

# EE306001, Probability, Fall 2012

## Quiz #3, Problems and Solutions

**Prob. 1:** What is the probability that at least one of a pair of fair dice lands on 6, given that

- (1) the sum of the dice is 2?
- (2) the sum of the dice is 7?

**Solution.** Define the sample space as the set of all outcomes rolling two dices. that is ,

$$\begin{aligned} S = \{ & (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), \\ & (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), \\ & (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), \\ & (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), \\ & (5, 1), (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 4), (5, 5), (5, 6), \\ & (6, 1), (6, 2), (6, 3), (6, 4), (6, 5), (6, 6) \}. \end{aligned}$$

Define the  $\sigma$ -field

$$\mathcal{F} = 2^S.$$

Define the probability function  $P : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as

$$P = \frac{|E|}{|S|}, \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}.$$

Define the event

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \{\text{at least one of a pair of dice lands on 6}\} \\ &= \{(1, 6), (2, 6), (3, 6), (4, 6), (5, 6), (6, 1), (6, 2), (6, 3), (6, 4), (6, 5)\} \end{aligned}$$

- (1) The given event is

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \{\text{the sum of the dice is 2}\} \\ &= \{(1, 1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

The intersection

$$E \cap F = \emptyset.$$

Hence the probability

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(F)} = 0.$$

- (2) The given event is

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \{\text{the sum of the dice is 7}\} \\ &= \{(1, 6), (2, 5), (3, 4), (4, 3), (5, 2), (6, 1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

The intersection

$$E \cap F = \{(1, 6), (6, 1)\}.$$

Hence the probability

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(F)} = \frac{\frac{2}{36}}{\frac{6}{36}} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

**Prob. 2:** Show that if  $\mathcal{P}(A) > 0$ , then  $\mathcal{P}(A \cap B|A) \geq \mathcal{P}(A \cap B|A \cup B)$ .

**Solution.** For any event  $B \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $A \subset (A \cup B)$  implies  $\mathcal{P}(A) \leq \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(A \cap B|A) &= \frac{\mathcal{P}((A \cap B) \cap A)}{\mathcal{P}(A)} = \frac{\mathcal{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathcal{P}(A)} \\ &\geq \frac{\mathcal{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathcal{P}(A \cup B)} = \frac{\mathcal{P}((A \cap B) \cap (A \cup B))}{\mathcal{P}(A \cup B)} = \mathcal{P}(A \cap B|A \cup B). \end{aligned}$$

**Prob. 3:** Urn A contains 2 white balls and 1 black ball, and urn B contains 2 white balls and 5 black balls. Now a ball is randomly drawn from urn A and is put in urn B. A ball is then drawn from urn B and it happens to be white. What's the probability that the ball transferred from A to B is white? ( Hint. You can let

$$E = \{\text{The ball transferred from A to B is white.}\},$$

$$F = \{\text{The ball we finally select from B is white.}\}.$$

then use the technique of Baye's formula to compute  $\mathcal{P}(E|F)$ . )

**Solution.** We have

$$\mathcal{P}(E|F) = \frac{\mathcal{P}(E)\mathcal{P}(F|E)}{\mathcal{P}(E)\mathcal{P}(F|E) + \mathcal{P}(E^c)\mathcal{P}(F|E^c)},$$

where

$$\mathcal{P}(E) = \frac{2}{3}, \mathcal{P}(F|E) = \frac{3}{8}, \mathcal{P}(E^c) = \frac{1}{3}, \mathcal{P}(F|E^c) = \frac{2}{8}.$$

Therefore  $\mathcal{P}(E|F) = \frac{3}{4}$ .