

## CSC380: Principles of Data Science

**Probability 1** 

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#### Announcements

- Readings will be given in about the size of one chapter of WJ book per lecture
- Please self-report all participation activities (in-class questions, Piazza answers, OH attendance) thanks!

#### **Example** Student smoking data

	student	student	
	smokes	does not smoke	total
2 parents smoke	400	1380	1780
1 parent smokes	416	1823	2239
0 parents smoke	188	1168	1356
total	1004	4371	5375

**Q:** are students with 2 parents smoking more likely to smoke (compared with general students)?

How to measure likeliness of outcomes?

To answer such questions, we will use the language of *probability*, and the concept of *conditional probability*.

# Outline

- What is probability?
- Events
- Calculating probabilites
- Set Operations
- Law of Total Probability

## What is probability?

## What is probability?

- If I flip a coin, what is the probability it will come up heads?
- Most people say 1/2, but why is that?
- What is the probability that the coin will come up either heads or tails?

## Principle of Symmetry

• The coin seems to be symmetric, so there's no reason to think that one side is more likely than the other.

- What's the probability of rolling a six with a six-sided die?
- What's the probability of winning the lottery?
- What's the probability of rain tomorrow?



## Interpreting probabilities

• What does it mean to have a probability of 1/2?

- Basically two standard schools of thought on this:
  - Objective probability
  - Subjective probability

## **Objective Probability**

- Probabilities are properties of the external world
- The probability of an event represents the long run proportion of the time the event occurs under repeated, controlled experimentation.
  E.g. 00011101001111101000110
- Famous experiments in history on coin tosses

Experimenter	# Tosses	# Heads	Half # Tosses
De Morgan	4092	2048	2046
Buffon	4040	2048	2020
Feller	10000	4979	5000
Pearson	24000	12012	12000

## Probability vs. Proportion

 Probability is the proportion of times the corresponding outcome would occur in many repeated trials of a phenomenon.

• Probability is long-term relative frequency or proportion.

## **Subjective Probability**

 Probabilities aren't in the world itself; they're in our knowledge/beliefs about the world

 I have no reason to believe heads and tails have different probabilities, so I assign them both 1/2.

- Can assign a probability to the truth of any statement that I have a degree of belief about. E.g., Probability of
  - Raining tomorrow
  - Stock price going up this month

## What is probability?

- We will focus on objective probability in the next few lectures
  - Can discuss subjective probability if we have time later in the course (Bayesian statistics)

#### **Events**

#### **Events and Probability**

Suppose we roll two fair dice...



## **Events and Probability**

#### Suppose we roll two fair dice...

- What are the possible outcomes?
- What is the *probability* of rolling **even** numbers?
- What is the *probability* of having two numbers sum to 6?
- If one die rolls 1, then what is the probability of the second die also rolling 1?

#### ...this is a **random process**.

How to formalize all these quantitatively?



## The Sample Space

- Probability very closely tied to area, we use lots of spatial metaphors
- The set of all possible outcomes of a random experiment is called the sample space. Often written as S.
- In math, the standard notation for a set is to write the individual members in curly braces:
  - S = {Outcome1, Outcome2, ..., }
- It's often useful to visualize the sample space with an actual space.

#### The Sample Space



Figure: Visualization of a Sample Space

- What's the sample space for a single coin flip?
- S = {Heads, Tails}



- What is the sample space of rolling a die?
- $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$



- What is the sample space of drawing a ball out of an urn containing 30 pink, 25 yellow, and 25 blue balls?
- S = {P1, P2, ..., P30, Y1, ..., Y25, B1, ..., B25}



What's the sample space for...

