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CLASSICAL DEFINITION OF PROBABILITY: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS AND PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

Shingis Maykhanovich Urmanov
Chirchik State Pedagogical University
urmanovshingis@gmail.com

Abstract:

The classical definition of probability is one of the basic concepts in probability theory. This article explores the theoretical foundations of the classical definition of probability, its formulation and application, as well as its role in modern statistics and probability models. The article is intended for students and researchers in the field of mathematics and statistics.

Keywords: probability, measure, degree, confidence, event, theory.

Аннотация
Классическое определение вероятности является одной из основных концепций в теории вероятностей. В этой статье исследуются теоретические основы классического определения вероятности, его формулировки и применения, а также его роль в современной статистике и вероятностных моделях. Статья предназначена для студентов и исследователей в области математики и статистики.

Ключевые слова: вероятность, мера, степень, достоверность, событие, теория.

Introduction

An individual's level of confidence in the occurrence of a certain event may be quantified using the concept of probability. The classical definition of probability is considered to be the most important of the many different ways to defining probability that are utilized in the field of probability theory. The foundation for the subsequent development of probability theory is provided by this definition, which is based on the premise that the probability of all elementary possibilities in a limited space of outcomes is all the same.
Probability according to the traditional definition. In the traditional definition of probability, the assumption that all elementary outcomes of a test are equally likely is the foundation upon which the concept is built. In the context of this discussion, the probability of an occurrence is defined as the ratio of the number of positive outcomes to the total number of events that may occur.

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Formulation of the classical definition

Let Ω be a finite space of elementary outcomes, and let E be an event that is a subset of Ω. If all elementary outcomes are equally probable, then the probability of an event E is denoted by P(E) and is defined as:

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|\Omega|}$$

where |E| is the number of elementary outcomes that favor the event E, and |Ω| is the total number of elementary outcomes in the space Ω.

Examples of the classical definition

- Tossing a coin: Let Ω = {heads, tails}. The probability of heads (event E) is:

$$P(E) = \frac{|\{heads\}|}{|\{heads,tails\}|} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- Throwing a die: Let Ω = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}. The probability of getting an even number (event E, including the numbers 2, 4, and 6) is:

$$P(E) = \frac{|\{2,4,6\}|}{|\{1,2,3,4,5,6\}|} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Theoretical foundations

There are a number of fundamental ideas and assumptions that form the foundation of the traditional definition of probability. Assuming that all elementary possibilities in the space Ω are equally likely is the primary assumption that underpins the classical definition. This not only makes the computation of probability easier, but it also makes the notion of probability more easily relevant to a variety of real-world issues.

Finite Space Modeling

While the classical concept is most easily applicable to finite result spaces, it is also the most convenient. In situations that occur in the real world and include issues in which the result space is either infinite or continuous, the classical concept has to be modified.

The traditional definition is subject to further restrictions and adjustments.

The traditional definition of probability, despite the fact that it is straightforward and easy to understand, has certain shortcomings.

Constraints imposed by the application

In situations in which the space of elementary outcomes is either infinite or continuous, the classical concept cannot be used. In situations like this, different methods are utilized, such as the statistical definition of probability and the axiomatic probability theory.

Generalizations and modifications are included.

Several expansions of the classical definition have been devised for more complicated instances. One of these generalizations is the frequentist definition of probability, which defines probability as the limit of the relative frequency of occurrence of an event in a large number of trials.

The axiomatic definition of probability presents probability as a function that satisfies the Kolmogorov axioms. This definition makes it possible to deal with a larger range of outcome spaces.

Considerations pertaining to the traditional definition

The traditional definition of probability is utilized in a variety of scientific and technological domains, such as engineering, economics, gaming, and statistics, among others.

In statistics

The classical definition is utilized in the field of statistics for the purpose of the estimation of the probability of a variety of occurrences and the development of probability models. In the case of assessing data from trials in which all possible outcomes are equally likely, for instance, the classical definition is helpful in establishing probabilities and drawing inferences about the results.

In gambling

To determine the player's odds of winning and to compute the probability of winning, the traditional definition of gambling is utilized in the gaming industry. In the game of roulette or poker, for instance, one may compute the probability of winning by making the assumption that all possible outcomes are equally likely to occur.

