

Homework #2 Due Sept 24

chapter 2 prob 8, 12, 19, 31, 40,

Axioms of Probability

45, 63, 82, 106

1. For any event  $A$ ,  $P(A) \geq 0$
2.  $P(S) = 1$
3. If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  is a finite collection of mutually exclusive events, then
 
$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(A_i)$$

If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is an infinite collection of mutually exclusive events then

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$
Example

Roll a 6-sided dice

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

$$P(1) + P(2) + P(3) + P(4) + P(5) + P(6) = 1$$

# Probability Theorems

(2)

$$\underline{T1} \quad P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$$

Proof

By axiom 3a

$$\text{Let } A_1 = A, A_2 = A^c$$

Now from set theory

$$A \cup A^c = S$$

$$1 = P(S) = P(A \cup A^c) = P(A) + P(A^c)$$

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

T2 IF A and B are mutually exclusive,  
then  $P(A \cap B) = 0$

Proof

$$A \cap B = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow (A \cap B)^c = \emptyset^c$$

$$\Rightarrow (A \cap B)^c = S$$

$$P(S) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow P((A \cap B)^c) = 1$$

Theorem 1

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cap B) = 1 - P((A \cap B)^c)$$

$$= 1 - 1$$

$$= 0$$

③ For any two events A and B,

③

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

Proof

$$A \cup B = A \cup (B \cap A^c) \quad (\text{check using set theory})$$

A and  $(B \cap A^c)$  are mutually exclusive

$\Rightarrow$  From axiom 3a

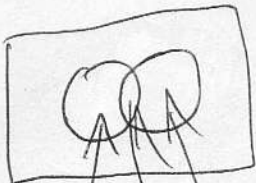
$$P(A \cup B) = P(A \cup (B \cap A^c)) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c)$$

Note also that  $B = (B \cap A) \cup (B \cap A^c)$  (check using set theory)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(B) &= P((B \cap A) \cup (B \cap A^c)) \\ &= P(B \cap A) + P(B \cap A^c) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B \cap A^c) = P(B) - P(B \cap A)$$

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



count  
count twice

T4

(4)

If  $A \subset B$  then  $P(A) \leq P(B)$

proof

Since  $A \subset B$   $B = A \cup (B \cap A')$

by ~~the~~ which is disjoint therefore by axiom 3

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

By axiom  $P(B \cap A') \geq 0$

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

## 7.4 Boole's Inequality

5

If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is a sequence of events

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

Proof

$$\text{Let } B_1 = A_1, B_2 = A_2 \cap A_1^c, B_i = A_i \cap \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} A_j\right)^c$$

$$\Rightarrow \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$$

Also  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  are mutually exclusive

Note that  $B_i \subset A_i$  therefore from

T4 that  $P(B_i) \leq P(A_i)$  therefore

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i\right) = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i)}_{\text{axiom 3}} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

## T5 Bonferroni's Inequality

6

If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  are events then

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

Proof exercise

use the relationship

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^k A_i = \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i^c\right)^c$$

applies T4 and T6.

## Determining Probabilities

Suppose we have many <sup>simple events</sup>  $E_i$  such that  
 $P(E_i) \geq 0$  and  $\sum_i P(E_i) = 1$

Let  $A$  be a compound event then

$$P(A) = \sum_{E_i \in A} P(E_i)$$

i.e. the probability of <sup>compound</sup> event  $A$  is  
the sum of the probabilities of the <sup>simple</sup> events  $E_i \in A$ .

## Equally likely outcomes

(7)

If there is  $N$  possible <sup>simple</sup> outcomes and each is equally likely <sup>with  $p = P(E_i)$</sup>

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^N P(E_i) = \sum p = Np \Rightarrow p = \frac{1}{N}$$

For a compound event  $A$  ~~with~~

$$P(A) = \sum_{E_i \in A} P(E_i) = \sum_{E_i \in A} \frac{1}{N} = \frac{N(A)}{N}$$

$N(A) \equiv$  Number of outcomes in  $A$ .

Example toss 2 fair coins

$$S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$$

Every outcome has  $\frac{1}{4}$  of happening

$$A = \text{two of same face} = \{HH, TT\}$$

$$P(\text{two of same face}) = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$