

Set Theory

Definition (Sample Space). *The set S , of all possible outcomes of a particular experiment is called the **sample space** for the experiment.*

Notation: Sample Space = $S = \Omega$

Example: Single coin flip. $S = \{H, T\}$

Definition (Event). *An **event** is any collection of possible outcomes of an experiment. That is, any possible subset of S (including S itself).*

Example: An experiment where a coin is flipped two times consecutively.

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

Let $A = \text{First flip is heads} = \{HH, HT\}$

Elementary Set Operations

Definition (Union). *The **union** of A and B are the set of elements that belong to either A OR B .*

Notation: $A \cup B$

$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$

Definition (Intersection). *The **intersection** of A and B are the set of elements that belong to both A AND B .*

Notation: $A \cap B$

$A \cap B = \{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$

Definition (Complement). *The **complement** of A is the set of all elements not in A .*

Notation: A^c

$A^c = \{x : x \notin A\}$

Theorem. 1.1.4: *Useful Set Properties*

For any events A, B, C , defined on a sample space S .

Commutativity:

$$A \cup B = B \cup A$$

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$

Associativity:

$$A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$$

$$A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$$

Distributive Laws:

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

DeMorgan's Laws:

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C$$

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$$

Definition (Disjoint, Pairwise Disjoint). *Two events A and B are disjoint or mutually exclusive if $A \cap B = \emptyset$. The events A_1, A_2, \dots are pairwise disjoint if $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset \forall i \neq j$*

Definition (Partition). *If A_1, A_2, \dots are pairwise disjoint and $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = S$ then the collection A_1, A_2, \dots forms a partition of S .*

Probability Theory

Definition (Sigma Algebra). *A collection of subsets of S is called a sigma algebra (or Borel field), denoted by β , if it satisfies the following three properties:*

1. $\emptyset \in \beta$
2. If $A \in \beta$ then $A^c \in \beta$ (β is closed under complementation).
3. If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \beta$ then $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \beta$ (β is closed under countable unions).