

1.1 Sets

Read this.

1.2 Probabilistic Models

A Probability Model consists of

(1) A set Ω , called sample space.

The elements $w \in \Omega$ are called outcomes.

A subset $A \subseteq \Omega$ is called an event.

(2) A probability law $P(A)$

that assigns a real number to every event, called the probability of A .

Axioms for $P()$

- (i) $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \subseteq \Omega$
- (ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$

(iii) Additivity

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

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

- if $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \subseteq \Omega$ is
a finite sequence of pairwise
disjoint events ($A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$),
then

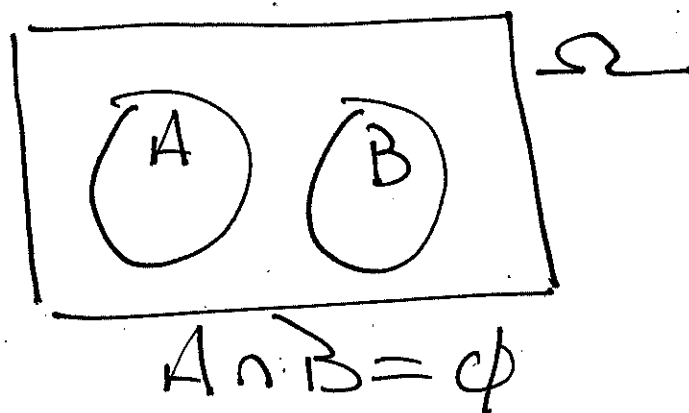
$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots + P(A_n)$$

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$$

• if $A_1, A_2, \dots$ is an infinite sequence of pairwise disjoint events ($A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$), then

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

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$



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

Ex. flip a fair coin

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

note: $\{H\} = H$, $\{T\} = T$

since $\Omega = \{H\} \cup \{T\}$ and

$\{H\} \cap \{T\} = \emptyset$, axioms (iii), (ii)

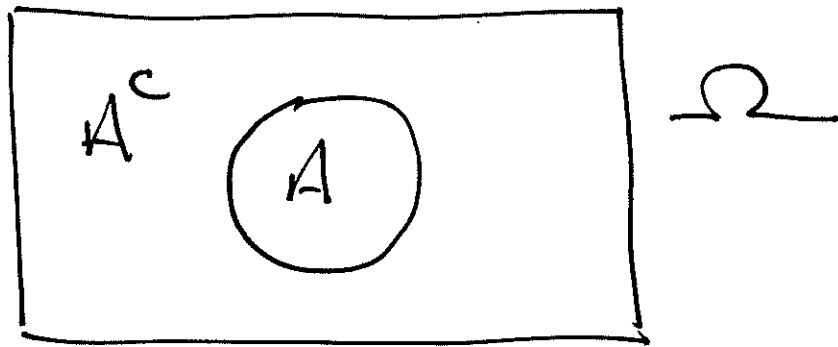
give

$$1 = P(\Omega) = P(H) + P(T)$$

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

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

In General! , if $A \subseteq \Omega$,
 then $A \cup A^c = \Omega$ and
 $A \cap A^c = \phi$



$$\therefore 1 = P(\Omega) = P(A) + P(A^c)$$

Hence $P(A) \leq 1$ for any $A \subseteq \Omega$

Thus

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

□

Also $P(A) + P(A^c) = 1$ gives

$$P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$$

and

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$$

Evidently $P(\cdot)$ is a function

$$P: \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\Omega)}_{\text{set of all subsets of } \Omega} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

Also

$$1 = \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$$

$$= \mathcal{P}(\Omega \cup \Omega^c)$$

$$= \mathcal{P}(\Omega \cup \emptyset)$$

$$= \mathcal{P}(\Omega) + \mathcal{P}(\emptyset)$$

$$= 1 + \mathcal{P}(\emptyset)$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{P}(\emptyset) = 0$$

Previous example: $\Omega = \{H, T\}$

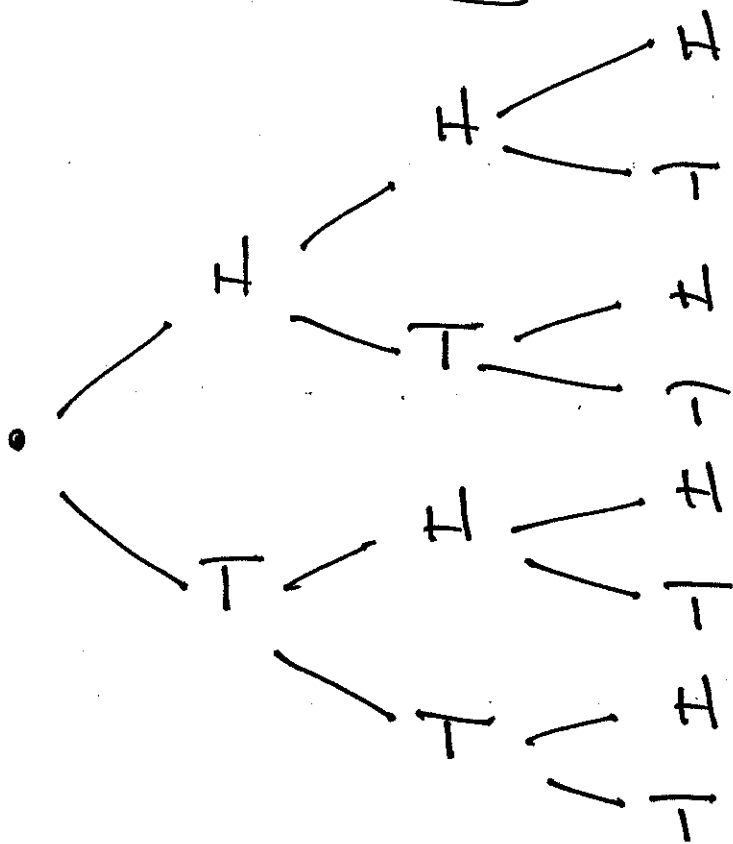
Events: $\Omega, \{H\}, \{T\}, \emptyset$

Probabilities: $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$

Ex. flip 3 times

$\Omega = \{HHH, HH\bar{T}, H\bar{T}H, H\bar{T}\bar{T}, \bar{T}HH, \bar{T}H\bar{T}, \bar{T}\bar{T}H, \bar{T}\bar{T}\bar{T}\}$

Tree diagram



Outcomes

HHHH

.

.

HTHH

.

.

TTT

Prob.

$\frac{1}{8}$

.

.

$\frac{1}{8}$

.

.

$\frac{1}{8}$