

Department of Electrical Engineering  
University of Arkansas



# **ELEG 3143 Probability & Stochastic Process**

## **Ch. 1 Probability**

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# OUTLINE

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- **Applications**
- **Elementary Set Theory**
- **Random Experiments**
- **Probability**
- **Conditional probability**
- **Independence**
- **Bayes' Formula**
- **Bernoulli trials**

# APPLICATIONS

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- **Why probability?**
  - Most real world events have uncertain (or random) outcomes
    - flipping a coin
    - Tossing dices
    - Football games
    - Blackjack
    - Expected lifetime of iPhone
    - The actual resistance of a 100 Ohm resistor
    - .....
  - How do we characterize these random events?
  - Can we predict the outcome of a random event?

# APPLICATIONS

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- **Probability Theory**
  - provides a complete set of mathematical tools and theories that can accurately and precisely describe the statistical behaviors of the random phenomenon.
  - It is a branch of Mathematics
  - It has a wide range of applications to Engineers.

# APPLICATIONS

- **Random input signals**

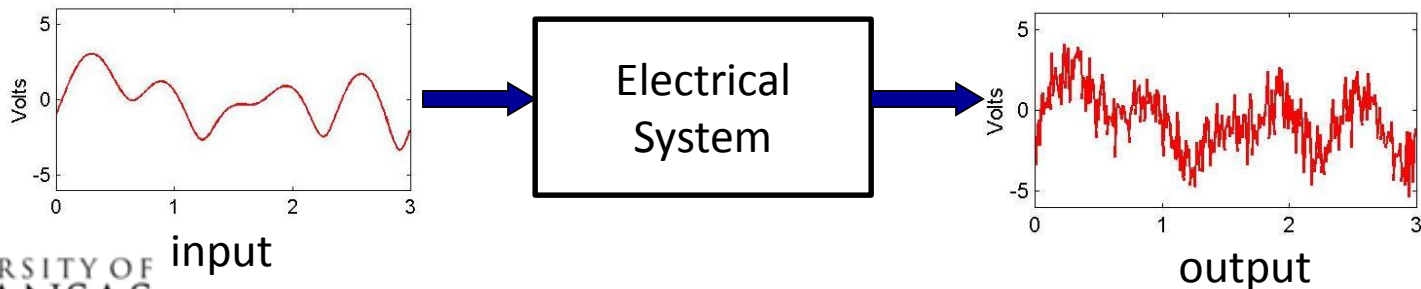
- The input for a system might be random

- E.g. the number of vehicles passing through a certain check points as an input to a traffic control system (e.g. duration of traffic lights)
- E.g. temperature fluctuations as an input to a heating system
- E.g. Music signals as an input to your stereo system

- **Random system characteristics**

- The system itself has random characteristics

- E.g. The components inside a system has random values
  - A 100 Ohm resistor might have an actual value of 101 Ohm
- E.g. **Noise**: random electrical disturbance caused by the random movement of electronics
  - It is present at all electrical systems



# APPLICATIONS

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- **System reliability**
  - What is the expected life cycle of a given system?
  - What is the probability of failure of a system?
    - Warranty duration, insurance policy, etc.
- **Random sampling**
  - It might be too costly to inspect every single elements
  - Only sample a small population, then deduce the general behavior from the sample results
    - E.g. survey
    - E.g. product inspection for quality control
  - How to design the random sampling process?
- **Computer simulation**
  - A cost effective and efficient way to test the performance of a system
  - Random inputs, random system parameters (e.g. random component value, random disturbance, ...)

# OUTLINE

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# SET THEORY

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- **Set**

- A collection of **elements**
- Example:  $E = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ 
  - $E$  is a set
  - $\alpha_m$  is an element of the set  $E$
- A subset of  $E$  is any set all of whose elements are also elements of  $E$ 
  - Example:  $E = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
  - $F = \{1, 3, 6\}$  is a subset of  $E$ ,  $F \subset E$
  - $G = \{1\}$  is a subset of  $E$ ,  $G \subset E$
  - Any set is a subset of itself  $E \subset E$
- Empty set:  $\phi$ 
  - A set that does not have any element
  - Empty set is a subset of any set  $\phi \subset E$
- Space  $S$ : the **largest set** of interests for a given application
  - E.g. toss a coin,  $S = \{H, T\}$
  - E.g. throw a die,  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

