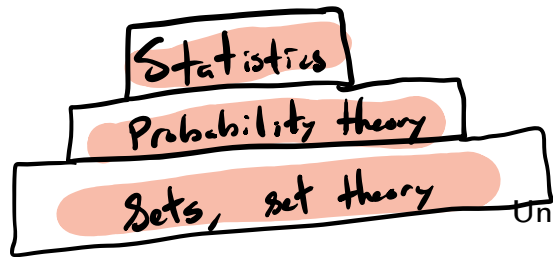


STAT 712 fa 2021 Lec 1 slides

Set theory and basics of probability theory



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These slides are an instructional aid; their sole purpose is to display, during the lecture, definitions, plots, results, etc. which take too much time to write by hand on the blackboard. They are not intended to explain or expound on any material.

1 Basics of sets

2 Basics of probability theory

3 Limits of sequences of sets and continuity of probability function

Experiment

An *experiment* is a process which generates an outcome such that there is

- (i) more than one possible outcome
- (ii) the set of possible outcomes is known
- (iii) the outcome is not known in advance

Sample space

The *sample space* Ω of an experiment is the set of possible outcomes.

Call each "point" $\omega \in \Omega$ a *sample point*.

The symbol \in denotes membership; $\omega \in \Omega$ means ω belongs to/is a member of Ω .

"in"

Exercise: Give the sample space Ω for the following experiments:

1 Roll of a 6-sided die. $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ *finite*

2 Number of bacteria counted in sample. $\Omega = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ *infinite, countable*

3 Blood type of a randomly selected student. $\Omega = \{A+, A-, B+, \dots\}$ *finite*

4 Time until you drop your new phone and crack the screen. $\Omega = [0, \infty)$ *infinite uncountable*

5 Proportion of people in a sample of size n with antibodies to a virus. $\Omega = \{\frac{0}{n}, \frac{1}{n}, \dots, \frac{n}{n}\}$ *finite*

6 Deviation of today's temperature from the historical average. *finite*

$\Omega = \mathbb{R}$
infinite, uncountable

Finite/infinite and countable/uncountable sets

- The *cardinality* of a set is the number of elements in the set.
- A set is *finite* if its cardinality is some positive integer.
- The empty set \emptyset , the set containing no elements, is finite with cardinality 0.
- Sets that do not have finite cardinality are *infinite* sets.
- A set is *countable* if it has the same cardinality as some subset of the positive integers.
- Sets that are not countable are called *uncountable*.

If a set is countable, we can list (or begin to list) its elements.

Event

An *event* is a collection of possible outcomes of an experiment, that is any subset of Ω (including Ω itself).

- Usually represent events with capital letters A, B, C, \dots
- Say an event A occurs if the outcome is in the set A .
- So events are equivalent to sets. Can refer to events as sets, to sets as events.

Example: Rolling a die has sample space $\Omega = \{\square, \begin{smallmatrix} \square \\ \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square \\ \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square & \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}\}$.

- $A = \{\begin{smallmatrix} \square \\ \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square \\ \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}\}$ is the event “you roll an odd number”.
- $B = \{\begin{smallmatrix} \square & \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square & \square & \square \end{smallmatrix}\}$ is the event “you roll a 6”.

Let A and B be events/sets in a sample space Ω .

"every outcome in A is in B "

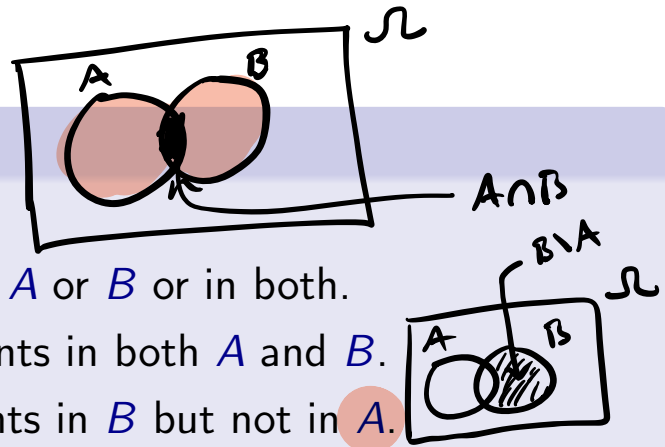
Relationships between sets

- *Containment*: $A \subset B$ if $\omega \in A \Rightarrow \omega \in B$
- *Equality*: $A = B$ if $A \subset B$ and $B \subset A$. [Mutual containment]

The symbol \subset means "is a subset of". Note the difference between \subset and \in .

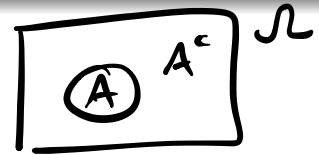
Elementary set operations

Let A and B be subsets of Ω .



- **Union set:** $A \cup B$ is the set of elements in A or B or in both.
- **Intersection set:** $A \cap B$ is the set of elements in both A and B .
- **Set subtraction:** $B \setminus A$ is the set of elements in B but not in A .
- **Complement set:** A^c is the set of elements in Ω but not in A , i.e. $A^c = \Omega \setminus A$.

Exercise: Write each of the above as a set $\{\omega \in \Omega : \dots\}$.



