

Outcomes, events, and probability

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Fundamental concepts of Probability Theory include outcomes, events, and probabilities.

- An *outcome* is the most basic result of an observation or experiment.
- An *event* is a set of outcomes that share a property of interest.
- The *probability of an event A* is the likelihood that *A* occurs, measured by

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{Number of outcomes in which } A \text{ occurs}}{\text{Total number of outcomes}}$$

Common examples used to illustrate probability concepts are: coin toss (flip), dice roll, card draw (from a standard deck of 52 cards).

Experiment 1: Flip a coin

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting Head? What is the probability of this event?

Experiment 2: Flip three coins

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting exactly one Head? What is the probability of this event?

Experiment 3: Roll a dice

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting a face greater than 4? What is the probability of this event?

Experiment 4: Roll two dice

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting two different faces? What is the probability of this event?

Experiment 5: Draw a card from the standard deck of 52 cards

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting a face card? What is the probability of this event?

Experiment 6: Draw two cards

What are the possible outcomes? Which outcomes constitute the event of getting at least one Ace? What is the probability of this event?