

條件機率 Conditional Probability & Bayes' Rule

new information

- Q: Should the following probabilities be different?

Same event → Event = a pitcher wins at least 16 games in a season

- changed ↓
- $P=??$ in the beginning of the season
 - $P=??$ in the middle of the season
 - $P=??$ close to the end of the season

Same event → Event = rain tomorrow

Q: how to evaluate them?

- changed ↓
- $P=??$ if no information about where you are staying
 - $P=??$ if you are staying in a desert
 - $P=??$ if a typhoon will hit the place you stay tomorrow

- 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 Ω and $P(A) > 0$, then

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

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

is called the conditional probability of B given A .

conditioned on continuous random variables (future lecture)

➤ In the classical probability, (symmetric outcomes in Ω)

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

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

~~$A \cap B$~~

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

- 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

- $\Omega = \{bb, bg, gb, gg\}$ (symmetric outcomes)
- $A = \{bg, gb, gg\}$ and $B = \{bb, bg, gb\}$ (at least one boy)
- $P(B|A) = \#(A \cap B) / \#A = 2/3$ (update)

$$P(B|A)$$

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

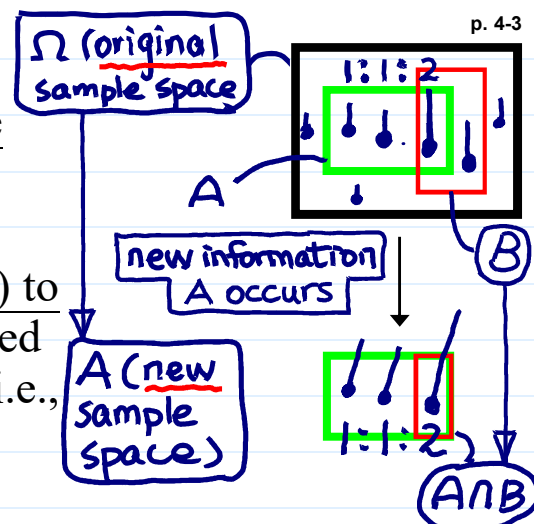
➤ In effect by conditioning,

- we are restricting the sample space from Ω to A , i.e.,

$$\Omega \rightarrow A,$$

- and, for an arbitrary event B (in Ω) 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 Ω to being relative to the new sample space A ($\because P(\text{sample space}) = 1$)

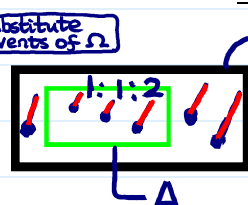
$$\frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)}$$

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

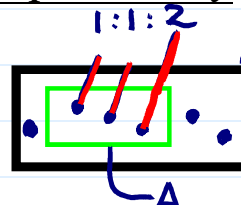
- $P(\cdot|A)$ satisfies the 3 axioms of probability (exercise)

It can be regarded as a probability measure defined on Ω

can substitute any events of Ω



$P(\cdot|A)$



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 Lp. 4-3

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

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

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

mutually exclusive

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

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 Ω

➤ Example (Urn Problem) ← prototype of many applications

- The Story. n balls sequentially and randomly chosen, ^{total # of balls} 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 1st 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:

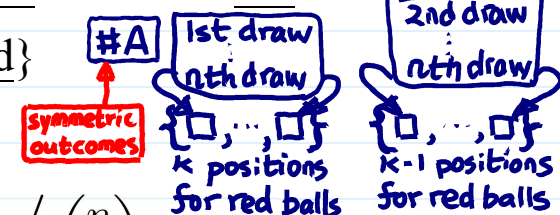
$$\frac{\#A \cap B}{\#A}$$

hyper-geometric distribution

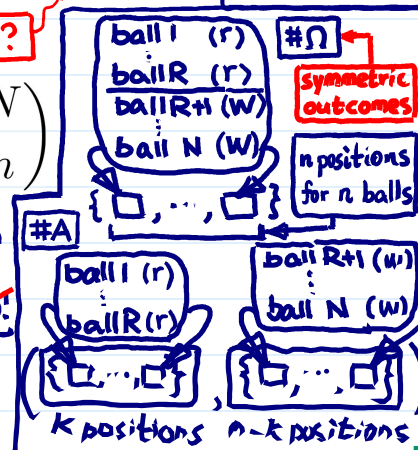
$$P(A) = \frac{\binom{R}{k} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

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

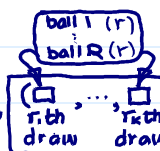
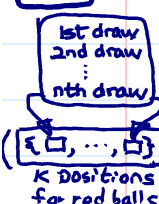
$$= \frac{\binom{R}{k} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$



Q: Why different #A?



#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

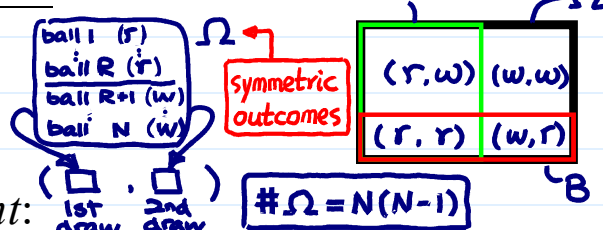
➤ Example (Sampling Experiments): An urn contains R red balls and $N-R$ white balls. Sample 2 balls from the urn.

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

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

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

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

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

($\boxed{r/w}$, \boxed{r})
 1st draw 2nd draw

5air

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)

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

