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 the standard version of the Sauer-Shelah Lemma.

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1 Definitions and lemmas about shattering

theory Shattering imports Main begin

1.1 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}	ext{-}\mathit{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)
 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
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 A\theta: 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
\mathbf{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 \theta: yh \in H and \theta: 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
   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
1.2
       Definition of shattering
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-dim :: 'a \ set \ set \Rightarrow nat
  where VC-dim F = Sup \{ card S \mid S. F 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 ( | | | 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 \theta: 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)
 using assms rev-finite-subset[OF - shattered-by-in-Pow, of F] by 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)
proof -
 let ?F = \{odd - `\{True\}, odd - `\{False\}\}\
 have 0: 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
 proof -
   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
     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

theory Card-Lemmas

2 Lemmas involving the cardinality of sets

```
imports Main
begin
lemma card-diff:
 assumes finite A
 shows card A = card (A - B) + card (A \cap B)
proof -
 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) = \{\}
by blast+
 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]
 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: (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\text{-}image[\mathit{OF}\ f\text{-}inj\text{-}on] have \ldots = \mathit{card}\ (A\cup B) + \mathit{card}\ (f\ `(A\cap B))
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\ `(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-ge-\theta:
 assumes A \neq \{\} and finite A
 shows \theta < card A
proof -
 \mathbf{from}\ \mathit{assms}(1)\ \mathbf{have}\ \{\} \subset A\ \mathbf{by}\ \mathit{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 simp
 from card-mono[OF assms(1) this] assms(2) show False by linarith
qed
lemma obtain-difference-element:
 fixes F :: 'a \ set \ set
 assumes 2 \le card F
 obtains x where x \in \bigcup F x \notin \bigcap F
proof -
 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-noteq-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
```

3 Lemmas involving the binomial coefficient

```
theory Binomial\text{-}Lemmas imports Main begin lemma choose\text{-}mono: assumes x \leq y shows x choose n \leq y choose n proof - have finite \{0..<y\} by blast with finite\text{-}Pow\text{-}iff[of <math>\{0..<y\}] have 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\text{-}Asm \subseteq Pow (\bigcup F) and ?F\text{-}Step \subseteq Pow (\bigcup F) by fast+
  with rev-finite-subset[OF finite-Pow-Un-F] have finite-F-Asm: finite ?F-Asm
and finite-F-Step: finite ?F-Step by 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
```

4 Sauer-Shelah Lemma

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

4.1 Generalized Sauer-Shelah Lemma

```
lemma sauer-shelah-\theta:
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 \le card F)
   case 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
Х
   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: \ \ ?F0 \subseteq \ \ \ \ 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} \ psubset-F] } ]
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: \bigcirc ?F1 \subseteq \bigcirc \bigcirc F by blast
    F1 shatters at least as many sets as |F1| by the induction hypothesis
  note IH-F1 = less(1)[OF\ psubset-card-mono[OF\ finite-F\ F1-psubset-F]\ rev-finite-subset[OF\ finite-F]
less(2) Un-F1-in-Un-F
     from shF0-subset-shF shF1-subset-shF 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`(shattered-by\ ?F0 \cap shattered-by
(F1) = \{\} \land
      f '(shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-by ?F1) \subseteq shattered-by F
   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-on ?f (shattered-by ?F0 \cap shattered-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 y\theta 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 ?F0)
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
      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 \text{ and } 22: S-x = ?f S \text{ 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 \cdot 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) \wedge
     (shattered-by\ ?F0 \cup shattered-by\ ?F1) \cap (?f`(shattered-by\ ?F0 \cap shattered-by
(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
   case False
   hence card F = 0 \vee 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
     from card-mono[OF finite-shF this] asm show ?thesis by fastforce
   qed
 qed
qed
4.2
       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 shatters S \land card S = k + 1)
proof -
```

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

4.3 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
```

4.4 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 \neg \ card \ F \le (\sum i \le k. \ card \ (\bigcup F) \ choose \ i) hence (\sum i \le k. \ card \ (\bigcup 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[OF \ show \ False \ by \ force
```

 \mathbf{end}