# Chapter 1: Probability Review

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# **Joint and Conditional Probability**



Conditional Probability  $P[B|A] = \frac{P[AB]}{P[A]}$   $P[A|B] = \frac{P[AB]}{P[B]}$ 

### **Example**



Transition probabilities due to noise

$$P[Y = 1|X = 1] = 0.9$$
  $P[Y = 1|X = 0] = 0.1$   
 $P[Y = 0|X = 1] = 0.1$   $P[Y = 0|X = 0] = 0.9$ 

Assume the Priors to be

$$P[A] = P[B] = \frac{1}{2}$$

We may be interested to know the following probabilities:

$$\begin{split} P[X=0,Y=0] &= P[Y=0|X=0]P[X=0] = 0.45\\ P[X=0,Y=1] &= P[Y=1|X=1|P[X=0] = 0.05\\ P[X=1,Y=0] &= P[Y=0|X=1]P[X=1] = 0.05\\ P[X=1,Y=1] &= P[Y=1|X=1|P[X=1] = 0.45 \end{split}$$

$$Calculate$$
$$P[Y = 0], P[Y = 1]$$

Also, unconditional probability or total probability can be computed as  $P[B] = P[B|A_1]P[A_1] + P[B|A_2]P[A_2] + \dots + P[B|A_n]P[A_n]$ Iff  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = \Omega$ ,  $A_i A_j = \phi$  and B is defined over  $\Omega$ 

## Independence

If  $A_i, i = 1, ..., n$  are defined on a probability space  $\mathscr{P}$ , the  $\{A_i\}$  are said to be independent iff,

$$egin{aligned} P[A_iA_j] =& P[A_i]P[A_j] \ P[A_iA_jA_k] =& P[A_i]P[A_j]P[A_k] \ &dots \ P[A_1\ldots A_n] =& P[A_1]P[A_2]\ldots P[A_n] \end{aligned}$$

For all combination of indices such that  $1 \le i \le j \le k \dots \le n$ 

#### Example: Test for Independence

Let

A= Event of picking a black ball B= Picking one of the lighter balls C = picking an even-numbered ball

Check P[ABC] = P[A]P[B]P[C] And Pairwise independence





Calculate Posterior Probability  $P[X_i|Y_i]$  and its relation to  $\beta$ ?



# **Bernoulli Trial**

- An experiment that has two outcomes **P[success]=***p* and **P[failure]=***q* 
  - Since multiple events are independent,  $P[z_{i_1}, \ldots z_{i_n}] = P[z_{i_1}] \ldots P[z_{i_n}]$
  - Example: **P[H] = p, P[T] = q**, what is the probability of the events
    - $\bullet \quad \mathsf{E}_1 = \{\mathsf{HTT}\}$
    - $E_2 = \{THT\}$
    - $E_3^- = \{TTH\}$
  - Probability of getting two T's regardless of order is **3pq**<sup>2</sup>
- Generalizing with *n* Bernoulli trials, consider an event

 $A_k \triangleq k \text{ success in } n \text{ trials} = \cup_{i=1}^K \{a_i^{'}\}$ 

 $\{a_i'\}$  is the the set of all tuples with (exactly) **k** successes and **n-k** failures

- What is the value of **K**?
- Therefore using independence of  $\{a_i^{'}\}$ ,

$$P[A_k] = Piggl[ iggl[ iggl[ A_i' iggr] iggr] = \sum_{i=1}^K Piggl[ iggl\{ a_i' iggr] iggr] \longrightarrow P[A_k] = iggl( iggn) p^k q^{n-k}$$

Binomial Probability

Law



• If **k** or fewer success instead of exactly the the binomial law is

$$B(k:n,p) = \sum_{i=0}^{k} \binom{n}{i} p^{i} q^{n-i}$$

Binomial Distribution Function

• Consequently, the probability of **at least k success (**or k or more**)** is

$$1 - B(k - 1:n,p) = \sum_{i=k}^{n} \binom{n}{i} p^{i} q^{n-i}$$

**Example 1.9-7: 5** missile strike, Need at least **2 hits** to destroy. P[miss] = 0.9. Calculate **P[target still active]**?

P[target destroyed] = P[at east 2 hits out of 5] =  $\sum_{i=2}^{5} {5 \choose i} (0.1)^{i} (0.9)^{5-i}$ 

P[target still active] = 1 - P[target destroyed]

### **Multinomials**

- Bernoulli trials outcome with **multiple** (l) **outcomes**  $\zeta_i$  with probabilities  $p_i$
- For a particular ordered set of outcomes, let l = 3, n = 7

$$P[\zeta_1\zeta_2\zeta_3\zeta_3\zeta_1\zeta_2\zeta_3] = p_1^2 p_2^2 p_3^3$$

- For unordered outcomes count all combination of the outcomes  $\binom{n}{r_1}\binom{n-r_1}{r_2}\binom{n-r_1-r_2}{r_3}\dots\binom{n-r_1-r_2-\dots r_{k-1}}{r_k} = \frac{n!}{r_1!r_2!r_3!\dots r_k!}$
- The generalized probability of a set of (*l*) outcomes

$$P(r:n,p) = rac{n!}{r_1!r_2!r_3!\dots r_k!} p_1^{r_2} p_2^{r_1}\dots p_l^{r_l}$$

• For what value of (l), we get Binomial law?

Multinomial coefficient

### **Poisson Law**

• If *n>>k* and *p<<1*, but *np* = *µ* remain constant, the binomial law reduces to



 Application : n points arrive in T sec. What is the probability that exactly k points are presents in interval τ?



# **Normal Approx. of Binomial Law**

- Binomial and Poisson distributions are discrete distributions
- A standard normal distribution has the cdf

$$F_{SN}(x)=rac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\int_{-\infty}^{x}e^{rac{-y^2}{2}}dy$$
  $extsf{What is the pdf?}$ 

• Therefore a bernoulli can be approximated using the normal distribution

$$b(n;k,p)pproxrac{1}{\sqrt{npq}}f_{SN}igg(rac{k-np}{\sqrt{npq}}igg)=rac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sqrt{npq}}e^{-rac{1}{2}igg(rac{k-np}{\sqrt{npq}}igg)^2}$$

Error function erfc(x)P $erf(x) \triangleq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{\frac{-y^2}{2}} dy$  $F_{SN}$ Therefore, $F_{SN} = \frac{1}{2} + erf(x)$  for x > 0 $F_{SN} = \frac{1}{2} - erf(|x|)$  for x < 0

$$P[k_{1} < success < k_{2}] =$$

$$F_{SN}\left[\frac{k_{2} - np + 0.5}{\sqrt{npq}}\right] - F_{SN}\left[\frac{k_{1} - np - 0.5}{\sqrt{npq}}\right]$$
The 0.5 appears for continuity correction from discrete Binomial to a continuous Normal approximation 10