

Starting with events and sigma-algebras

Exercise 1. Sample Space

For each the following examples of random experiments, describe one corresponding sample space Ω (there may be more than one sample space that makes sense). Give an example of an element $\omega \in \Omega$ and calculate the total number of elements $|\Omega|$.

- (a) A simple coin toss.
- (b) We throw a coin infinitely many times.
- (c) We throw a coin infinitely many times and count the number of observed heads.
- (d) Throwing a 6-sided die twice.
- (e) Throwing a 6-sided die twice and calculating the eye-sum.
- (f) We observe the sky at night and measure the time (in minutes) until we see a shooting star.
- (g) A company produces metal tubes of length $l > 0$. At quality control, the deviation of the length of the probe from l is determined. A negative deviation means that the probe is smaller than l .

Exercise 2. Events

Give a set-theoretical description of the following events in your sample spaces from Problem 1:

1. In your sample spaces from *d* and *e*, consider the events that
 - a) the eye-sum is less or equal to 12,
 - b) the eye-sum is divisible by 5,
 - c) the eye-sum is equal to 1.
2. In *c*, consider the event that the number of observed heads is non-zero, smaller or equal than 42 and (divisible by (3 and 5) or divisible 7).
3. In *f*, consider the event that we see a shooting star in less than 10 minutes.
4. In *g*, consider the event that the deviation is smaller than 1 and greater than $-\frac{1}{5}$.
5. In the Cartesian product of your sample spaces from *a* and *d*, consider the event that the coin shows tails and the die shows 5 in the first and a number between 3 and 6 in the second throw.

Exercise 3. σ -Algebras

1. Let Ω be a sample space and $A \subset \Omega$ with $A \neq \Omega$ an event. Which of the following families of sets is a σ -algebra? Which of the σ -algebras contains the

event A ?

$$\mathcal{A}_1 := \{\emptyset, \Omega\} \quad \mathcal{A}_2 := \{\emptyset, A, \Omega\} \quad \mathcal{A}_3 := \{\emptyset, A, \mathbb{C}A\} \quad \mathcal{A}_4 := \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$$

2. Consider the sample space $\Omega := \{1, 2, 3\}$. List all σ -algebras on Ω .

Hint: Every σ -algebra on a finite sample space Ω corresponds to a partition of Ω .

3. Let \mathcal{A} be a σ -algebra on the sample space Ω as defined in the lecture notes. Which of the following statements are true and why (not)?

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

c) $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in $\mathcal{A} \implies \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{A}$

b) $A \in \mathcal{A} \implies \mathbb{C}A \in \mathcal{A}$

d) $A, B \subseteq \Omega \implies A \cap B \in \mathcal{A}$

4. Consider two sample spaces Ω_1 and Ω_2 and, for $i = 1, 2$, two events $A_i \subseteq \Omega_i$. Let us denote by \mathcal{A}_i the smallest σ -algebra on Ω_i that contains A_i , cf. lecture notes. Now, list all elements of the product σ -algebra \mathcal{A} on the sample space $\Omega := \Omega_1 \times \Omega_2$.

Exercise 4. Recap – Indicator Functions and Integration

For fixed $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$, we define the indicator function $\mathbf{1}_A: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ via

$$\mathbf{1}_A(x) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in A, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin A. \end{cases}$$

1. Sketch the functions $\mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}$, $\mathbf{1}_{[0,\infty)}$ and $\mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{N}}$.

2. Show that, for fixed $y \in \mathbb{R}$, we have that $\mathbf{1}_{[a,b]}(x - y) = \mathbf{1}_{[a+y, b+y]}(x)$.

3. Show that, for $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$, we have that

a) $\mathbf{1}_{A \cap B}(x) = \mathbf{1}_A(x) \cdot \mathbf{1}_B(x)$,

b) $\mathbf{1}_{A \cup B}(x) = \max\{\mathbf{1}_A(x), \mathbf{1}_B(x)\}$,

c) $\mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{C}A}(x) = 1 - \mathbf{1}_A(x)$ and

d) $\mathbf{1}_{A \times B}((x, y)) = \mathbf{1}_A(x) \cdot \mathbf{1}_B(y)$.

4. Calculate the following integrals

a) $\int_{-3}^3 \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x) dx$ b) $\int_{-3}^3 x \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x) dx$ c) $\int_0^3 \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x) dx$.

5. For $x \in \{-2, 0, \frac{1}{2}\}$, calculate the integral $\int_{-3}^3 \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x - y) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(y) dy$.

6. Calculate the integral $\int_0^1 \left(\int_1^2 \mathbf{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}] \times [1, \frac{3}{2}]}((x, y)) dx \right) dy$.

7. Let $C := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^d : x < y\}$. Calculate the integral

$$\int_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} \mathbf{1}_C(x, y) \, d(x, y).$$