

# PROBABILITY

## 1. Classical (A priori) Definition of Probability :

If an experiment results in a total of  $(m + n)$  outcomes which are equally likely and mutually exclusive with one another and if 'm' outcomes are favorable to an event 'A' while 'n' are unfavorable, then the probability of

$$\text{occurrence of the event 'A'} = P(A) = \frac{m}{m+n} = \frac{n(A)}{n(S)}.$$

We say that odds in favour of 'A' are  $m : n$ , while odds against 'A' are  $n : m$ .

$$P(\bar{A}) = \frac{n}{m+n} = 1 - P(A)$$

## 2. Addition theorem of probability : $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$

**De Morgan's Laws :**

$$(a) (A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c \quad (b) (A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$$

**Distributive Laws :**

$$(a) A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \quad (b) A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$(i) P(A \text{ or } B \text{ or } C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) - P(B \cap C) - P(C \cap A) + P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

$$(ii) P(\text{at least two of } A, B, C \text{ occur}) = P(B \cap C) + P(C \cap A) + P(A \cap B) - 2P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

$$(iii) P(\text{exactly two of } A, B, C \text{ occur}) = P(B \cap C) + P(C \cap A) + P(A \cap B) - 3P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

$$(iv) P(\text{exactly one of } A, B, C \text{ occur}) =$$

$$P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - 2P(B \cap C) - 2P(C \cap A) - 2P(A \cap B) + 3P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

3. **Conditional Probability :**  $P(A/B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$ .

4. **Binomial Probability Theorem**

If an experiment is such that the probability of success or failure does not change with trials, then the probability of getting exactly  $r$  success in  $n$  trials of an experiment is  ${}^n C_r p^r q^{n-r}$ , where 'p' is the probability of a success and q is the probability of a failure. Note that  $p + q = 1$ .

5. **Expectation :**

If a value  $M_i$  is associated with a probability of  $p_i$ , then the expectation is given by  $\sum p_i M_i$ .

6. **Total Probability Theorem :**  $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(B_i) \cdot P(A/B_i)$

7. **Bayes' Theorem :**

If an event A can occur with one of the  $n$  mutually exclusive and exhaustive events  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  and the probabilities  $P(A/B_1), P(A/B_2) \dots P(A/B_n)$  are

known, then 
$$P(B_i/A) = \frac{P(B_i) \cdot P(A/B_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(B_i) \cdot P(A/B_i)} \quad B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n$$

$$A = (A \cap B_1) \cup (A \cap B_2) \cup (A \cap B_3) \cup \dots \cup (A \cap B_n)$$

$$P(A) = P(A \cap B_1) + P(A \cap B_2) + \dots + P(A \cap B_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A \cap B_i)$$

8. **Binomial Probability Distribution :**

(i) Mean of any probability distribution of a random variable is given by :

$$\mu = \frac{\sum p_i x_i}{\sum p_i} = \sum p_i x_i = np$$

$n$  = number of trials

$p$  = probability of success in each probability

$q$  = probability of failure

(ii) Variance of a random variable is given by,

$$\sigma^2 = \sum (x_i - \mu)^2 \cdot p_i = \sum p_i x_i^2 - \mu^2 = npq$$