# Sauer-Shelah Lemma

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#### Abstract

The Sauer-Shelah Lemma is a fundemental result in extremal set theory and combinatorics, that guarentees the existence of a set T of size k which is shattered by a family of sets  $\mathcal{F}$ , if the cardinality of the family is greater than some bound dependent on k. A set T is said to be shattered by a family  $\mathcal{F}$  if every subset of T can be obtained as an intersection of T with some set  $S \in \mathcal{F}$ . The Sauer-Shelah Lemma has found use in diverse fields such as computational geometry, approximation algorithms and machine learning. In this entry we formalize the notion of shattering and prove the generalized and standard versions of the Sauer-Shelah Lemma.

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### 1 Introduction

The goal of this entry is to formalize the Sauer-Shelah Lemma. The result was first published by Sauer [2] and Shelah [3] independent from one another. The proof presented in this entry is based on an article by Kalai [1].

The lemma has a wide range of applications. Vapnik and Chervonenkis [4] reproved and used the lemma in the context of statistical learning theory. For instance, the VC-dimension of a family of sets is defined as the size of the largest set the family shatters. In this context the Sauer-Shelah Lemma is a result tying the VC-dimension of a family to the number of sets in the family.

# 2 Definitions and lemmas about shattering

```
theory Shattering
imports Main
begin
```

### 2.1 Intersection of a family of sets with a set

```
abbreviation IntF :: 'a \ set \ set \Rightarrow 'a \ set \ set \ (infixl \cap * 60)
 where F \cap * S \equiv ((\cap) S) ' F
lemma idem-IntF:
 assumes \bigcup A \subseteq Y
 shows A \cap * Y = A
proof -
  from assms have A \subseteq A \cap *Y by blast
 thus ?thesis by fastforce
qed
\mathbf{lemma}\ \mathit{subset-Int}F:
 assumes A \subseteq B
 shows A \cap * X \subseteq B \cap * X
 using assms by (rule image-mono)
lemma Int-IntF: (A \cap * Y) \cap * X = A \cap * (Y \cap X)
proof
 show A \cap * Y \cap * X \subseteq A \cap * (Y \cap X)
 proof
   \mathbf{fix} \ S
   assume S \in A \cap * Y \cap * X
    then obtain a-y where A-Y0: a-y \in A \cap Y and A-Y1: a-y \cap X = S by
blast
   from A-Y0 obtain a where A0: a \in A and A1: a \cap Y = a-y by blast
   from A-Y1 A1 have a \cap (Y \cap X) = S by fast
   with A\theta show S \in A \cap * (Y \cap X) by blast
 qed
\mathbf{next}
 show A \cap * (Y \cap X) \subseteq A \cap * Y \cap * X
 proof
   \mathbf{fix} \ S
   assume S \in A \cap * (Y \cap X)
```

```
then obtain a where A0: a \in A and A1: a \cap (Y \cap X) = S by blast
   from A\theta have a \cap Y \in A \cap *Y by blast
   with A1 show S \in (A \cap *Y) \cap *X by blast
 qed
qed
    insert distributes over IntF
lemma insert-IntF:
  shows insert x '(H \cap *S) = (insert x 'H) \cap *(insert x S)
 show insert x '(H \cap * S) \subseteq (insert x 'H) \cap * (insert x S)
 proof
   fix y-x
   assume y-x \in insert \ x \ (H \cap * S)
   then obtain y where \theta: y \in (H \cap *S) and 1: y-x = y \cup \{x\} by blast
   from \theta obtain yh where 2\colon yh\in H and 3\colon y=yh\cap S by blast
   from 1 3 have y-x = (yh \cup \{x\}) \cap (S \cup \{x\}) by simp
   with 2 show y-x \in (insert x 'H) \cap* (insert x S) by blast
 qed
next
 show insert x 'H \cap * (insert \ x \ S) \subseteq insert \ x '(H \cap * S)
 proof
   \mathbf{fix} \ y-x
   assume y-x \in insert \ x \ `H \cap * (insert \ x \ S)
