

# ECN 820A: Homework 1

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1. (a)

$$P(\text{A or B or Both}) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

(b)

$$P(\text{A or B but not both Both}) = P(A) + P(B) - 2P(A \cap B)$$

(c)

$$P(\text{At least one of A or B}) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

(d)

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{A or B or Both}) &= P(A) + P(B) - 2P(A \cap B) + (1 - P(A) - P(B) + P(A \cap B)) \\ &= 1 - P(A \cap B) \end{aligned}$$

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2. (a) To be a sigma algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  needs to fulfill 3 criteria:

- i.  $S \in \mathcal{B}$ : This is trivial by the definition of  $\mathcal{B}$
- ii.  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}, A^c \in \mathcal{B}$ :  $S^c = \emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\emptyset^c = S \in \mathcal{B}$
- iii.  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N}, A_i \in \mathcal{B}, \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$ :  $S \cup S = S, S \cup \emptyset = S, \emptyset \cup \emptyset = \emptyset$ , so  
$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = S \vee \emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$$

Hence  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra

(b)  $\mathcal{B} = 2^S$

- i.  $S \in \mathcal{B}$ : This is trivial by the definition of  $\mathcal{B}$
- ii.  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}, A^c \in \mathcal{B}$ :  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}, A \subseteq S$ , so we know that  $A^c = S \setminus A \subseteq S \in \mathcal{B}$ . So  $A^c \in \mathcal{B}$
- iii.  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N}, A_i \in \mathcal{B}, \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$ :  $\forall A_i \in \mathcal{B}, A_i \subseteq S$ , so  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \subseteq S \in \mathcal{B}$

(c) Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}$

- i.  $S \in \mathcal{A}$ :  $S \in \mathcal{B} \wedge S \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow S \in \mathcal{A}$
- ii.  $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}, A^c \in \mathcal{A}$ :  $A \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow A \in \mathcal{B} \wedge A \in \mathcal{C}$ . This implies that

$$A^c = \mathcal{A} \setminus \{A\} = (\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}) \setminus \{A\} = \underbrace{[(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{A\})]}_{\in \mathcal{B}} \cap \underbrace{(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{A\})}_{\in \mathcal{C}} \in \mathcal{A}$$

- iii.  $\forall i \in \mathbb{N}, A_i \in \mathcal{A}, \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{A}$ : Suppose otherwise that  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{A}$ . Then we know that, by construction,  $A_n \in \mathcal{B}$  or  $A_n \in \mathcal{C}$  but not both. But then  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies the third axiom.

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3. Let  $C_i = \{H_i, T_i\}$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 12\}$  denote the  $i$ th toss. Assume that the coin is fair so that  $P(H_i) = P(C_i) = \frac{1}{2}$

(a)  $P(\bigcap_{i=1}^{12} H_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{12} P(H_i) = \frac{1}{2^{12}} = \frac{1}{4096}$

- (b) This is equivalent to 1 minus the probability of no one getting 12 heads in a row.  
 $P(\text{At least one person in the group of } n \text{ people gets 12 heads in a row})$

$$= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - P(\bigcap_{i=1}^{12} H_i)) = 1 - (1 - \frac{1}{2^{12}})^n$$

- (c) Solve  $n$  for  $(1 - \frac{1}{2^{12}})^n < 0.6$ ,  $n \geq 2093$

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4. (a) **TRUE**

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B)}{1} = P(A) + 1 - 1 = P(A)$$

- (b) **FALSE**

$$A \subset B \Rightarrow P(A) < P(B)$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(A)} = 1 \not< 1$$

- (c) **TRUE**

$$A \subset B \Rightarrow P(A) < P(B)$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(B)}$$

- (d) **TRUE**

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

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(A|A \cup B) &= \frac{P(A \cap (A \cup B))}{P(A \cup B)} = \frac{P((A \cap A) \cup (A \cap B))}{P(A) + P(B)} \\ &= \frac{P(A \cup \emptyset)}{P(A) + P(B)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(A) + P(B)} \end{aligned}$$

