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UW Schnapsen Club

Fridays 3:30-5:30

CSE 503

Defn: A sample space is a set Ω of possible "outcomes" of a probabilistic experiment.

Ex: Flip of a coin: $\Omega = \{H, T\}$

2 flips of a coin: $\Omega = \{(H, H), (H, T), (T, H), (T, T)\}$

Roll a 6-sided die: $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

of emails received in one day: $\Omega = \mathbb{N}$,
the set of nonnegative integers

5-card hands dealt from a 52-card deck:

$$|\Omega| = \binom{52}{5}$$

Defn: An event is any $E \subseteq \Omega$.

Ex: ≥ 1 head in 2 coin flips: $E = \{(H, H), (H, T), (T, H)\}$

odd roll of die: $E = \{1, 3, 5\}$

5-card hand with no Spade: $|E| = \binom{39}{5}$

Defn: E and F are mutually exclusive iff $E \cap F = \emptyset$.

Defn: There is a function P (called "probability") that assigns a real number $P(E)$ to every event E satisfying the following 3 axioms:

(1) $P(E) \geq 0$

(2) $P(\Omega) = 1$

(3) If E and F are mutually exclusive, $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F)$.

Implications of axioms:

- (a) $P(\bar{E}) = P(\Omega - E) = 1 - P(E)$, because
 $1 = P(\Omega) = P(E \cup \bar{E}) = P(E) + P(\bar{E})$
- (b) If $E \subseteq F$, then $P(E) \leq P(F)$, because
 $P(F) = P(E \cup (F-E)) = P(E) + P(F-E)$
 $\geq P(E) + 0 = P(E)$.
- (c) $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \cap F)$.
- (d) $P(E) \leq 1$. (Follows from (b) and Axiom 2)

Start with the simple case of equally probable outcomes:

if $a \in \Omega$, $P(a) = 1/|\Omega|$.

Ex: Flip of a fair coin: $P(H) = P(T) = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|}$.

2 flips of a fair coin: $P(HH) = \frac{1}{4}$

Roll of a fair die: $P(3) = \frac{1}{6}$.

$$P(E) = \sum_{a \in E} P(a) = \sum_{a \in E} \frac{1}{|\Omega|} = \frac{|E|}{|\Omega|}$$

Ex: $P(\text{5-card hand containing no spade}) = \frac{\binom{39}{5}}{\binom{52}{5}}$

$$= \frac{39 \cdot 38 \cdot 37 \cdot 36 \cdot 35}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \cdot \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdot 49 \cdot 48}$$

≈ 0.22

Ex: A "marriage" is the king and queen of the same suit.

$$P(\text{5-card hand contains at least 1 marriage}) = \frac{\binom{4}{1} \cdot \binom{50}{3} - \binom{4}{2} \cdot \binom{48}{1}}{\binom{52}{5}} \approx 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

Ex: Assume 365 possible birthdays, and each is equally probable for a random person. What is the prob that, of n people, none share the same birthday?

$$|\Omega| = 365^n \leftarrow \text{order matters}$$

$$|E| = \binom{365}{n} \quad ? \text{ No.}$$

$$|E| = \frac{365!}{(365-n)!} \leftarrow \text{order matters}$$

$$P(\text{no shared birthday}) = \frac{365!}{(365-n)! 365^n}$$

Some values:

$$n=23: P() < 0.5$$

$$n=77: P() < 1/5000$$

$$n=100: P() < 1/3 \times 10^{15}$$