- Randomly choosing a student from UA?
  - S = {Aarhus, Amaral, Balkan, ..., Yao, Zielinski}
- Flipping two different coins?
  - S = {HH, HT, TH, TT}
- Flipping one coin twice?
  - S = {HH, HT, TH, TT}
- Observing the number of earthquakes in San Francisco in a particular year?
  - S = {0, 1, 2, 3, ... }

## Events

- An event E is a subset of the sample space. When we make a particular observation, it is either "in" E or not.
- It is sometimes helpful to think about events as propositions (TRUE/FALSE statements).
- The proposition is TRUE when the outcome is among the elements of the event set, and FALSE otherwise.
- In other words, the event set contains exactly those outcomes which, if they occur, make the proposition TRUE.

What's the event set corresponding to the following propositions?

- "The coin comes up heads"
- $E = \{Heads\}$



What's the event set corresponding to the following propositions?

- "The die comes up an even number"
- E = {2, 4, 6}



- What's the event set corresponding to the following propositions?
- · "A yellow ball is chosen"
- E = {Y1, Y2, ..., Y25}



What's the event set corresponding to the following propositions?

- "A sophomore is chosen"
  - E = {Alexandra E., Ana, ..., Toby, Victoria}
- "There are more than 20 earthquakes"
  - E = {21, 22, 23, . . . }
- "I get exactly one heads"
  - E = {HT, TH}
- "I get at least one heads"
  - E = {HH, HT, TH}

#### **Special events**

- The sample space S itself is an event
  - E.g. "there are at least zero earthquakes"
  - It is an event that always happens
- The empty set Ø is also an event
  - It is an event that never happens
  - E.g. "the die comes up 7"

#### **Calculating Probabilities**

## Calculating probability

- We can think of the probability of an event E as its area, where S always has a total area of 1.0
- So, the probability of E is the fraction of S that it takes up.



## Calculating probability using symmetry

- If we have a sample space for which the principle of symmetry applies (i.e., every outcome is equally likely), then we can find event probabilities easily.
- Oftentimes called the "classical probability model"
- Since every outcome has the same "area", we can just count:

$$P(E) = \frac{\text{#outcomes in } E}{\text{#outcomes in } S}$$



#### Probability as Area

What is the probability of

• Rolling a fair die and see an even number?

• 
$$E = \{2,4,6\}$$
  
•  $P(E) = \frac{\#\{2,4,6\}}{\#\{1,2,3,4,5,6\}} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$ 

1	2 P(2) = 1/6	3
4 P(4) = 1/6	5	6 P(6) = 1/6

$$P(S) = 1$$
  
 $P(Even) = P(2) + P(4) + P(6) = 3/6$ 

### Probability as Area

What is the probability of

• Selecting a yellow ball?

• 
$$E = \{Y1, Y2, \dots, Y25\}$$
  
•  $P(E) = \frac{\#E}{\#S} = \frac{25}{30+25+25} = \frac{5}{16}$ 



P(Yellow) = P(Y1) + ... + P(Y25) = 25 \* (1/80)

#### Sample space: set of all possible outcomes

#### Event

- "The die comes up an even number"
- E = {2, 4, 6}

Classical probability model:

$$P(E) = \frac{\text{#outcomes in } E}{\text{#outcomes in } S}$$

Recap



## In-class activity

- Suppose we throw two fair dice
  - What is the sample space S (space of all possible outcomes)?
  - Hint: can use, e.g. (1,2) to represent that red die comes up 1 and blue die comes up 2
  - Event E: the two dice's outcomes sum to 6
  - What is the size of E?
  - What is the probability of E?



#### **Random Events and Probability**

What is the probability of having two numbers sum to 6?



$$S = \{(a, b): a, b \in \{1, \dots, 6\}\}$$

Each outcome is equally likely

# of outcomes that sum to 6: 5

answer: (1/36) \* 5 = 0.13888...