Unions and intersections of infinite collections of sets

For a collection of sets $A_1, A_2, \dots \subset \Omega$ we define

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \text{ is in at least one of } A_1, A_2, \dots \}$$

$$= \{ \omega \in \Omega : \exists k \geq 1 \text{ such that } \omega \in A_k \}$$

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A_n \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \}$$

↑
"there exists"

$$A, B \subset \Omega$$

"such that"
↓

$$A \cup B = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ or } \omega \in B \text{ (or both A and B)} \}$$

$$A \cap B = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in B \}$$

$$A^c = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \notin A \}$$

↖ "not in"

$$B \setminus A = \{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega \in B \text{ and } \omega \notin A \}$$

$$\underline{(1+2)} + 3 = 1 + \underline{(2+3)}$$

$$2+3 = 3+2$$

$$2(1+3) = 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 3$$

Theorem (Properties of the union and intersection operations)

For any events $A, B, C \subset \Omega$, we have

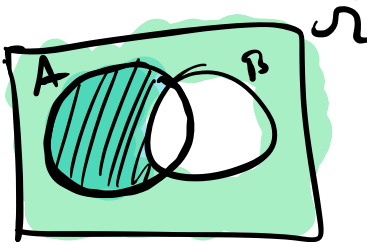
- **Commutativity:** $A \cup B = B \cup A$
 $A \cap B = B \cap A$
- **Associativity:** $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C$
 $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$
- **Distributive laws:** $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
 $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
- **De Morgan's Laws:**
 $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$, $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$

Exercise: Give proof of De Morgan's laws. In addition, verify the identities:

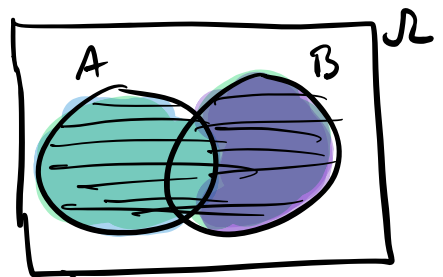
1 $A \setminus B = A \cap B^c$

2 $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$

3 $A \cup B = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$



Proof of $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$:



(i) Show $(A \cup B)^c \subset A^c \cap B^c$:

$$\omega \in (A \cup B)^c \Rightarrow \omega \notin (A \cup B)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \notin A \text{ and } \omega \notin B$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in A^c \text{ and } \omega \in B^c$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in A^c \cap B^c \quad \checkmark$$

(ii) Show $A^c \cap B^c \subset (A \cup B)^c$:

$$\omega \in A^c \cap B^c \Rightarrow \omega \in A^c \text{ and } \omega \in B^c$$

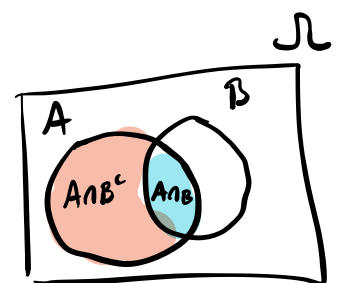
$$\Rightarrow \omega \notin A \text{ and } \omega \notin B$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \notin (A \cup B)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in (A \cup B)^c \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{So } (A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c.$$

Proof of $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$



Show $A \subset (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$

$$\omega \in A \Rightarrow \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in \Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in B \text{ or } \omega \in B^c$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in (A \cap B) \text{ or } \omega \in (A \cap B^c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in (A \cup B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$$

Show $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c) \subset A$:

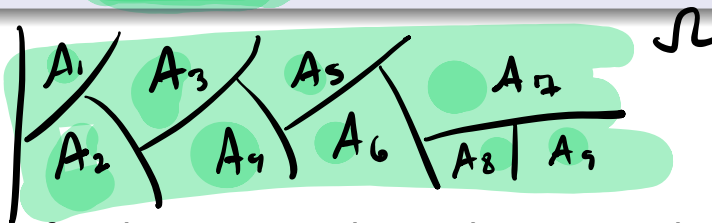
$$\omega \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c) \Rightarrow \omega \in (A \cap B) \text{ or } \omega \in (A \cap B^c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \in A.$$

So $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$

Mutual exclusivity/disjoint-ness, partition

- Two events A and B are called *mutually exclusive* or *disjoint* if $A \cap B = \emptyset$.
- The events A_1, A_2, \dots are called *mutually exclusive* or *pairwise disjoint* if $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ for all $i \neq j$.
- If $A_1, A_2, \dots \subset \Omega$ are pairwise disjoint and $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \Omega$, then the collection of sets A_1, A_2, \dots is called a *partition* of Ω .



Think of:

- 1 Partitions of sample space for the time until you drop your phone.
- 2 Partitions of sample space when drawing one card from a 52-card deck.
- 3 Partitions of the set $[0, 1)$.

(2) $\Omega = [0, \infty)$ $A_1 = [0, 10)$ and $A_2 = [10, \infty)$ form a partition.

Or $B_1 = [0, 1)$, $B_2 = [1, 2)$, ..., $B_n = [n-1, n)$, $n \geq 1$.

