

CHAPTER 1: EVENTS AND THEIR PROBABILITIES

SECTION 1.1: INTRODUCTION

Model world, axiomatize to theory

SECTION 1.2: EVENTS AS SETS

Definitions:

- Sample Space (Ω): all possible outcomes
 - ↳ Example: toss coin three: $\{HHH, \dots, TTT\}$
 - ↳ haven't assigned probabilities to events
 - ↳ Toss coin till head: $\{H, TH, TTH, \dots\}$ infinite
- Events: subsets of sample space
 - ↳ $\{HHH, HHT, HTH, TTH\}$ in first (at least 2 heads)
- Complement: $A^c = \Omega - A$
- Certain/impossible event: Ω The certain event, \emptyset The impossible event

Will not assign prob to all events: which ones?

Key, desired properties: Assign probabilities to collection subsets \mathcal{F} st

$$\hookrightarrow A, B \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A \cup B \text{ and } A \cap B \in \mathcal{F}$$

$$\hookrightarrow A \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{F}$$

$$\hookrightarrow \emptyset \in \mathcal{F} \text{ (which implies } \Omega \in \mathcal{F}\text{)}$$

If satisfy these properties called a field; called a σ -field

$$\text{if } \hookrightarrow \emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$$

$$\hookrightarrow A_i \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{F} \text{ (infinite union, countable)}$$

$$\hookrightarrow A \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{F}$$

Note: will see later $\mathcal{P}(\Omega) \neq 2^\Omega$ (power sets) is not a σ -field

SECTION 1.2: HW

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$$\#2) A \setminus B = \{x: x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$

$$A \Delta B = \{x: x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\} \cup \{x: x \in B \text{ and } x \notin A\}$$

$$= (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) \quad (\text{The symmetric difference})$$

#5) Does $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$?

↳ Standard proof: show $LHS \subset RHS$ and $RHS \subset LHS$

⇒ (Showing $LHS \subset RHS$)

Let $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$

Then $x \in A$ ~~OR~~ ^{OR} $x \in B \cap C$

↳ Thus $x \in A$ ~~OR~~ ^{OR} ($x \in B$ and $x \in C$ (or both))

Case 1: $x \in A$ implies $x \in A \cup B$ and $A \cup C$

so $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

Case 2: $x \notin A$ Thus $x \in B$ and $x \in C$

so $x \in A \cup B$ and $x \in A \cup C$

so $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

⇐ Showing ($RHS \subset LHS$)

Let $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

so $x \in A \cup B$ and $x \in A \cup C$

Case 1: If $x \in A$ Then $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ and done

If $x \notin A$ Then $x \in B$ and $x \in C$ so $x \in B \cap C$

and thus $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ ◻

HW: DO: #2, #3, #5d

Optional: #1, #4, #5bc - 6

SECTION 1.3: PROBABILITY

Run experiment, in N trials observe event A total of $N(A)$ times

↳ As $N \rightarrow \infty$, $N(A)/N$ should approx $\text{Prob}(A) = P(A)$

↳ basis Monte Carlo integration

↳ how many integrations done (finance)

↳ A, B disjoint: $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$, $P(\emptyset) = 0$, $P(\Omega) = 1$

Probability should be finitely additive: $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$

• Call P probability measure on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) if $P: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1]$

Satisfies: (1) $P(\emptyset) = 0$, $P(\Omega) = 1$

(2) $\{A_i\}$ pairwise disjoint ($i \neq j \Rightarrow A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$)

$$\text{Then } P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

Call triple (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) a probability space.

Example: Coin Toss

Get Heads prob p , tails prob $1-p$, toss once.

sample $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{H\}, \{T\}, \{H, T\}\}$, $\Omega = \{H, T\}$

with $P(\emptyset) = 0$, $P(H) = p$, $P(T) = 1-p$, $P(\Omega) = 1$

SECTION 1.3: PROBABILITY (CONT)

LEMMA: Probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) :

(1) Law of total prob: $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$

(2) $B \supseteq A$ then $P(B) = P(A) + P(B \setminus A) \geq P(A)$

(3) $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$

(4) $P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum P(A_i) - \sum_{i < j} P(A_i \cap A_j) + \sum_{i < j < k} P(A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k) - \dots + (-1)^{n+1} P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n)$
Inclusion Exclusion Principle

Ask class which are to prove from (1), (2), (3)

Give proof of 4

LEMMA: $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq \dots$ and $B_1 \supseteq B_2 \supseteq \dots$ Then

• If $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} A_i$ Then $P(A) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P(A_i)$

• If $B = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} B_i$

Proof: $A = A_1 \cup (A_2 \setminus A_1) \cup (A_3 \setminus A_2) \cup \dots$

Notation: Event A is null if $P(A) = 0$, and A occurs almost surely if $P(A) = 1$.

