

Chapter 1 part 4

§1.6 Independence

(1)

$$P(A|B) = P(A), \quad P(B|A) = P(B).$$

knowing B had occurred gave us no info about whether A had occurred.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) \quad \text{if } P(A|B) = P(A).$$

Definition: A and B are said to be independent events, if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.

Expl. A. A card is selected randomly from a deck. $A =$ "it is an ace".
 $D =$ "it is a diamond". A and D are independent?

Ans: $P(A) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13}$, $P(D) = \frac{13}{52} = \frac{1}{4}$, $A \cap D = \{A \diamond\}$, $P(A \cap D) = \frac{1}{52}$
one has $P(A \cap D) = P(A)P(D)$, they are independent!

Expl. B. Two coins are flipped, and all 4 outcomes are assumed to be equally likely. If A is the event "1st coin lands H", $B =$ "2nd lands T". A and B independent?

Ans: $\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$, $A = \{HH, HT\}$, $B = \{HT, TT\}$, $AB = \{HT\}$.

$P(A) = \frac{1}{2}$, $P(B) = \frac{1}{2}$, $P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{4}$. Since $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$, they are independent!

Expl. C. A system is designed so that it fails only if a unit and a backup unit both fail. Assuming that these failures are independent and that each unit fails with prob. p , the system fails with prob. p^2 .



$P(A) = 0.1$, prob. unit A fails.

$P(B) = 0.1$, . . . B.

Prob. system fails $= P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B) = 0.01$.

For more than two events: A, B, C.

pairwise independent (any two are independent) doesn't guarantee mutual independence!
i.e. $P(A \cap B \cap C) \neq P(A)P(B)P(C)$.

eg. 1. A fair coin is tossed twice. $A =$ "1st is H", $B =$ "2nd is H", $C =$ "exactly one H".
 $A = \{HH, HT\}$, $B = \{HH, TH\}$, $C = \{HT, TH\}$. $AB = \{HH\}$, A and B indep.

$AC = \{HT\}$, A and C indep. $BC = \{TH\}$, B and C indep. they are pairwise independent.

However, $A \cap B \cap C = \emptyset$, $P(A \cap B \cap C) = 0 \neq P(A)P(B)P(C)$. they are not mutual independence.

Definition: A, B, C are mutually independent, if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$, $P(A \cap C) = P(A)P(C)$, $P(B \cap C) = P(B)P(C)$,
 $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$.

more general: A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n mutually independent, if any subcollection, $A_{i_1}, A_{i_2}, \dots, A_{i_m}$, (2)
 $P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_m}) = P(A_{i_1}) P(A_{i_2}) \dots P(A_{i_m})$.

Expl. D. (infectivity of AIDS).

Suppose that virus transmissions in 500 acts of intercourse are mutually independent events and that the prob of transmission in any one act is $\frac{1}{500}$. Under this model, what is the prob. of infection?

Ans: Let A = "infection in this model". B_i = "virus transmissions in i -th act", $i=1, 2, \dots, 500$.
 $A = B_1 \cup B_2 \cup \dots \cup B_{500}$. $P(B_i) = \frac{1}{500}$. B_i 's are mutually independent.

$A^c = B_1^c \cap B_2^c \cap \dots \cap B_{500}^c$, $P(B_i^c) = 1 - \frac{1}{500}$. B_i^c 's are mutually independent too!

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c) = 1 - P(B_1^c \cap B_2^c \cap \dots \cap B_{500}^c) = 1 - P(B_1^c) P(B_2^c) \dots P(B_{500}^c)$$

$$= 1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{500}\right)^{500} = 1 - 0.37 = 0.63.$$

the prob. of infection is 0.63.

Expl. E.



A circuit with three relays.

A_i = " i -th relay works", $P(A_i) = p$.

A_1, A_2, A_3 mutually independent.

Let F = "system works", then $F = A_3 \cup (A_1 \cap A_2)$.

$$P(F) = P(A_3 \cup (A_1 \cap A_2)) = P(A_3) + P(A_1 \cap A_2) - P(A_3 \cap (A_1 \cap A_2))$$

$$= P(A_3) + P(A_1)P(A_2) - P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3) = p + p^2 - p^3.$$

Expl. F. A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n

A system consists of components connected in a series, so the system fails if any one component fails.

if $P(A_i) = p$, each fails with prob. p , they are mutually independent.
 then what's prob system will fail?

Ans: Let B = "system will fail", $B = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$.

