

Defn: An experiment is a process that leads to one of several possible outcomes.

Stat 561  
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①

Defn: The sample space ( $S$ ) is the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment.

Defn: An event is a subset of  $S$

$C$  : subset

$\cap$  : intersection

$\cup$  : union

$A^c$  : complement of  $A$   
 $\phi = \{\}$  : empty set

Defn: Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint or mutually exclusive if  $A \cap B = \phi$

②

Defn: Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a subset of all possible subsets of  $S$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a Borel field or a  $\sigma$ -algebra if

(1)  $\phi \in \mathcal{B}$

(2) If  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  then  $A^c \in \mathcal{B}$

(3) If  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots\} \subset \mathcal{B}$  then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$

Defn: Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a Borel field. Then

$P$  is a probability set function if

- (1)  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}, P(A) \geq 0$
- (2)  $P(S) = 1$
- (3) If  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  are pairwise disjoint,  
then  $P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$

Kolmogorov properties

Example: Roll a 6-sided die

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{B} = \{\emptyset, S, \{1, 2\}, \{3, 4, 5, 6\}\}$$

this is a well-defined Borel field

$$\text{Define } P_1(A) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 2 \in A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This is a well-defined probability function

$$\text{Define } P_2(A) = \frac{\text{\# elements in } A}{6}$$

This is also a well-defined probability function

Theorem:  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}, P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$

(5)

Pf:  $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$

$$A \cup A^c = S$$

$$P(A \cup A^c) = P(A) + P(A^c) \quad [\text{by K-3}]$$

$$\text{"}$$
$$P(S) = 1$$

[by K-2]

Theorem:  $P(\emptyset) = 0$

Pf:  $\emptyset \cap S = \emptyset$   
 $\emptyset \cup S = S$

$$P(\emptyset \cup S) = P(\emptyset) + \underbrace{P(S)}_1$$
$$\text{"}$$
$$P(S) = 1$$

Theorem: Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be elements of  $\mathcal{B}$   
with  $A_1 \subset A_2$ . Then  $P(A_1) \leq P(A_2)$

(6)

Pf: Let  $A_1 \subset A_2$

$$\text{Write } A_2 = A_1 \cup (A_2 \cap A_1^c)$$

$$\text{Also, } A_1 \cap (A_2 \cap A_1^c) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{So } P(A_2) = P(A_1) + \underbrace{P(A_2 \cap A_1^c)}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\therefore P(A_2) \geq P(A_1)$$



