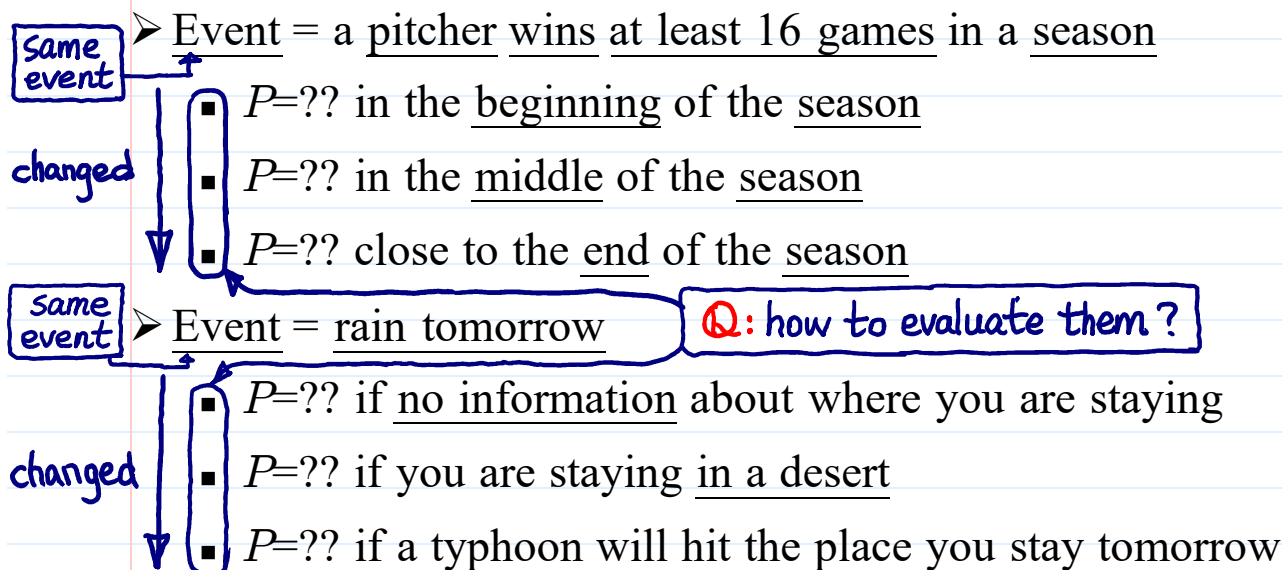


# 條件機率 Conditional Probability & Bayes' Rule

- Q: Should the following probabilities be different?



- Q: What causes the differences?
  - For an event, new information (i.e., some other event has occurred) could change its probability
  - We call the altered probability a conditional probability

Recall.  
subjective  
probability

- Mathematical Definition: If  $A$  and  $B$  are two events in a sample space  $\Omega$  and  $P(A) > 0$ , then

reasonable to define for  $A$  with  $P(A) = 0$ ?

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

original probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$

is called the conditional probability of  $B$  given  $A$ .

- In the classical probability, (symmetric outcomes in  $\Omega$ )

$$P(A) = \#A / \#\Omega \quad \text{and} \quad P(A \cap B) = \#(A \cap B) / \#\Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B|A) = \frac{\#(A \cap B) / \#\Omega}{\#A / \#\Omega} = \frac{\#(A \cap B)}{\#A} \quad \text{cf.} \quad \frac{P(B)}{P(A)}$$

~~$A \cap B$~~

$$P(B) = \frac{\#B}{\#\Omega}$$

- Example: A family is known to have 2 children, at least one of whom is a girl. Q: Probability that the other is a boy??

A

$$\Omega = \{bb, bg, gb, gg\} \quad \text{symmetric outcomes}$$

$$A = \{bg, gb, gg\} \quad \text{at least one boy}$$

$$B = \{bb, bg, gb\} \quad P(B) = 3/4$$

$$P(B|A) = \#(A \cap B) / \#A = 2/3$$

- Note:  $\#\Omega$  is reduced to  $\#A$ .

$$P(B|A)$$

Change  $A$  to be 1st is a girl

intuition?