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n = [0, \infty) = \Omega$$

(2) $\Omega = \{ \text{The 52 cards} \}$

$A_1 = \{ \heartsuit_s \}$ $A_2 = \{ \diamondsuit_s \}$ $A_3 = \{ \clubsuit_s \}$ $A_4 = \{ \spadesuit_s \}$.

(3) $\Omega = [0, 1)$

$A_1 = [0, \frac{1}{2})$ $A_2 = [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4})$ $A_3 = [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{8})$, ...

$A_n = [1 - (\frac{1}{2})^{n-1}, 1 - (\frac{1}{2})^n)$, $n \geq 1$

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = [0, 1) = \Omega.$$

1 Basics of sets

2 Basics of probability theory

3 Limits of sequences of sets and continuity of probability function

We want to be able to assign probabilities to events. To which events?

σ -algebra

"events"

We want to be able to assign probabilities to events in \mathcal{B} .

Let \mathcal{B} be a collection of subsets of Ω . We call \mathcal{B} a σ -algebra on Ω if it has the three properties:

- 1 $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$.
- 2 If $A \in \mathcal{B}$ then $A^c \in \mathcal{B}$.
- 3 If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ then $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$.

Exercise: Determine which of the following are σ -algebras of $\Omega = \{a, b, c, d\}$:

- $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{\emptyset, \{a, b, c, d\}\}$ "trivial" σ -algebra
- $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{\{a\}, \{b, c, d\}, \emptyset, \{a, b, c, d\}\}$
- $\mathcal{B}_3 = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{d\}, \emptyset, \{a, b, c, d\}\}$ X Not
- $\mathcal{B}_4 = \{\text{all subsets of } \Omega, \text{ including } \Omega \text{ itself}\}$ yes.

"power set"

Exercise: Consider the sample space

$$\Omega = [0, 1]$$

Add only the subsets required to make these collections into σ -algebras on Ω :

- 1 $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, [0, 1/2), \dots, [0, 1], [0, 1), [1/2, 1], [0, 1/2) \cup \{1\}, [1/2, 1)\}$
- 2 $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{[0, 1/2), [1/2, 3/4), \dots\}$

Theorem (Derived properties of σ -algebras)

Let \mathcal{B} be a σ -algebra on a sample space Ω .

① • $\Omega \in \mathcal{B}$.

② • If $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ then $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{B}$. "closure under finite unions"

③ • If $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ then $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{B}$. "closure under finite intersections"

• If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ then $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathcal{B}$.

• If $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ then $A \setminus B \in \mathcal{B}$.

) On your own.

Exercise: Prove each of the above.

① (i) gives $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$, (ii) $\emptyset^c \in \mathcal{B}$. And $\emptyset^c = \Omega$, so $\Omega \in \mathcal{B}$.

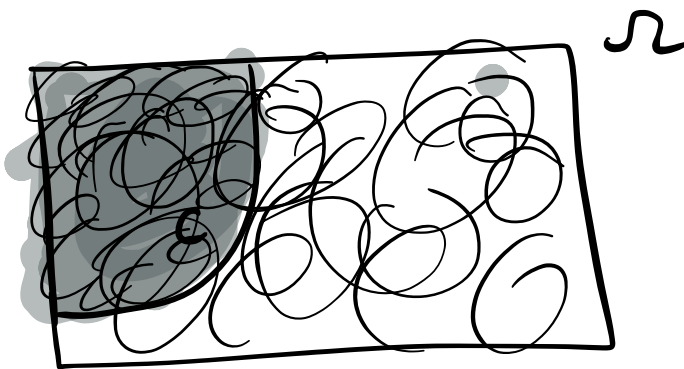
② For any $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$, we can define $A_{n+1} = \emptyset, A_{n+2} = \emptyset, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$
then $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathcal{B}$. And $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$ so $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{B}$.

$$\textcircled{3} \quad A_1^c, \dots, A_n^c \in \mathcal{B} \stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{\Rightarrow} \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c \in \mathcal{B} \quad [\text{closure under finite unions}]$$

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c \right)^c \in \mathcal{B} \quad \text{because of (ii)}$$

$$\text{And} \quad \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c \right)^c = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \quad (\text{De Morgan})$$

$$\text{so} \quad \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{B}.$$



Exercise: We sometimes restrict our attention to a subset of the sample space. Let \mathcal{B} be a σ -algebra on a sample space Ω and let $C \in \mathcal{B}$. Show that the collection of sets $\mathcal{B}_C = \{C \cap A : A \in \mathcal{B}\}$ is a σ -algebra on C .

(i) $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}_C$?

$\emptyset = C \cap \emptyset$, $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$, so yes

$\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}_C$. yes

↑ my new sample space.

(ii) Closure under complementation?

$D \in \mathcal{B}_C$ \Rightarrow $C \setminus D \in \mathcal{B}_C$.
 ↑ $C \cap A$, some $A \in \mathcal{B}$.

