

This is the "final" version. Revisions to the 1/21/00 draft are marked with asterisks: \*\*\*.

1. Find a probability model for the experiment of problem 2-4, p. 73. (This was one of the cancelled parts of the previous assignment.)

The probability model consists of:

Variable name:  $\underline{N} = (N_1, N_2)$

Sample space: sample space

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

\*\*\* Probability law:  $P((i,j)) = \frac{1}{6i}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, 6$  and  $j = 1, \dots, i$

As mentioned in class, for a discrete-valued experiment like this, it is enough to list the probability of each individual outcome. The reason for this probability law is:

- (1) Probability of the event "first dice equals  $i$ " =  $\frac{1}{6} = P(\{(i,1), (i,2), \dots, (i,i)\})$
- (2) Each outcome within the set  $\{(i,1), (i,2), \dots, (i,i)\}$  has equal probability. Therefore  $P((i,j)) = \frac{1}{6i}$ .

2. 2-20, p. 75.

Since it's hard to draw Venn diagrams with the word processor, so I'll do these by formulas:

$$P(A^c \cap B^c) = P((A \cap B)^c) \text{ by DeMorgan's law}$$

$$= 1 - P(A \cap B) = 1 - z$$

$$P(A \cap B^c) = P(A) - P(A \cap B) = x - z$$

$$P(A^c \cap B) = 1 - P((A^c \cap B)^c) = 1 - P(A \cap B^c) = 1 - (x - z) = 1 - x + z$$

$$P(A^c \cap B^c) = 1 - P((A^c \cap B^c)^c) = 1 - P(A \cap B) = 1 - (P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)) = 1 - x - y + z$$

3. Find a probability model for the experiment for problem 2-23, p. 75. Then do the problem.

Probability model:

Variable:  $\underline{X} = (X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4)$

Sample space:  $S = \{ \text{HHHH, HHHT, HHTH, HHTT, \dots, TTTT} \}$

= set of all sequences of length 4 where each term is H or T

Probability law:  $P(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{16}$  for any  $\underline{x} \in S$

$$P(A_2) = P(\{\text{HHHH, HHHT, HHTH, HHTT, THHH, THTH, THHT}\}) = 8 \times \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(A_1 \cap A_3) = P(\{HHHH, HHHT, HTHH, HTHT\}) = 4 \times \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3 \cap A_4) = P(\{HHHH\}) = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3 \cap A_4)^c = P(\{TTTT\}^c) = 1 - P(\{TTTT\}) = 1 - \frac{1}{16} = \frac{15}{16}$$

4. 2-24, p. 75, *except assume that  $A = \{k > 2\}$  and  $B = \{k > 4\}$  (Hint: The experiment described here is closely related to that in the previous problem.)*

Consider the sample space of all possible outcomes of four tosses:

$$S = \{HHHH, HHHT, HHTH, HHTT, \dots, TTTT\}$$

Each of these outcomes has equal probability, namely,  $1/16$ .

While the experiment that is described in the problem can involve many more than four tosses, we observe that the event  $A = \{k > 2\}$  occurs precisely when the event  $A' = \{TTHT, TTTH, TTTT\}$  of the sample space  $S$  occurs. Therefore,

$$P(A) = P(A') = \frac{4}{16} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Similarly, the event  $B = \{k > 4\}$  occurs precisely when the event  $B' = \{TTTT\}$  occurs. So

$$P(B) = P(B') = \frac{1}{16} \quad \text{and} \quad P(B^c) = 1 - P(B) = \frac{15}{16} .$$

$$\text{Also, } P(A \cap B) = P(A' \cap B') = P(\{TTTT\}) = \frac{1}{16} ,$$

$$\text{and } P(A \cap B^c) = P(A' \cap B) = P(\{TTHT, TTTH, TTTT\}) = P(A') = \frac{1}{4}$$

5. 2-29, p. 76. (this problem was cancelled because it was part of the previous homework set)

6. Which of the following are true statements?

(a) If  $E \subseteq F$ , then  $F^c \subseteq E^c$ . **TRUE**

(b)  $F \subseteq F \cap E \cup F \cap E^c$ . **TRUE**

(c)  $E \cap F = E \cap F \cap E^c$ . **TRUE**

(d) If  $E \cap F = \emptyset$  and  $F \cap G = \emptyset$ , then  $E \cap G = \emptyset$ . **FALSE**

counter example:  $E = (0,3)$ ,  $F = (5,7)$ ,  $G = (2,4)$

(e) If  $E \subseteq F$ , then  $E \cap G \subseteq F \cap G$ . **TRUE**

(f) If  $P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B)$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint. **FALSE**

this does imply  $P(A \cap B) = 0$ , but the set  $A \cap B$  need not be empty.

