
Probability

Exercise 11.2 - Question 3

Two 4 - sided dice with faces numbered 1 -4 are thrown. The total of the faces that the dice rest on is then worked out.

Solution

3a) Finding the probability that the total is even.

		<i>Die 1</i>			
		1	2	3	4
<i>Die 2</i>	1	1,1 1+1=2	1,2 1+2=3	1,3 1+3=4	1,4 1+4=5
	2	2,1 2+1=3	2,2 2+2=4	2,3 2+3=5	2,4 2+4=6
	3	3,1 3+1=4	3,2 3+2=5	3,3 3+3=6	3,4 3+4=7
	4	4,1 4+1=5	4,2 4+2=6	4,3 4+3=7	4,4 4+4=8

The table shows that there are 16 possible rolls of two 4-sided dice.

$n(\text{sample space}) = 16$

8 rolls of two dice have an even sum.

So:

$n(\text{event}) = 8$

$$p(\text{event}) = \frac{n(\text{event})}{n(\text{sample space})}$$

$$p(\text{total is even}) = \frac{8}{16} \quad \text{Substituting}$$

Answer: The probability that the total is even is 1/2.

3b) Finding the probability that the total is greater than 5.

		<i>Die 1</i>			
		1	2	3	4
<i>Die 2</i>	1	1,1 1+1=2	1,2 1+2=3	1,3 1+3=4	1,4 1+4=5
	2	2,1 2+1=3	2,2 2+2=4	2,3 2+3=5	2,4 2+4=6
	3	3,1 3+1=4	3,2 3+2=5	3,3 3+3=6	3,4 3+4=7
	4	4,1 4+1=5	4,2 4+2=6	4,3 4+3=7	4,4 4+4=8

6 rolls of two die { (2, 4), (3, 3), (3, 4), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4) }
have a sum of greater than 5.

So:

$$n(\text{event}) = 6$$

$$n(\text{sample space}) = 16$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\text{total is greater than 5}) &= \frac{6}{16} \\
 &= \frac{3}{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: The probability that the total is greater than five is 3/8.