## **Probability as Area**

 Notice that we can find the total probability of an event by breaking it into pieces and adding up the probabilities of the pieces:

P(Even) = P(2) + P(4) + P(6) $P(Yellow) = P(Y1) + \cdots + P(Y25)$ 



- These pieces are called 'elementary events'
  - Events that correspond to exactly one outcome
- In general, breaking an event into *disjoint events* preserves the total probability
- *E* and *F* are said to be *disjoint* if they cannot happen simultaneously, e.g.
  - $E = \{even numbers\}, F = \{1, 3, 5\}$

• In such cases,

P(E or F) = P(E) + P(F)



# Partition

- We say that events  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  form a *partition* of *E* if any outcome in *E* lies in exactly one  $E_i$
- E.g.
  - {Fr.}, {Soph.} form a partition of {Lower division}
  - {Fr.}, {Soph.} {J.} {Sen.} form a partition of S



• In general, a partition of S do not leave any element out

• Fact For disjoint events E, F, P(E or F) = P(E) + P(F)

More generally, If  $E_1, ..., E_n$  forms a partition of E,  $P(E) = P(E_1) + P(E_2) + \dots + P(E_n)$ 



- Therefore:
- P(CS) = P(Fr., CS) + P(Soph., CS) + P(J.CS) + P(Sen.CS)

Notation: *P*(*A*, *B*) is a shorthand for *P*(*A* and *B*)

• P(Soph.) = P(Soph., CS) + P(Soph., nonCS)



- What about the probability of selecting a sophomore OR a CS major?
  - Note: events "Sophomore" and "CS Major" may overlap





- E = { Soph OR CS }
- Is P(E) = P(Soph) + P(CS)?
   No
- Which one is larger?
  - Let's see..

CS I	Maj	
Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
		0011010
	CS I Sophomores	CS Maj Sophomores Juniors

P(Soph) + P(CS)

= P(Soph. CS) + P(Soph. Non-CS) + P(Fr. CS) + P(Soph. CS) + P(J. CS) + P(Sen. CS)

Group Soph. CS is counted twice

So, P(Soph OR CS)

= P(Soph) + P(CS) - P(Soph. CS)



#### **Inclusion-Exclusion Principle**

**Inclusion-Exclusion Principle** For any events *E* and *F*,

$$P(E \text{ or } F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \text{ and } F)$$

Accounting for overlap between *E* and *F* 



#### **Complementary events**

How would I find *P*(Non-Sophomore)?

- Could just list the non-sophomores and then count, but we can use the fact that P(S) = 1 and *subtract* instead.
  - *P*(Non-Sophomore) = 1 *P*(Sophomore)

Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	

# Set operations

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#### Two dice example: Suppose

 $E_1$ : *First* die rolls 1

Operators on events:

 $E_2$  :Second die rolls 1  $E_1 = \{(1,1), (1,2), \dots, (1,6)\} \qquad E_2 = \{(1,1), (2,1), \dots, (6,1)\}$ 

Operation	Value	Interpretation	
$E_1 \cup E_2$	$\{(1,1),(1,2),\ldots,(1,6),(2,1),\ldots,(6,1)\}$ Any die r		
$E_1 \cap E_2$	$\{(1,1)\}$	Both dice roll 1	
$E_1 \setminus E_2$	$\{(1,2),(1,3),(1,4),(1,5),(1,6)\}$	Only the first die rolls 1	
$\overline{E_1 \cup E_2}$	$\{(2,2), (2,3), \dots, (2,6), (3,2), \dots, (6,6)\}$	No die rolls 1	
$= (E_1)$	$(UE_2)^{c}$		



## Set operations

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Can interpret these operations using a Venn diagram...



# Set Theory: De Morgan Law

#### **De Morgan Law 1** $(A \cup B)^{C} = A^{C} \cap B^{C}$

#### Example:

- A: I bring my cellphone
- B: I bring my laptop
- A<sup>C</sup>: I don't bring my cellphone
- B<sup>C</sup>: I don't bring my laptop



- A U B: I bring my cellphone or my laptop
- $(A \cup B)^{C}$ : I bring neither my cellphone nor my laptop
- A<sup>C</sup> ∩ B<sup>C</sup>: I didn't bring my cellphone & I didn't bring my laptop