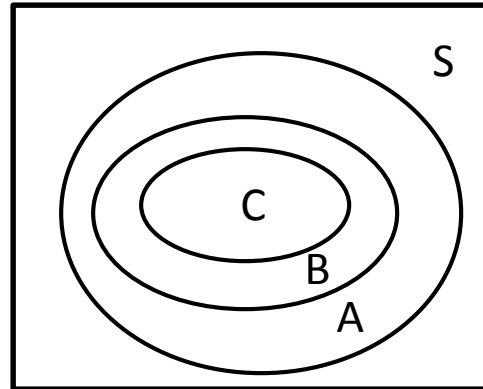


# SET THEORY: VENN DIAGRAM

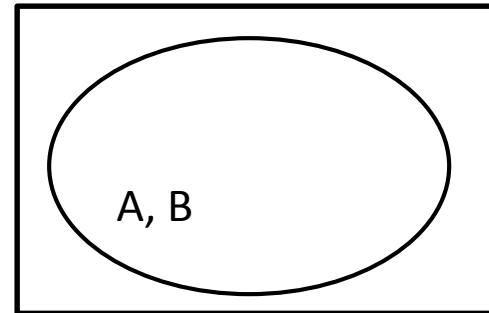
- **Venn diagram**

- A geometric representation, where the space  $S$  is represented by a square and the sets are represented by closed plane figures inside the square.

- E.g.  $C \subset B \subset A$



- If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ , then  $A = B$



# SET THEORY

- **Union (sum)**

- The union of two sets A and B is a set consisting of all the elements from A or B or both

- Denoted as  $A \cup B$

- Associate law

$$A \cup B \cup C = (A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$$

- Commutative law

$$A \cup B = B \cup A$$

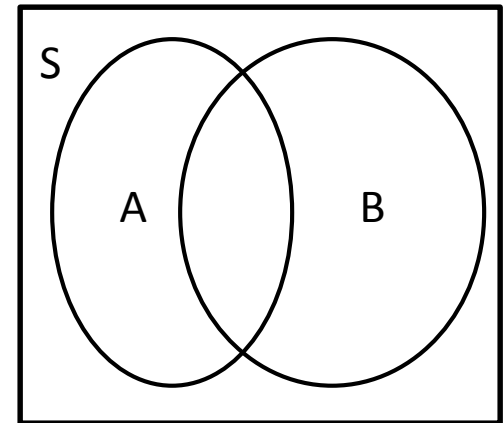
- Properties

$$A \cup A =$$

$$A \cup S =$$

$$A \cup \phi =$$

$$\text{If } A \subset B, A \cup B =$$



# SET THEORY

- **Intersection (product)**

- The intersection of two sets is the set consisting of all the elements from both sets.

- Denoted as  $A \cap B$

- Associative law

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

- Commutative law

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$

- Properties

$$A \cup A =$$

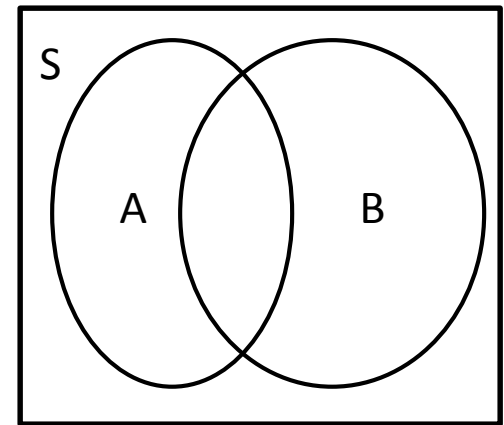
$$A \cup S =$$

$$A \cup \phi =$$

$$\text{if } A \subset B, \quad A \cap B =$$

- Mutually exclusive (disjoint)

$A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive if  $A \cap B = \phi$



# SET THEORY

- **Intersection (Cont'd)**

- $A \cap B \cap C = (A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$
- $(A \cup B) \cap C = (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C)$
- $(A \cap B) \cup C = (A \cup C) \cap (B \cup C)$

- **Complement**

- The complement of set  $A$  is a set containing all the elements of  $S$  that are **not** in  $A$ .
- Denoted as  $A^c$
- Properties

