

Ex: Assume $\heartsuit J$ is face-up. Let Ω be all ways of dealing 2 Schnapsen hands. Let
 $Y =$ you are dealt 0 trumps and
 $\bar{O} =$ opponent is " " " "

$$P(\bar{O}|Y) = \frac{|\bar{O} \cap Y|}{|Y|} = \frac{\binom{15}{5} \binom{10}{5}}{\binom{15}{5} \binom{14}{5}} = \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{14 \cdot 13 \cdot 12 \cdot 11 \cdot 10} \approx 0.126$$

Compare to $P(Y) \approx 0.258 \approx \binom{15}{5} / \binom{26}{5}$

Notice that restricting the sample space to Y would yield $\frac{\binom{10}{5}}{\binom{14}{5}}$.

General case: outcomes may not be equally likely.

Ex: Flip a fair coin twice. Let $\Omega = \{0, 1, 2\}$, where we are considering the number of heads in 2 flips.

$$P(0) = P(2) = 1/4 \text{ but } P(1) = 1/2.$$

General defn of conditional probability:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(F)}$$

Let $F = \geq 1$ head and $E = 2$ heads.

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(F)} = \frac{P(E)}{P(F)} = \frac{1/4}{1 - 1/4} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Chain rule: $P(E \cap F) = P(E|F)P(F)$.

Generalize: $P(E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \dots \cap E_n) =$

$$P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1, E_2) \dots P(E_n|E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{n-1})$$

Follows from chain rule by choosing

$E = E_n$, $F = E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \dots \cap E_{n-1}$, and then recursing, i.e. by induction on n .

Law of Total Probability: If E and F are events,

$$P(E) = P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|\bar{F})P(\bar{F}).$$

Proof:



$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P((E \cap F) \cup (E \cap \bar{F})) \\ &= P(E \cap F) + P(E \cap \bar{F}) \quad (\text{axiom 3}) \\ &= P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|\bar{F})P(\bar{F}) \\ &= P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|\bar{F})(1 - P(F)) \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Sally will take either Phys or Chem. She will get an A in Phys with prob. $\frac{3}{4}$ and an A in Chem with prob. $\frac{3}{5}$. She flips a fair coin to decide. What is her prob. of an A? Let A = event that she gets an A,

Phys = " " " takes physics,

Chem = " " " " chemistry.

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(A|\text{Phys})P(\text{Phys}) + P(A|\text{chem})P(\text{chem}) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{27}{40} \end{aligned}$$

Generalized Law of Total Probability:

If F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n partition Ω , then

$$P(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(E|F_i)P(F_i).$$

The ordinary is $n=2$, $F_1 = F$, $F_2 = \bar{F}$.