

Slide 1

### Administrivia

- Reading for Wednesday was wrong — should be 3.5 not 3.6. Corrected now.

Slide 2

### Finite Probability — Review/Recap

- Probability of event  $E$  in sample space  $S$ :  $P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$ .
- Conditional probability of  $E_2$  given  $E_1$ :  $P(E_2|E_1) = \frac{P(E_1 \cap E_2)}{P(E_1)}$ .  
Equivalent to  $\frac{|E_1 \cap E_2|}{|E_1|}$ .
- For disjoint events  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ,  $P(E_1 \cup E_2) = P(E_1) + P(E_2)$ . Follows from definition, facts about sets.
- For independent events (defined in terms of conditional probability),  $P(E_1 \cap E_2) = P(E_1) \times P(E_2)$ .

### Examples

- If a fair coin is tossed four times, what's the probability of getting four heads? What's the probability that the last toss is a head given that the first three are heads?
- In a group of  $n$  people, what's the probability that at least two people have the same birthday?

Slide 3

### Expected Value

- You probably know about computing weighted averages — from classes in which your grade is computed as, e.g., 50% exams, 20% homework, etc.
- “Expected value” is a generalization of this: Given a sample space  $S$ , a “random variable”  $X$  (function from  $S$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ ), and a probability distribution  $p$ , define expected value of  $X$  thus:

$$E(X) = \sum_{x \in S} X(x)p(x)$$

Intuitive idea — “average” value, where the average is weighted by how likely the different values are.

Slide 4

### Average-Case Analysis of Algorithms

Slide 5

- Previously we talked about estimating worst-case execution time of algorithms — amount of “work” as a function of input size.
- We could also talk about average-case amount of work, based on idea of expected value: Sample space is set of all possible inputs. For input  $x$ ,  $X(x)$  is the amount of work for  $x$  and  $p(x)$  is the probability of  $x$ .  
Example — example 68 in textbook.

### Binary (and other) Relations

Slide 6

- Idea of a binary relation is to express relationship between pairs of elements of a set. Some interesting special cases:
  - Partial orderings — useful in working out how we could put things “in order”, e.g., a set of tasks with (some) ordering dependencies.
  - Functions (of 1 variable).
- Generalization — “ $n$ -ary relation”, also with interesting special cases:
  - Functions of more than 1 variable.
  - Relational databases.

## Binary Relations

Slide 7

- Formal definition: A binary relation  $\rho$  on a set  $S$  is a subset of  $S \times S$ . Usually this set is defined by some property of interest. For  $a, b \in S$ , we write  $a\rho b$  iff (if and only if)  $(a, b)$  is in this subset.
- Examples:
  - $S$  is people in the world;  $x\rho y$  iff  $x$  and  $y$  are siblings.
  - $S$  is integers;  $x\rho y$  iff  $x < y$ .
  - $S$  is integers;  $x\rho y$  iff  $y$  is a multiple of  $x$ .
  - $S$  is integers;  $x\rho y$  iff  $y = x^2$ .
- Notice that for a given relation  $\rho$  and element  $x$ , there can be any number (including zero) of  $y$ 's such that  $x\rho y$  and any number (including zero) of  $y$ 's such that  $y\rho x$ .
- Next step will be to define "interesting" properties of relations.

## Minute Essay

Slide 8

- If a fair coin is tossed four times, what's the probability of getting two heads and two tails given that there's at least one head and at least one tail?