



2: Sample spaces and events ... Axioms for probability and their consequences.

2 : فضاء العينة والاحداث ... فرضيات الاحتمالات.

Sample Spaces:

A sample space is the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment. We'll denote a sample space as Ω .

Examples:

- Coin flip: $\Omega = \{H, T\}$ $H = \text{Head}$ $T = \text{Tail}$
- Roll a 6-sided die: $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
- Pick a ball from a bucket of red/black balls: $\Omega = \{R, B\}$

Sets: A set is a collection of unique objects.

Here “objects” can be concrete things (people in class), or abstract things (numbers, colors).

Examples:

$$A = \{3, 8, 31\}$$

$$B = \{\text{apple, pear, orange, grape}\}$$

$$\text{Not a valid set definition: } C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 2\}$$

- Order in a set does not matter! $\{1, 2, 3\} = \{3, 1, 2\} = \{1, 3, 2\}$
- When x is an element of A , we denote this by: $x \in A$.
- If x is not in a set A , we denote this as: $x \notin A$.
- The “empty” or “null” set has no elements: $\emptyset = \{ \}$



Some Important Sets

- Integers: $Z = \{ \dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \}$
- Natural Numbers: $N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- Real Numbers: $R =$ “any number that can be written in decimal form”

$$5 \in R, 17.42 \in R, \pi = 3.14159 \dots \in R$$

Building Sets Using Conditionals

- Alternate way to define natural numbers: $N = \{x \in Z : x \geq 0\}$
- Set of even integers: $\{x \in Z : x \text{ is divisible by } 2\}$
- Rationals: $Q = \{ p/q : p, q \in Z, q \neq 0 \}$

Subsets :

Let A is a set and also A is a subset of another set B if every element of A is also an element of B, and we denote this as $A \subseteq B$.

Examples:

- $\{1, 9\} \subseteq \{1, 3, 9, 11\}$
- $Q \subseteq R$
- $\{\text{apple, pear}\} \not\subseteq \{\text{apple, orange, banana}\}$
- $\emptyset \subseteq A$ for any set A



Events:

An event is a subset of a sample space.

Examples:

You roll a die and get an even number:

$$\{2, 4, 6\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

You flip a coin and it comes up “heads”:

$$\{H\} \subseteq \{H, T\}$$

Your code takes longer than 5 seconds to run:

$$(5, \infty) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

Set Operations: Union

The union of two sets A and B, denoted $A \cup B$ is the set of all elements in either A or B (or both).

When A and B are events, $A \cup B$ means that event A or event B happens (or both).

Example:

$A = \{1, 3, 5\}$ “an odd roll”

$B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ “a roll of 3 or less”

$A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$

Set Operations: Intersection

The intersection of two sets A and B, denoted $A \cap B$ is the set of all elements in both A and B.

When A and B are events, $A \cap B$ means that both event A and event B happen.



Example:

$A = \{1, 3, 5\}$ “an odd roll”

$B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ “a roll of 3 or less”

$A \cap B = \{1, 3\}$

Note: If $A \cap B = \emptyset$, we say A and B are disjoint منفصله.

Set Operations: Complement:

The complement of a set $A \subseteq \Omega$, denoted A^c , is the set of all elements in $(\Omega = \text{Sample spaces})$ that are not in A.

When A is an event, A^c means that the event A does not happen.

Example:

$A = \{1, 3, 5\}$ “an odd roll”

$A^c = \{2, 4, 6\}$ “an even roll”

Set Operations: Difference:

The difference of a set $A \subseteq \Omega$ and a set $B \subseteq \Omega$, denoted $A - B$, is the set of all elements in Ω that are in A and are not in B.

Example:

$A = \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$B = \{3, 5\}$

$A - B = \{4, 6\}$

Note: $A - B = A \cap B^c$



DeMorgan's Law:

Complement of union or intersection:

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

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

H/W

Check whether the following statements are true or false.

(Hint: you might use Venn diagrams.)

- $A - B \subseteq A$
- $(A - B)^c = A^c \cup B$
- $A \cup B \subseteq B$
- $(A \cup B) \cap C = (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C)$

Probability:

A probability function on a finite sample space Ω assigns every event $A \subseteq \Omega$ a number in $[0, 1]$, such that

1. $P(\Omega) = 1$

2. $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$ when $A \cap B = \emptyset$

$P(A)$ is the probability that event A occurs.

Equally Likely Outcomes

The number of elements in a set A is denoted $|A|$.

If Ω has a finite number of elements, and each is equally likely, then the probability function is given by $P(A) = |A|/|\Omega|$

Example: Rolling a 6-sided die

- $P(\{1\}) = 1/6$
- $P(\{1, 2, 3\}) = 1/2$



Repeated Experiments

If we do two runs of an experiment with sample space Ω , then we get a new experiment with sample space

$$\Omega \times \Omega = \{(x, y) : x \in \Omega, y \in \Omega\}$$

The element $(x, y) \in \Omega \times \Omega$ is called an **ordered pair**.

Properties:

Order matters: $(1, 2) \neq (2, 1)$ الترتيب مهم

Repeats are possible: $(1, 1) \in N \times N$

More Repeats

Repeating an experiment n times gives the sample space

$$\Omega^n = \Omega \times \cdots \times \Omega \text{ (n times)}$$

$$= \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in \Omega \text{ for all } i\}$$

The element (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) is called an **n-tuple**.

If $|\Omega| = k$, then $|\Omega^n| = k^n$.

Probability Rules

- Complement of an event A :

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

- Union of two overlapping متداخلة events $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$:

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