

Math 4740

9/4/24



Ex: Suppose you have a 6-sided die with sides labelled 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. But through experimentation you realize that each outcome is not equally likely. You estimate the following probabilities:

outcome	probability
1	$1/4$
2	$1/8$
3	$1/8$
4	$1/16$
5	$1/16$
6	$3/8$

Note:

$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{3}{8} = 1$$

which ought to be.

Let's make a probability space.

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

$$\Omega = \{\text{all subsets of } S\}$$

$$= \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \dots, \{1, 2, 4\}, \dots\}$$

We make a probability function

$$P: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Define

$$P(\{1\}) = 1/4$$

$$P(\{4\}) = 1/16$$

$$P(\{2\}) = 1/8$$

$$P(\{5\}) = 1/16$$

$$P(\{3\}) = 1/8$$

$$P(\{6\}) = 3/8$$

If E is an event in Ω

define

$$P(E) = \sum_{\omega \in E} P(\{\omega\})$$

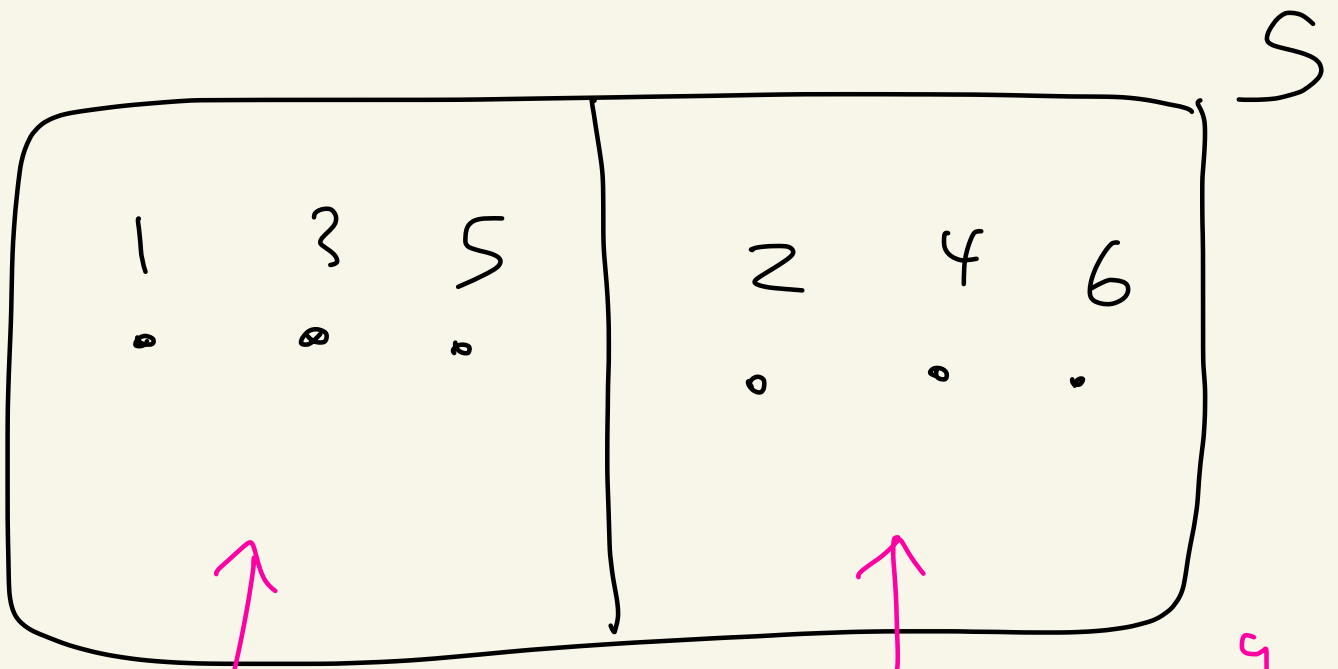
sum over
w in E

For example, what is the probability of rolling an even number?