$C \setminus D \in \mathcal{B}_C$

yes.

$$\begin{aligned}
C \cap D &= C \cap (C \cap A) \\
&= C \cap (C \cap A)^c \\
&= C \cap (C^c \cup A^c) \\
&= \underbrace{(C \cap C^c)}_{\emptyset} \cup (C \cap A^c) \\
&= \emptyset \cup (C \cap A^c) \\
&= C \cap A^c \\
&\quad \underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{\in \mathcal{B}} \\
&\boxed{\in \mathcal{B}_C}
\end{aligned}$$

(iii) let $D_1, D_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}_C$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} D_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (C \cap A_i) = C \cap \underbrace{\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right)}_{\in \mathcal{B}} \in \mathcal{B}_C. \\
&\quad \uparrow \\
D_i &= C \cap A_i, \quad A_i \in \mathcal{B}. \quad \checkmark
\end{aligned}$$

Borel σ -algebra on \mathbb{R}

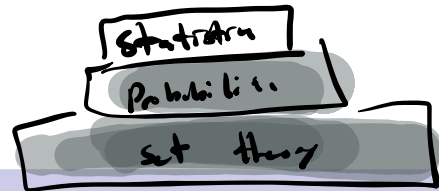
- For $\Omega = (-\infty, \infty)$, we often consider the σ -algebra consisting of all countable unions and intersections of open intervals (a, b) , $-\infty < a < b < \infty$.
- We call this the Borel σ -algebra on \mathbb{R} and denote it by $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$.
- $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ contains all sets of the form

$$[a, b], [a, b), (a, b], (a, b), \quad -\infty \leq a < b \leq \infty$$

and any countable unions and intersections of such sets.

You will become better acquainted with $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ in STAT 810 and STAT 811.

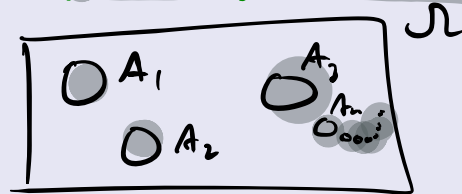
Connect σ -alg. to probability.
 $P(A) = ?$
 $P: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow [0, 1]$
(sets)



Probability function (Kolmogorov axioms)

Given a sample space Ω and a σ -algebra \mathcal{B} on Ω , a *probability function* is a function P with domain \mathcal{B} that satisfies

- 1 $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \in \mathcal{B}$.
- 2 $P(\Omega) = 1$.
- 3 If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ are pairwise disjoint, then $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$.



"countable additivity"

These three properties are known as the Kolmogorov axioms.

Probability space

We often introduce a sample space Ω , a σ -algebra \mathcal{B} on Ω , and a probability function P on \mathcal{B} together as a *probability space*, which we write as (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) .

School of deFinetti rejects the axiom of countable additivity. Instead asserts:

Axiom of finite additivity [Weaker, because it is implied by countable additivity]

For $n \geq 1$, if $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ are pairwise disjoint, then $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$.

Simplified: If $A \in \mathcal{B}$ and $B \in \mathcal{B}$ are disjoint, then $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$.

Exercise: Show that the axiom of countable additivity implies finite additivity.

For any $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ $i \neq j$,

set $A_{n+1} = \emptyset, A_{n+2} = \emptyset, \dots$

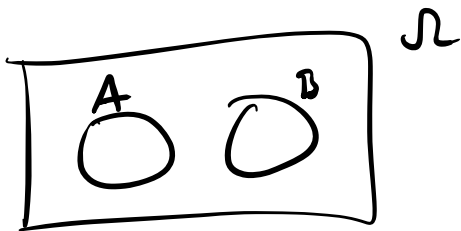
Then $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$.

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$$

$[P(\emptyset) = 0]$

$n=2$; $A, B, A \cap B = \emptyset$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$



Theorem (Probability function for a finite sample space)

Let $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n\}$ be a finite sample space and let \mathcal{B} be any σ -algebra on Ω . In addition, let $p_1, \dots, p_n \geq 0$ such that $\sum_{j=1}^n p_j = 1$. Then the function given by

$$P(A) = \sum_{\{i : \omega_i \in A\}} p_i \quad \text{for any } A \in \mathcal{B}$$

is a probability function on \mathcal{B} (satisfies the Kolmogorov axioms).

The above remains true if Ω is a countable set.

Exercise: Prove the theorem

(i) $P(A) \geq 0$ ✓

(ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$

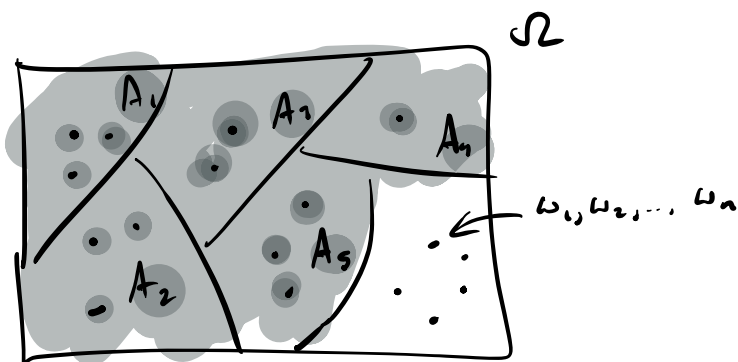
$$P(\Omega) = \sum_{\{j : \omega_j \in \Omega\}} p_j = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j = 1. \quad \checkmark$$

(iii) Let $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$, $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$, $i \neq j$.

