

Probability

- **Definition of Probability**

$$P(E) = \frac{n(E)}{n(S)}$$

- **Events Which are likely to occur or are impossible**

$$0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$$

- **Complementary Events**

$P(E)$ is the probability that an event occurs, $P(\tilde{E})$ is the probability that it does not occur.

$$P(E) + P(\tilde{E}) = 1, P(\tilde{E}) = 1 - P(E)$$

- **Non mutually exclusive events**

The occurrence of one event prevents the occurrence of another = mutually exclusive

Occurrence does not prevent this = non mutually exclusive

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B)$$

- **The product rule**

When more than one event occurs, multiply the probabilities together.

- **Tree diagrams**

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

This is the addition rule of probability

- **Counting techniques**

If one event can occur in p different ways and after this event can happen in q different ways than the successive outcomes can happen in pq different ways.

- **Ordered Selections of n Different Elements from a Set of n Such Elements**

We use $n!$ (n factorial) for such arrangements.

The number of n different elements from a set of n such elements is:

$$n! \text{ Where } n! = n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots 3 \times 2 \times 1$$

- **Ordered Selections of r Different Elements from a Set of n Such Elements**

If we select r different elements from a set of n such elements there would be:

$$\frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \quad \text{Ordered selections.}$$

This is denoted by ${}^n P_r$ (permutation)

The number of ordered sets (each with n elements) from a set of n distinct elements is denoted by:

$${}^n P_n, \text{ being } \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!} = n!$$

- **Ordered selections of n Elements not all of which are alike**

The number of ordered selections of n elements, of which x are alike of one kind, y of another and z of another is:

$$\frac{n!}{z! y! x!}$$

- **Arrangements about a circle**

If n different things are arranged in a circle, the number of permutations is $\frac{1}{n}$ of $n! = (n - 1)!$

- **Unordered selections**

The number of unordered selections of r unlike elements from n unlike elements is given by ${}^n C_r$ (combination)

$${}^n C_r = \frac{n!}{r! (n - r)!}$$
$${}^n C_n = 1$$

- **Binomial Distribution**

If an experiment consists of n independent trials, and for each trial, the probability that an event occurs is $P(E) = p$ whilst the probability that it does not occur is $P(\tilde{E}) = q$ where $q = 1 - p$ then the respective probabilities of the event E occurring exactly $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, r, \dots, n$ times are the terms in ascending powers of p , in the binomial expansion of $(q + p)^n$.

The probability that the event E will occur exactly r times and thus fail $(n - r)$ times in the n independent trials is:

$$P(R \text{ successes}) = {}^n C_r q^{n-r} p^r$$

- **Expected Value**

The expectation of X or the expected value of X is defined as: $E(X) = \sum X \cdot P(X)$

If the random variable of X denotes the number of times a certain event occurs in n independent trials, then the expected value occurs in n independent trials, then the expected value of X is given by: $E(X) = np$, where p is the probability of that event occurring in each trial.