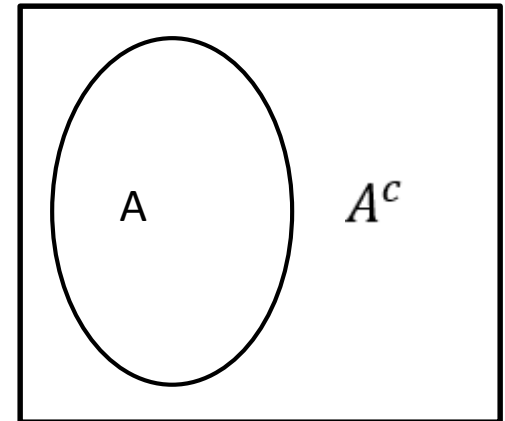
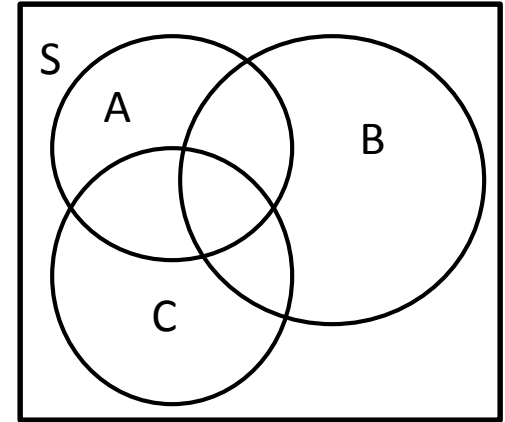
$$\phi^c =$$

$$S^c =$$

$$(A^c)^c =$$

$$A \cup A^c =$$

$$A \cap A^c =$$



# SET THEORY

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- **Complement (Cont'd)**

- If  $A \subset B$ , then  $B^c \subset A^c$

- DeMorgan's Laws

$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$$

$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$$

# SET THEORY

- **Difference**

- The difference of two sets,  $A-B$ , is a set consisting of the elements of  $A$  that are not in  $B$ .

$$A - B = A \cap B^c$$

- Examples

$$(A - B) \cup B =$$

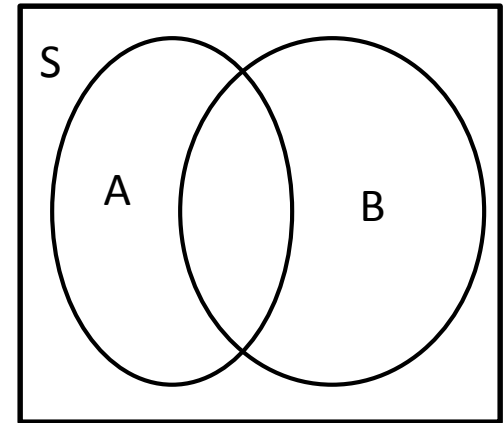
$$(A - B) \cap B =$$

$$(A - B) \cap A =$$

$$A - \phi =$$

$$A - S =$$

$$S - A =$$



# SET THEORY

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- **Example**

- $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

- $A = \{2, 4, 6\}, B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, C = \{1, 3, 5\}$

$$(A \cup B) \cap C =$$

$$(A \cup B)^c =$$

$$(A \cap B)^c =$$

$$(A - B) \cap B =$$

$$(A \cup B) \cap (B - A) =$$

# SET THEORY

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- **Example**
  - If A and B are subset of the same space S
    - Simplify the following notation

$$(A \cap B) \cup (A - B) =$$

$$A^c \cap (A - B) =$$

$$(A \cap B) \cap (A \cup B) =$$



# OUTLINE

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- Applications
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# RANDOM EXPERIMENT

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- **Experiment:**
  - An *action* that results in an *outcome*.
- **Random experiment**
  - An experiment in which the outcome is *uncertain* before the experiment is performed.
- **Sample space S: the set of all possible outcomes of a random experiment**
  - Examples:
    - Flipping a coin
      - $S = \{ H, T \}$
    - Flipping two coins
      - $S = \{ (H, H), (H, T), (T, H), (T, T) \}$
    - Throwing a die
      - $S = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$
    - Lifetime of a car
      - $S = [0, \infty )$
- **Outcome: each element in the sample space**