$P(B) = P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n)$, one consider $B^c = (A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n)^c = A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c$

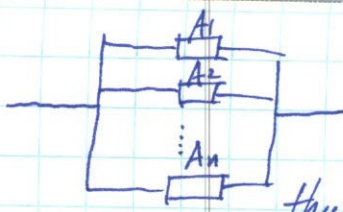
$$P(B^c) = P(A_1^c) P(A_2^c) \dots P(A_n^c) = (1-p) \cdot (1-p) \dots (1-p) = (1-p)^n$$

↑
system works

all components work

thus $P(B) = 1 - P(B^c) = 1 - (1-p)^n$.

if $n=10$, $p=0.05$, $P(\text{system works}) = (1-p)^n = (1-0.05)^{10} = 0.95^{10} = 0.60$.
 $P(\text{system fails}) = 1 - 0.60 = 0.40$.



components are connected in parallel, the system fails only when all components fail.

thus $B = A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n$, $P(B) = P(A_1) \dots P(A_n) = p^n$

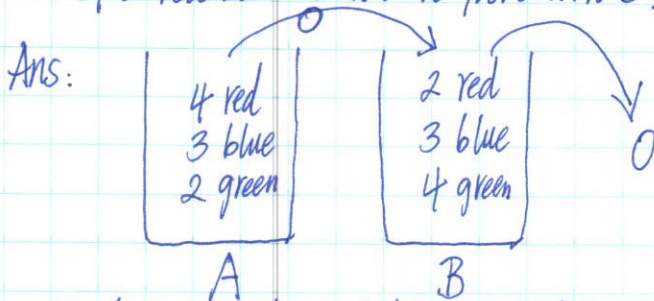
if $n=10$, $p=0.05$, $P(B) = 0.05^{10} = 9.8 \times 10^{-14} \approx 0$.

"reliability studies for system": "crucial assumption on independence".

More examples:

Problem 47. Urn A has four red, three blue, and two green balls. Urn B has two red, three blue, and four green balls. A ball is drawn from urn A and put into urn B, and then a ball is drawn from urn B.

- What prob. that a red ball is drawn from urn B?
- If a red ball is drawn from urn B, what prob. that a red ball was drawn from urn A?



- Let R = "a red ball was drawn from urn A"
 B = "a blue ..."
 G = "a green ..."
 A = "a red ball is drawn from urn B"

From law of total probability, $P(A) = P(A|R)P(R) + P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|G)P(G)$
 $= \frac{3}{10} \cdot \frac{4}{9} + \frac{2}{10} \cdot \frac{3}{9} + \frac{2}{10} \cdot \frac{2}{9} = \frac{11}{45}$

b. $P(R|A) = \frac{P(A|R)P(R)}{P(A)} = \frac{\frac{3}{10} \cdot \frac{4}{9}}{\frac{11}{45}} = \frac{6}{11}$

49. A fair coin is tossed three times.

- What's prob. of two or more heads given that there was at least one head?
- What's prob. ... there was at least one tail?

Ans: a. Let A = "two or more heads". B = "there was at least one head"

$P(A|B) = \frac{P(AB)}{P(B)}$. $P(B) = 1 - P(B^c) = 1 - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$.

$P(AB) = P(A) = P(\text{two or 3}) = \binom{3}{2} \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{4}{8}$, thus $P(A|B) = \frac{4}{7}$.

another approach is to use reduced sample space method.

$B = \{hkh, khk, kth, thk, thh, hkt, kht, tth\}$. $P(A|B) = \frac{4}{7}$.

b. Let C = "there was at least one tail".

$C = \{hht, hth, htt, thh, tth, ttt\}$. $P(A|C) = \frac{3}{7}$. reduced sample space.

also, one can apply $P(A|C) = P(AC)/P(C) = P(2hs)/P(C) = \binom{3}{2} \frac{1}{8} / \frac{7}{8} = \frac{3}{7}$.

59. A box has three coins. One has two heads, one has two tails, and the other is a fair coin with one head and one tail. A coin is chosen at random, is flipped, and come up heads. (4)

a. What's prob. that the coin chosen is the two headed coin?

b. if it is thrown another time it will come up heads?

c. Answer part (a) again, supposing that the coin is thrown a second time and comes up heads again.

Ans:

a. Let B_1 = "the coin chosen is the two headed coin".

