

Text Reference: 2.1, 2.2

Sample Spaces and Events (2.1)

Definitions:

Experiment - An action or process where the result is uncertain.

Sample Space - The set of all outcomes of an experiment.

Event - Any collection of outcomes from the sample space. (A subset of the sample space)

Simple Event - Consists of a single outcome. (A single element of the sample space)

Compound Event - Consists of multiple outcomes. (A non-empty set of elements from the sample space)

Set Notation and Definitions (review):

1. $\emptyset \rightarrow$ The null/empty set.
2. $A \subset B \rightarrow$ The set A is a subset of the set B . All elements in the set A are also part of the set B
3. $A \cup B \rightarrow$ Union of the sets A and B . Denotes all the elements that are a part of set A **OR** set B .
4. $A \cap B \rightarrow$ Intersection of the sets A and B . Denotes all elements that are a part of both A **AND** B .
5. $A' \rightarrow$ The complement of A . All elements that are in the Universal space S that are **NOT** in A .
6. Two sets are **disjoint** or **mutually exclusive** if $A \cap B = \emptyset$
7. De Morgan's laws: For any sets A and B ,

(a) $(A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$

(b) $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$

Axioms, Interpretations and Properties of Probability (2.2)

Definitions:

Frequency - The number of times a certain outcome occurs in a finite number of repetitions of a random experiment.

Relative Frequency - The ratio of the frequency of an outcome divided by the number of times the experiment is repeated.

Probability - If n [finite] equally likely possibilities [outcomes], of which one must occur and s are considered "successes" [i.e., satisfy the conditions of a specified event, E], then the probability of a success is given by

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

Example: repeated rolls of a fair die will show that a 1 will appear 1 out of 6 times - so the probability is $\frac{1}{6}$

Axioms of Probability:

Suppose S is a sample space.

1. $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$ for any event $A \subset S$
2. $P(S) = 1$
3. If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k are mutually exclusive events in S , then

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(A_i) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_k)$$

1. Properties of Probability:

- (a) If A and B are mutually exclusive, then $P(A \cap B) = 0$
- (b) If A and B are exhaustive, then $P(A \cup B) = 1$
- (c) If $A \subset B$, then $P(A) \leq P(B)$
- (d) General Additive Rule: $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$
- (e) Probability of a Complement: $P(A') = 1 - P(A)$
- (f) De Morgan's laws: $P((A \cup B)') = P(A' \cap B')$ and $P((A \cap B)') = P(A' \cup B')$
- (g) Law of Total Probability: $P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B')$

Example: Suppose that $P(A) = 0.5$, $P(B) = 0.3$, and $P(A \cap B) = 0.2$.

i) Find $P(A \cup B)$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) = 0.5 + 0.3 - 0.2 = 0.6$$

ii) Find $P(A' \cap B')$

$$P(A' \cap B') = P((A \cup B)') = 1 - P(A \cup B) = 1 - 0.6 = 0.4$$

2. Conditional Probability

Consider the events A and B where $P(B) > 0$. Then the probability of A given that the condition(s) of event B are satisfied [i.e. the conditional probability of A given B] is:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Note:

The above gives us a general multiplicative rule as well: $P(A \cap B) = P(B) \cdot P(A|B)$, if $P(B) \neq 0$
 $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B|A)$, if $P(A) \neq 0$

Example: Suppose in a class of 50 students that 15 are math majors (MA), 10 are computing majors (CP), and 3 of those are double majors in both.

- (a) Find the probability that a randomly selected student is a math major given that the student selected is at least a computing major.

$$P(MA|CP) = \frac{P(MA \cap CP)}{P(CP)} = \frac{3/50}{10/50} = \frac{3}{10}$$

- (b) Are the events "Math Student" and "Computing Student" independent?

$$P(MA \cap CP) = \frac{3}{50} \quad \text{and} \quad P(MA)P(CP) = \frac{15}{50} \left(\frac{10}{50} \right) = \frac{3}{50}$$

Events are independent since $P(MA \cap CP) = P(MA)P(CP)$

3. Independent Events

Two events A and B are independent if and only if $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$ or $P(A|B) = P(A)$ or $P(B|A) = P(B)$

Notes:

(a) If A and B are independent events, then the following pairs of events are also independent:

- i. A and B'
- ii. A' and B
- iii. A' and B'

(b) Events A , B , and C are mutually independent if and only if the following conditions hold:

- i. A , B , and C are pairwise independent and
- ii. $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$

4. Law of Total Probability

If events B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m are mutually exclusive and exhaustive events, then for another event A :

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(B_i) \cdot P(A|B_i)$$

Note that, as $P(B_i) \cdot P(A|B_i) = P(B_i \cap A)$ this statement is equivalent to $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(B_i \cap A)$

5. Bayes' Theorem

If events B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m are mutually exclusive of which one must occur, then for $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$:

$$P(B_k|A) = \frac{P(B_k) \cdot P(A|B_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^m [P(B_i) \cdot P(A|B_i)]} = \frac{P(B_k) \cdot P(A|B_k)}{P(A)} \quad (\text{from the Law of Total Probability})$$

Example: Bob takes either the bus or subway to work each day (each equally likely to occur). If he takes the bus or subway, there is a 60% and 20% chance he will be late, respectively. Determine the probability that Bob took the bus to work on a day that he is late.

Let B, S, L represent the events bus, subway, and late, respectively.

$$P(B|L) = \frac{P(B)P(L|B)}{P(B)P(L|B) + P(S)P(L|S)} = \frac{0.5(0.6)}{(0.5)(0.6) + (0.5)(0.2)} = 0.75$$

R and RStudio:

R is open source statistical software/language that is widely used in industry to work with data while R Studio is software that is intended to make coding in R more user-friendly. Please note that in order to use R Studio, you must have both R and RStudio installed. Please see the "R/RStudio" folder under "Content" on MyLS for more information on downloading the two pieces of software.