Need to show $P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) &= \sum_{\{j: \omega_j \in \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\}} p_j \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\{j: \omega_j \in A_i\}} p_j \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)
 \end{aligned}$$

✓



Exercise: Consider rolling two dice.

- 1 Write down the points in the sample space.
- 2 What probabilities p_j should be assigned to the sample points?
- 3 Compute the probabilities of the following events:
 - ▶ You roll doubles.
 - ▶ The sum of the rolls is equal to 7.
 - ▶ The sum of the rolls is greater than 10.
 - ▶ The absolute value of the difference between the rolls is less than 2.

Exercise: Let \mathcal{B} be a σ -algebra on a sample space Ω and let P_1 and P_2 be probability functions on \mathcal{B} . Show that the function given by

$$P(A) = \underbrace{\alpha}_{\geq 0} \underbrace{P_1(A)}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{(1-\alpha)}_{\geq 0} \underbrace{P_2(A)}_{\geq 0} \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathcal{B},$$

where $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, is a probability function on \mathcal{B} (satisfies the K. axioms).

(i) $P(A) \geq 0$ ✓

(ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} P(\Omega) &= \alpha \underbrace{P_1(\Omega)}_{=1} + (1-\alpha) \underbrace{P_2(\Omega)}_{=1} \\ &= \alpha + 1 - \alpha = 1 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

(iii) $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ $i \neq j$

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) &= \alpha P_1\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) + (1-\alpha) P_2\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P_1(A_i) + (1-\alpha) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P_2(A_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[\alpha P_1(A_i) + (1-\alpha) P_2(A_i) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i) \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: Let $\Omega = (0, 1)$ and let $\mathcal{B} = \{\Omega \cap B : B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})\}$ be the Borel σ -algebra on Ω . Show that the function given by

$$P(A) = \int_A 2x dx \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathcal{B}$$

is a probability function on \mathcal{B} (satisfies the K. axioms).

$$(i) \quad P(A) = \int_A 2x dx \geq 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$A \subset (0, 1)$

$$(ii) \quad P(\Omega) = \int_{(0,1)} 2x dx = \int_0^1 2x dx = \left. \frac{2x^2}{2} \right|_0^1 = 1. \quad \checkmark$$

(iii) $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ if $j \neq i$.

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \int \mathbb{1}_{\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i} d\mu$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \int_{A_i} \mathbb{1}_{A_i} d\mu$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{P(A_i)}$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

✓

Theorem (Derived properties of a probability function)

Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) and a set $A \in \mathcal{B}$, we have

- 1 $P(\emptyset) = 0$
- 2 $P(A) \leq 1$
- 3 $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$

Exercise: Prove (3), (2), and then (1).

(3) $\Omega = A \cup A^c$ \swarrow disjoint

$1 = P(\Omega) = P(A) + P(A^c)$

(ii) "finite additivity"

$$P(A^c) = 1 - P(A).$$

②

$$P(A) = 1 - \underbrace{P(A^c)}_{\geq 0} \Rightarrow P(A) \leq 1.$$

≤ 1

① $\emptyset = \Omega^c$, $P(\Omega) = 1$.

$$P(\emptyset) = P(\Omega^c) = 1 - P(\Omega) = 1 - 1 = 0.$$

Theorem (First probability results)

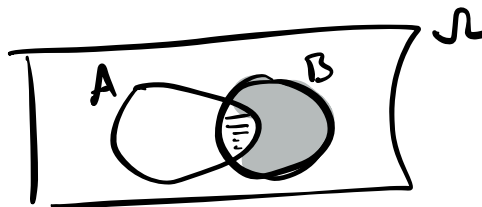
Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) and sets $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$, we have

- 1 $P(B \cap A^c) = P(B) - P(A \cap B)$.
- 2 $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$.
- 3 If $A \subset B$, then $P(A) \leq P(B)$.

Exercise: Prove (1), (2), and then (3).

① $B = \underbrace{(B \cap A)}_{\text{disj.}} \cup (B \cap A^c)$

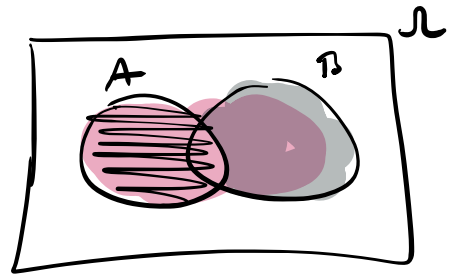
"finite additivity"
 $\Rightarrow P(B) = P(B \cap A) + P(B \cap A^c)$
 $\Leftrightarrow P(B \cap A^c) = P(B) - P(A \cap B)$



$$\textcircled{2} \quad A \cup B = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c)$$

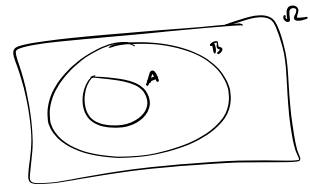
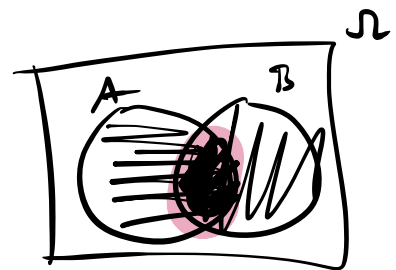
$$= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

