

Working Backwards.

Example: Roll a die 4 times

What are the chances of
at least one four?

Think of the options

4 - - -
- 4 - -
- - 4 -
- - - 4

4 4 - -
4 - 4 -
4 - - 4
- 4 4 -
- 4 4 4

4 4 4 -
4 4 - 4
4 - 4 4
- 4 4 4

4 4 4 4

We want to avoid listing all these combinations

⇒ look at the opposite event.

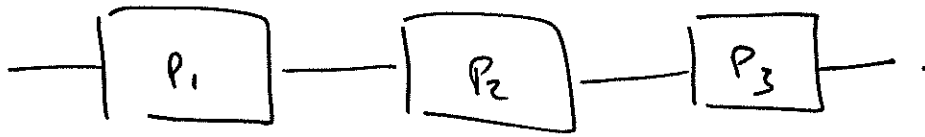
chance of no fours in 4 rolls.

$$= \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^4$$

Then chance of at least one four

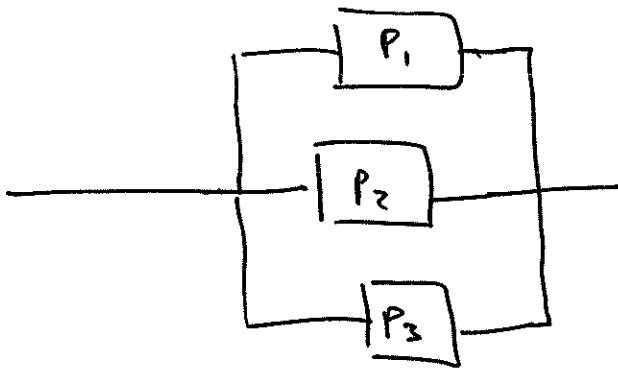
$$\text{is } 1 - \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^4$$

Thinking about these problems in terms of systems in series or parallel



if components are independent then system works if all components work,

$$\text{prob } P_1 \times P_2 \times P_3$$



system works if any component works.

→ system fails if all components fail

$$\text{prob fails} = (1 - P_1) \times (1 - P_2) \times (1 - P_3).$$

$$\text{prob. works} = 1 - (1 - P_1)(1 - P_2)(1 - P_3)$$

Summary.

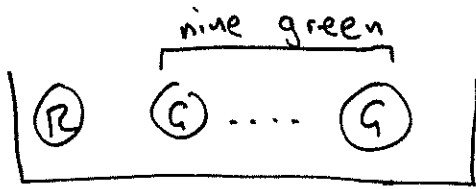
event A $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$

opposite event $P(\text{not } A) = 1 - P(A)$

addition $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - \underbrace{P(A \text{ and } B)}_{=0 \text{ if mutually exclusive}}$

multiplication $P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A|B)P(B)$
 $= P(B|A)P(A)$
 $= P(A) \times P(B)$
if A and B are independent

Avoiding Counting.



Five draws with replacement

chance a) exactly two being red.

if 2 are red, 3 are green

one possibility

R R G G G

with chance

$$\frac{1}{10} \times \frac{1}{10} \times \frac{9}{10} \times \frac{9}{10} \times \frac{9}{10}$$

many other possibilities

R G R G G

R G G R G

R G G G R

G R R G G

G R G R G

G R G G R

⋮

10 different ways

in total

Each of the 10 has the same chance:

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{10} \times \frac{1}{10}}_{2 R} \times \underbrace{\frac{9}{10} \times \frac{9}{10} \times \frac{9}{10}}_{3 G.}$$

The possibilities are mutually exclusive

=> addition rule

Add up the prob. for the 10 options.

$$10 \times \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^3$$



The binomial coefficient tells us how many combinations there are

binomial
coefficient

$$\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

$$\binom{n}{k}$$

"n choose k" (6)

n - # trials

k - # "successes"

The number of ways we can arrange n objects, where k are of one type, and $(n-k)$ are of the other type.

$$n! = n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \times \dots \times 2 \times 1$$

$$1! = 1$$

$$0! = 1 \quad (\text{by def})$$

$$2! = 2 \times 1 = 2$$

$$3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$$

etc

Success has prob p

failure $1-p$

prob of k successes in n trials

$$\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

IF n is fixed in advance

p is same for all trials

trials are independent

Example

family with 4 children

what's chance of more girls than boys?


↳ chance of 3 girls out of 4
+ 4

$$= \frac{4!}{3!1!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1$$

$$+ \frac{4!}{4!0!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^0 = 0.25 + 0.06$$

$$= \underline{\underline{0.31}}$$

Roll a die 6 times.


Chance of 4 

$$n - \text{no. of trials} = 6$$

P - probability of success.

$$P(\text{rolling } 3) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$r - \text{no. of successes} = 4.$$

chance of 4  in 6 rolls.

$$\frac{6!}{4! \times (6-4)!} \times \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^4 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{6}\right)^{(6-4)}.$$

$$\frac{6 \times 5 \times \cancel{4} \times \cancel{3} \times \cancel{2} \times 1}{\cancel{4} \times \cancel{3} \times \cancel{2} \times 1 \times 2 \times 1} \times \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^2$$

$$= 15 \times \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^2$$