   then obtain yh-x where \theta: yh-x \in (\lambda Y, Y \cup \{x\}) ' H and 1: y-x = yh-x \cap Y
(S \cup \{x\}) by blast
   from \theta obtain yh where \theta: yh \in H and \theta: yh-x=yh \cup \{x\} by blast
   from 1 3 have y-x = (yh \cap S) \cup \{x\} by simp
   with 2 show y-x \in insert x ' (H \cap * S) by blast
 qed
qed
       Definition of shattering
2.2
abbreviation shatters :: 'a set set \Rightarrow 'a set \Rightarrow bool (infixl shatters 70)
 where H shatters A \equiv H \cap *A = Pow A
definition VC\text{-}dim :: 'a \ set \ set \Rightarrow nat
 where VC-dim F = Sup \{ card S \mid S. F \text{ shatters } S \}
definition shattered-by :: 'a set set \Rightarrow 'a set set
  where shattered-by F \equiv \{A. F \text{ shatters } A\}
lemma shattered-by-in-Pow:
 shows shattered-by F \subseteq Pow(\bigcup F)
 unfolding shattered-by-def by blast
lemma subset-shatters:
 assumes A \subseteq B and A shatters X
 shows B shatters X
```

```
proof -
 from assms(1) have A \cap * X \subseteq B \cap * X by blast
 with assms(2) have Pow X \subseteq B \cap *X by presburger
 thus ?thesis by blast
qed
lemma supset-shatters:
 assumes Y \subseteq X and A shatters X
 shows A shatters Y
proof -
 have h: \bigcup (Pow\ Y) \subseteq Y by simp
 from assms have 0: Pow Y \subseteq A \cap *X by auto
 from subset-IntF[OF 0, of Y] Int-IntF[of Y X A] idem-IntF[OF h] have Pow
Y \subseteq A \cap * (X \cap Y) by argo
  with Int-absorb2[OF\ assms(1)]\ Int-commute[of\ X\ Y]\ have Pow\ Y\subseteq A\cap *\ Y
by presburger
 then show ?thesis by fast
qed
lemma shatters-empty:
 assumes F \neq \{\}
 shows F shatters \{\}
using assms by fastforce
lemma subset-shattered-by:
 assumes A \subseteq B
 shows shattered-by A \subseteq shattered-by B
unfolding shattered-by-def using subset-shatters[OF assms] by force
lemma finite-shattered-by:
 assumes finite (\bigcup F)
 shows finite (shattered-by F)
 \mathbf{using}\ \mathit{assms}\ \mathit{rev-finite-subset}[\mathit{OF}\ \textit{-}\ \mathit{shattered-by-in-Pow},\ \mathit{of}\ \mathit{F}]\ \mathbf{by}\ \mathit{fast}
    The following example shows that requiring finiteness of a family of sets
is not enough
lemma \exists F :: nat \ set \ set. \ finite \ F \land infinite \ (shattered-by \ F)
 let ?F = \{odd - `\{True\}, odd - `\{False\}\}\
 have \theta: finite ?F by simp
 let ?f = \lambda n :: nat. \{n\}
 let ?N = range ?f
 have inj (\lambda n. \{n\}) by simp
  with infinite-iff-countable-subset[of ?N] have infinite-N: infinite ?N by blast
 have F-shatters-any-singleton: ?F shatters \{n::nat\} for n
   have Pow-n: Pow \{n\} = \{\{n\}, \{\}\}\} by blast
   have 1: Pow \{n\} \subseteq ?F \cap * \{n\}
```

```
proof (cases \ odd \ n)
     case True
     from True have (odd - `\{False\}) \cap \{n\} = \{\} by blast
     hence \theta: {} \in ?F \cap * \{n\} by blast
     from True have (odd - `\{True\}) \cap \{n\} = \{n\}  by blast
     hence 1: \{n\} \in ?F \cap *\{n\} by blast
     from 0 1 Pow-n show ?thesis by simp
   next
     case False
     from False have (odd - `\{True\}) \cap \{n\} = \{\} by blast
     hence \theta: {} \in ?F \cap * \{n\} by blast
     from False have (odd - `\{False\}) \cap \{n\} = \{n\}  by blast
     hence 1: \{n\} \in \mathscr{P} \cap * \{n\} by blast
     from 0 1 Pow-n show ?thesis by simp
   qed
   thus ?thesis by fastforce
  qed
 then have ?N \subseteq shattered-by ?F unfolding shattered-by-def by force
 from 0 infinite-super[OF this infinite-N] show ?thesis by blast
qed
```