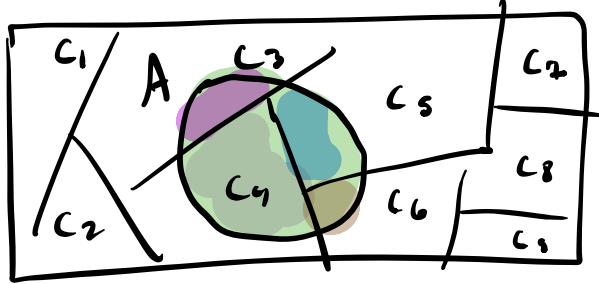


$$\textcircled{3} \quad A \subset B \Rightarrow A \cup B = B$$

$$P(B) = P(A \cup B) = P(A) + \underbrace{P(B \cap A^c)}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A) \leq P(B)$$





$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i = \Omega, \quad C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset \text{ if } i \neq j.$$

Theorem (Law of total probability and union bound)

Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) , we have

- 1 $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i)$ for any $A \in \mathcal{B}$ and partition $C_1, C_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ of Ω .
- 2 $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$ for any sets $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$

Exercise: Prove (1) and (2) of the theorem.

"count add"

$$\textcircled{1} \quad A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{(A \cap C_i)}_{\text{pair disjoint}} \Rightarrow P(A) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (A \cap C_i)\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i).$$

② Union Bound (Boole's inequality).

Write $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ as a union of pw disj. sets. Ω

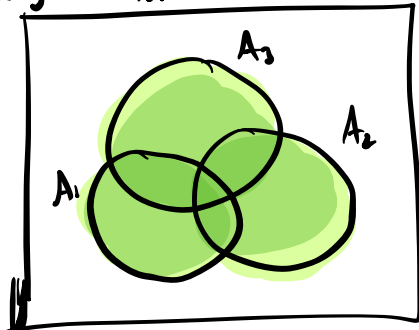
Define

$$B_1 = A_1 \quad B_1 \subset A_1$$

$$B_2 = A_2 \setminus A_1 \quad B_2 \subset A_2$$

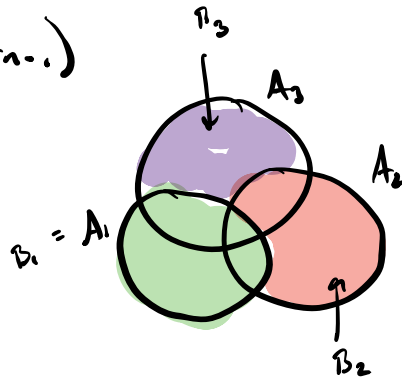
$$B_3 = A_3 \setminus (A_1 \cup A_2) \quad B_3 \subset A_3$$

$$B_n = A_n \setminus (A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_{n-1})$$



Then $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$,

and $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i \neq j$.



So $P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(B_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n)$.

$$B_n \subset A_n \Rightarrow P(B_n) \leq P(A_n)$$

□.

Theorem (Inclusion-exclusion principle)

Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) and any events $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$, we have

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = S_1 - S_2 + S_3 - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} S_n,$$

where $S_k = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} P(A_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k})$ for $k = 1, \dots, n$.

Exercise:

- 1 Write out inclusion-exclusion formula for $n = 2, 3$.
- 2 Give heuristics of counting proof.

① $\boxed{n=2}$ A_1, A_2

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2) = S_1 - S_2$$
$$S_1 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq 2} P(A_{i_1}) = P(A_1) + P(A_2)$$

$$S_2 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq 2} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2}) = P(A_1 \cap A_2)$$

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) - P(A_1 \cap A_2).$$

$\boxed{n=3}$

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3) = S_1 - S_2 + S_3$$

$$S_1 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq 3} P(A_{i_1}) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(A_3)$$

$$S_2 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq 3} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2}) = P(A_1 \cap A_2) + P(A_1 \cap A_3) + P(A_2 \cap A_3)$$

$$S_3 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq 3} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap A_{i_3}) = P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3) &= P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(A_3) \\ &\quad - P(A_1 \cap A_2) - P(A_2 \cap A_3) - P(A_1 \cap A_3) \\ &\quad + P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3). \end{aligned}$$

② Assume $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots\}$ with probs p_1, p_2, \dots

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = S_1 - S_2 + S_3 - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} S_n$$

Consider contribution of a single outcome ω_j to each side.

Suppose ω_j is in $0 \leq m \leq n$ of A_1, \dots, A_n .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= p_j \cdot 1 \\ &= p_j \cdot m - p_j \binom{m}{2} + p_j \binom{m}{3} \\ &\quad - \dots + p_j (-1)^{m-1} \binom{m}{m} \end{aligned} \quad \text{RHS}$$

$$S_1 = P(A_1) + \dots + P(A_n)$$

$$S_2 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2})$$

$$S_3 = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap A_{i_3})$$

$$S_m =$$

\Leftrightarrow

$$0 = -\binom{m}{0} + \binom{m}{1} - \binom{m}{2} + \binom{m}{3} - \dots + (-1)^{m-1} \binom{m}{m}$$

Yes, really true.

$$(-1) \left[\sum_{i=0}^m \binom{m}{i} (-1)^i (1)^{m-i} \right]$$

$$= (1-1)^m = 0 \quad [\text{binomial theorem}]$$

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} a^i b^{n-i}$$

D.

keep m terms in each formula.