# RANDOM EXPERIMENT

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- **Random events:** any subset  $E$  of the sample space  $S$ 
  - E.g. throwing a die
    - $E_1 = \{3\}$ : the event that 3 appears
    - $E_2 = \{2, 4, 6\}$ : the event that an even number appears.
  - Elementary random event:
    - An elementary event is one for which there is only one element in the event
      - E.g. flipping a coin,  $\{H\}$  is an elementary event
      - E.g. tossing a dice,  $\{4\}$  is an elementary event
      - E.g. measuring a voltage,  $\{2.37\}$  Volt is an elementary event
  - Composite event
    - An event that might have several possible outcomes
      - E.g. tossing a die, “even” is a composite event, it includes the elementary outcomes  $\{2, 4, 6\}$
      - E.g. measuring a voltage, “greater than 0” is a composite event, in includes all the elementary outcomes  $(0, \infty)$

# RANDOM EXPERIMENT

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- **Trial**
  - A single performance of an experiment
  - Example: A coin is tossed 3 times, with outcomes H, H, T  $\rightarrow$  3 trials.
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> trial results in H, the 2<sup>nd</sup> trial results in H, the 3<sup>rd</sup> trial results in T
  - Example: Measure temperature twice, with outcomes 72.3 F, 71.8 F  $\rightarrow$  2 trials
  - Once a trial is performed, the result of the trial is deterministic (not random)

# RANDOM EXPERIMENT

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- **Classification: Discrete v.s. Continuous**
  - **Discrete** random experiment: the number of outcomes are countable (i.e., the outcomes can be put in a one-to-one correspondence with integers),
    - E.g. flipping a coin {H, T},
    - It is possible a discrete random experiment has infinite possible outcomes
      - E.g. count the number of atoms in an object: {1, 2, 3, ...}
      - E.g. count the number of stars: {1, 2, 3, ...}
  - **Continuous** random experiment: the number of outcomes are not countable
    - E.g. lifetime of a car  $[0, \infty)$
    - E.g. randomly pick a real number in the range between  $[0, 1]$
    - Continuous random experiment always has infinite outcomes

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# PROBABILITY

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- **Probability**

- Assign a **number** between  $[0, 1]$  to each random **event** of a sample space, such that the number is a measure of how likely the **event** is.
  - E.g. flipping a coin. Assign 0.5 to H, 0.5 to T
    - 0.5 is the probability of H, 0.5 is the probability of T
  - E.g. tossing a die with events  $\{1, 2\}$  (2 or less)
    - $1/3$  is the probability of “2 or less”
- It is a mapping from a random event to a number between  $[0, 1]$

**Random event (a subset of S)  $\rightarrow$   $[0, 1]$**

- There are several different definitions of probability
  - Relative-frequency approach
  - Axiomatic approach

# PROBABILITY: RELATIVE-FREQUENCY

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- **Relative-frequency**

- Example: consider a random experiments with sample space:  $S = \{A, B, C\}$ . Perform the experiments for a total of  $N = 1,000$  times

- Event  $\{A\}$  occurs  $N_A = 500$  times
- Event  $\{B\}$  occurs  $N_B = 300$  times
- Event  $\{C\}$  occurs  $N_C = 200$  times

- $N_A + N_B + N_C = N$

- The relative frequency of  $\{A\}$  is

$$r(A) = \frac{N_A}{N}$$

- The relative frequency of  $\{B\}$  is

$$r(B) = \frac{N_B}{N}$$

- The relative frequency of  $\{C\}$  is

$$r(C) = \frac{N_C}{N}$$

- The more trials we perform, the more accurate the result is.