end

# 3 Lemmas involving the cardinality of sets

```
theory Card-Lemmas
 imports Main
begin
lemma card-diff:
 assumes finite A
 shows card A = card (A - B) + card (A \cap B)
 from assms have fin0: finite (A - B) and fin1: finite (A \cap B) by blast+
 have A-equ: A = (A - B) \cup (A \cap B) and disjoint: (A - B) \cap (A \cap B) = \{\}
 from card-Un-disjoint[OF fin0 fin1 disjoint] A-equ show ?thesis by argo
qed
lemma card-Int-copy:
 assumes finite X and A \cup B \subseteq X and \exists f. inj\text{-}on f (A \cap B) \land (A \cup B) \cap (f')
(A \cap B) = \{\} \land f \cdot (A \cap B) \subseteq X
 shows card A + card B \le card X
proof -
 from rev-finite-subset[OF assms(1), of A] rev-finite-subset[OF assms(1), of B]
assms(2)
 have finite-A: finite A and finite-B: finite B by blast+
 then have finite-A-Un-B: finite (A \cup B) and finite-A-Int-B: finite (A \cap B) by
```

```
blast+
 from assms(3) obtain f where f-inj-on: inj-on f (A \cap B) and f-disjnt: (A \cup B)
B) \cap (f'(A \cap B)) = \{\} and f-imj-in: f'(A \cap B) \subseteq X by blast
 from finite-A-Int-B have finite-f-img: finite (f \cdot (A \cap B)) by blast
 from assms(2) f-imj-in have union-in: (A \cup B) \cup f '(A \cap B) \subseteq X by blast
 from card-Un-Int[OF finite-A finite-B] have card A + card B = card (A \cup B)
+ card (A \cap B).
 also from card-image[OF f-inj-on] have ... = card (A \cup B) + card (f '(A \cap A))
B)) by presburger
  also from card-Un-disjoint[OF finite-A-Un-B finite-f-img f-disjnt] have ... =
card ((A \cup B) \cup f \cdot (A \cap B)) by argo
 also from card-mono[OF assms(1) union-in] have ... \leq card X by blast
 finally show ?thesis.
qed
lemma card-qe-\theta:
 assumes A \neq \{\} and finite A
 shows \theta < card A
proof -
 from assms(1) have \{\} \subset A by blast
 from psubset-card-mono[OF assms(2) this] show ?thesis by force
qed
lemma finite-diff-not-empty:
 assumes finite Y and card Y < card X
 shows X - Y \neq \{\}
proof
 assume X - Y = \{\}
 hence X \subseteq Y by \widetilde{simp}
 from card-mono[OF assms(1) this] assms(2) show False by linarith
lemma obtain-difference-element:
 fixes F :: 'a \ set \ set
 assumes 2 < card F
 obtains x where x \in \bigcup F x \notin \bigcap F
 from assms card-le-Suc-iff [of 1 F] obtain A F' where \theta: F = insert A F' and
1: A \notin F' and 2: 1 \leq card F' by auto
  from 2 card-le-Suc-iff of 0 F' obtain B F'' where 3: F' = insert B F'' by
auto
 from 1 3 have A-noteg-B: A \neq B by blast
 from 0 3 have A-in-F: A \in F and B-in-F: B \in F by blast+
 from A-noteq-B have (A - B) \cup (B - A) \neq \{\} by simp
 with A-in-F B-in-F that show thesis by blast
qed
```

