quad |\bar{E}| = P(\bar{E}) = \frac{365!}{335!}$$

$$P(E) = 1 - P(\bar{E}) = 1 - \frac{\frac{365!}{335!}}{365^{30}} > 90\%.$$

Upshot: Sometime it is easier to find  $P(\bar{E})$  instead of  $P(E)$ .

$$P(E) = 1 - P(\bar{E})$$

because  $|E| = |S| - |\bar{E}|$ .

# Probability Theory. Motivation: what if all outcomes are not equally likely

Defn: A Probability space consists of a Sample Space  $S$  with a probability distribution

$P: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $\textcircled{1} P(s) \in [0, 1] \quad \forall s \in S$

$$\textcircled{2} \sum_{s \in S} P(s) = 1$$

dice      1    2    3  
          0.1   0.1   0.1

4    5    6  
0.5   0.1   0.1

" $P(s)$  = likelihood of outcome  $s$ ."

$$P(\{4,6\}) = 0.6$$

The Probability of an event  $E$  is

$$P(E) = \sum_{s \in E} P(s)$$

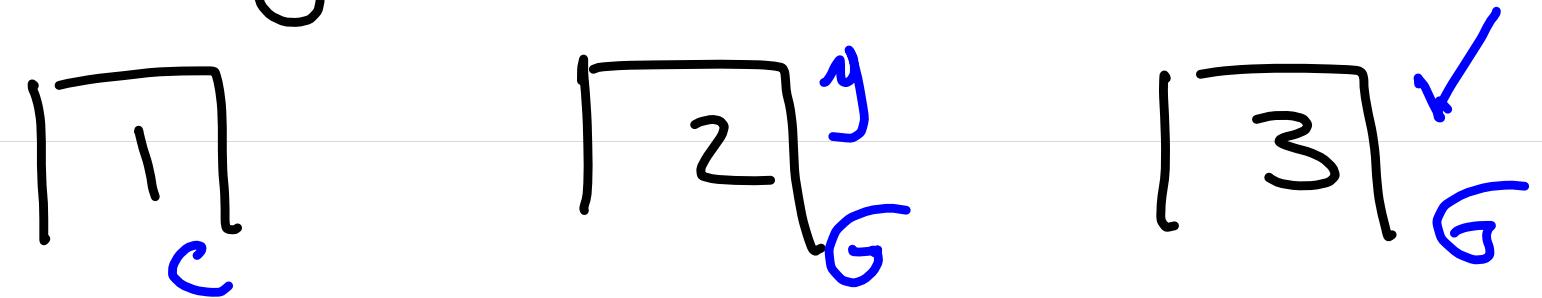
**Remark:** Previously we studied "classical probability" in which all outcomes are equally likely. Then, the distribution function would be:

$$P: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$P(s) = \frac{1}{|S|}$$

## Monty Hall Problem

The game show has three doors.



1-a Car is randomly placed behind one door uniformly at random. Goats places behind the other doors

2-you choose a door randomly.

3-Monty opens one of the other doors with a goat behind it uniformly at random and reveals a goat.

