

# Probability

Probability: is the study of random or non deterministic experiments

Historically, probability theory began with study of games of chance, such as roulette and cards

The probability "p" of an event "A" was defined as follows: If A can occur in  $s$  ways out of total of  $n$ :

$$P = P(A) = \frac{s}{n}$$

" $n$  = equally likely ways"  
" $s$  = number of success"

Ex In tossing a die an even number can occur in 3 ways out of 6 "equally likely" ways

$$P = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

## SAMPLE SPACE AND EVENTS

\* The set "S" of all possible outcomes of some given experiment is "sample space".

\* " $\emptyset$ " is the empty set or "impossible event"

\* "event A" is a set of outcomes

since an event is a set, we combine events to form new event using various set operations

(i)  $A \cup B$  is event, that occurs iff "A" occurs or B occurs, or B

(ii)  $A \cap B$  is event that occurs iff "A" occurs and B occurs

(iii)  $A^c$ , the complement of A also written  $\bar{A}$ , is the event that occurs iff A does not occur

A is dependent  
on the sample space

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Mutually exclusive (متناهية التبادل)

If two events  $A$  and  $B$  are called mutually exclusive  
if they are disjoint  
 $A \cap B = \emptyset$  is mutually exclusive iff they cannot occur simultaneously

Experiment: Toss a die and observe the number that appears on top. Then the sample space consists of the six possible numbers

Sol  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

Let "A" be the event that an even number occurs  
"B" that an odd number occurs  
"C" that a prime number occurs

$$A = \{2, 4, 6\}, B = \{1, 3, 5\} \quad C = \{2, 3, 5\}$$

Then

$A \cup C = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  is the event that an even or a prime number occurs

$B \cap C = \{3, 5\}$  is the event that an odd prime number occurs

$C^c = \{1, 4, 6\}$  is the event that a prime number does not occur

Note that A and B are mutually exclusive  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

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$2, 5, 3, 1$  as  $\in B \cap C$   
 $(2, 5, 3) \in B \cap C$  as it is in  $B \cap C$

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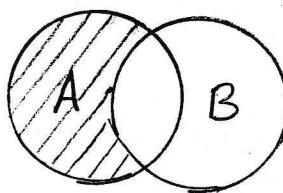
(886)

EX Let A and B be events. Find an expression and exhibit the Venn diagram for the event that

- i) A but not B occurs i.e only A occurs
- ii) either A or B, but not both occurs i.e exactly one of the two events occurs

Sol

(i) Shade the area of A outside of B as in fig(a) below  
 $A \cap B^c$

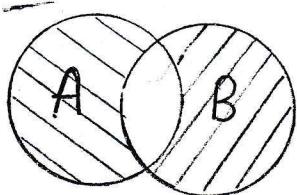


A but not B occurs

Fig (a)

(ii) since A or B not both occurs

A but not B  $A \cap B^c$       B but not A  $B \cap A^c$       Thus  $(A \cap B^c) \cup (B \cap A^c)$



, Either A or B, but not both occurs  
 Fig (b)

EX Let a coin and a die be tossed, let the sample space consist of twelve elements

$$S = \{ H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4, H_5, H_6, T_1, T_2, T_3, T_4, T_5, T_6 \}$$

i) Express explicitly the following events:

$A = \{ \text{heads and an even number appears} \}$

$B = \{ \text{a prime number appears} \}$

$C = \{ \text{tails and an odd number appears} \}$

- iii) Express explicitly the event that: ~~(a)~~ A or B occurs  
 b) "B" and "C" occurs c) only "B" occurs
- iv) Which of the events A, B, and C are mutually exclusive?

Sol.

i) To obtain A, choose those elements of S

$$A = \{H_2, H_4, H_6\}$$

$$B = \{H_2, H_3, H_5, T_2, T_3, T_5\}$$

$$C = \{T_1, T_3, T_5\}$$

- ii) a)  $A \text{ or } B = A \cup B = \{H_2, H_4, H_6, H_3, H_5, T_2, T_3, T_5\}$   
 b)  $B \text{ and } C = B \cap C = \{T_3, T_5\}$   
 c)  $B \cap A^c \cap C^c = \{H_3, H_5, T_2\}$

iii) A and C are mutually exclusive since  $A \cap C = \emptyset$

### Finite Probability Spaces

Let S be a finite sample space  $S = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ .  
 A finite probability space obtained by assigning to each point  $a_i \in S$  a real number  $P_i$  called the probability of  $a_i$ .