end

### 4 Lemmas involving the binomial coefficient

```
theory Binomial-Lemmas
 imports Main
begin
lemma choose-mono:
  assumes x \leq y
  shows x choose n \leq y choose n
proof -
  have finite \{0...< y\} by blast
  with finite-Pow-iff [of \{0...< y\}] have finiteness: finite \{K \in Pow \{0...< y\}. card
K = n} by simp
  from assms have Pow \{0...< x\} \subseteq Pow \{0...< y\} by force
  then have \{K \in Pow \ \{0...< x\}.\ card\ K = n\} \subseteq \{K \in Pow \ \{0...< y\}.\ card\ K = n\}
n} by blast
 from card-mono[OF finiteness this] show ?thesis unfolding binomial-def .
qed
lemma choose-row-sum-set:
 assumes finite (\bigcup F)
  shows card \{S. S \subseteq \bigcup F \land card S \leq k\} = (\sum i \leq k. card (\bigcup F) choose i)
proof (induction \ k)
  case \theta
  from rev-finite-subset[OF assms] have S \subseteq \bigcup F \land card S \leq 0 \longleftrightarrow S = \{\} for
S by fastforce
  then show ?case by simp
next
  case (Suc\ k)
  let ?FS = \{S. \ S \subseteq \bigcup \ F \land card \ S \leq Suc \ k\}
  and ?F\text{-}Asm = \{S. \ S \subseteq \bigcup \ F \land card \ S \leq k\}
  and ?F\text{-}Step = \{S. \ S \subseteq \bigcup \ F \land card \ S = Suc \ k\}
 from finite-Pow-iff of \bigcup F assms have finite-Pow-Un-F: finite (Pow (\bigcup F))...
  have ?F-Asm \subseteq Pow (\bigcup F) and ?F-Step \subseteq Pow (\bigcup F) by fast+
  with rev-finite-subset[OF finite-Pow-Un-F] have finite-F-Asm: finite ?F-Asm
{\bf and}\ \mathit{finite}\text{-}\mathit{F}\text{-}\mathit{Step}\text{:}\ \mathit{finite}\ ?\mathit{F}\text{-}\mathit{Step}\ \mathbf{by}\ \mathit{presburger}+
 have F-Un: ?FS = ?F-Asm \cup ?F-Step and F-disjoint: ?F-Asm \cap ?F-Step = {}
by fastforce+
 from card-Un-disjoint[OF finite-F-Asm finite-F-Step F-disjoint] F-Un have card
?FS = card ?F-Asm + card ?F-Step by argo
 also from Suc have ... = (\sum i \le k. \ card \ (\bigcup F) \ choose \ i) + card \ ?F-Step by argo
  also from n-subsets[OF assms, of Suc k] have ... = (\sum i \leq Suc \ k. \ card \ (\bigcup \ F)
choose i) by force
 finally show ?case by blast
qed
end
```

### 5 Sauer-Shelah Lemma

theory Sauer-Shelah-Lemma imports Main Shattering Card-Lemmas Binomial-Lemmas begin

#### 5.1 Generalized Sauer-Shelah Lemma

```
lemma sauer-shelah-0:
    fixes F :: 'a \ set \ set
    shows finite (\bigcup F) \Longrightarrow card F \le card (shattered-by F)
proof (induction F rule: measure-induct-rule[of card])
    case (less\ F)
    note finite-F = finite-UnionD[OF less(2)]
    note finite-shF = finite-shattered-by[OF less(2)]
   show ?case
    proof (cases 2 \leq card F)
       \mathbf{case} \ \mathit{True}
       from obtain-difference-element[OF\ True] obtain x::'a where x\text{-}in\text{-}Union\text{-}F:
x \in \bigcup F and x-not-in-Int-F: x \notin \bigcap F by blast
         Define F0 as the subfamily of F containing those sets that don't contain
x
       let ?F0 = \{S \in F. \ x \notin S\}
       from x-in-Union-F have F0-psubset-F: ?F0 \subset F by blast
       from F0-psubset-F have F0-in-F: ?F0 \subseteq F by blast
       from subset-shattered-by [OF F0-in-F] have shF0-subset-shF: shattered-by ?F0
\subseteq shattered-by F.
       from F0-in-F have Un-F0-in-Un-F:\bigcup ?F0 \subseteq \bigcup F by blast
         F0 shatters at least as many sets as |F0| by the induction hypothesis
     \textbf{note} \ \textit{IH-F0} = less(1) [\textit{OF psubset-card-mono}[\textit{OF finite-F F0-psubset-F}] \ rev-finite-subset}[\textit{OF}]
less(2) Un-F0-in-Un-F
         Define F1 as the subfamily of F containing those sets that contain x
       let ?F1 = \{S \in F. \ x \in S\}
       from x-not-in-Int-F have F1-psubset-F: ?F1 \subset F by blast
       from F1-psubset-F have F1-in-F: ?F1 \subseteq F by blast
       from subset-shattered-by[OF F1-in-F] have shF1-subset-shF: shattered-by ?F1
\subseteq shattered-by F.
       from F1-in-F have Un-F1-in-Un-F:\bigcup ?F1 \subseteq \bigcup F by blast
         F1 shatters at least as many sets as |F1| by the induction hypothesis
     \textbf{note} \ \textit{IH-F1} = less(1)[\textit{OF} \ psubset-card-mono[\textit{OF} \ finite-F \ F1-psubset-F] \ rev-finite-subset[\textit{OF} \ finite-F \ f1-psubset-F] \ rev-finite-subset[\textit{OF} \ f1-psubset-F] \ rev-finite-
less(2) Un-F1-in-Un-F
           {f from}\ shF0-subset-shF shF1-subset-shF {f have}\ shattered-subset: (shattered-by
 (?F0) \cup (shattered-by ?F1) \subseteq shattered-by F  by simp
```