## Set Theory: De Morgan Law

**De Morgan Law 2**  $(A \cap B)^{C} = A^{C} \cup B^{C}$ 

Ex: try to make sense of it using the same example above



- De Morgan Law generalizes to a collection of n events
  - But first, let's define some notations

#### Intersection / union over n events

- $\cdot$  *n* lightbulbs
- $E_i$ : *i*-th lightbulb is on



- How to describe the event that at least one lightbulb is on?
   i.e. bulb 1 is on OR ... OR bulb n is on
   E<sub>1</sub> ∪ … ∪ E<sub>n</sub> =: ∪<sup>n</sup><sub>i=1</sub> E<sub>i</sub>
- How to describe the event that all lightbulbs are on?  $E_1 \cap \cdots \cap E_n = \bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i$

#### De Morgan Laws with n events

#### • De Morgan Laws:

$$(E_1 \cup \dots \cup E_n)^C = E_1^C \cap \dots \cap E_n^C$$

Not ( at least one bulb is on ) All

All bulbs are off



$$(E_1 \cap \dots \cap E_n)^C = E_1^C \cup \dots \cup E_n^C$$

Not (all bulbs are on)

At least one bulbs is off

## Set operation: distributive law

- Distributive law in arithmetics a(x + y) = ax + ay carry over to sets
- **Distributive Law 1**  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
- Justification by picture:





(B U C)

A ∩ (B ∪ C)





#### Set operation: distributive law

- **Distributive Law 2**  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
- Can justify this by:
  - drawing a picture (like previous slide), or
  - proving it using Distributive Law 1 and De Morgan Law

### **Rules of Probability**

## Rules of probability

• To recap and summarize:

**Rules of Probability** 

- 1. Non-negativity: All probabilities are between 0 and 1 (inclusive)
- **2.** Unity of the sample space: *P*(*S*) = 1
- **3.** Complement Rule:  $P(E^C) = 1 P(E)$
- 4. Probability of Unions:
  - (a) In general,  $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) P(E \cap F)$
  - (b) If E and F are disjoint, then  $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F)$

# **Classical probability model**

#### **Special case**

Assume each outcome is equally likely, and sample space is <u>finite</u>, then the probability of event is:





This is called <u>classical probability model</u>

# Rethinking the classical probability model

- Classical probability model assumes all outcomes are equally likely
- When is this applicable?
  - Fair coin toss, fair dice throw, ...
  - In the urn example,

S = {P1, P2, ..., P30, Y1, ..., Y25, B1, ..., B25}



- When is this assumption problematic?
  - Unfair coin toss (e.g. one side of the coin is heavier)
  - In the urn example, S = {P, Y, B}
  - defining a good outcome space can sometimes simplify our reasoning

### Exercise: Blood types

 Human blood is classified by the presence or absence of two antigens, called A and B. This gives rise to four types: O, A, B, and AB.

		Antigen B		
		Absent	Present	Marginal
Antigen A	Absent	0.44	0.10	0.54
	Present	0.42	0.04	0.46
	Marginal	0.86	0.14	1.00

### Exercise: Blood types

		Antigen B		
		Absent	Present	Marginal
Antigen A	Absent	0.44	0.10	0.54
	Present	0.42	0.04	0.46
	Marginal	0.86	0.14	1.00

- If *A* is the event "presence of antigen A", and *B* is the event "presence of antigen B", what is:
  - $P(A \cap B)$ ? What is this event in words?
  - $P(A^C \cap B)$ ? What is this event in words?

## **Exercise: Blood types**

		Antigen B		
		Absent	Present	Marginal
Antigen A	Absent	0.44	0.10	0.54
	Present	0.42	0.04	0.46
	Marginal	0.86	0.14	1.00

- What is  $P(A \cup B)$  in words? What is its numeric value?
- Can we rephrase this event?
- $A \cup B = (A^C \cap B^C)^C$ , by De Morgan's Law
- So, using the Complement Rule:
- $P(A \cup B) = 1 P(A^C \cap B^C)$ , which in this case is easy to compute.

