

9/12/25

(in book)

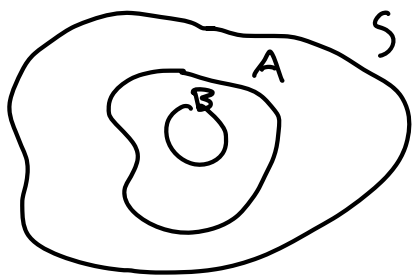
Proposition 1.35: Suppose that S is a sample space, P is a probability function, and we have an event $B \subseteq S$ such that $P(B) \neq 0$. Then the correspondence $A \mapsto P(A|B)$ defines a probability function on S

[Define $P_B(A) = P(A|B)$, where $A \subseteq S$]

1. $0 \leq P(A|B) \leq 1$, $A \subseteq S$

$$0 \leq P_B(A) \leq 1$$

2. If $B \subseteq A \subseteq S$, then $P(A|B) = 1$



$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(B)} = 1$$

~ given B, we are already inside A

3. If $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$ pairwise disjoint, and put $A = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$, then

$$P(A|B) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n|B)$$

Independent Events

$$P(A|B) = P(A) \quad \sim \text{Event B has no influence on Event A}$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$$

Example 1.39: Flip a fair coin twice. $|S| = 4$

$$A = \{HT, HH\} \quad B = \{TH, HH\} \quad C = \{TH, HT\}$$

which events are independent?

$$P(A) = \frac{1}{2} \quad P(B) = \frac{1}{2} \quad P(C) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(\{HH\}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(A \cap C) = P(\{HT\}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(B \cap C) = P(\{TH\}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(\emptyset) = 0$$

) all of them
are independent!

— can be pairwise independent
without being independent
of all

what's going on here?

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$$S_1 = \{H, T\}$$

$$S = S_1 \times S_2$$

$$S_2 = \{H, T\}$$

$$\hookrightarrow \begin{array}{cc} HT & HH \\ TH & TT \end{array}$$

$$A = \{H\} \times S_2$$

$$A \cap B = \{H\} \times \{H\}$$

$$B = S_1 \times \{H\}$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(\{H\} \times \{H\})$$

$$= P(\{H\})P(\{H\})$$

Definition 1.40:

The sequence of events

$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n, \dots$ is called independent if for any $k \geq 1$,

and for any $i_1 < \dots < i_k$, we have:

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}) = P(A_{i_1}) \dots P(A_{i_k})$$

Example 1.41:

Roll a die until the first 6 appears.

What is the probability that this happens on the n -th roll?

$$A_k = \{\text{roll } k \text{ gives a } 6\}$$

* Assumption: each roll
is independent

$$P(A_k) = \frac{1}{6} \quad P(A_k^c) = \frac{5}{6}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \rightarrow P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}^c \cap A_n) \\
 &= P(A_1^c) P(A_2^c) \dots P(A_{n-1}^c) P(A_n) \\
 &= \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{n-1} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 1.38: If the events, A, B , are independent,
then so are the events A and B^c

Proof: see start of next class (Sep 15)