HW: Do: #2, #3, #5

Optional: #1, #6

INTRODUCTION TO COMBINATORICS (CONT)

PROVING IDENTITIES

- Way prove is count two ways, do one and get other

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{k+r-1}{r-1} = \binom{n+r}{r}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 = \binom{2n}{n}$$

↳ ask class which to prove / do both if interest

- Advanced: hypergeometric fns (see paper @ Murty)

TWO PROBLEMS

- lottery: Choose 6 of 50, any order, no repeats: $\binom{50}{6}$

Choose 6 of 50, any order, repeats allowed: see notes

↳ prob winning in first case is $1/\binom{50}{6}$

- matchings • $2n$ couples, randomly matched in pairs, what prob matched correctly?

- n people, ordered $123 \dots n$, randomly rearrange, prob at least one in right spot?

↳ later: prob exactly r in correct order
expected value

HW:

SECTION 1.4: CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

INTUITION

↳ What is Prob A happens given B happens? Denote $P(A|B)$.



As B happens, only care about part inside B

If $N(E)$ how often observe E in N trials:

$$\frac{N(A \cap B)}{N(B)} = \frac{N(A \cap B)/N}{N(B)/N} \rightarrow \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Defn: Conditional probability: If $P(B) > 0$ then the cond prob of A occurring given B occurs is $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B) / P(B)$

EX1: Prob of a 7 given first roll fair die is a 3; prob of an 11?

$$\hookrightarrow \Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, 6\}^2 = \{(1,1), (1,2), \dots, (6,6)\}, \# \Omega = 6^2 = 36$$

$$B = \{(3,1), (3,2), (3,3), (3,4), (3,5), (3,6)\}$$

$$\cancel{A_1 = \{(3,4)\}} \quad \cancel{A_2 = \emptyset}$$

$$A_1 = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

$$A_2 = \{(5,6), (6,5)\}$$

$$A_1 \cap B = \{(3,4)\} \quad A_2 \cap B = \emptyset$$

$$P(A_1|B) = P(A_1 \cap B) / P(B) = \frac{1/36}{6/36} = 1/6$$

$$P(A_2|B) = P(A_2 \cap B) / P(B) = \frac{0/36}{6/36} = 0$$

EX2: See problem in book about children

↳ two slightly different problems

↳ importance of phrasing

SECTION 1.4: CONTINUED

Defn: Partition: A family of events B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n is a partition of Ω if

$$\textcircled{1} B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \text{ if } i \neq j$$

$$\textcircled{2} \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = \Omega$$

\Rightarrow each elementary event ω in a unique B_i

LEMMA: If $0 < P(B) < 1$, for any event A we have

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

\hookrightarrow if B_1, \dots, B_n is a partition with $P(B_i) > 0$ then

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

Things to note

\hookrightarrow see why need $0 < P(B) < 1$ so $0 < P(B^c) < 1$

Why must $P(B_i) > 0$?

\hookrightarrow Proof: $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$ and clearly disjoint union

$$\text{Thus } P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$$

by defn conditional prob, $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B) \dots$

\hookrightarrow really using $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B) / P(B)$

\hookrightarrow must avoid division by zero!

\hookrightarrow Infinite case?

\hookrightarrow Always explore conditions in a theorem!

\hookrightarrow Only useful if easier to compute $P(A|B_i)$ and $P(B_i)$ than $P(A \cap B_i)$!

SECTION 1.4: CONTINUED

Example 14 from Section 1.7: False Positives

Rare disease affects 1 in 10^5 people, test shows positive with prob $99/100$ if ill, and shows positive with prob $1/100$ if healthy. If test positive, what is the probability you are ill?

↳ Sec 1.4, #1) Prove if $P(A)P(B) \neq 0$ then $P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)$
↳ Proof: as $P(A)P(B) \neq 0$, both sides are just $P(A \cap B)$.

