

# Probability

Sample space  $S$ : set of all realizations  $s$  of an experiment

(# faces of a die, # times of a coin, ...)

Sample point  $s$ : an element of  $S$

Event  $E$ : subset of  $S$

$E_s$ : two dice toss outcome

$$S = \{(1,1), \dots, (6,6)\}$$

$$s = \text{"both dice show 1"} = (1,1)$$

$$E = \text{"sum of outcomes is less than 6"} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (2,1)\}$$

There are 2 special events: 1)  $E = S$

$$2) E = S^c = \emptyset$$

Power set:  $A = P(S)$  = all possible events ( $E \in P(S) \Leftrightarrow E \subset S$ )

↳ works on finite, discrete sets.

Probability is a function  $P: A \rightarrow [0,1] \iff$

- $P(S) = 1$
- $0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$
- given  $G_1, \dots, E_m \mid E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i, j$ ,

$$P(\bigcup_i E_i) = \sum_i P(E_i)$$

$$P(S) \stackrel{1}{=} P(S \cup \emptyset) = P(S) + P(\emptyset) \longrightarrow P(\emptyset) = 0$$

Dim:

- $P(S) = P(S \cup \emptyset) \iff S = S \cup \emptyset \iff S \cup \emptyset \subseteq S \wedge S \subseteq S \cup \emptyset$

- $S \cup \emptyset \subseteq S$ : let  $x \in S \cup \emptyset$ , if  $x \notin S$  then  $x \in \emptyset$ , which is impossible so  $x$  must belong to  $S$

- $S \subseteq S \cup \emptyset$ : let  $x \in S$ , then  $x \in S \cup \emptyset$  since it's our union

- $P(S \cap \emptyset) = P(S) + P(\emptyset) \iff S \cap \emptyset = \emptyset \iff S \cap \emptyset \subseteq \emptyset \wedge \emptyset \subseteq S \cap \emptyset$

- $S \cap \emptyset \subseteq \emptyset$ : if it weren't,  $\emptyset$  shares an element with  $S$ , which is impossible since it's empty

- $\emptyset \subseteq S \cap \emptyset$ : to not be true,  $\emptyset$  must have an element, which is impossible since it's empty

## Conditional probability

$$P(E_1|E_2) = \frac{P(E_1 \cap E_2)}{P(E_2)}$$

We can use conditional probability to prove the independence between two events:

$$E_1 \text{ is independent from } E_2 \iff P(E_1|E_2) = P(E_1)$$

↓  
( $E_2$  happening makes no effect on  $E_1$ )