

Tom Lindström, lindstro@math.uio.no, B1010, 22855896

Parallel:

Wednesday: 2 lectures

Thursday: 1 lecture + 1 problems

Prereq: Calculus + lin. alg. | MAT 1100 + 1110 + 1120 |  
Prereq: Prob. STK 1100

Advantages: { STK 2130  
 MAT 2400  
 MAT 3400  
 ←

Prob. th. based on measure theory.

Recalling set theory

A set is a collection (finite or infinite) of mathematical objects.

$a \in A, a \notin A$

$A \subseteq B$  "a subset of B"

Boolean operations:

Union:  $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n = \{a : a \in A_i \text{ for at least one } i\}$

$\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n = \{a : a \in A_n \text{ for at least one } n\}$

Intersection:  $A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n = \{a : a \in A_i \text{ for all } i\}$

$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n = \{a : a \in A_n \text{ for all } n\}$



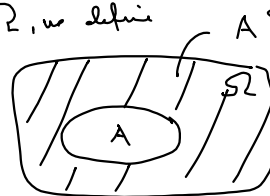
Set-theoretic difference:

$A \setminus B = \{a \in A : a \notin B\} = A \cap B^c$



Complement: Given a universe  $\Omega$ , we define

$A^c = \{x \in \Omega : x \notin A\}$



Distributive laws:

(i)  $A \cap (B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_n) = (A \cap B_1) \cup \dots \cup (A \cap B_n)$

$A \cap (\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (A \cap B_n)$

(ii)  $A \cup (B_1 \cap \dots \cap B_n) = (A \cup B_1) \cap \dots \cap (A \cup B_n)$

$A \cup (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (A \cup B_n)$

$a(b_1 + \dots + b_n) = ab_1 + \dots + ab_n$

De Morgan's Laws:

(i)  $(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n)^c = A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c$

$(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n)^c = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n^c$

(ii)  $(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n)^c = A_1^c \cup A_2^c \cup \dots \cup A_n^c$

$(\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n)^c = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (A_n^c)$

Proof: Assume  $x \in \Omega$ :

$x \in (\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n)^c \iff x \notin \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \iff \text{there is an } n \text{ s.t. } x \notin A_n$

$\iff \text{there is an } n \text{ s.t. } x \in A_n^c \iff x \in \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (A_n^c)$

## Probability Spaces

Fundamental question: What is probability?

Not going to answer!

Instead we shall make a mathematical framework that any coherent theory of prob. should satisfy.

Sample space:  $\Omega$  = the sample space = the collection of all possible outcomes.

Examples: (i) Flip one coin:  $\Omega = \{H, T\}$

(ii) Flip two coins:  $\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$

(iii) Throw a die:  $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$

two dice:  $\Omega = \{(1,1), (1,2), \dots, (6,6)\}$

(iv) Select a number in  $[0,1]$  at random:

$$\Omega = [0,1]$$

An event is a subset of the sample space:

Example: Two coins: Event: Get at least one H.  
 $A = \{HH, HT, TH\} \subseteq \Omega$ .

Warning: If the sample space is infinite, then are subsets of  $\Omega$  that are so complicated that we cannot give them a probability.

$\sigma$ -fields and  $\sigma$ -algebras

"Idea: single out the subsets of  $\Omega$  that we can assign a probability to."

Definition: Assume that  $\Omega$  is a nonempty set.

A  $\sigma$ -algebra /  $\sigma$ -field is a collection  $\mathcal{F}$  of subsets of  $\Omega$  such that:

(i)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$

(ii) If  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $A^c \in \mathcal{F}$ .

(iii) If  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $n$ , then  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}$ .

$A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n \cup \dots \cup \Omega$

Examples: (i)  $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$

(ii)  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  = all subsets of  $\Omega$ .

(iii) If  $\mathcal{A}$  is any collection of subsets of  $\Omega$ , then there is a smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  that contains. This  $\sigma$ -algebra is called the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathcal{A}$ .

(iv)  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$ , then the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathbb{R}$  is the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra containing all open intervals  $(a, b)$ .

Proposition: Assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\Omega$ .

Then

a)  $\Omega \in \mathcal{F}$

b) If  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $n$ , then  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}$ .

c) If  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $A \setminus B \in \mathcal{F}$

Proof (a)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F} \stackrel{(i)}{\Rightarrow} \Omega = \emptyset^c \in \mathcal{F}$

b) Since  $A_n \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A_n^c \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $n$

$= \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n^c \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n^c\right)^c \in \mathcal{F}$

$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (A_n^c)^c$

$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}$

c) Assume  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ , then

$A \setminus B = A \cap B^c \in \mathcal{F}$

$\uparrow$       $\uparrow$   
 $\mathcal{F}$      $\mathcal{F}$

$\sigma$ -algebra

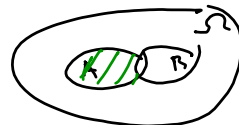
(i)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$

(ii)  $A \in \mathcal{F}$

$A^c \in \mathcal{F}$

(iii)  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$

$\bigcup A_n \in \mathcal{F}$



Probability measures

Assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\Omega$ . A probability measure  $P$  on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  is a function

$$P: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

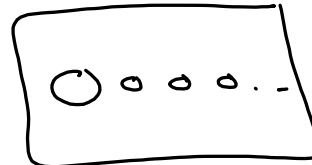
such that:

(i)  $P(\emptyset) = 0, P(\Omega) = 1$

(ii) If  $\{A_n\}$  is a disjoint sequence of sets in  $\mathcal{F}$ ,

then 
$$P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n)$$

Def: The triple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  is called a probability space.



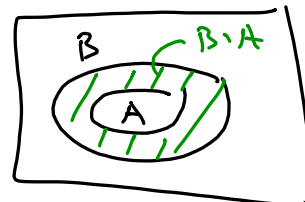
Proposition:  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ .

(i) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $P(A) \leq P(B)$ .

(ii) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $P(B \setminus A) = P(B) - P(A)$ . In particular,  $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$ .

(iii) If  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $n$ , then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} P(A_n)$$



Proof: (i) + (ii). Assume  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $B$  is the disjoint union of  $A$  and  $B \setminus A$ : hence

$$P(B) = P(A) + P(B \setminus A) \implies P(B) \geq P(A) \quad (i)$$

$$\implies P(B \setminus A) = P(B) - P(A) \quad (ii)$$

$$\text{Put } B = \Omega: P(A^c) = P(\Omega \setminus A) = P(\Omega) - P(A) = 1 - P(A)$$

(iii): Define  $B_1 = A_1, B_2 = A_2 \setminus A_1, B_3 = A_3 \setminus (A_1 \cup A_2)$

The  $B_n$  are disjoint and

$$\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \quad \text{Hence}$$

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n\right) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} P(B_n) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} P(A_n)$$



Theorem (Continuity of measure):

(i) Assume that  $\{A_n\}$  is an increasing sequence of elements in  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$$

(ii) Assume that  $\{A_n\}$  is a decreasing sequence of elements in  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then

$$P\left(\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$$

Proof: Let  $B_0 = A_0, B_1 = A_1 \setminus A_0$

$B_2 = A_2 \setminus A_1, \dots$  Then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(B_n) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N P(B_n)$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^N B_n\right) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} P(A_N).$$