↳ Let $A = \{\text{ill}\}$, $B = \{\text{test positive}\}$

$$P(\text{ill} | +) P(+) = P(+ | \text{ill}) P(\text{ill}) \Rightarrow P(\text{ill} | +) = \frac{P(+ | \text{ill}) P(\text{ill})}{P(+)}$$

Using partition: $P(+) = P(+ | \text{ill}) P(\text{ill}) + P(+ | \text{healthy}) P(\text{healthy})$

$$\Rightarrow P(\text{ill} | +) = \frac{P(+ | \text{ill}) P(\text{ill})}{P(+ | \text{ill}) P(\text{ill}) + P(+ | \text{healthy}) P(\text{healthy})} = \frac{\frac{99}{100} \cdot 10^{-5}}{\frac{99}{100} \cdot 10^{-5} + \frac{1}{100} (1 - 10^{-5})} \approx \frac{1}{1011}$$

↳ note very likely healthy! Applications medical testing

↳ with a bare guess, very easy to do it this way

Challenge question: do we want to improve $99/100$ or $1/100$ more, and why?

HW: do: #2, #4

suggested: #5, #6

SECTION 1.5: INDEPENDENCE

Two events indep if knowledge of one happening gives no info on other happening

Defn: A and B independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.

More generally, family $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ indep if

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i \in J} A_i\right) = \prod_{i \in J} P(A_i) \quad \forall \text{ finite subsets } J \text{ of } I$$

↳ Very important that looking at all finite subsets, not just pairwise

↳ Ex: $\Omega = \{1, \dots, 6\}^2$ (fair die)

A = first die is a 1 $P(A) = 1/6$

B = second die is a 2 $P(B) = 1/6$

C = sum rolls is ≤ 7 $P(C) = 1/6$

$$\text{note } P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{1/36}{6/36} = \frac{1}{6} = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(B)}$$

Similarly $P(A|C) = P(B|A) = P(B|C) = 1/6 = P(C|A) = P(C|B)$

But $P(A \cap B \cap C) = 0 \neq \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^3 = P(A)P(B)P(C)$

↳ toss by a fair coin twice / spinning wheel on Price Is Right / Roulette

↳ not necc independent!

Defn: Events A, B are conditionally indep given C (with $P(C) > 0$) if

$$P(A \cap B | C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$$

HW: do : #1, #2, #4 (is it true if p is not prime?), #8 (used error correcting codes)

suggested: #3, #5, #6

NOT DOING SECTION 1.6

SECTION 1.7: WORKED EXAMPLES

(#4) Symmetric random walk (Gambler's Ruin)

Car costs \$ N , starts with \$ k ($0 < k < N$). Toss fair coin: heads win \$1, tail loses \$1. Play till hits \$0 or \$ N . What is prob lose?

Soln: let P_k = prob bankrupt given start with \$ k

↳ Clearly $P_0 = 1$, $P_N = 0$, & even then $P_{N/2} = 1/2$

Conditional prob: A event bankrupt
B event first toss heads

↳ P_k means prob when start with \$ k

$$P_k(A) = P_k(A|B)P(B) + P_k(A|B^c)P(B^c)$$
$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$
$$P_k = P_{k+1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + P_{k-1} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

Get difference eq $P_{k+1} = 2P_k - P_{k-1}$

with initial condns $P_0 = 1$, $P_N = 0$

↳ Book gives one method to solve, here is a more general one

$$P_{k+1} - 2P_k + P_{k-1} = 0: \text{ Guess } P_k = r^k$$

$$\text{↳ Get char polynomial: } r^{k+1} - 2r^k + r^{k-1} = 0$$

$$r^{k-1}(r^2 - 2r + 1) = 0$$

$$r = 0 \text{ or } r = 1, 1$$

↳ soln is $r = 1^k$

↳ PROBLEM: Repeated root: have P_k determined once know any two values, general soln should have two free parameters - missing a soln!

SECTION 1.7: WORKED EXAMPLES: CONT

(#4) Symmetric Random Walk (Cont)

In DiffEqs learn to guess $P_k = k r^k$ if one repeated root

Now get $(k+1)r^{k+1} - 2kr^k + (k-1)r^{k-1} = 0$

↳ as $r=1 \Rightarrow k+1 - 2k + k-1$ should equal 0, and does

Thus solves to $P_{k+1} - 2P_k + P_{k-1} = 0$ we $P_k = 1, k$

↳ LINEAR difference eq: linear combination of solns is a soln

↳ using a little linear algebra here

↳ Thus for any c_1, c_2 find $P_k = c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 \cdot k$ is a soln

Choose c_1, c_2 to match boundary cond:

↳ $c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 \cdot 0 = 1 = P_0$

$c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 \cdot N = 0 = P_N$

↳ solve with lin alg or substitution

find $c_1 = 1, c_2 = -1/N$

↳ General soln: $P_k = 1 - \frac{k}{N}$

HW: do: #1, #3, #4

Suggested: #2, #5

PROBLEMS FROM SECTION 1.8: PROBLEMS

do: #2, #4, #6, #12, #24, #28, #39
can do: §1.3 §1.2 §1.4 §1.2 §1.5 §1.5 §1.5
after