Theorem (Bonferroni inequalities)

Under the inclusion-exclusion setup, for any $m = 1, \dots, n$, we have

$$P(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i) \leq \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^{k-1} S_k \quad \text{for } m \text{ odd}$$

$$P(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i) \geq \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^{k-1} S_k \quad \text{for } m \text{ even.}$$

Exercise: Write out Bonferroni inequalities for $m = 1, 2$.

$$\boxed{m=1} \quad P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \leq (-1)^{1-1} S_1 = S_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \quad [\text{Union bound}]$$

$$\boxed{m=2} \quad P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \geq (-1)^{1-1} S_1 + (-1)^{2-1} S_2 \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) - \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n} P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2})$$

$$A_1^c, \dots, A_n^c \in \mathcal{B}. \quad P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i^c) \quad [\text{Union bound}]$$

$$\text{Now } \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c\right)^c = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i, \text{ so } P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c\right).$$

Theorem (Statisticians' variant of Bonferroni's inequality)

Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) and any events $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$, we have

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i^c).$$

$$\rightarrow 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i^c) \Rightarrow P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i^c).$$

Exercise: Show that the above follows from the union bound (Boole's).

Exercise: Consider constructing $(1 - \alpha) \times 100\%$ C.I.s for parameters $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n$.

Let A_i be the event that C.I. i contains θ_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$. Give a way to choose α to ensure all C.I.s simultaneously contain their targets with probability $1 - \alpha^*$.

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i^c) = \underline{1 - n\alpha^*} = \underline{1 - \alpha}.$$

"Bonferroni adjustment to C.I.s."

↑ All C.I.s capture target

Make $P(A_i) = 1 - \alpha^*$, when $\alpha^* = \frac{\alpha}{n}$

- 1 Basics of sets
- 2 Basics of probability theory
- 3 Limits of sequences of sets and continuity of probability function**

$$\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \in \mathbb{R} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n.$$

The limit of a sequence of sets

If $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a sequence of sets, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exists and is equal to A if $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ and $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exist and are both equal to A , where

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

Exercise:

- 1 For $A_n = [1/n, 1 - 1/n]$, $n \geq 1$, check if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exists; if so, find it.
- 2 Make sense of $\omega \in \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \iff \omega \in \{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ i.o. (infinitely often).
- 3 Make sense of $\omega \in \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \iff \omega \in A_n$ ev. (eventually).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{2} \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k \\
 &= \left\{ \omega : \forall n \geq 1 \exists k \geq n \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \right\} \\
 &= \omega \text{ which occurs i.o.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{3} \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k \\
 &= \left\{ \omega : \exists n \geq 1 \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \forall k \geq n \right\} \\
 &= \omega \text{ which occurs ev.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad A_n = \left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right]. \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k \\
 &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right] \cup \left[\frac{1}{n+1}, 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right] \cup \dots \\
 &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (0, 1) \\
 &= (0, 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k \\
 &= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right] \cap \left[\frac{1}{n+1}, 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right] \cap \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right]$$
$$= (0, 1).$$

So $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = (0, 1).$

1 Basics of sets

2 Basics of probability theory

3 Limits of sequences of sets and continuity of probability function

The limit of a sequence of sets

If $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a sequence of sets, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exists and is equal to A if $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ and $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exist and are both equal to A , where

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

Exercise:

- 1 Make sense of $\omega \in \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \iff \omega \in \{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ i.o. (infinitely often).
- 2 Make sense of $\omega \in \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \iff \omega \in A_n$ ev. (eventually).
- 3 For $A_n = [1/n, 1 - 1/n]$, $n \geq 1$, check if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exists; if so, find it.

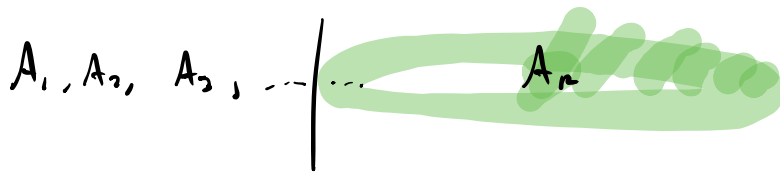
① $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$

"for all"
"then exists"

$= \{ \omega : \forall n \geq 1 \exists k \geq n \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \}$

$= \{ \omega : \omega \in \{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ infinitely often} \}$

"i.o."