# PROBABILITY: RELATIVE-FREQUENCY DEFINITION

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- **Relative-frequency**

- The probability of event  $\{A\}$

$$\Pr(A) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_A}{N}$$

- The sum of the probabilities of all the events

$$\Pr(A) + \Pr(B) + \Pr(C) =$$

# PROBABILITY: RELATIVE FREQUENCY

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- **Example**

- Consider a bin contains 100 diodes. Among them, 20 are known to be bad.
- Pick 1 diode from the bin
  - Sample space
  - Probability that the picked one is bad

# PROBABILITY: AXIOMATIC DEFINITION

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- **Definition: Probability**

- Consider a random experiment with sample space  $S$ . For each event  $E$  of the sample space  $S$ , we assign it a positive number  $\Pr(E)$ , which satisfies the following properties

- 1.  $0 \leq \Pr(E) \leq 1$
- 2.  $\Pr(S) = 1$
- 3. For any sequence of events  $E_1, E_2, \dots$  that are **mutually exclusive** ( $E_m \cap E_n = \phi, \forall m \neq n$ )

$$\Pr\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr(E_n)$$

- Then  $\Pr(E)$  is called as the probability of event  $E$ .

# PROBABILITY

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- **Example**
  - Toss a die.
    - Sample space
    - The probability of getting a number 3
    - The probability of getting an even number

# PROBABILITY

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- **Probability of complement events**

- Events  $E$  and  $E^c$  are always mutually exclusive

$$\Pr(E) + \Pr(E^c) =$$

- **Probability of two events**

- Consider a sample space  $S$  with two events  $E$  and  $F$ . The probability that **either**  $E$  **or**  $F$  happens (the probability of all outcomes either in  $E$  or  $F$ )

$$\Pr(E \cup F) =$$

# PROBABILITY

---

- **The probability of two events: consider a sample space  $S$  with two events  $E$  and  $F$** 
  - The probability **either  $E$  or  $F$**  happens (the probability that the outcome is either in  $E$  or  $F$ )

$$\Pr(E \cup F)$$

- The probability that **both  $E$  and  $F$**  happens (the probability that the outcome is in both  $E$  and  $F$ )

$$\Pr(E \cap F)$$

- Also denoted as

$$\Pr(EF)$$

- Called the **joint probability**

# PROBABILITY

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- **Property**

- $\Pr(A \cap B^c) + \Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A)$

- Proof:

- Recall:  $(A \cap B^c) \cup (A \cap B) = A$

- $(A \cap B^c) \cap (A \cap B) = \emptyset$

# PROBABILITY

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- **Property**

$$\Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A \cap B)$$

– Proof:



# PROBABILITY

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- **Example**

- Toss 2 different coins,

- $E = \{(H, H), (H, T)\}$ ,  $F = \{(H, H), (T, H)\}$ ,  $G = \{(T, T)\}$

$$\Pr(E \cup F) =$$

$$\Pr(E \cap F) =$$

$$\Pr(E \cup F \cup G) =$$

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# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Joint probability**
  - Consider a sample space  $S$  with two events  $E$  and  $F$ . The probability that **both  $E$  and  $F$**  happens (the probability of all outcomes in both  $E$  and  $F$ )
    - $\Pr(E \cap F)$
    - Also denoted as  $\Pr(EF)$

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Example**

- Consider an urn contains 100 resistors of different resistance and power ratings. The number of the different types are listed as follows

	1 Ohm	10 Ohm	100 Ohm	Totals
1 W	10	20	30	60
10 W	10	20	10	40
Totals	20	40	40	100

- Pick 1 resistor
- What is the probability that the resistor has a power rating of 1 W?
- What is the probability that the resistor has a resistance of 10 Ohm?
- What is the probability that the resistor is 10 Ohm with 1 W rating?

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

- **Conditional Probability**

- $\Pr(E|F)$ : Given the condition that the event F occurred, the probability that E occurs.
- Example:
  - (Cont'd from the previous example) Pick one resistor. If the picked resistor has a 1W rating, what is the probability that the resistor is 10 Ohm?

	1 Ohm	10 Ohm	100 Ohm	Totals
1 W	10	20	30	60
10 W	10	20	10	40
Totals	20	40	40	100

- $\Pr(10 \text{ Ohm}|1\text{W}) =$

- $\Pr(10\text{Ohm}, 1\text{W}) = \Pr(10 \text{ Ohm}|1\text{W})\Pr(1\text{W})$

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Conditional Probability**

$$\Pr(A | B) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)}$$

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A | B) \Pr(B) = \Pr(B | A) \Pr(A)$$

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Example**

- Consider a bin contains 100 diodes. Among them, 20 are known to be bad. Pick 2 diodes from the bin
  - Sample space
  - The probability that the 1<sup>st</sup> one is bad
  - If the 1<sup>st</sup> one is bad, what is the probability that the 2<sup>nd</sup> one is bad?
  - If the 1<sup>st</sup> one is good, what is the probability that the 2<sup>nd</sup> one is bad?
  - The probability that both are bad.
  - The probability that the 1<sup>st</sup> one is good, the 2<sup>nd</sup> one is bad.

