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Statistics / Module 9 - Probability

Topic 1: Union and intersection of finite sets

Problem 1: Given $A = \{1, 3, 5\}$ and $B = \{3, 4, 6\}$, find $A \cup B$ and $A \cap B$.

Answer: $A \cup B = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ (all elements in A or B). $A \cap B = \{3\}$ (elements common to both).

Problem 2: For sets $C = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ and $D = \{4, 8, 10\}$, compute $C \cup D$ and $C \cap D$.

Answer: $C \cup D = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$ (all elements in C or D). $C \cap D = \{4, 8\}$ (common elements).

Topic 2: Determining a sample space and outcomes for an event: Experiment involving a single selection

Problem 1: A die is rolled once. List the sample space and the event of rolling an even number.

Answer: Sample space = $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. Event (even number) = $\{2, 4, 6\}$.

Problem 2: A letter is chosen from $\{A, B, C\}$. List the sample space and the event of choosing a vowel.

Answer: Sample space = $\{A, B, C\}$. Event (vowel) = $\{A\}$ (assuming A is a vowel).

Topic 3: Introduction to the probability of an event

Problem 1: A bag contains 3 red and 2 blue balls. Find the probability of picking a red ball.

Answer: Total balls = 5. Red balls = 3. $P(\text{red}) = 3/5 = 0.6$.

Problem 2: A spinner has 4 equal sections: 1 red, 2 green, 1 blue. Calculate $P(\text{green})$.

Answer: Total sections = 4. Green sections = 2. $P(\text{green}) = 2/4 = 0.5$.

Topic 4: Probability involving one die or choosing from n distinct objects

Problem 1: A die is rolled. Find the probability of rolling a 4.

Answer: Total outcomes = 6. Favorable outcome = 1 (rolling a 4). $P(4) = 1/6 \approx 0.167$.

Problem 2: Choose one card from 5 distinct cards (A, B, C, D, E). Find $P(\text{card B})$.

Answer: Total cards = 5. Favorable outcome = 1 (card B). $P(B) = 1/5 = 0.2$.

Topic 5: Probability involving choosing from objects that are not distinct

Problem 1: A bag has 4 red and 3 blue identical balls. Find the probability of picking a blue ball.

Answer: Total balls = 7. Blue balls = 3. $P(\text{blue}) = 3/7 \approx 0.429$.

Problem 2: A jar contains 5 white and 2 black marbles. Calculate $P(\text{white})$.

Answer: Total marbles = 7. White marbles = 5. $P(\text{white}) = 5/7 \approx 0.714$.

Topic 6: Probability of selecting one card from a standard deck

Problem 1: A card is drawn from a standard 52-card deck. Find the probability of drawing a heart.

Answer: Total cards = 52. Hearts = 13. $P(\text{heart}) = 13/52 = 1/4 = 0.25$.

Problem 2: Find the probability of drawing a king from a standard deck.

Answer: Total cards = 52. Kings = 4. $P(\text{king}) = 4/52 = 1/13 \approx 0.077$.

Topic 7: Finding probabilities of events and complements

Problem 1: A die is rolled. Find the probability of rolling a number less than 4 and its complement.

Answer: Sample space = $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. Event (less than 4) = $\{1, 2, 3\}$, $P(\text{less than 4}) = 3/6 = 0.5$. Complement (4 or more) = $\{4, 5, 6\}$, $P(\text{complement}) = 3/6 = 0.5$.

Problem 2: A card is drawn from a deck. Find $P(\text{spade})$ and $P(\text{not a spade})$.

Answer: Spades = 13, total cards = 52. $P(\text{spade}) = 13/52 = 0.25$. $P(\text{not a spade}) = 1 - 0.25 = 0.75$.

Topic 8: Experimental and theoretical probability

Problem 1: A coin is flipped 10 times, landing heads 6 times. Find the experimental probability of heads and compare to the theoretical probability.

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Answer: Experimental $P(\text{heads}) = 6/10 = 0.6$. Theoretical $P(\text{heads}) = 1/2 = 0.5$.

Experimental is higher due to small sample size.

Problem 2: A die is rolled 20 times, with 4 appearing 5 times. Calculate experimental $P(4)$ and compare to theoretical.