The fundamental formulae of combinatorics, including both the theoretical underpinnings and operational applications. One of the subfields of mathematics is known as combinatorics, and its primary focus is on the ways of counting and organizing items. When it comes to addressing issues that involve the enumeration, selection, and arrangement of items, the fundamental formulae of combinatorics are essential tools to have at your disposal. In this article, the fundamental formulae of combinatorics, as well as their theoretical underpinnings and instances of their application in a variety of scientific and technological domains, are discussed. In addition to its importance in probability theory, statistics, and algorithmic design, combinatorics is also an important part of many other branches of mathematics. Using the fundamental concepts of combinatorics, you are able to solve issues in a methodical and efficient manner that are associated with the selection, ordering, and placement of items. For the purpose of addressing a broad variety of issues in mathematics and its applications, it is vital to have a solid understanding of these formulae.

Permutations

A permutation is an ordered arrangement of all the elements of a set.

Formula for the number of permutations

For a set of n distinct elements, the number of all possible permutations of these elements is given by the formula:

$P(n) = n!$ where $n!$ (factorial n) denotes the product of all natural numbers from 1 to n:

$$n! = n *(n-1) * \ldots * 2 * 1.$$

Example:

For a set of 4 elements (A, B, C, D), the number of all possible permutations is 4! = 24.

Permutations with repetitions

If some elements of the set are repeated, the formula for the number of unique permutations becomes:

$$P\ (n;\ n_1,\ n_2 \ldots n_k) = \frac{n!}{n_1! \times n_2! \times \ldots \times n_k!}\ ,$$

where n is the total number of elements and nk is the number of repetitions of the k-th element.

Example:

For a set of 4 letters (A, A, B, B), the number of unique permutations is:

$P\ (4;\ 2,\ 2) = \frac{4!}{2! \times 2!} = \frac{24}{4} = 6.$

Combinations

A combination is a selection of elements from a set, regardless of order.

Formula for the number of combinations

The number of ways to select k elements from n different elements, regardless of order, is determined by the binomial coefficient:

$$C_k^n = \frac{n!}{k! \times (n-k)!}$$

Example:

For a set of 5 elements, the number of ways to select 2 elements is:

$C_2^5 = \frac{5!}{2! \times (5-2)!} = \frac{120}{2 \times 6} = 10$

Combinations with repetitions

If elements can be repeated, the number of ways to select k elements from n different types, taking into account repetitions, is given by:

$$C_k^{n+k-1} = \frac{(n+k-1)!}{k! \times (n-1)!}$$

Example:

To select 3 balls from 4 types (with repetitions) the number of ways is:

$C_3^{4+3-1} = \frac{6!}{3!} = 20.$

Placements

An arrangement is an ordered selection of k elements from n distinct elements.

Formula for the number of arrangements

The number of ways to select and arrange k elements from n distinct elements is given by the formula:

$$A_k^n = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}\ .$$

Example:

To select and order 3 elements out of 5, the number of ways is:

$$A_3^5 = \frac{5!}{(5-3)!} = \frac{120}{2} = 60.$$

Generalized Formulas and Applications

Inclusion-Exclusion Formula

The inclusion-exclusion formula is used to count the number of elements in the union of several sets:

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \ldots \cup A_k| = \sum_{i=1}^{k} |A_i| - \sum_{1 \le i \le j \le k} |A_i \cap A_j| + \cdots + (-1)^{k+1} |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \ldots \cap A_k|$$

Example:

If there are 20 students in a class, of which 12 are studying mathematics, 8 are studying physics, and 5 are studying both, then the number of students studying at least one of the subjects is:

$$|M \cup F| = |M| + |F| - |M \cap F| = 12 + 8 - 5 = 15.$$

Application in algorithms

Combinatorial formulas are widely used in algorithms such as generating all possible combinations or permutations, as well as in optimization and cryptography problems.

Conclusion

When it comes to addressing a broad variety of issues that involve the counting and organizing of items, the fundamental formulae of combinatorics are quite useful to have at your disposal. The capacity to comprehend and implement these concepts is of utmost importance in the fields of probability theory, statistics, computer science, and several other branches of science and engineering. Problems that might normally be insurmountable can be formalized and solved with the assistance of these tools. Providing the essential framework for probability theory and its application to practical situations, the classical concept of probability is the foundation upon which probability theory is built. In spite of the fact that it has several shortcomings, this concept continues to be an essential instrument for the mathematical modeling and study of random occurrences.

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