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Example**
  - Cards numbered 1 through 10 are placed in a hat. Pick one card. If we are told that the number on the card is at least 5. What is the probability that the card is 10?



# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Example**

- Suppose an urn contains 7 black balls and 5 white balls. We draw 2 balls from the urn without replacement. What is the probability that both balls are black?

# CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

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- **Example**

- Alice can take either Chemistry or Physics. If Alice takes Chemistry, the probability that she will get an A is 0.5. If she takes Physics, the probability that she will get an A is 0.6. If Alice decides which course to take by flipping a fair coin. What is the probability that Alice gets an A in Chemistry?

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# INDEPENDENCE

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- **Independence**

- Two events, A and B, are independent, if and only if

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(A) \Pr(B)$$

- If A and B are independent

$$\Pr(A | B) =$$

$$\Pr(B | A) =$$

- **Independent**  $\neq$  **mutually exclusive**

- A and B are independent

$$\Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A) \Pr(B)$$

$$\Pr(A \cup B) =$$

- A and B are mutually exclusive

$$\Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B)$$

$$\Pr(A \cap B) =$$



# INDEPENDENCE

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- **Example**

- Toss 2 dice. Define event A as getting a 5, and event B as getting a 7.
  - Are A and B independent?
  - Are A and B mutually exclusive?

- **Example**

- Toss 2 dice. Define event A as getting an odd number, and event B as getting a 7.
  - Are A and B independent?
  - Are A and B mutually exclusive?

# INDEPENDENCE

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- **Example**

- A deck of 52 cards. Let A be the event of selecting an Ace, and let B be the event of selecting a Heart. 1. Are A and B independent? Are A and B mutually exclusive?
  - 4 suits: {club, spade, heart, diamond}
  - 13 denominations: {Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Jack, Queen, King}

# INDEPENDENCE

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- **Pairwise independence**

- A sequence of events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  are called pairwise independent if **any pair of events** are independent

$$\Pr(E_i E_j) = \Pr(E_i) \Pr(E_j) \quad \forall i \neq j$$

- **Independence**

- A sequence of events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  are independent if any subset of the sequence are independent

$$\Pr(E_{r_1} E_{r_2} \dots E_{r_k}) = \Pr(E_{r_1}) \Pr(E_{r_2}) \dots \Pr(E_{r_k}) \quad 1 \leq r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k \leq n$$

- Example

$$E_1, E_2, E_3, E_4$$



# INDEPENDENCE

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- **Example**

- Let a ball be drawn from an urn containing 4 balls, numbered 1, 2, 3, 4.

- Let  $E = \{1, 2\}$ ,  $F = \{1, 3\}$ ,  $G = \{1, 4\}$ .

- Are E, F, G pairwise independent?
    - Are E, F, G independent?

# INDEPENDENCE: COMBINED EXPERIMENT

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- **Combined experiment**
  - Example: a combined experiment is performed in which a coin is flipped and a single die is rolled.
    - Write the sample space.
    - Let  $A$  be the event of obtaining a head and a number 3 or less. Find the probability of  $A$ .

# INDEPENDENCE: COMBINED EXPERIMENT

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- **Combined experiment**

- Two or more experiments are performed together, forming a combined experiment.
- Experiment 1 has a sample space  $S_1 = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$
- Experiment 2 has a sample space  $S_2 = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$
- Then the sample space of the combined experiment is

$$S = S_1 \times S_2 = \{(a_1, b_1), (a_1, b_2), \dots, (a_1, b_m), \dots, (a_n, b_1), \dots, (a_n, b_m)\}$$

- $S = S_1 \times S_2$  is called the Cartesian product of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$

# OUTLINE

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- **Bayes' Formula**
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# BAYES' FORMULA

---

- **Total probability**

- If we know  $P(A|B)$ , how do we find out  $P(A)$

- Conditional probability  $\rightarrow$  Unconditional probability

- Suppose  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  are mutually exclusive events and  $B_1 \cup B_2 \cup \dots \cup B_n = S$