$$1/2$$

NO

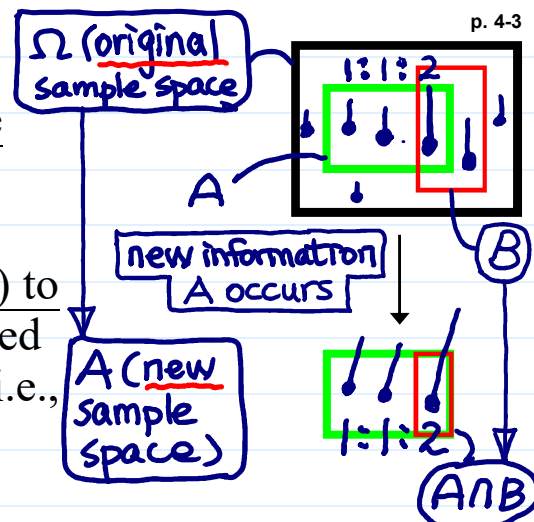
➤ In effect by conditioning,

- we are restricting the sample space from  $\Omega$  to  $A$ , i.e.,

$$\Omega \rightarrow A,$$

- and, for an arbitrary event  $B$  (in  $\Omega$ ) to occur when  $A$  has occurred, we need that both  $A$  and  $B$  occur together, i.e.,

$$B \rightarrow B \cap A.$$



➤ The division by  $P(A)$  in the definition above rescales all probabilities from the entire sample space  $\Omega$  to being relative to the new sample space  $A$  ( $\because P(\text{sample space}) = 1$ )

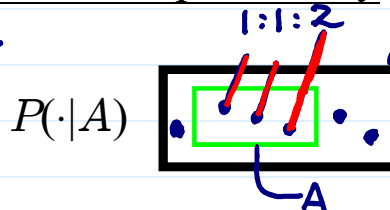
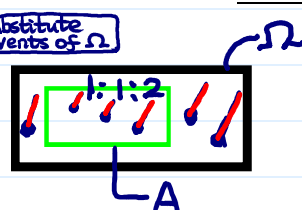
$$\frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)} \Rightarrow$$

➤  $P(B|A)$  is a probability measure defined on  $B$ , but not  $A$ . (\*)

- $P(\cdot|A)$  satisfies the 3 axioms of probability (exercise)

It can be regarded as a probability measure defined on  $2^\Omega$

can substitute any events of  $\Omega$



check textbook sec. 3.5 for details

- Any propositions developed in Chapter 2 for probability measures can be applied on  $P(\cdot|A)$ .

(For example,  $P(B^c|A) = 1 - P(B|A)$ .)

$P(B|A) + P(B|A^c) \neq 1$  in general (\*) in Ln. 43

- 3 Useful Formulas for Calculating Probabilities (for 2-events case)

1. If  $P(A) > 0$ , then  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B|A)$ . — ①

to guarantee the cond. prob. well defined

proof. By the definition of cond. prob.,  $P(B|A) = P(A \cap B) / P(A)$ .

2. If  $0 < P(A) < 1$ , then  $P(B) = P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c)$ . — ②

proof.  $B = B \cap \Omega = B \cap (A \cup A^c) = (B \cap A) \cup (B \cap A^c)$

mutually exclusive

3. If  $0 < P(A) < 1$  and  $P(B) > 0$ , then

$P(\cdot)$  update  $B$  occurs  $\rightarrow P(\cdot|B)$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A)P(B|A)}{P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c)}$$

proof,

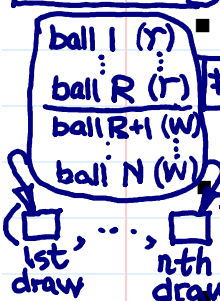
$$\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A \cap B) + P(A^c \cap B)}$$

Note. In ② & ③,  $A$  &  $A^c$ : a partition of  $\Omega$

➤ Example (Urn Problem) ← prototype of many applications

- The Story.  $n$  balls sequentially and randomly chosen, <sup>total # of balls</sup> without replacement, from an urn containing  $R$  red and  $N-R$  white balls ( $n \leq N$ ). Q: Given that  $k$  of the  $n$  balls are red ( $k \leq R$ ), probability that the 1<sup>st</sup> ball chosen is red = ?? #A ∩ B

do not put the drawn balls back into the urn



Let  $A = \{k \text{ of the } n \text{ balls are red}\}$

$B = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ ball chosen is red}\}$

Method 1:

$$P(B|A) = \frac{\binom{n-1}{k-1}}{\binom{n}{k}} = \frac{k}{n}$$

Method 2:

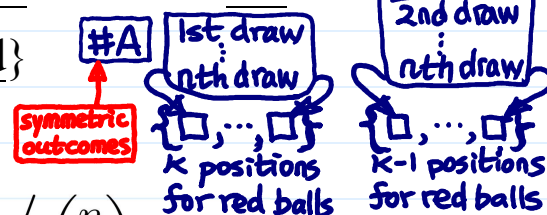
$$\frac{\#A \cap B}{\#A}$$

hyper-geometric distribution

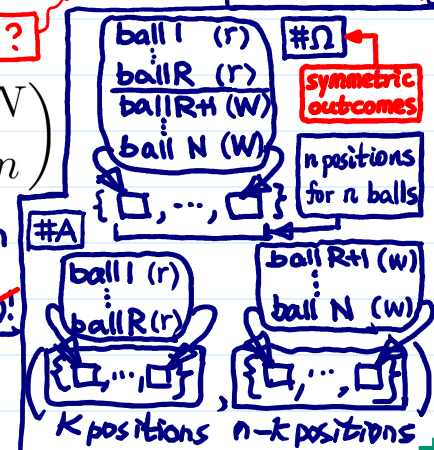
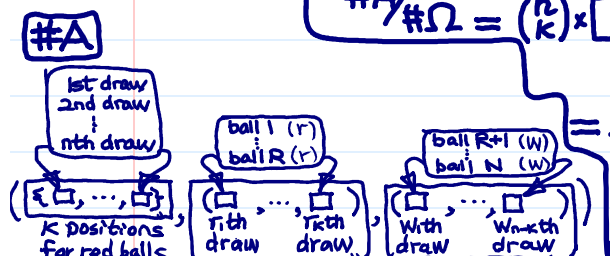
$$P(A) = \frac{\binom{R}{k} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

$$\frac{\#A}{\# \Omega} = \frac{\binom{R}{k} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{R} \times \cancel{R} \times \cancel{k} \times \cancel{(N-R)} \times \cancel{(n-k)}}{\cancel{N} \times \cancel{N} \times \cancel{n} \times \cancel{(n-k)}}$$



Q: Why different #A?



$$P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A|B) = \frac{R}{N} \times \frac{\binom{R-1}{k-1} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N-1}{n-1}}$$

$$P(B|A) = P(A \cap B) / P(A) = k/n$$

urn containing  $R-1$  red,  $N-R$  white,  $n-1$  balls drawn,  $k-1$  red,  $n-k$  white

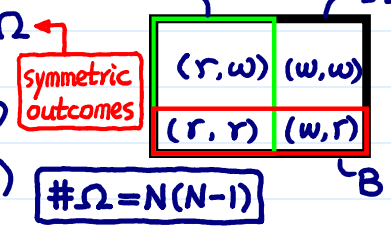
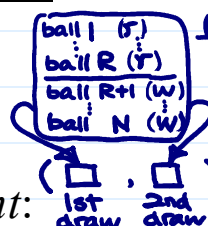
➤ Example (Sampling Experiments): An urn contains  $R$  red balls and  $N-R$  white balls. Sample 2 balls from the urn.

# of balls in the urn

$A = \{\text{red on the first draw}\}$

$B = \{\text{red on the second draw}\}$

Sampling Without Replacement:



$$P(A \cap \Omega) = P(A) = \frac{R}{N}, \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{R(R-1)}{N(N-1)} = P(A)P(B|A)$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{(R(R-1))/(N(N-1))}{R/N} = \frac{R-1}{N-1}$$

easier to evaluate

$$\text{Similarly, } P(B|A^c) = \frac{R}{N-1} \quad (\text{exercise})$$

Note:  $P(B|A) + P(B|A^c) = \frac{R-1}{N-1} + \frac{R}{N-1} = 1$  in general

$$P(B|A) \xrightarrow{\text{update}} P(B) = P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c) \quad \text{check ② in LNp.4-4 p. 4-7}$$

$$P(B|A) \xleftarrow{P(B|A^c)} P(B|A^c) \quad \text{by ②} \quad P(B|A) < P(B) < P(B|A^c)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{r/w} \\ \text{1st draw} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \boxed{r} \\ \text{2nd draw} \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \frac{R}{N} \cdot \frac{R-1}{N-1} + \frac{N-R}{N} \cdot \frac{R}{N-1}$$

$$= \frac{R^2 - R + NR - R^2}{N(N-1)} = \frac{R(N-1)}{N(N-1)} = \frac{R}{N} = P(A)$$

$$P(B|A) = P(A|B) \xrightarrow{\text{by ③}} \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{(R(R-1))/(N(N-1))}{R/N} = \frac{R-1}{N-1}$$

□ Notes:

also, same for the 3rd, 4th, ... draw

♦ The probabilities are proportional to # of red balls left

♦  $P(A|B) = P(B|A) \Rightarrow$  Symmetry.

$\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)}$   
 Sampling With Replacement:

put the ball back into the urn after draw

$$P(A) = \frac{R \cdot N}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R}{N}, \quad P(B) = \frac{N \cdot R}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R}{N}$$

cf. without replacement  
symmetric outcomes

$$P(B|A) = P(B) = P(B|A^c)$$

$$P(A \cap B) = \frac{R \cdot R}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R^2}{N^2}$$

independent (LNp.4-19)



$$P(B|A) \xrightarrow{\text{update}} \frac{R^2/N^2}{R/N} = \frac{R}{N} = P(B)$$

cf.  $\Omega$  in LNp.4-6  
1st draw, 2nd draw  
 $\# \Omega = N^2$