Answer: Experimental $P(4) = 5/20 = 0.25$. Theoretical $P(4) = 1/6 \approx 0.167$. Experimental is higher, likely due to random variation.

Topic 9: Outcomes and event probability

Problem 1: A spinner with 3 equal sections (red, blue, green) is spun. Find the probability of landing on blue or green.

Answer: Total outcomes = 3. Favorable outcomes = {blue, green} = 2. $P(\text{blue or green}) = 2/3 \approx 0.667$.

Problem 2: A bag has 2 red, 3 blue balls. Find $P(\text{red or blue})$.

Answer: Total balls = 5. Red or blue = $2 + 3 = 5$. $P(\text{red or blue}) = 5/5 = 1$.

Topic 10: Identifying independent events given descriptions of experiments

Problem 1: Are flipping a coin and rolling a die independent events? Explain.

Answer: Yes, independent. The outcome of the coin flip does not affect the die roll, and vice versa.

Problem 2: Are drawing a card, replacing it, and drawing again independent? Justify.

Answer: Yes, independent. Replacing the card ensures the second draw's probabilities are unaffected by the first.

Topic 11: Calculating relative frequencies in a contingency table

Topic 12: Probabilities of draws with replacement

Problem 1: A bag has 3 red, 2 blue balls. Draw one, replace it, draw again. Find $P(\text{red, then blue})$.

Answer: $P(\text{red}) = 3/5$, $P(\text{blue}) = 2/5$ (replacement keeps probabilities same). $P(\text{red, then blue}) = (3/5) \times (2/5) = 6/25 = 0.24$.

Problem 2: A deck has 4 aces, 48 non-aces. Draw a card, replace it, draw again. Find $P(\text{ace, then non-ace})$.

Answer: $P(\text{ace}) = 4/52 = 1/13$, $P(\text{non-ace}) = 48/52 = 12/13$. $P(\text{ace, then non-ace}) = (1/13) \times (12/13) = 12/169 \approx 0.071$.

Topic 13: Finding the odds in favor and against

Problem 1: A die is rolled. Find the odds in favor and against rolling a 5.

Answer: $P(5) = 1/6$, $P(\text{not } 5) = 5/6$. Odds in favor = $P(5)/P(\text{not } 5) = (1/6)/(5/6) = 1:5$. Odds against = $P(\text{not } 5)/P(5) = 5:1$.

Problem 2: A bag has 2 red, 3 blue balls. Find odds in favor and against picking red.

Answer: $P(\text{red}) = 2/5$, $P(\text{not red}) = 3/5$. Odds in favor = $(2/5)/(3/5) = 2:3$. Odds against = $(3/5)/(2/5) = 3:2$.

Topic 14: Probability of independent events involving a standard deck of cards

Problem 1: Draw a card from a deck, replace it, draw again. Find $P(\text{heart, then heart})$.

Answer: $P(\text{heart}) = 13/52 = 1/4$. Since independent (replacement), $P(\text{heart, then heart}) = (1/4) \times (1/4) = 1/16 = 0.0625$.

Problem 2: Draw a card, replace it, draw again. Find $P(\text{ace, then king})$.

Answer: $P(\text{ace}) = 4/52 = 1/13$, $P(\text{king}) = 4/52 = 1/13$. $P(\text{ace, then king}) = (1/13) \times (1/13) = 1/169 \approx 0.0059$.

Topic 15: Probability of dependent events involving a standard deck of cards

Problem 1: Draw two cards from a deck without replacement. Find $P(\text{heart, then heart})$.

Answer: $P(\text{first heart}) = 13/52 = 1/4$. $P(\text{second heart} \mid \text{first heart}) = 12/51$ (12 hearts left, 51 cards total). $P(\text{both hearts}) = (1/4) \times (12/51) = 12/204 = 1/17 \approx 0.0588$.

Problem 2: Draw two cards without replacement. Find $P(\text{ace, then king})$.

Answer: $P(\text{first ace}) = 4/52 = 1/13$. $P(\text{king} \mid \text{ace}) = 4/51$ (4 kings left, 51 cards total). $P(\text{ace, then king}) = (1/13) \times (4/51) = 4/663 \approx 0.0060$.

then king) = $(1/13) \times (4/51) = 4/663 \approx 0.006$.

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