(e) **TRUE**

$$\begin{aligned} P(A|B \cap C)P(B|C)P(C) &= \frac{P(A \cap (B \cap C))}{P(B \cap C)} \cdot \frac{P(B \cap C)}{P(C)} \cdot P(C) \\ &= \frac{P(A \cap B \cap C)}{\cancel{P(B \cap C)}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{P(B \cap C)}}{\cancel{P(C)}} \cdot \cancel{P(C)} = P(A \cap B \cap C) \end{aligned}$$

5. (a) Since  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_j, \dots\}$  is a partition of  $\Omega$ , we know that (1)  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_j = \Omega$ , and (2)  $\forall i \neq j, B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$ . Let  $A \subseteq \Omega$ , we need to show that (i)  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n (A \cap B_j) = A$ , and (ii)  $\forall i \neq j, (A \cap B_i) \cap (A \cap B_j) = \emptyset$
- (i)

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n (A \cap B_j) = A \cap \bigcup_{i=1}^n (B_j) = A \cap \Omega = A$$

(ii)

$$\forall i \neq j, (A \cap B_i) \cap (A \cap B_j) = A \cap (B_i \cap B_j) = A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

So  $\{A \cap B_j \mid j = 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a partition of A.

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

$$\begin{aligned} P(A^c \cap B^c) &= P((A \cup B)^c) = 1 - P(A \cup B) = 1 - (P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)) \\ &= 1 - P(A) - P(B) + P(A \cap B) = (1 - P(A))(1 - P(B)) = P(A^c)P(B^c) \end{aligned}$$

(c) **This is FALSE**

Let  $A$  and  $C$  be independent,  $B \subset C$ , and  $0 < p < P(C) = q < 1$ , then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A|C) &= \frac{P(A \cap C)}{P(C)} = \frac{P(A)\cancel{P(C)}}{\cancel{P(C)}} = P(A) = p \\ P(B|C) &= \frac{P(B \cap C)}{P(C)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(C)} = \frac{p}{q} \neq p \end{aligned}$$

(d)

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3|B) &= \frac{P((A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3) \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P((A_1 \cap B) \cup (A_2 \cap B) \cup (A_3 \cap B))}{P(B)} \\ &= \frac{\overbrace{P(A_1 \cap B) + P(A_2 \cap B) + P(A_3 \cap B)}^{\text{Since } A_1, A_2, A_3 \text{ are mutually exclusive}}}{P(B)} \\ &= \frac{P(A_1)}{P(B)} + \frac{P(A_2)}{P(B)} + \frac{P(A_3)}{P(B)} \\ &= P(A_1|B) + P(A_2|B) + P(A_3|B) \end{aligned}$$

6. Since  $P(A|C) = 0.1 > 0$ , we know that  $P(A \cap C) \neq \emptyset$ . Moreover, we know that  $P(A \cup C) \leq 1$ , hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0.1 \cdot P(C) &= P(A \cap C) = P(A) + P(C) - P(A \cup C) \geq P(C) - 0.6 \\ 0.1P(C) &\geq P(C) - 0.6 \\ 0.6 &\geq 0.9P(C) \\ P(C) &\leq \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $P(C)$  has an upper bound of  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $P(C)$  cannot be 0.7.

7. There are 366 possible birthdays. The probability that at least two people have the same birthday is 1 minus the probability that no one has the same birthday. So

$$\begin{aligned} &P(\text{At least two people have the same birthday}) \\ &= 1 - P(\text{There are exactly 40 unique birthdays in this class}) \\ &= 1 - \left( \underbrace{P_{40}^{366}}_{\text{Permutations of picking 40 unique birthdays}} \div \underbrace{366^{40}}_{\text{Permutations of picking 40 days}} \right) \\ &= 1 - \left( \frac{366!}{326!} \cdot \frac{1}{366^{40}} \right) \approx 1 - 0.109 \\ &\approx 0.891 \end{aligned}$$

8.