#### Law of Total Probability

#### Law of Total Probability

• We saw that:

P(CS) = P(Fr., CS) + P(Soph., CS) + P(J.CS) + P(Sen.CS)

• Is there a general rule behind this?



- Would the equality still be true if, say, we drop *P*(Sen.CS)?
  - No the three remaining events no longer form a partition of {CS}

### Law of Total Probability

**Law of Total Probability** Suppose  $B_1, ..., B_n$  form a partition of the sample space S. Then,

$$P(A) = P(A, B_1) + \dots + P(A, B_n)$$



- Recall notation:  $P(A, B_1)$  is a shorthand for  $P(A \cap B_1)$
- Why?  $A \cap B_1, \dots, A \cap B_n$  form a partition of A

## Law of Total Probability: blood types

		Antigen B		
		Absent	Present	Marginal
Antigen A	Absent	0.44	0.10	0.54
	Present	0.42	0.04	0.46
	Marginal	0.86	0.14	1.00

- $B, B^C$  form a partition of sample space S, so
- $P(A) = P(A, B) + P(A, B^{C}) = 0.04 + 0.42 = 0.46$
- · Likewise,
- $P(B) = P(B,A) + P(B,A^{C}) = 0.04 + 0.10 = 0.14$

#### Law of Total Probability: another example

**Example** Roll two fair dice. Let X be the <u>outcome of the first die</u>. Let Y be the <u>sum of both dice</u>. What is the probability that both dice sum to 6 (i.e., Y=6)?

$$p(Y = 6) = \sum_{x=1}^{6} p(Y = 6, X = x)$$

 $\{X = 1\} \dots, \{X = 6\}$  form a partition of sample space *S* 



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$$= p(Y = 6, X = 1) + p(Y = 6, X = 2) + \ldots + p(Y = 6, X = 6)$$
  
$$= \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{36} + 0 = \frac{5}{36}$$

# Summary: calculating probabilities

• If we know that all outcomes are equally likely, we can use



- If |E| is hard to calculate directly, we can try using the rules of probability
- If this is still challenging, we can try using the Law of Total Probability, using an appropriate partition of sample space S



Probability of a random event

Simulate the random process n times, the fraction of times this event happens

• How large should *n* be?

 $\approx$ 

• Simulation results vary from trails?



#### **Numpy**: numerical computing package

import numpy as np np.random.randint(1,1+6,size=10) => array([5, 4, 1, 1, 1, 5, 5, 2, 4, 6])

#### Numpy array

- Replaces python's <u>list</u> in numpy.
- More numerical functionality
- It's a 'vector' in mathematics.

```
a=np.array([1,2]); b=np.array([4,5])
a+b
```

⇒ np.array([5,7]) // elementwise addition np.dot(a,b)

 $\Rightarrow$  14 // dot product

randint(low,high,size)
: generate `size` random numbers in
{low, low+1,, high-1}

## **Random Events and Probability**

#### Consider: What is the probability of having two numbers sum to 6?

```
import numpy as np
for n in [10,100,1_000,10_000,100_000]:
    res_dice1 = np.random.randint(1,6+1,size=n)
    res_dice2 = np.random.randint(1,6+1,size=n)
    res = [(res_dice1[i], res_dice2[i]) for i in range(len(res_dice1))]
```

```
cnt = len(list(filter(lambda x: x[0] + x[1] == 6, res)))
print("n=%6d, result: %.4f " % (n, cnt/n))
```

- n= 10, result: 0.1000
- n= 100, result: 0.1200
- n= 1000, result: 0.1350
- n= 10000, result: 0.1365
- n= 100000, result: 0.1388
- n= 1000000, result: 0.1385

- n= 10, result: 0.1000
- n= 100, result: 0.1900
- n= 1000, result: 0.1540
- n= 10000, result: 0.1366
- n= 100000, result: 0.1371
- n= 1000000, result: 0.1394

every time you run, you get a different result

however, the number seems to <u>converge</u> to 0.138-0.139

#### There seems to be a precise value that it will converge to.. what is it?
• Theoretical probability describes how likely an event is going to occur based on math.