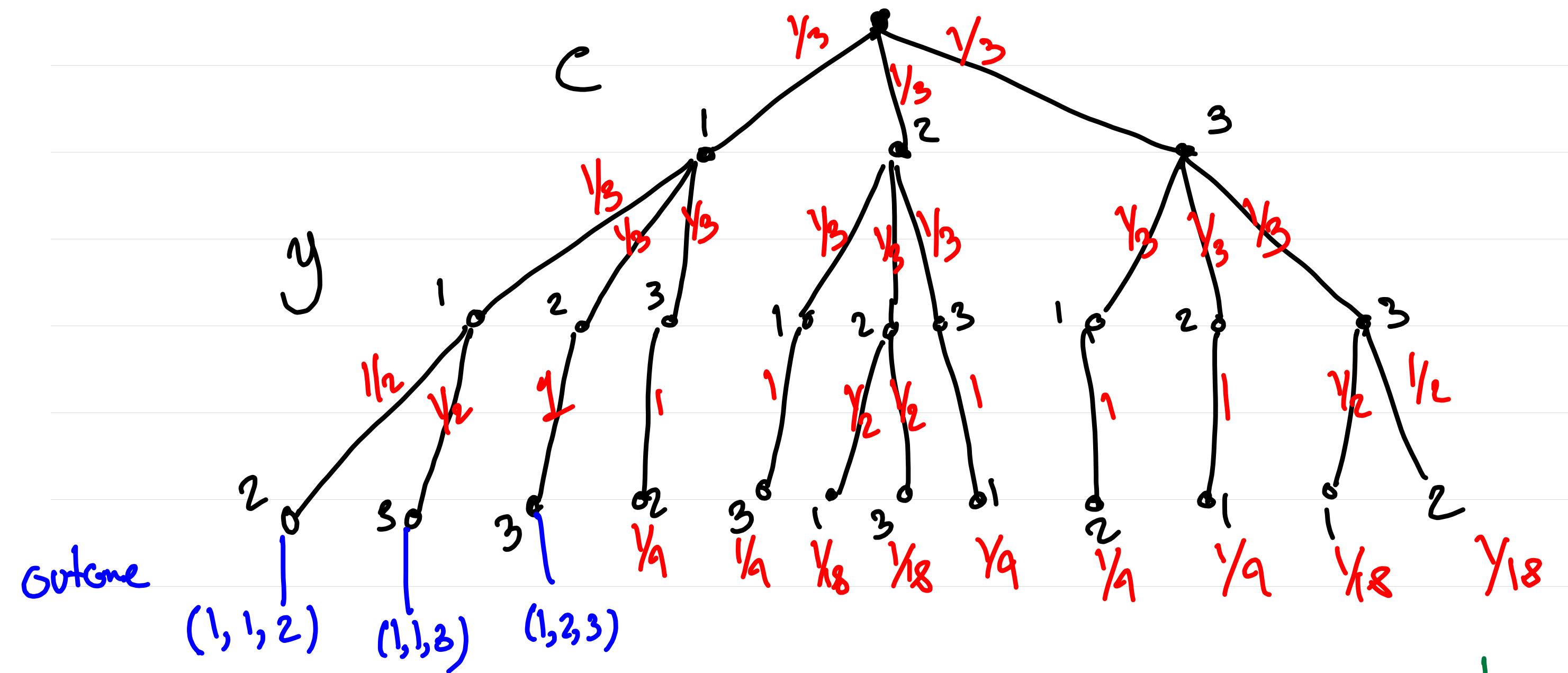
You are allowed to now switch the door or not. What should you do?

Experiment : Steps 1-3.

Sample Space :  $S = \{(c, y, m) : m, y, c \in \{1, 2, 3\} \wedge m \neq y \wedge m \neq c\}$

E:  $E = \{(c, y, m) \in S : c = y\}$

↑ The event in which you win without switching



$$P(S) = \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{18}$$

 will explain why.

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

$$P(E) = 6 \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{3}$$

and  $P(\bar{E}) = 1 - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$ . So, switching is better.

So far: Given sample space, probability distribution function, and event: calculate  $P(E) = \sum_{S \in E} P(s)$

In the end, we are not doing anything but Counting.

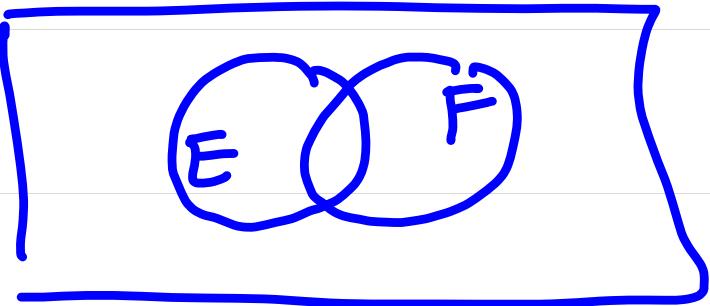
Now: Given the Probabilities of Some events

$E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  what can you say about Probability of another event  $F$ ?

Let's develop some tools for selecting probabilities of different events

Sum Rule:  $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \cap F)$

<proof is the same as the proof for sets >



Special Cases:

- If  $E \cap F = \emptyset$ , then  $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F)$
- "disjoint" or "mutually exclusive" events

■  $P(E) + P(\bar{E}) = 1 = P(S)$   $\curvearrowleft$  sample space.