7. A 5-sided die is tossed and the outcome is the number facing down. We are given the probabilities of the following events.

$$P(\text{odd}) = .7, P(\{1,5\}) = .4,$$

Find the probabilities of as many of the following events as possible.

$$\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,4\}, \{2,5\}$$

$$P(\{3\}) = P(\text{odd}) - P(\{1,5\}) = .7 - .4 = .3$$

$$P(\{2,4\}) = P(\text{even}) = 1 - P(\text{odd}) = 1 - .7 = .3$$

These are the only ones we can find. (We can't assume the dice is "fair".)

8. Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of a sample space  $S$  and  $P(A) = 1$ . Use the axioms of probability to prove the following:

(a)  $P(A \cup B) = 1$ .

A good way to prove this is to separately prove the two statements:  $P(A \cup B) \leq 1$  and  $P(A \cup B) \geq 1$ . The first follows directly from the corollary that says that the probability of any set is less than or equal to 1. The second statement can be proved as follows:

$$P(A \cup B) \geq P(A) = 1 \text{ because } A \subseteq A \cup B \text{ and a corollary says } P(E) \geq P(F) \text{ when } E \supseteq F$$

Since  $P(A \cup B) \leq 1$  and  $P(A \cup B) \geq 1$ , it follows that  $P(A \cup B) = 1$ .

(b)  $P(A \cap B) = P(B)$ .

We use the same approach.  $P(A \cap B) \geq P(B)$  because  $A \cap B \supseteq B$  and because of the corollary mentioned above. By another corollary

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B) = 1 + P(B) - 1 = P(B), \text{ since } P(A) = 1 \text{ \& } P(A \cup B) = 1.$$

Since  $P(A \cap B) \leq P(B)$  and  $P(A \cap B) \geq P(B)$ , it follows that  $P(A \cap B) = P(B)$ .

These facts will be useful later in the course.

9. Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of a sample space  $S$  and  $P(A) = 0$ . Use the axioms of probability to prove the following:

(a)  $P(A \cup B) = P(B)$ .

We use the same approach.  $P(A \cup B) \geq P(B)$ , because  $B \subseteq A \cup B$  and because of the corollary.

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) \text{ by a corollary}$$

$$0 + P(B) - 0 = P(B), \text{ because } P(A) = 0 \text{ \& } \text{because the 1st axiom says } P(A \cap B) \geq 0$$

Since  $P(A \cup B) \leq P(B)$  and  $P(A \cup B) \geq P(B)$ , it follows that  $P(A \cup B) = P(B)$ .

(b)  $P(A \cap B) = 0$ .

We use the same approach.  $P(A \cap B) \leq 0$  by the 1st axiom of probability.

$$P(A \cap B) \leq P(A) = 0, \text{ because } A \cap B \subseteq A \text{ and because of the aforementioned corollary.}$$

Since  $P(A \cap B) \geq 0$  and  $P(A \cap B) \leq 0$ , it follows that  $P(A \cap B) = 0$ .

These facts will be useful later in the course.

10. A certain store accepts either the American Express or the VISA credit card. It finds that when a customer enters the store, the probability is .24 that he/she carries an American Express card, .61 that he/she carries a VISA card, .11 that he/she carries both, and .45 that he/she carries a Master card. What is the probability that a customer carries a credit card that the store will accept?

From the problem statement we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \text{event customer carries AmEx,} & P(A) &= .24, \\ V &= \text{event customer carries Visa,} & P(V) &= .61, \\ AV &= \text{event customer carries AmEx and Visa,} & P(AV) &= .11. \\ M &= \text{event customer carries MC,} & P(MC) &= .45 \end{aligned}$$

Also we deduce that  $A \cup V = A \cup V$

We want to find the probability of the event that customer carries AmEX or Visa. We recognize this as the event  $A \cup V$ , and we find

$$P(A \cup V) = P(A) + P(V) - P(A \cap V) = P(A) + P(V) - P(AV) = .24 + .61 - .11 = .74$$

11. You are on a trip from Detroit to Denver with a change of planes in Chicago. The plane from Detroit to Chicago arrives randomly between 12:00 noon and 1:00 PM. The connecting plane from Chicago leaves randomly between 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM. To make the connection, at least 30 minutes are required between planes. What is the probability that you will miss your connection? (Hint: It might be wise to make a probability model before attempting to find the answer.)

Probability Model: Variable (A,D) where A = time you arrive, D = time plane departs.

Sample space:  $S = \{ (a,d) : 0 \leq a \leq 1, 1 \leq d \leq 2 \}$ , (0 = noon)

Probability law (this is a key part): for any subset B of S,  $P(B) = \frac{|B|}{|S|} = \text{area of B}$

Why this law? because all sets of the same area should have the same probability

$$\Pr(\text{miss your connection}) = P(\{(a,d) : d < a + .5, 0 \leq a \leq 1, 1 \leq d \leq 2\})$$

$$= \text{area of shaded region below} = \frac{1}{8}$$