- i) Each  $P_i$  is non-negative  $P_i \geq 0$   
 ii) The sum of the  $P_i$  is one  $P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_n = 1$

$$1 = \sum P_i \text{ (see } \sum \text{ is a constant here)}$$



Ex Let three coins be tossed and number of heads observed. Then the sample space is  $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . We obtain a probability space by the following assignment.

Sol

$$P(0) = \frac{1}{8}, P(1) = \frac{3}{8}, P(2) = \frac{3}{8} \text{ and } P(3) = \frac{1}{8}$$

Let "A" be the event that at least one head appears.

$$A = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Head  $\rightarrow$  1 white 0 black

"B" the event that all heads or all tails appear

$$B = \{0, 3\}$$

To

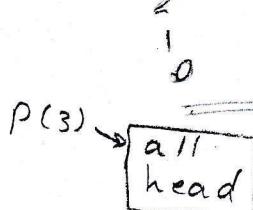
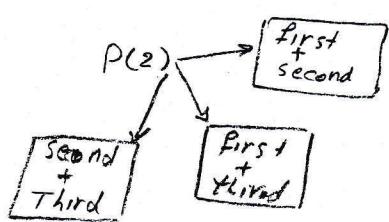
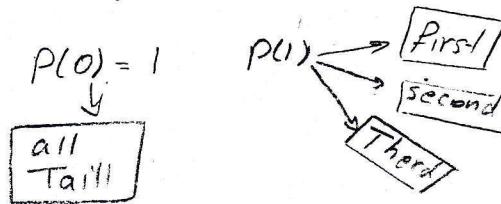
Then by definition

$$P(A) = P(1) + P(2) + P(3) = \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$P(B) = P(0) + P(3) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$$

TTT HHH

Tails	head
3	0
2	1
1	2
0	3



Ex Let a die be weighted so that the probability of number appearing when the die is tossed is proportional to the given number (e.g. 6 has twice the probability of appearing a 3). Let  $A = \{\text{even number}\}$ ,  $B = \{\text{prime number}\}$ ,  $C = \{\text{odd number}\}$ .

i) Describe the probability space i.e. find the probability of each sample point

ii) Find  $P(A)$ ,  $P(B)$  and  $P(C)$ .

iii) Find the probability that a) an even or prime number occurs b) an odd prime number occurs c) A but not B occurs

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Sol (i) Let  $P(1) = P$  then  $P(2) = 2P$ ,  $P(3) = 3P$ ,  $P(4) = 4P$   
 $P(5) = 5P$ ,  $P(6) = 6P$

but sum of probability = 1

$$\therefore P + 2P + 3P + 4P + 5P + 6P = 1 \Rightarrow P = \frac{1}{21} \text{ Then ...}$$

$$P(1) = \frac{1}{21}, P(2) = \frac{2}{21}, P(3) = \frac{1}{7}, P(4) = \frac{4}{21}, P(5) = \frac{5}{21}, P(6) = \frac{6}{21}$$

(ii) Oranges Oranges Oranges

$$P(A) = P\{2, 4, 6\} = \frac{4}{7}, P(B) = P\{2, 3, 5\} = \frac{10}{21}, P(C\{1, 3, 5\}) = \frac{3}{7}$$

(iii) (a) The event that an even or prime number occurs is. Thus  $P(A \cup B) = \{2, 4, 6, 3, 5\} = 1 - P(1) = \frac{20}{21}$

(b) The event that an odd prime number occurs is  $B \cap C = \{3, 5\}$ . Thus  $P(B \cap C) = P\{3, 5\} = \frac{8}{21}$

(c) The event that A but not B occurs  $A \cap B^c = \{4, 6\}$   
 Hence  $P(A \cap B^c) = P\{4, 6\} = \frac{10}{21}$

### Equiprobable spaces

If a finite probability space S, where each sample point has the same probability, will be called "equiprobable space"

\* If S contains n points then the probability of each point is  $\frac{1}{n}$

\* If an event A contains r points then its probability is

$$r \cdot \frac{1}{n} = \frac{r}{n} \quad \text{or } P(A) = \frac{\text{number of elements in } A}{\text{number of elements in } S} = \frac{\text{number of ways that the event } A \text{ can occur}}{\text{number of ways that the sample space } S \text{ can occur}}$$

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Date \_\_\_\_\_



Ex Let 2 items be chosen at random from a lot containing 12 items of which 4 are defective. Let  $A = \{\text{both items are defective}\}$  and  $B = \{\text{both items are non-defective}\}$

