

Text: B. 2.1

1.1 sets : covered in cse 16.
read this

1.2 Probability models:

A Probability model consists of

(1) A set Ω called sample space,
elements $\omega \in \Omega$ are the
outcomes of some experiment.
A subset $A \subseteq \Omega$ is called
an event.

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12) A Probability Law P that

assigns to an event $A \subseteq \Omega$,
a real number $P(A)$, called the
Probability of A .

Axioms

(i) $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \subseteq \Omega$

(ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$

(iii) if $A, B \subseteq \Omega$ are disjoint
($A \cap B = \emptyset$), then

(additivity) $\bullet P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$

more generally, if $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$
is a sequence of (pairwise disjoint)
then

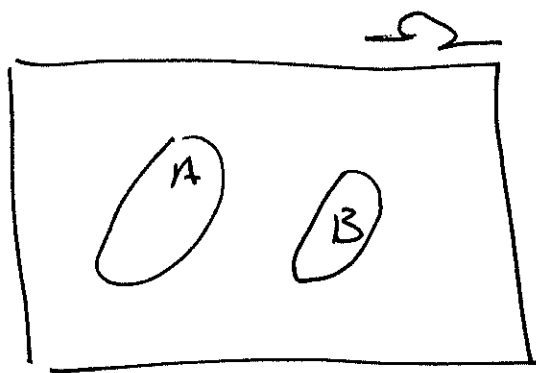
(countable additivity)

(3)

$$\bullet P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots)$$

$$= P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(A_3) + \dots$$

Pictures:



$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

$$A \cap B = \emptyset$$

Ex: flip a fair coin.

$$\Omega = \{H, T\}$$

Events: $\{H, T\}, \underbrace{\{H\}}, \underbrace{\{T\}}, \emptyset$

shorthand

$\uparrow$
H

$\uparrow$
T

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note $\Omega = \{H\} \cup \{T\}$, $\{H\} \cap \{T\} = \emptyset$

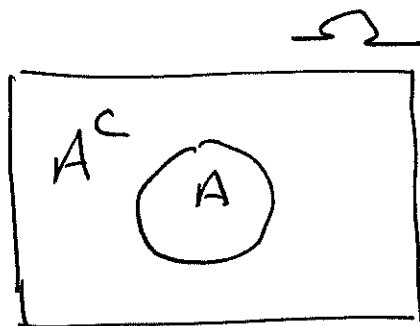
$$\text{so } 1 = P(\Omega) = P(H) + P(T).$$

fair means $P(H) = P(T)$, so

$$\therefore P(H) = P(T) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

In general, if $A \subseteq \Omega$, then

$$A \cap A^c = \emptyset \text{ and } A \cup A^c = \Omega$$



$$\therefore \boxed{P(A) + P(A^c) = 1} \text{ hence}$$

$$P(A) \leq 1. \quad \text{Thus}$$

$$0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$$

Evidently $P(\cdot)$ is a function

$$P : \underbrace{P(\Omega)}_{\substack{\text{Power set} \\ \text{of } \Omega}} \longrightarrow [0, 1]$$

Let $\Omega = A$ in last equation,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } 1 &= P(\Omega) \\ &= P(\Omega \cup \Omega^c) \\ &= P(\Omega \cup \emptyset) \\ &= P(\Omega) + P(\emptyset) \\ &= 1 + P(\emptyset) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore P(\emptyset) = 0.$$

