

# STT 861 Compendium

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## Definitions

**Def** A **random experiment** is an action which will result in one of the many possible outcomes.

**Def** A **sample space** is the collection of all possible outcomes of a random experiment. We shall denote by **S**.

**Def** An **Event** is a subset of sample space **S** for which we can define probability.

**Def** Suppose A and B are two sets.  $A \subset B$  (A is a **subset** of B) if  $x \in A$  implies  $x \in B$ . If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$  then  $A = B$ .

**Def** A set is called an empty set (or **null set**) if it contains no elements.

Notation:  $\{\emptyset\}$

Convention:  $\emptyset \subset A$ , for any set A

Corrolary:  $\forall A, \emptyset \subset A \subset \mathbf{S}$

**Def Complement**  $A^c$  is the set such that  $x \in A^c \Rightarrow x \notin A$ .

In other words,  $A^c = \{x : x \notin A\}$

Notation:  $A^c$  or  $A'$  or  $\bar{A}$

**Def Intersection** A, B are two events.

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

**Def Union** A, B are two events.

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

**Def** A and B are **disjoint** if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

## Properties of set theory

### **Commutative**

$A \cup B = B \cup A$  and  $A \cap B = B \cap A$

### **Associative**

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

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

### **Distributive**

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

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

### **De Morgan's Law**

$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$

$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$

### **Def Set Difference**

$A \setminus B = \{x : x \in A, \text{ but } x \notin B\}$

### **Def Symmetric Difference**

$A \triangle B = \{x : x \in A \setminus B, \text{ or } x \in B \setminus A\}$

**Def** A set A is **finite** if there exists a 1-1 fn  $A \mapsto \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

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**Def** A set  $A$  is **countably infinite** if there exists a one-to-one function from  $A \mapsto \mathbb{N}$ .

**Def** A set is called **countable** if it is either finite or countably infinite.

**Def**  $\mathcal{A}$  is a collection of subsets of  $\mathbf{S}[\neq \emptyset]$  satisfying:

- i)  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{A}$
- ii) if  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $A^c \in \mathcal{A}$
- iii) if  $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{A}$  then  $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{A}$

We call  $\mathcal{A}$  a  $\sigma$  - algebra (or  $\sigma$  - field)

Any domain should be a  $\sigma$  - field

**Def**  $(\mathbf{S}, \mathcal{A}, P)$  is a (probability) measure space

**Def** Given sample space  $\mathbf{S}(\neq \emptyset)$ , and the measurable space  $(\mathbf{S}, \mathcal{A})$

A function  $P : \mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is called probability if it satisfies:

- a.  $P(A) \geq 0$  for any  $A \in \mathcal{A}$
- b.  $P(\mathbf{S}) = 1$
- c. if  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are disjoint sets from  $\mathcal{A}$ , then  $P(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$

**Def** A collection of sets  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots\}$  is called a **partition** of event  $A$  if:

- i)  $E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset, \forall i \neq j$  (*pairwise disjoint*)
- ii)  $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i = A$  (*exhaustive*)

**Def** A sequence of events  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots\}$  is **increasing to event**  $A$  if:

- $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$
- and  $A = \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$
- Notation:  $A_n \uparrow A$

**Def** Similarly,  $B_n \downarrow B$  if  $B_1 \supset B_2 \supset \dots$  and  $B = \cap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$

**Def** Counting Methods

	WOR	WR
Ordered	$\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$	$n^r$
Unordered	$\frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} = \binom{n}{r}$	$\binom{n+r-1}{r}$

## Results

- a.  $(A^c)^c = A$
- b.  $\mathbf{S}^c = \emptyset$
- c.  $\emptyset^c = \mathbf{S}$
- d. if  $A \subset B$ , then  $B^c \subset A^c$

**Remark** Proving Distributive Property:

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

**Proof.** Prove left direction:

$$\begin{aligned} x \in (A \cup B) \cap C &\Rightarrow x \in A \cup B \text{ and } x \in C \\ &\Rightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B) \text{ and } x \in C \\ &\Rightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } x \in C) \text{ or } (x \in B \text{ and } x \in C) \text{ or both} \\ &\Rightarrow x \in A \cap C \text{ or } x \in B \cap C \text{ or both} \\ &\Rightarrow x \in (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C) \end{aligned}$$

Right direction is reverse of above.