Find  $P(A)$  and  $P(B)$

$$\text{probability} = \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad (n-x)!$$

Sol S can occur  $\binom{12}{2} = 66$  ways the number of ways that 2 items can be chosen from 12 items

defective	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1												
2												
3												

1 → (1)  
 2 → (10)  
 3 → (9)  
 4 → (8)  
 5 → (7)  
 6 → (6)  
 7 → (5)  
 8 → (4)  
 9 → (3)  
 10 → (2)  
 11 → (1)

30 + 21 + 12 = 63

= 66

"A" can occur in  $\binom{4}{2} = 6$  ways the number of ways that 2 defective items can be chosen from 4 defective items

No. pick	No. way
1	3
2	2
3	1

Let

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
defective	not defective										

"B" can occur in  $\binom{8}{2} = 28$  ways, the number of ways that 2 non-defective items can be chosen from 8 non-defective items

No. of pitcher	No. way
5	7
6	6
7	5
8	4
9	3
10	2
11	1

28

$$\therefore P(A) = \frac{6}{66} = \frac{1}{11} \quad \text{and } P(B) = \frac{28}{66} = \frac{14}{33}$$

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Ex Two cards are drawn at random from ordinary deck of 52 cards. Find the probability  $p$  that

- i) both are spades    ii) one is a spade and one is a heart

There are  $\binom{52}{2} = 1326$  ways to draw 2 cards from 52 cards  
*sol.*

- i) There are  $\binom{13}{2} = 78$  ways to draw 2 spades from 13 spades

hence  $p = \frac{\text{number of ways 2 spades can be drawn}}{\text{number of ways 2 cards can be drawn}} = \frac{78}{1326} = \frac{3}{51}$

- ii) since there are 13 spades and 13 hearts there are  
 $13 \times 13 = 169$  ways to draw a spade and a heart

hence  $p = \frac{169}{1326} = \frac{13}{102}$

Ex Six married couples are standing in a room

- i) If 2 people are chosen at random, find the probability that  
a) they are married    b) one is male and one is female

- ii) If 4 people are chosen at random, find the probability that  
a) 2 married couples are chosen    b) no married couple  
is among the 4    c) exactly one married couple is  
among the 4

- iii) If the 12 people are divided into six pairs, find the probability  $p$  that  
a) each pair is married

- b) each pair contains a male and a female.



① There are  $\binom{12}{2} = 66$  ways to choose 2 people from the 12 people

② There are 6 married couples; hence  $P = \frac{6}{66} = \frac{1}{11}$

③ There are 6 ways to choose a male and 6 ways to choose a female; hence  $P = \frac{6 \times 6}{66} = \frac{6}{11}$

iii) There are  $\binom{12}{4} = 495$  ways to choose 4 people from 12 people

a) There are  $\binom{6}{2} = 15$  ways to choose 2 couples from the 6 couples hence  $P = \frac{15}{495} = \frac{1}{33}$

b) The 4 persons come from 4 different couples.

There are  $\binom{4}{2} = 15$  ways to choose 4 couples from the 6 couples, and there are 2 ways to choose one person from each couple. Hence

$$P = \frac{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 15}{495} = \frac{16}{33}$$

c) This event is mutually disjoint from the preceding two events (which are also mutually disjoint) and at least one of these events must occur.

$$\text{Hence } P + \frac{1}{33} + \frac{16}{33} = 1 \text{ or } P = \frac{16}{33}$$

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# THEOREMS ON FINITE PROBABILITY SPACES

Theorems :-

The probability function  $P$  defined on class of all events in a finite probability space satisfies the following axioms

[P<sub>1</sub>] For every event  $A$   $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$

[P<sub>2</sub>]  $P(S) = 1$

[P<sub>3</sub>] If events  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive  
then  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$

Using mathematical induction [P<sub>3</sub>] can be generalized as follows

Theorem 2 If

If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r$  are pairwise mutually exclusive event then

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_r) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_r)$$

Theorem 3

If  $\emptyset$  is empty set, and  $A$  and  $B$  are arbitrary event then

i)  $P(\emptyset) = 0$

ii)  $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$

iii)  $P(A \setminus B) = P(A) - P(A \cap B)$  i.e.  $P(A \cap B^c) = P(A) - P(A \cap B)$

iv)  $A \subset B$  implies  $P(A) \leq P(B)$



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