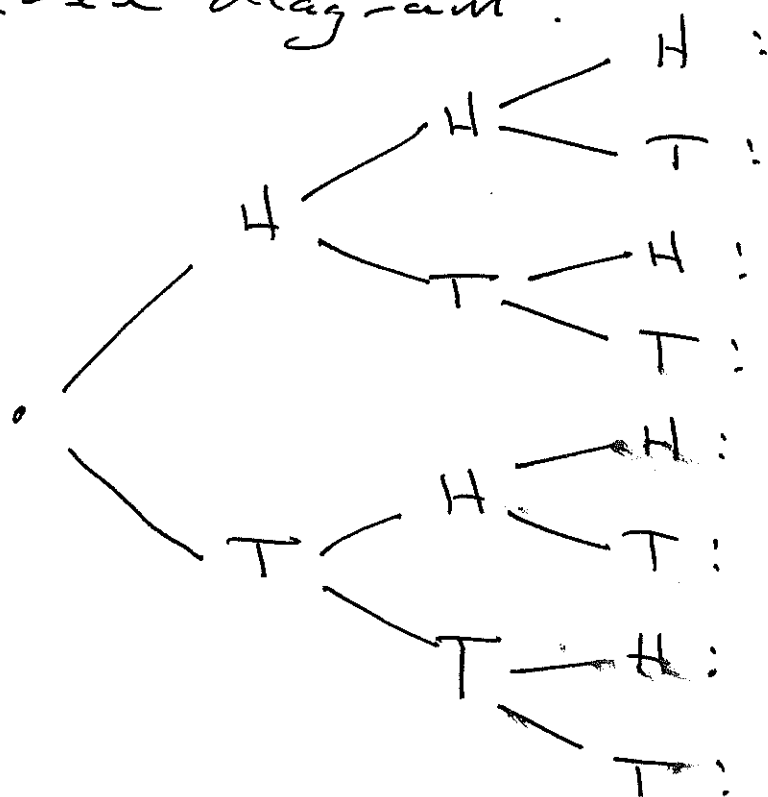
back to example

events: $\{H, T\}, H, T, \emptyset$

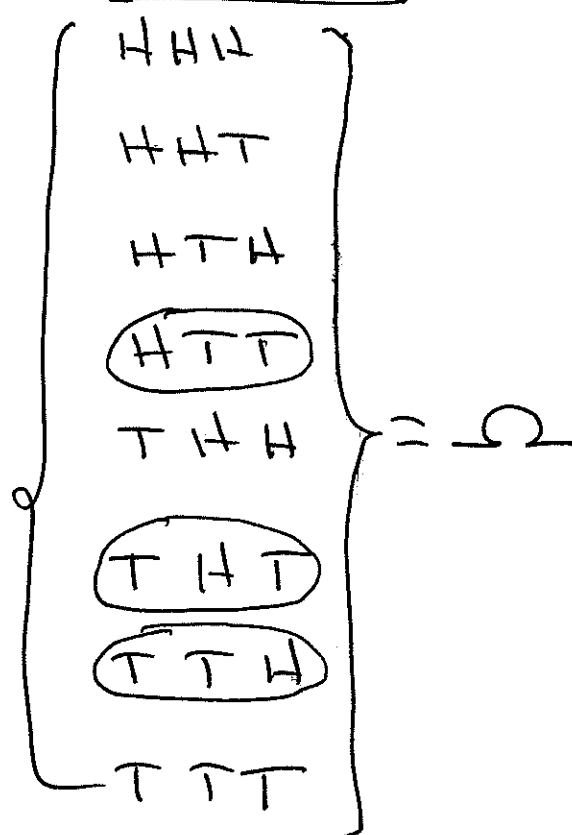
Prob. : $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$

Ex. flip 3 fair coins

tree diagram:



outcomes



fair means all outcomes are equally likely.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{let } A &= \{\text{exactly one head}\} \\ &= \{HTT, THT, TTH\} \\ &= \{HTT\} \cup \{THT\} \cup \{TTH\}\end{aligned}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$$

Discrete Probability law

if Ω is finite, then $P(\cdot)$ is specified by probabilities of singletons:

$$P(\omega) \text{ for all } \omega \in \Omega.$$

so if $A = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n\}$

then

$$P(A) = P(\omega_1) + P(\omega_2) + \dots + P(\omega_n)$$

Discrete uniform law

if in addition all outcomes
are equally likely, then

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|}$$