B_2 = " tailed "

B_3 = "the coin chosen is one head and one tail"

A = "A coin is chosen at random, flipped and come up heads".

$$P(B_1|A) = \frac{P(B_1A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(B_1)P(A|B_1)}{P(A|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A|B_2)P(B_2) + P(A|B_3)P(B_3)}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 1}{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

b. Let C = "it is thrown another time, it will come up heads".

$P(C|A) = \frac{P(CA)}{P(A)}$, Let $D = CA$ = "the coin is flipped twice with two heads"

$$= \frac{P(D)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(D|B_1)P(B_1) + P(D|B_2)P(B_2) + P(D|B_3)P(B_3)}{P(A|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A|B_2)P(B_2) + P(A|B_3)P(B_3)}$$

$$= \frac{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{12}}{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6}} = \frac{5}{6}$$

c. $P(B_1|D) = \frac{P(B_1D)}{P(D)} = \frac{P(D|B_1)P(B_1)}{P(D)} = \frac{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{12}} = \frac{4}{5}$

Note: in (a) $P(B_1|A) = \frac{2}{3}$. in (c) $P(B_1|D) = \frac{4}{5}$. $P(B_1|A) < P(B_1|D)$.

63. Suppose that the prob. of living to be older than 70 is 0.6 and the prob. of living to be older than 80 is 0.2. If a person reaches her 70th birth day, what's prob. that she will celebrate her 80th?

Ans: Let B = "living to be older than 70"

A = " 80 "

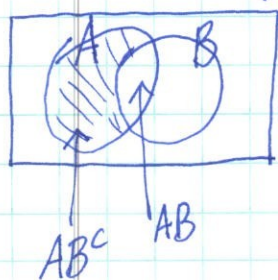
$P(B) = 0.6$, $P(A) = 0.2$.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(AB)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(B)} = \frac{0.2}{0.6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

65. If A and B are independent, then A and B^c , A^c and B^c are independent.

(5)

Proof.



$$A = AB^c \cup AB, \text{ thus } P(A) = P(AB^c) + P(AB)$$

$$\text{then } P(AB^c) = P(A) - P(AB) \stackrel{\text{indep.}}{=} P(A) - P(A)P(B) \\ = P(A)[1 - P(B)]$$

$$= P(A)P(B^c)$$

thus A and B^c are independent.

69. If A and B are disjoint, can they be independent?

Ans: No. since $P(AB) \equiv 0$, if they are disjoint. thus $P(AB) = 0 \neq P(A)P(B)$

71. Show that if A , B and C are mutually independent, then $A \cap B$ and C are independent so does $A \cup B$ and C .

proof. one wants to show $P((A \cap B) \cap C) = P(A \cap B)P(C)$, which is from $P(ABC) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$

Next, show $P((A \cup B) \cap C) = P(A \cup B)P(C)$. (*)

$$\text{left side of (*) is } P((A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C)) = P(A \cap C) + P(B \cap C) - P((A \cap C) \cap (B \cap C)) \\ = P(A)P(C) + P(B)P(C) - P(A)P(B)P(C)$$

$$\text{right side of (*) is } [P(A) + P(B) - P(AB)]P(C) = P(A)P(C) + P(B)P(C) - P(A)P(B)P(C)$$

73. A system has n independent units, each of which fails with prob. p . The system fails only if k or more of the units fail. What's prob. that the system fails?

Ans. Let A_i = "there are i units fail". E = "system fails"

$$E = A_k \cup A_{k+1} \cup \dots \cup A_n, \quad P(E) = \sum_{j=k}^n P(A_j), \text{ where } P(A_j) = \binom{n}{j} p^j (1-p)^{n-j}$$

77. A player throws darts at a target. On each trial, independently of the other trials, he hits the bull's-eye with prob. 0.05. How many times should he throw so that his prob. of hitting the bull's eye at least once is 0.5?

Ans: Let A_i = " i -th trial, he hits the bull's eye".

n be the times of trials. A = "hitting the eye at least once in n trials"

$$A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n. \quad A^c = A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c \dots \cap A_n^c$$

$$P(A^c) = P(A_1^c)P(A_2^c) \dots P(A_n^c) = (1-0.05)(1-0.05) \dots (1-0.05) = 0.95^n$$

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c) = 1 - 0.95^n. \text{ determine } n \text{ such that } P(A) \geq 0.5$$

$$\text{or } 0.95^n \leq 0.5, \quad n \ln(0.95) \leq \ln(0.5), \quad n \geq \frac{\ln(0.5)}{\ln(0.95)} = 13.5, \text{ thus } n=14.$$