Note: for #28, must
eat at most 10% be colored,
or could more be
colored. In 4-dimensions?

suggested: 1, 3, 7, 11, 13, did 14 in class, 16, 18, 20, 23, 29, 31, 32, 35,
and are 37 and 38 consistent?
-16

SECTION 1.7: WORKED EXAMPLES

BONUS: MORE DIFFERENCE EQS

(1) Fibonacci: $a_{n+1} = a_n + a_{n-1}$ $a_0 = 0$ $a_1 = 1$

↳ Guess $a_n = r^n$ find characteristic polynomial is

$$r^{n+1} - r^n - r^{n-1} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad r^{n-1}(r^2 - r - 1) = 0$$

so $r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$. Thus general soln is

$$a_n = C_1 \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n + C_2 \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n.$$

↳ To find C_1 and C_2 :

$$n=0: \quad 0 = C_1 \cdot 1 + C_2 \cdot 1$$

$$n=1: \quad 1 = C_1 \cdot \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} + C_2 \cdot \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

↳ first eq gives $C_2 = -C_1$

second becomes $1 = C_1 \cdot \sqrt{5} \Rightarrow C_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, C_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$

$$\text{Soln: } a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

↳ Called Binet's Formula

↳ amazing: a_n always an integer; this doesn't look integral: have divisions and $\sqrt{5}$ all over the place!

SECTION 1.8: WORKED EXAMPLES

Bonus - MORE DIFFERENCE EQS

(2) DOUBLE PLUS ONE: GREAT WAY TO LOSE AT ROULETTE!

"Friendlier" Roulette: no green, wheel comes up red with prob $\frac{1}{2}$ and win, comes up black with prob $\frac{1}{2}$ and lose.

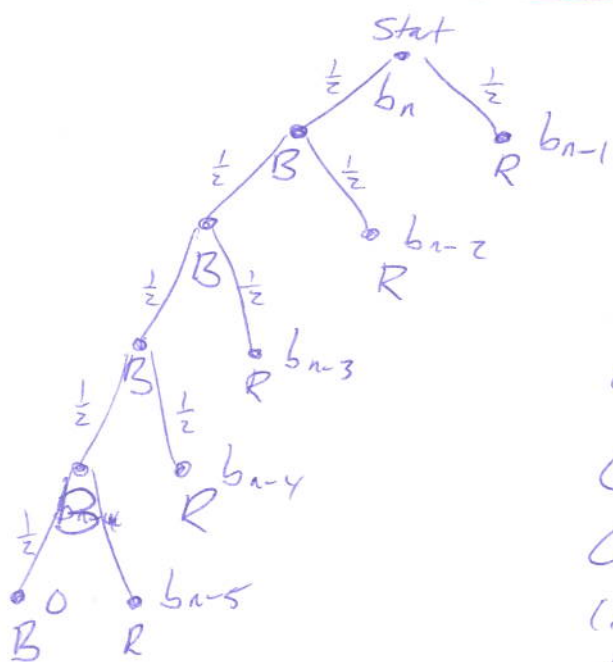
Strategy: Bet \$1; win happy else down \$1 so bet \$2
win up \$1 else down \$3 so bet \$4
win up \$1 else down \$7 so bet \$8...
Eventually should be up \$1: what's wrong?

Soln: House limits: say can only double 4 times without exceeding maximum bet. What is prob lose big if play 100 spins?

Let a_k = prob have 5 consec blacks in k tosses

b_k = "don't have" " " " " " " = $1 - a_k$

Technically easier to compute b_k and get a_k from the Law of Total Probability.



Recurrence relation:

$$b_n = \frac{1}{2} b_{n-1} + \frac{1}{2^2} b_{n-2} + \frac{1}{2^3} b_{n-3} + \frac{1}{2^4} b_{n-4} + \frac{1}{2^5} b_{n-5}$$

$$\text{or } 32b_n - 16b_{n-1} - \dots - b_{n-5} = 0$$

Guess $b_n = r^n$, find 5 distinct roots

General soln $b_n = C_1 r_1^n + \dots + C_5 r_5^n$
(more linear algebra), soln controlled by largest root in absolute value, $r_1 =$

Initial cond: $b_0 = b_1 = b_2 = b_3 = b_4 = 0$

Get $b_{100} \approx$