• Experimental probability describes how frequently an event actually occured in an experiment.



- **Probability** is a real-world phenomenon.
- But under what mathematical framework can we formulate **probability** so we can solve practical problems?
  - e.g., weather prediction, predicting the election outcome
- <u>Disclaimer</u>: not all mathematics correspond to real-world phenomenon (e.g., Banach–Tarski paradox). Fortunately, we will not talk about this in our lecture  $\odot$

Consider: What is the probability of having two numbers sum to 6?



#### Some examples of events...

• Both even numbers

Q: how many such pairs? 9

$$E^{\text{even}} = \{(2,2), (2,4), \dots, (6,4), (6,6)\}$$

• The sum of both dice is even,

 $E^{\text{sum even}} = \{(1,1), (1,3), (1,5), \dots, (2,2), (2,4), \dots\}$ 

• The sum is greater than 12,  $E^{\text{sum}>12} = \emptyset$  We

We can talk about impossible outcomes

#### Inclusion-exclusion Rule

# **Lemma: (inclusion-exclusion rule)** For <u>any</u> two events $E_1$ and $E_2$ , $P(E_1 \cup E_2) = P(E_1) + P(E_2) - P(E_1 \cap E_2)$

#### **Graphical Proof:**



Subtract from both sides

#### **Alternative Proof**

**Lemma:** For <u>any</u> two events  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ,

 $P(E_1 \cup E_2) = P(E_1) + P(E_2) - P(E_1 \cap E_2)$ 



### Set notations vs. Logic notations

 Rather than write out AND, OR and NOT all the time, we can use notation from set algebra.

Operation	Symbol	Usage	Meaning	
Union	U	$E \cup F$	Event E OR F occur	
Intersection	Ω	$E \cap F$	Both E AND F occur	
Complement	С	$E^{C}$	E does NOT occur	

- Just like when we add or multiply two numbers we get back another number, if we take the union or intersection of two events, we get back a new event.
- The complement of an event is also an event (kind of like the negative of a number, or the evil twin of a person)

# Set Theory: De Morgan Law

#### **De Morgan Law 1** $(A \cup B)^{C} = A^{C} \cap B^{C}$

#### Example:

- A: I bring my cellphone
- B: I bring my laptop
- A<sup>C</sup>: I don't bring my cellphone
- B<sup>C</sup>: I don't bring my laptop
- A U B: I bring my cellphone or my laptop
- $(A \cup B)^{C}$ : I bring neither my cellphone nor my laptop
- A<sup>C</sup> ∩ B<sup>C</sup>: I didn't bring my cellphone & I didn't bring my laptop



• 
$$\neg(\bigcup_n A_n) = \bigcap_n \neg A_n$$
,  $\neg(\bigcap_n A_n) = \bigcup_n \neg A_n$  DEMORGAN  
Special case:  $\neg(A \cup B) = \neg A \cap \neg B$  Notation:  $\neg A \coloneqq A^c$ 

But, what is probability, really?

(e.g., can explain the probability of seeing an event when throwing two dice)

Mathematicians have found a set of conditions that 'makes sense'.