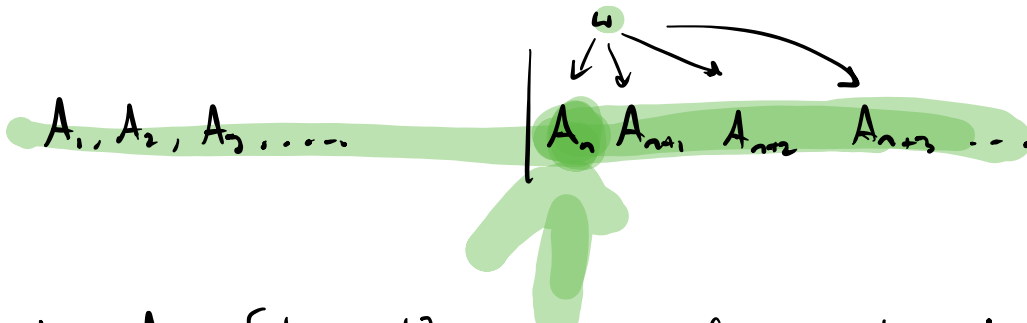


② $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$

$= \{ \omega : \exists n \geq 1 \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \forall k \geq n \}$

$= \{ \omega : \omega \in \{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ "eventually"} \}$

"ev."



③ Let $A_n = [\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n}]$, $n \geq 1$. Check if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$ exists. If so give.

$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$

$$\left[(0,1) \supset \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \right]$$

$$= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right] \cup \left[\frac{1}{n+1}, 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right] \cup \dots \right]$$

$$= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (0,1)$$

$$= (0,1)$$

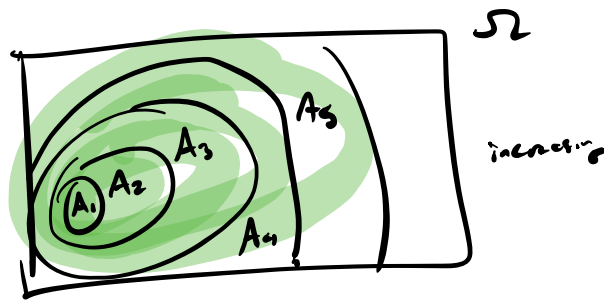
$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right] \cap \left[\frac{1}{n+1}, 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right] \cap \dots \right]$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{n}, 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right]$$

$$= (0,1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = (0,1)$$



Increasing and decreasing sequences of sets

A sequence of sets A_1, A_2, \dots is called

- *increasing* if $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$
- *decreasing* if $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \dots$

Exercise: For an inc. seq. of sets $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$, show $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$. (hw #2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k \\
 &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \omega : \exists k \geq n \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \right\} \\
 &= \left\{ \omega : \exists k \geq 1 \text{ s.t. } \omega \in A_k \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

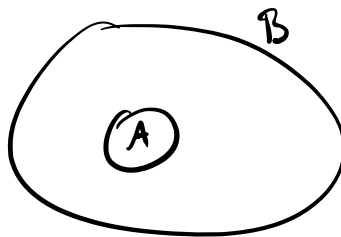
$$= \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k$$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ A_n \overset{C}{\cap} A_{n+1} \overset{C}{\cap} A_{n+2} \overset{C}{\cap} \dots \right\}$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$



$$A \cap B = A$$

Recall:

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

seq $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \in \mathbb{R}$.

f is continuous if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n\right).$$

satisfies K , exists

Theorem (Continuity of probability function)

Let (Ω, \mathcal{B}, P) be a probability space and let $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ a sequence of sets in \mathcal{B} .

• If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = A$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n) = P(A) = P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right)$

• Easier to prove:

① If $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is increasing and $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n) = P(A)$.

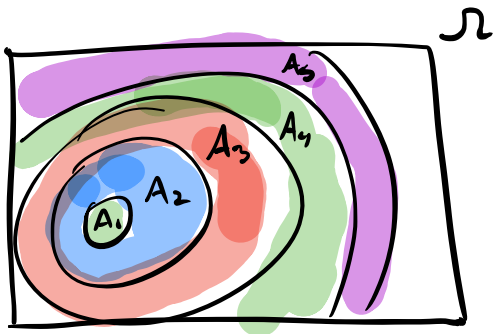
② If $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is decreasing and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n) = P(A)$.

Exercise: Prove (1).

Want to show for $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n) = P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right)$.

Proof: Firstly: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ [because $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is increasing.]

$P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right)$ ← To deal with a union, change it to a union of pairwise disj. sets.



Define "ring" sets (annulus sets):

$$R_1 = A_1$$

$$R_2 = A_2 \setminus A_1$$

$$R_3 = A_3 \setminus A_2$$

;

$$R_n = A_n \setminus A_{n-1} \quad n \geq 2$$

Now $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n$

pairwise disjoint.

80:

$$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n\right)$$

ax. of countable additivity

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(R_n)$$

$$= P(R_1) + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} P(R_n)$$

$$= P(A_1) + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [P(A_n) - P(A_{n-1})]$$

$$= P(A_1) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=2}^n [P(A_i) - P(A_{i-1})]$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[P(A_1) + \sum_{i=2}^n \{P(A_i) - P(A_{i-1})\} \right]$$

$P(A_n)$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n) + P(A_2) - P(A_1) + P(A_3) - P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_n) - P(A_{n-1})$$

□

$$P(R_1) = P(A_1)$$

For $n \geq 2$

$$\begin{aligned} P(R_n) &= P(A_n \setminus A_{n-1}) \\ &= P(A_n \cap A_{n-1}^c) \\ &= P(A_n) - P(A_n \cap A_{n-1}) \\ &= P(A_n) - P(A_{n-1}) \quad [A_{n-1} \subset A_n] \end{aligned}$$