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gale

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Defines	supergale
Defines	gale
Defines	supermartingale
Defines	succeed
Defines	succeed strongly
Defines	success set
Defines	strong success set

Let ν be a probability measure on Cantor space \mathbf{C} , and let $s \in [0, \infty)$.

1. A ν - s -*supergale* is a function $d : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ that satisfies the condition

$$d(w)\nu(w)^s \geq d(w0)\nu(w0)^s + d(w1)\nu(w1)^s \quad (1)$$

for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, the set of all finite strings of 0's and 1's (including e , the empty string).

2. A ν - s -*gale* is a ν - s -*supergale* that satisfies the condition with equality for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$.
3. A ν -*supermartingale* is a ν -1-supergale.
4. A ν -*martingale* is a ν -1-gale.
5. An s -*supergale* is a μ - s -supergale, where μ is the uniform probability measure.
6. An s -*gale* is a μ - s -gale.
7. A *supermartingale* is a 1-supergale.
8. A *martingale* is a 1-gale.

Put in another way, a martingale is a function $d : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that, for all $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, $d(w) = (d(w0) + d(w1))/2$.

Let d be a ν - s -*supergale*, where ν is a probability measure on \mathbf{C} and $s \in [0, \infty)$. We say that d *succeeds* on a sequence $S \in \mathbf{C}$ if

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(S[0..n-1]) = \infty.$$

The *success set* of d is $S^\infty[d] = \{S \in \mathbf{C} \mid d \text{ succeeds on } S\}$. d succeeds on a language $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$ if d succeeds on the characteristic sequence χ_A of A . We say that d *succeeds strongly* on a sequence $S \in \mathbf{C}$ if

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(S[0..n-1]) = \infty.$$

The *strong success set* of d is $S_{\text{str}}^\infty[d] = \{S \in \mathbf{C} \mid d \text{ succeeds strongly on } S\}$.

Intuitively, a supergale d is a betting strategy that bets on the next bit of a sequence when the previous bits are known. s is the parameter that tunes

the fairness of the betting. The smaller s is, the less fair the betting is. If d succeeds on a sequence, then the bonus we can get from applying d as the betting strategy on the sequence is unbounded. If d succeeds strongly on a sequence, then the bonus goes to infinity.