- Probability is a map P. ⇒ i.e., takes in an event, spits out a real value
- P must map events to a real value in interval [0,1].
- P is a (valid) **probability distribution** if it satisfies the following **axioms of probability**,
  - 1. For any event E,  $P(E) \ge 0$
  - **2**.  $P(\Omega) = 1$
  - 3. For any sequence of <u>disjoint events</u>  $E_1, E_2, E_3, \dots$

$$P\Big(\bigcup_{i\geq 1} E_i\Big) = \sum_{i\geq 1} P(E_i)$$



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disjoint: intersection is empty

• Many properties follows (i.e., can be proved mathematically)

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}(\emptyset) &= 0\\ A \subset B \implies \mathbb{P}(A) \leq \mathbb{P}(B) & \text{E.g., throw a die. A= getting 1, B=getting an odd number}\\ 0 \leq \mathbb{P}(A) &\leq 1\\ \mathbb{P}(A^c) &= 1 - \mathbb{P}(A)\\ \bigcap B = \emptyset \implies \mathbb{P}\left(A \bigcup B\right) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B). & \text{E.g., A= getting 1, B=getting 3 or 5} \end{split}$$



(I recommend that you maintain your own version of cheat sheet!)

#### **Special case**

Assume each outcome is equally likely, and sample space is <u>finite</u>, then the probability of event is:

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|\Omega|} \underbrace{\text{Number of elements}}_{\text{Number of possible}}$$



This is called <u>uniform probability distribution</u> Q: What axiom we are using? => Axiom 3

 $=\frac{1}{36}+\frac{1}{36}+\ldots+\frac{1}{36}=\frac{9}{36}$ 

(Fair) Dice Example: Probability that we roll even numbers,

$$P((2,2)\cup(2,4)\cup\ldots\cup(6,6)) = P((2,2)) + P((2,4)) + \ldots + P((6,6))$$

9 Possible outcomes, each with equal probability of occurring

Consider: What is the probability of having two numbers sum to 6?



Each outcome is equally likely by the **independence** (will learn this concept later) => 1/36

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# of outcomes that sum to 6: => 5

answer: (1/36) \* 5 = 0.13888...



## Set Theory: Distributive Law

More results

- $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  and  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ . // distributive law
  - $A \cap (\cup_i B_i) = \cup_i (A \cap B_i), \quad A \cup (\cap_i B_i) = \cap_i (A \cup B_i)$





(B U C)

A∩(B∪C)



(A ∩ B)



(A ∩ B)



#### **Probability as Area**

• Fact For disjoint events E, F, P(E or F) = P(E) + P(F)

More generally, for pairwise disjoint events  $E_1, ..., E_n$ ,  $P(E_1 \text{ or } E_2 ... \text{ or } E_n) = P(E_1) + P(E_2) + \cdots + P(E_n)$ 



# Set Theory

**[Def]** The set of events  $\{B_i\}_{i=1}^n$  **partitions** outcome space  $C \Leftrightarrow \bigcup_i B_i = C$  and  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  are disjoint.

$$A = A \cap \Omega = A \cap (\cup_i B_i) = \cup_i (A \cap B_i)$$



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Q: Why is this true? A: Axiom 3 + distributive law!

Now,  $\{A \cap B_i\}_{i=1}^n$  partitions A



## Summary: calculating probabilities

• Most of the rules we learned is basically set theory + Rule 3b

- So, here is a generic workflow for computing P(A).
- 1. Use set theory and slice and dice A into a manageable partition of A where P(each piece of partition) is easy to compute.
- 2. Apply Rule 3b.

#### **Distributive Law**

• Similar to



## Partition

- We say that events  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  form a *partition* of *E* if any outcome in *E* lies in exactly one  $E_i$ 
  - E.g.
    - {Fr.}, {Soph.} form a partition of {Lower division}
    - {Lower division}, {Upper division} form a partition of S



• In general, any partition of S do not leave any element out

### Exercise: Blood types

		Antigen B		
		Absent	Present	Marginal
Antigen A	Absent	0.44	0.10	0.54
	Present	0.42	0.04	0.46
	Marginal	0.86	0.14	1.00

Table: Probability Estimates for U.S. Blood Types

- If *A* is the event "presence of antigen A", and *B* is the event "presence of antigen B", what is:
  - P(A)?
  - $P(A \cap B)$ ? What is this event in words?
  - $P(A^C \cap B)$ ? What is this event in words?
  - $P(B^{C})$ ? What is this event in words?