

Chapter 2 Probability

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1. Definition of probability

- **Probability: Probability of an event is the proportion of times the outcome would occur if we observed the random process an infinite number of times.**

Example 1.

What is the probability of getting an odd number if we roll a dice?

Answer: Probability(1 or 3 or 5)=3/6

2. Probability of disjoint events

- If A_1 and A_2 are disjoint events, then

$$P(A_1 \text{ or } A_2) = P(A_1) + P(A_2)$$

Similarly if A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k , are all disjoint events, then

$$P(A_1 \text{ or } A_2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } A_k) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_k)$$

Example 2 What is probability of getting an odd number if we roll a dice?

Answer: Probability(an odd number) = $P(1 \text{ or } 3 \text{ or } 5)$

$$= P(1) + P(3) + P(5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$= \frac{3}{6}$$

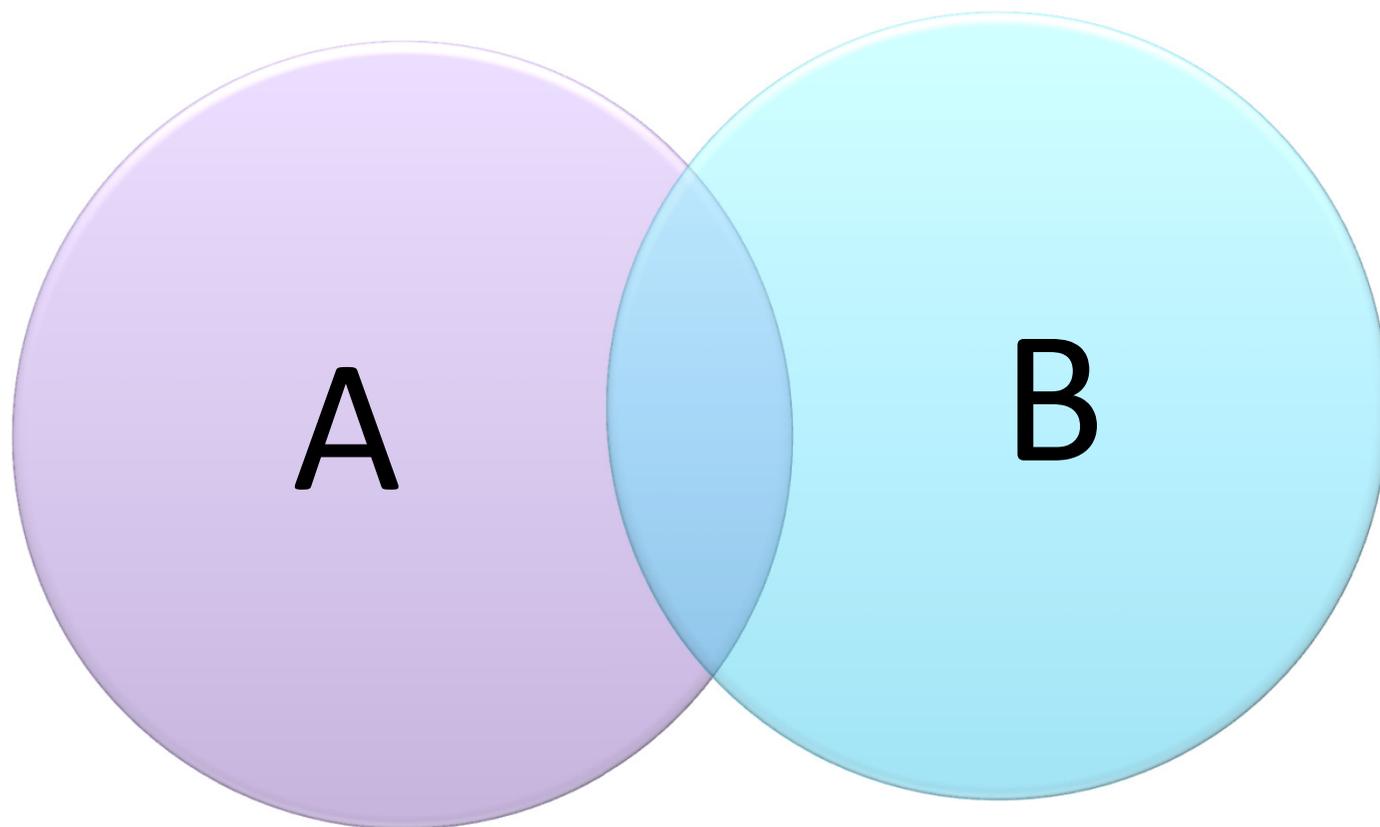
3. Probability of non-disjoint events

- If A and B are two non-disjoint events, then

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B)$$

(This is called General Additional Rule)

Comments: If A and B are disjoint, this rule also apply.



Example 3. Considering a deck of 52 cards, what is the probability of a randomly selected Card is a diamond card or a face card?

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Answer: } P(\text{diamond or face}) &= P(\text{diamond}) + P(\text{face}) - P(\text{diamond and face}) \\ &= 13/52 + 12/52 - 3/52 \\ &= 22/52 = 11/26\end{aligned}$$

4. Probability of complement of an event

Let A^c be the complement of event A , that is, A^c represents all outcomes that are not in A , then

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

Example 4. Consider rolling a die, find the probability of not getting 2.

Answer: $P(\text{not } 2) = 1 - P(2) = 1 - 1/6 = 5/6$

5. Probability of independent events

- **Multiplication rule for independent process**

If A and B are independent, then

$$\mathbf{P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \times P(B)}$$