There is a set with the same cardinality as the intersection of shattered-by  $\{S \in F. \ x \notin S\}$  and shattered-by  $\{S \in F. \ x \in S\}$  which is disjoint from their union, which is also contained in shattered-by F.

```
have f-copies-the-intersection:
     \exists f. inj\text{-}on f (shattered\text{-}by ?F0 \cap shattered\text{-}by ?F1) \land
     (shattered-by\ ?F0 \cup shattered-by\ ?F1) \cap (f \cdot (shattered-by\ ?F0 \cap shattered-by))
     f '(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) \subseteq shattered-by F
   \mathbf{proof}
     have x-not-in-shattered: \forall S \in (shattered-by ?F0) \cup (shattered-by ?F1). x \notin S
unfolding shattered-by-def by blast
    This set is precisely the image of the intersection under insert x.
     let ?f = insert x
     have 0: inj\text{-}on ?f (shattered\text{-}by ?F0 \cap shattered\text{-}by ?F1)
     proof
      \mathbf{fix} \ X \ Y
         assume x\theta: X \in (shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) and y\theta: Y \in
(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1)
             and \theta: ?f X = ?f Y
       from x-not-in-shattered x0 have X = ?f X - \{x\} by blast
      also from \theta have ... = ?f Y - \{x\} by argo
      also from x-not-in-shattered y0 have ... = Y by blast
      finally show X = Y.
     qed
    The set is disjoint from the union.
      have 1: (shattered-by ?F0 \cup shattered-by ?F1) \cap ?f ' (shattered-by ?F0 \cap f)
shattered-by ?F1) = \{\}
     proof (rule ccontr)
       assume (shattered-by ?F0 \cup shattered-by ?F1) \cap ?f ' (shattered-by ?F0 \cap 
shattered-by ?F1) \neq \{\}
      then obtain S where 10: S \in (shattered-by ?F0 \cup shattered-by ?F1) and
11: S \in ?f '(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) by auto
      from 10 x-not-in-shattered have x \notin S by blast
      with 11 show False by blast
     qed
    This set is also in shattered-by F.
     have 2: ?f '(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) \subseteq shattered-by F
     proof
      \mathbf{fix} \ S-x
      assume S-x \in ?f ' (shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1)
      then obtain S where 20: S \in shattered-by ?F0 and 21: S \in shattered-by
?F1 and 22: S-x = ?fS by blast
      from x-not-in-shattered 20 have x-not-in-S: x \notin S by blast
      from 22 Pow-insert[of x S] have Pow S-x = Pow S \cup ?f 'Pow S by fast
```

```
also from 20 have ... = (?F0 \cap *S) \cup (?f \land Pow S) unfolding shat-
tered-by-def by blast
        also from 21 have ... = (?F0 \cap *S) \cup (?f \cdot (?F1 \cap *S)) unfolding
shattered-by-def by force
       also from insert-IntF[of x S ?F1] have ... = (?F0 \cap *S) \cup (?f \cdot ?F1 \cap *S)
(?fS)) by argo
      also from 22 have ... = (?F0 \cap *S) \cup (?F1 \cap *S-x) by blast
      also from 22 have ... = (?F0 \cap *S-x) \cup (?F1 \cap *S-x) by blast
      also from subset-IntF[OF F0-in-F, of S-x] subset-IntF[OF F1-in-F, of S-x]
have ... \subseteq (F \cap * S - x) by blast
      finally have Pow S-x \subseteq (F \cap *S-x).
      thus S-x \in shattered-by F unfolding shattered-by-def by blast
     qed
     from 0 1 2 show inj-on ?f (shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) \land
     (shattered-by\ ?F0 \cup shattered-by\ ?F1) \cap (?f\ `(shattered-by\ ?F0 \cap shattered-by\ ?F0)
(F1) = \{\} \land
       ?f '(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) \subseteq shattered-by F by blast
   qed
   have F0-union-F1-is-F: ?F0 \cup ?F1 = F by fastforce
  from finite-F have finite-F0: finite ?F0 and finite-F1: finite ?F1 by fastforce+
   have disjoint-F0-F1: ?F0 \cap ?F1 = \{\} by fastforce
   Thus we have the following lower bound on the cardinality of shattered-by
F
   from F0-union-F1-is-F card-Un-disjoint[OF finite-F0 finite-F1 disjoint-F0-F1]
   have card F = card ?F0 + card ?F1 by argo
   also from IH-F0
   have ... \leq card (shattered-by ?F0) + card ?F1 by linarith
   also from IH-F1
   have ... \leq card \ (shattered-by \ ?F0) + card \ (shattered-by \ ?F1) by linarith
  also from card-Int-copy[OF finite-shF shattered-subset f-copies-the-intersection]
   have ... \leq card \ (shattered-by \ F) by argo
   finally show ?thesis.
 next
   If F contains less than 2 sets, the statement follows trivially
   hence card F = 0 \lor card F = 1 by force
   thus ?thesis
   proof
     assume card F = 0
     thus ?thesis by auto
   next
     assume asm: card F = 1
     hence F-not-empty: F \neq \{\} by fastforce
    from shatters-empty[OF\ F-not-empty] have \{\{\}\}\subseteq shattered-by\ F unfolding
shattered-by-def by fastforce
```

