

Case 2: S is infinite and countable

We note that equal-likelihood assignment is NOT valid.

Exampel 5: Keep tossing a coin until the first "H" is seen, and record the number of the tossing trivals. Find the sampling space S.

Solution:

The sampling sapce $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

If we assume the coin is unbiased, the following assignment is "reasonable":

$$P[\{1\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$P[\{2\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P[\{3\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$P[\{k\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k, k \in S$$

Verify the sum of all k: $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P[\{k\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \dots = 1$

Note: $1 + a + a^2 + a^3 + \dots + a^n = \frac{1-a^{n+1}}{1-a}$

If we assume the coins biased such that with probability $\frac{2}{3}$ a "H" occurs, then the following assignment is "reasonable":

$$P[\{1\}] = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)$$

$$P[\{2\}] = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{2}{3^2}$$

$$P[\{3\}] = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{2}{3^3}$$

$$P[\{k\}] = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^k, k \in S$$

Verify the sum of all k: $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P[\{k\}] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \dots = 1$

Case 3: S is infinite and Uncountable

[Aside: If S is finite or countably infinite, we sometime say S is discrete; if S is uncountably infinite, we say S is continuous]

Typical options: uniform assignment and non-uniform assignment

Example 6: Measured the temparature if this room using an infinite precission

thermometer.

Suppose the measurement real number in interval $[10,20]$

Under the uniform assignment of probability for any $x \in [10, 20]$

We assigned probability to event $[10, x]$ as follows:

$$p[10, x] = \frac{(x-10)}{(20-10)}$$

Exercise:

Based on this assignment, calculate the probability of the interval $[14,18]$

$$P[14, 18] = \frac{4}{10}$$

Solution: $[10, 18] = [10, 14] \cup [14,18]$

$$P[(10, 18)] = P[(10, 14)] + P[(14, 18)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(18-10)}{(20-10)} = \frac{(14-10)}{(20-10)} + p[(14, 18)]$$

$$\Rightarrow P[(14, 18)] = 0.8 - 0.4 = 0.4$$

Ex: Suppose the present time is time 0

Record the time which next phone call arrive

$$S = [0, +\infty]$$

We immediately say that uniform assignment is invalid

We will choose the following assignment

For every interval $[t, +\infty] t \in S$

$$P[t, +\infty] = e^{-\alpha t}, \text{ for some choice of positive value of } \alpha$$

Let $t = 100, \alpha = 1$

$$P[100, +\infty] = e^{-100}$$

$$P\left[\frac{1}{1000}, +\infty\right] = e^{-\frac{1}{1000}} \approx 1$$

Under this assignment probability that the next call arrive before time t is

$$1 - e^{-\alpha t}.$$

Combinatorics Basics

Preliminaries:

There are k sets, A_1, \dots, A_k

Pick one element from each set and form a vector (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k) there and $a_i \in A_i$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$

How many distinct such vector are there in?

Example: Let $K = 2$, $A_1 = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $A_2 = \{a, b\}$

Clearly there are 2×3 in different pairs.

$Answer = |A_1| \times |A_2| \times \dots \times |A_k|$.

Sampling with/without replacement and with/without ordering

(here, sampling means drawing, replacement means putting back)

Case1: Sampling with replacement and with ordering

setup: Chose one object from set A of m distinct object.

Do this K- times and record the K-tuples.

What is the size of the sample space? Howmany K-tuples are there?

eg: $n \times n \dots = n^k$

Pick 5 cards at random from a deck of regular card with replacement. and

suppose in every draw each card is picked with equal probability.

From a 5-type, what is the probability that this 5-types starts with black A and end with a black A?

the number of 5-tuples start with black A and end with black A.

$\clubsuit A_1 \dots \clubsuit A_5$

$\spadesuit A_1 \dots \spadesuit A_5$

$2 \times 52 \times 52 \times 52 \times 2$

Therefore the probability of draw such a 5- tuple is $= 2^2 \times \frac{52^3}{52^5} = \left(\frac{1}{26}\right)^2$

Extension:

After we pick the first two cards, we stop , the probability of both cards are

Black Aces is still the same:

$$P = \left(\frac{2}{52}\right)\left(\frac{2}{52}\right)$$

Case2: Sampling without replacement and with ordering.

Setup: Pick K objects from a set A of n object (without putting the drawn

objects back) and record the K-type($K \leq n$)

How many distinct K- type are there?

$$52 \times 51 \times 50 \times 49 \times 48$$

The general form is $n \times (n - 1) \times \dots \times (n - k + 1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$