- a.  $A \cap B \subset A$  and  $A \cap B \subset B$
- b.  $A \cap A = A$
- c. if  $A \subset B$  then  $A \cap B = A$
- d.  $A \subset A \cup B$  and  $B \subset A \cup B$
- e.  $A \cup A = A$
- f. if  $A \subset B$  then  $A \cup B = B$
- g.  $A \cup A^c = \mathbf{S}$  and  $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$
- h. if  $A \subset C$  and  $B \subset C$  then  $A \cap B \subset A \cup B \subset C$
- i.  $\emptyset$  is disjoint to all events
- j. if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  then  $A \subset B^c$  and  $B \subset A^c$
- k. if  $A \subset B$ , then  $B^c \subset A^c$
- l.  $A \setminus B = A \cap B^c$  and  $B \setminus A = A^c \cap B$
- m.  $A \triangle B = (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$

**Remark** Consider  $\mathbf{S} = \{H, T\}$  and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{S}) = \{\emptyset, \{H\}, \{T\}, \mathbf{S}\}$

If  $\mathbf{S}$  is countable, we can take  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{S})$  as the domain for probability function  $P$ .

However, if  $\mathbf{S}$  is uncountable, then  $\mathbf{S}$  is too large, and it is not possible to define a function for  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{S})$

**Remark Desired Properties of  $P(\cdot)$**

- a.  $P(\emptyset) = 0$
- b. If  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint then  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$
- c.  $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$
- d. If  $A \subset B$  then  $P(A) \leq P(B)$
- e.  $P(A) \leq 1$

**Remark** Partition  $\{E_1, \dots, E_n\}$  is a finite partition

**Remark** For  $\mathbf{S}$ ,  $\{A, A^c\}$  is a partition

**Remark** If  $E_n : n \geq 1$  is a partition of  $A$ , then  $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(E_i)$

- a. Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are two events. Then  $\{A \cap B, A^c \cap B\}$  is a partition of  $B$ . Also,  $P(A^c \cap B) = P(B) - P(A \cap B)$

**Proof.**  $(A \cap B) \cap (A^c \cap B) = (A \cap A^c) \cap (B \cap B) = \emptyset$  (*pairwise disjoint*)  
 $(A \cap B) \cup (A^c \cap B) = (A \cup A^c) \cap B = B$  (*exhaustive*)

- b.  $A$  and  $B$  are two events.  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$   
(This is the generalized version of b))

- c. if  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots\}$  is a partition of  $\mathbf{S}$ , then  
 $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i)$

- d. **Boole's Inequality**  
 $P(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$

- e. **Bonferroni's Inequality**  
 $P(\cap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i^c)$

**Remark** Proving Bonferroni from Boole:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i^c) &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i^c) \\ 1 - P(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i^c) &\geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i^c) \\ &= P[(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i^c)^c] \geq \dots \\ &= P[\cap_{i=1}^{\infty} (A_i^c)^c] \geq \dots \\ &= P(\cap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \geq 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i^c) \end{aligned}$$

a. If  $A_n \uparrow A$ , then  $P(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$

b. If  $B_n \downarrow B$  then  $P(B) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(B_n)$

**Remark** Suppose for some set  $A$ ,  $P(A) = 1$  Does this imply  $A = S$ ?

Does  $P(B) = 0$  imply  $B \neq \emptyset$ ?

Does  $P(A \cap B) = 0$  imply  $A, B$  are disjoint?

Not necessarily for all above!