

Probability

- Definitions
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Definition of Probability

- **Event:** Any collection of outcomes of a procedure.
- **Simple Event:** An outcome that is not a collection of simpler components.
- **Sample Space:** All possible simple events.

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{Number of Simple Events in } A}{\text{Number of Simple Events in the Sample Space}}$$

Law of Large Numbers

- **Law of Large Numbers:** If an experiment involves many many trials, then the proportion of successes will be very close to the theoretical proportion. For example, if you toss a fair coin a billion times, it is highly likely that the proportion of heads will be very close to 0.5.

The Addition Rule

- $P(A \text{ OR } B)$ is the probability that either A occurs, B occurs, or both.

$$P(A \text{ OR } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ And } B)$$

Rule of Complements

- \bar{A} is called the **complement of A** or the outcome of A not occurring.

$$P(\bar{A}) = 1 - P(A)$$

Multiplication Rule

- If an experiment is run twice with replacement then:

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

Conditional Probability

- The probability of an event A occurring given the knowledge that B has already occurred is denoted by the **conditional probability statement**:

$$P(A | B)$$

Multiplication Rule

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A)P(B | A)$$

If A and B are **independent events** then

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

Independence Guideline

- If the sample size is no more than **5%** of the population size, treat the solutions as independent events (*even though they are slightly dependent*).