#### 5.2 Sauer-Shelah Lemma

```
corollary sauer-shelah:
        fixes F :: 'a \ set \ set
       assumes finite (\bigcup F) and (\sum i \le k. card (\bigcup F) choose i) < card F
       shows \exists S. (F \text{ shatters } S \land \text{ card } S = k+1)
       let ?K = \{S. \ S \subseteq \bigcup F \land card \ S \le k\}
        from finite-Pow-iff [of \ F] assms(1) have finite-Pow-Un: finite (Pow (\bigcup F)) by
fast
        from sauer-shelah-0[OF\ assms(1)]\ assms(2)\ \mathbf{have}\ (\sum i \leq k.\ card\ (\bigcup F)\ choose
i) < card (shattered-by F) by linarith
       with choose-row-sum-set [OF\ assms(1),\ of\ k] have card\ ?K < card\ (shattered-by
F) by presburger
        from finite-diff-not-empty[OF finite-subset[OF - finite-Pow-Un] this]
       obtain S where S \in shattered-by F - ?K by blast
        then have F-shatters-S: F shatters S and S \subseteq \bigcup F and \neg (S \subseteq \bigcup F \land card\ S)
\leq k) unfolding shattered-by-def by blast+
        then have card-S-ge-Suc-k: k + 1 \le card S by simp
       from obtain-subset-with-card-n[OF card-S-ge-Suc-k] obtain S' where card S' = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left
k+1 and S'\subseteq S by blast
       from this(1) supset-shatters[OF this(2) F-shatters-S] show ?thesis by blast
qed
```

### 5.3 Sauer-Shelah Lemma for hypergraphs

```
corollary sauer-shelah-2:

fixes X :: 'a set set and S :: 'a set

assumes finite S and X \subseteq Pow S and (\sum i \le k. \ card \ S \ choose \ i) < card \ X

shows \exists \ Y. \ (X \ shatters \ Y \land \ card \ Y = k + 1)

proof -

from assms(2) have \theta: \bigcup X \subseteq S by blast

from sum-mono[OF \ choose-mono[OF \ card-mono[OF \ assms(1) \ \theta]]] have (\sum i \le k. \ card \ (\bigcup X) \ choose \ i) \le (\sum i \le k. \ card \ S \ choose \ i) by fast

with sauer-shelah[OF \ finite-subset[OF \ \theta \ assms(1)]] assms(3) show ?thesis by simp

qed
```

### 5.4 Alternative statement of the Sauer-Shelah Lemma

```
corollary sauer-shelah-alt:

assumes finite (\bigcup F) and VC-dim F = k

shows card \ F \le (\sum i \le k. \ card \ (\bigcup F) \ choose \ i)
```

```
proof (rule ccontr)
assume ¬ card F ≤ (∑ i≤k. card (∪ F) choose i) hence (∑ i≤k. card (∪ F) choose i) < card F by linarith
from sauer-shelah[OF assms(1) this] obtain S where F shatters S and card S
= k + 1 by blast
from this(1) this(2)[symmetric] have k + 1 \in \{card \ S \mid S. \ F \ shatters \ S\} by
blast
from cSup-upper[OF this bdd-above-finite[OF finite-image-set[OF finite-shattered-by[unfolded shattered-by-def, OF assms(1)]]], folded VC-dim-def]
assms(2) show False by force
qed
end
```

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