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A | B_1) \Pr(B_1) + \Pr(A | B_2) \Pr(B_2) + \dots + \Pr(A | B_n) \Pr(B_n)$$

- Proof

# BAYES' FORMULA

---

- **Example**

- Consider two urns. The 1<sup>st</sup> contains 3 white and 7 black balls. The 2<sup>nd</sup> contains 8 white and 2 black balls. We flip a fair coin and then draw a ball from the 1<sup>st</sup> urn if the coin is head, and draw a ball from the 2<sup>nd</sup> urn if the coin is tail.
  - What is the probability drawing from the 1<sup>st</sup> urn?
  - What is the probability of drawing a black ball from the 1<sup>st</sup> urn?
  - What is the probability of drawing a black ball from the 2<sup>nd</sup> urn?
  - What is the probability of drawing a black ball?

# BAYES' FORMULA

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- **Bayes' formula**

- $\Pr(A|B_i) \rightarrow \Pr(B_i|A)$

- Suppose  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  are mutually exclusive events and  $B_1 \cup B_2 \cup \dots \cup B_n = S$

$$\Pr(B_i | A) = \frac{\Pr(A | B_i) \Pr(B_i)}{\Pr(A)} = \frac{\Pr(A | B_i) \Pr(B_i)}{\sum_{k=1}^n \Pr(A | B_k) \Pr(B_k)}$$

- Proof

# BAYES' FORMULA

---

- **Example**

- Consider two urns. The 1<sup>st</sup> contains 3 white and 7 black balls. The 2<sup>nd</sup> contains 8 white and 2 black balls. We flip a fair coin and then draw a ball from the 1<sup>st</sup> urn if the coin is head, and draw a ball from the 2<sup>nd</sup> urn if the coin is tail.
  - If we draw a black ball, what is the probability that we draw it from the 1<sup>st</sup> urn?
  - If we draw a black ball, what is the probability that we draw it from the 2<sup>nd</sup> urn?



# BAYES' FORMULA

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- **Example**

- Alice can take either Chemistry or Physics. If Alice takes Chemistry, the probability that she will get an A is 0.5. If she takes Physics, the probability that she will get an A is 0.6. If Alice decides which course to take by flipping a fair coin. If Alice gets an A, what is the probability that she takes Chemistry?

# BAYES' FORMULA

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- **Example**

- A manufacture buys components in equal amount from 4 different suppliers. The probability that components from supplier 1 are bad is 0.05, that components from supplier 2 are bad is 0.1, that components from supplier 3 are bad is 0.2, that components from supplier 4 are bad is 0.15,
  - The probability that a component is bad.
  - If a component is bad, the probability that it is from supplier 2.

# BAYES' FORMULA

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- **Example**
  - A lab blood test to detect a certain disease. If the disease is present, the test can detect it 95% of the time. However, the test also gives a “false positive” result for 1% of the healthy person being tested (that is, if a healthy person is tested, then, with probability 0.01, the result will imply the person has the disease). Assume 0.5% of the population actually has the disease. If the test result of a person is positive, what is the probability that the person actually has the disease?

# OUTLINE

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- Applications
- Elementary Set Theory
- Random Experiments
- Probability
- Conditional probability
- Independence
- Bayes' Formula
- **Bernoulli trials**

# BERNOULLI TRIALS

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- **Bernoulli trials**
  - Consider an experiment with event  $A$ , and  $\Pr(A) = p$ .
  - Repeat the experiment  $n$  times, what is the probability that event  $A$  happens exactly  $k$  times? ( $0 \leq k \leq n$ )
  - The composite events that there are exactly  $k$  event  $A$  in  $n$  trials:
    - The probability of one of the events
    - How many such events are there?
      - Choose  $k$  position out of  $n$  positions (example,  $k = 2, n = 4$ )

# BERNOULLI TRIALS

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- Bernoulli trials

$$p_n(k) = \Pr(A \text{ occurs } k \text{ times in } n \text{ trials}) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

# BERNOULLI TRIALS

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- **Example**
  - Toss an unfair coin 6 times. The probability of Head is 0.3.
    - What is the probability that the head occurs twice?
    - What is the probability that the head occurs more than once?