

Rolling a Die When a balanced die is rolled once, six equally likely outcomes are possible, as displayed in Fig. 4.22.

Figure 4.22



Sample space for rolling a die once

Let $P(5 | \text{odd}) = \frac{1}{3}$ $P(5) = \frac{1}{6}$

F = event a 5 is rolled, and

O = event the die comes up odd.

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

Definition 4.6: Conditional Probability

The probability that event B occurs given that event A occurs is called a **conditional probability**. It is denoted $P(\mathbf{B} \mid \mathbf{A})$ which is read “the probability of B given A .” We call A the **given event**.

		Rank				
		Full professor R_1	Associate professor R_2	Assistant professor R_3	Instructor R_4	Total
Age (yr)	Under 30 A_1	2	3	57	6	68
	30-39 A_2	52	170	163	17	402
	40-49 A_3	156	125	61	6	348
	50-59 A_4	145	68	36	4	253
	60 & over A_5	75	15	3	0	93
	Total	430	381	320	33	1164

$$P(A_2 | R_4)$$

$$\frac{17}{33}$$

$$P(A_2 \text{ and } R_4)$$

$$\frac{17}{1164}$$

$$P(A_2 \text{ or } R_4) = \frac{418}{1164}$$

Formula 4.4: The Conditional Probability Rule

If A and B are any two events with $P(A) > 0$, then

$$P(B | A) = \frac{P(A \& B)}{P(A)}.$$

Marital Status and Gender From *America's Families and Living Arrangements*, a publication of the U.S. Census Bureau, we obtained a joint probability distribution for the marital status of U.S. adults by gender, as shown in **Table 4.9**. We used "Single" to mean "Never married."

Table 4.9 Joint probability distribution of marital status and gender

		Marital status				$P(S_i)$
		Single M_1	Married M_2	Widowed M_3	Divorced M_4	
Gender	Male S_1	0.147	0.281	0.013	0.044	0.485
	Female S_2	0.121	0.284	0.050	0.060	0.515
	$P(M_j)$	0.268	0.565	0.063	0.104	1.000

a. Determine the probability that the adult selected is divorced, given that the adult selected is a male.

b. Determine the probability that the adult selected is a male, given that the adult selected is divorced.

$$\begin{array}{l} a) \quad P(A) \rightarrow \text{male} \\ \quad \quad P(B) \rightarrow \text{divorced} \\ \quad \quad \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(B|A)}{0.485} \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad = \boxed{0.091} \end{array}$$

- a. Determine the probability that the adult selected is divorced, given that the adult selected is a male.
- b. Determine the probability that the adult selected is a male, given that the adult selected is divorced.

$$P(\text{Male} \mid \text{Divorced}) = \frac{0.044}{0.104} = 0.423$$

Race

		White R_1	Black R_2	Other R_3	Total
Gender	Male G_1	30	26	0	56
	Female G_2	210	121	20	351
	Total	240	147	20	407

$.87$

$.823$

a. a Black.

b. a white female.

c. a male, given that the filer was white.

d. a male, given that the filer was Black.

a) $147/407$ c) $30/240$

b) $210/407$ d) $26/147$

c) 0.125 d) 0.177

Formula 4.5: The General Multiplication Rule

If A and B are any two events, then

$$P(A \& B) = P(A) \cdot P(B | A).$$

U.S. Congress The U.S. Congress, Joint Committee on Printing, provides information on the composition of the Congress in the *Congressional Directory*. For the 113th Congress, 18.7% of the members are senators and 53% of the senators are Democrats. What is the probability that a randomly selected member of the 113th Congress is a Democratic senator?

53% members

100 senators

$$P(D \text{ and } S) = P(S) \cdot P(D|S)$$

$$= .187 \times .530$$

$$= 0.099 \rightarrow$$

9.9%

Gender of Students In Professor Weiss's introductory statistics class, the number of males and females are as shown in the frequency distribution presented in [Table 4.10](#). Two students are selected at random from the class. The first student selected is not returned to the class for possible reselection; that is, the sampling is without replacement. Find the probability that the first student selected is female and the second is male.

Table 4.10 Frequency distribution of males and females in Professor Weiss's introductory statistics class

Gender	Frequency
Male	17
Female	23
	40

Definition 4.7: Independent Events

Event B is said to be **independent** of event A if $P(B | A) = P(B)$.

Playing Cards Consider again the experiment of randomly selecting one card from a deck of 52 playing cards. Let

F = event a face card is selected,

K = event a king is selected, and

H = event a heart is selected.

$$P(K) = \frac{4}{52} = .077$$

$$P(K|F) = \frac{4}{12} = .333$$

NOT

a. Determine whether event K is independent of event F .

b. Determine whether event K is independent of event H .

Independent +

$$P(K) = .077$$

$$P(K|H) = \frac{1}{13} = .077$$

Formula 4.6: The Special Multiplication Rule (for Two Independent Events)

If A and B are independent events, then

$$P(A \& B) = P(A) \cdot P(B),$$

and conversely, if $P(A \& B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$, then A and B are independent events.

or \rightarrow addition

and \Rightarrow multiplication

Roulette An American roulette wheel contains 38 numbers, of which 18 are red, 18 are black, and 2 are green. When the roulette wheel is spun, the ball is equally likely to land on any of the 38 numbers. In three plays at a roulette wheel, what is the probability that the ball will land on green the first time and on black the second and third times?

$$\left(\frac{2}{38}\right) \left(\frac{18}{38}\right) \left(\frac{18}{38}\right) = \frac{0.012}{1.2\%}$$

License Plates The license plates of a state consist of three letters followed by three digits.

- a. How many different license plates are possible?
- b. How many possibilities are there for license plates on which no letter or digit is repeated?

Definition 4.8: Factorials

The product of the first k positive integers (counting numbers) is called **k factorial** and is denoted $k!$. In symbols,

$$k! = k(k-1) \cdots 2 \cdot 1.$$

We also define $0! = 1$.

Formula 4.10: The Permutations Rule

The number of possible permutations of r objects from a collection of m objects is given by the formula

$${}_m P_r = \frac{m!}{(m-r)!}$$

Exacta Wagering In an exacta wager at the race track, a bettor picks the two horses that he or she thinks will finish first and second in a specified order. For a race with 12 entrants, determine the number of possible exacta wagers.

Formula 4.12: The Combinations Rule

The number of possible combinations of r objects from a collection of m objects is given by the formula

$${}_m C_r = \frac{m!}{r!(m-r)!}.$$

CD-Club Introductory Offer To recruit new members, a compact-disc (CD) club advertises a special introductory offer: A new member agrees to buy 1 CD at regular club prices and receives free any 4 CDs of his or her choice from a collection of 69 CDs. How many possibilities does a new member have for the selection of the 4 free CDs?