Similarly, if A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k are all independent, then $P(A_1 \text{ and } A_2 \dots \text{and } A_k) = P(A_1) \times P(A_2) \dots \times P(A_k)$

Example 5. Consider rolling two dice, (a) what is the probability that sum is 6?
(b) What is the probability that sum is not 6?

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Answer (a) } P(\text{Sum is 6}) &= P(1 \text{ and } 5) + P(2 \text{ and } 4) + P(3 \text{ and } 3) + P(4 \text{ and } 2) + P(5 \text{ and } 1) \\ &= P(1) \times P(5) + P(2) \times P(4) + P(3) \times P(3) + P(4) \times P(2) + P(5) \times P(1) \\ &= 1/36 + 1/36 + 1/36 + 1/36 + 1/36 \\ &= 5/36\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer (b) } P(\text{Sum is not 6}) = 1 - P(\text{Sum is 6}) = 31/36$$

6. Conditional Probability

The conditional probability of A given condition B is

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

	inoculated	Not inoculated	total
live	238	5136	5374
die	6	844	850
total	244	5980	6224

Example 6. What is the probability that an inoculated person die from smallpox?

Answer: $P(\text{die} \mid \text{inoculation}) = 6/244$

If we use the conditional probability formula, we have

$$P(\text{die} \mid \text{inoculated}) = \frac{P(\text{die and inoculated})}{P(\text{inoculated})} = \frac{6/6224}{244/6224} = \frac{6}{244}$$

7. Probability of dependent events

- **General Multiplication Rule : If A and B are two dependent events, then**

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

Comments: (1) when A and B are independent, the above rule still apply. The above equation becomes $P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \times P(B)$

(2) The multiplication rule is consistent with conditional probability formula.

Example 7. If $P(\text{inoculated}) = 0.0392$, $P(\text{live} | \text{inoculated}) = 0.9754$

what is the probability that a person was inoculated and lived?

Answer: $P(\text{inoculated and lived}) = 0.0392 \times 0.9754 = 0.0382$

Chapter 2 Homework#1 (due 01/26/16)

1. Please write down your suggestions and expectation for this course.
2. If we draw 5 white balls out of a drum with 69 balls and one red ball out of a drum with 26 red balls. What is the probability of winning the jackpot by matching all five white balls in any order and the red Powerball.