$$\begin{aligned} &P(2R3B \text{ in bowl B} | \text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \\ &= \frac{P((2R3B \text{ in bowl B}) \cap (\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}))}{P(\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B})} \\ &= \frac{P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) | (2R3B \text{ in bowl B})) \cdot P(2R3B \text{ in bowl B})}{P(\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B})} \end{aligned}$$

We know that

$$P(2R3B \text{ in bowl B}) = \frac{C_2^6 \cdot C_3^4}{C_5^{10}} = \frac{15 \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 \cdot 3} = \frac{60}{252} = \frac{5}{21}$$

and

$$P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) | (2R3B \text{ in bowl B})) = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$P(\text{Blue is drawn from Bowl B}) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \cap (4R1B \text{ in bowl B})) \\ & + P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \cap (3R2B \text{ in bowl B})) \\ & + P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \cap (2R3B \text{ in bowl B})) \\ & + P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \cap (1R4B \text{ in bowl B})) \\ & = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{C_4^6 \cdot C_1^4}{C_5^{10}} + \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{C_3^6 \cdot C_2^4}{C_5^{10}} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{C_2^6 \cdot C_3^4}{C_5^{10}} + \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{C_1^6 \cdot C_4^4}{C_5^{10}} \\ & = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{60}{252} + \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{120}{252} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{60}{252} + \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{6}{252} = \frac{60 + 240 + 180 + 24}{5 \cdot 252} = \frac{504}{5 \cdot 252} = \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

So

$$P((\text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \cap (2R3B \text{ in bowl B})) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{5}{21} = \frac{1}{7}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & P(2R3B \text{ in bowl B} | \text{Blue is drawn from bowl B}) \\ & = \frac{1}{7} \div \frac{2}{5} = \frac{5}{14} \end{aligned}$$

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9. (a)

$$P(\text{At least one coin is tail}) = 1 - P(\text{All coins heads}) = 1 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(\text{At least one coin is tail} \cap \text{Both coins tails}) = P(\text{Both coins tail}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Both coins tails} | \text{At least one coin is tail}) &= \frac{P(\text{At least one coin is tail} \cap \text{Both coins tails})}{P(\text{At least one coin is tail})} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{3}{4}} = \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

(b) The desired probability is:

$$\frac{C_2^4}{C_2^{50}} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} \cdot \frac{2!48!}{50!} = \frac{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{50 \cdot 49} = \frac{6}{1225}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= \frac{C_2^{49}}{C_2^{50}} \cdot 1 + \frac{C_1^{49}}{C_2^{50}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{48}{50} + \frac{49 \cdot 2}{50 \cdot 49} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{49}{50} \\ P(A \cap B) &= \frac{C_1^{49}}{C_2^{50}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{50} \\ P(B|A) &= P(A \cap B) \cdot \frac{1}{P(A)} = \frac{1}{49} \end{aligned}$$

10. (a) (i) Since we need to see 2 specific letters, we have  $2 \leq L$ . The longest is the case where all other letters are drawn first, so we have  $2 \leq L \leq 25$
- (ii) Let  $\alpha, \alpha', \alpha'' \in \{A, B, C\}$ ,  $\alpha \neq \alpha' \neq \alpha''$  For each value  $l$ , it must be that the permutation of a complete draw would consists of

$$\underbrace{\dots, \alpha, \dots, \alpha'}_l \underbrace{\dots, \alpha'', \dots}_{26-l}$$

Hence for each value  $l$ , there are  $l - 1$  places where  $\alpha$  could be, and the rest of the letters follow the permutation  $P_{l-2}^{23}$ . So we have:

$$P(L = l) = \frac{(l-1) \frac{23!}{(25-l)!}}{\sum_{a=2}^{a=25} \frac{(a-1)23!}{(25-a)!}}$$

- (b) This is the probability that for the first  $k$  draws, we only draw from cards that is not A nor B nor C, and then immediately after  $k$ , we draw 2 of these 3 cards that are consecutive. So the probability is:

$$\underbrace{\frac{23}{26} \cdot \frac{22}{25} \cdot \frac{21}{24} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{23-k}{26-k}}_{\text{the first k draws}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{4}{(25-k)(24-k)}}_{\text{drawing consecutive cards}}$$