$$\begin{aligned}P(\{2, 4, 6\}) &= P(\{2\}) + P(\{4\}) + P(\{6\}) \\&= \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{3}{8} \\&= \frac{9}{16} = 0.5625 \\&= 56.25\%\end{aligned}$$

What's the probability of rolling an odd number?

$$\begin{aligned}P(\{1, 3, 5\}) &= P(\{1\}) + P(\{3\}) + P(\{5\}) \\&= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{7}{16} \\&= 0.4375\end{aligned}$$



$$P(\{1, 3, 5\}) = \frac{7}{16}$$

$$P(\{2, 4, 6\}) = \frac{9}{16}$$

$$\frac{7}{16} + \frac{9}{16} = 1 = P(S)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S^c, \\
 P(\{1, 3, 5\}) &= 1 - P(\{2, 4, 6\}) \\
 &= 1 - \frac{9}{16} = \frac{7}{16}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note: Suppose (S, Ω, P) is a probability space and S is finite. Suppose each outcome is equally likely, that is

$$P(\{\omega\}) = \frac{1}{|S|}$$

for all outcomes ω .

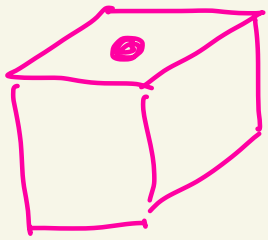
Suppose $E = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n\}$ is an event.

Then,

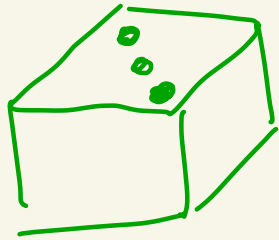
$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(\{\omega_1\}) + P(\{\omega_2\}) + \dots + P(\{\omega_n\}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|S|} + \frac{1}{|S|} + \dots + \frac{1}{|S|} \\ &= \frac{n}{|S|} = \frac{|E|}{|S|} \end{aligned}$$

So, $P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$ if all outcomes are equally likely.

Ex: Suppose we do the experiment where we roll two 6-sided die. These are normal die, each side is equally likely.



die 1



die 2

← encode as
 $(1, 3)$

(a, b) means a on die 1,
 b on die 2

So,

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

$(6,1), (6,2), (6,3), (6,4), (6,5), (6,6)$

$\Omega = \{ \text{all subsets of } S \}$

$$|S| = 36$$

$$P(\{(a,b)\}) = \frac{1}{36}$$

For ex: $P(\{(2,5)\}) = \frac{1}{36}$

Q: What is the probability that the sum of the dice is 7?

Let E be the event that the sum of the dice is 7.

So,

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

So,

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|} = \frac{6}{36} = \frac{1}{6}$$

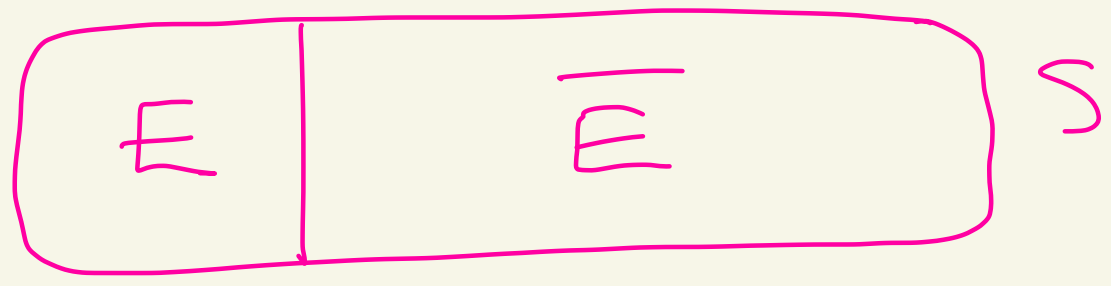
Since all outcomes are equally likely

Theorem: Let (S, Ω, P) be a probability space.

Let E and F be events.

Then,

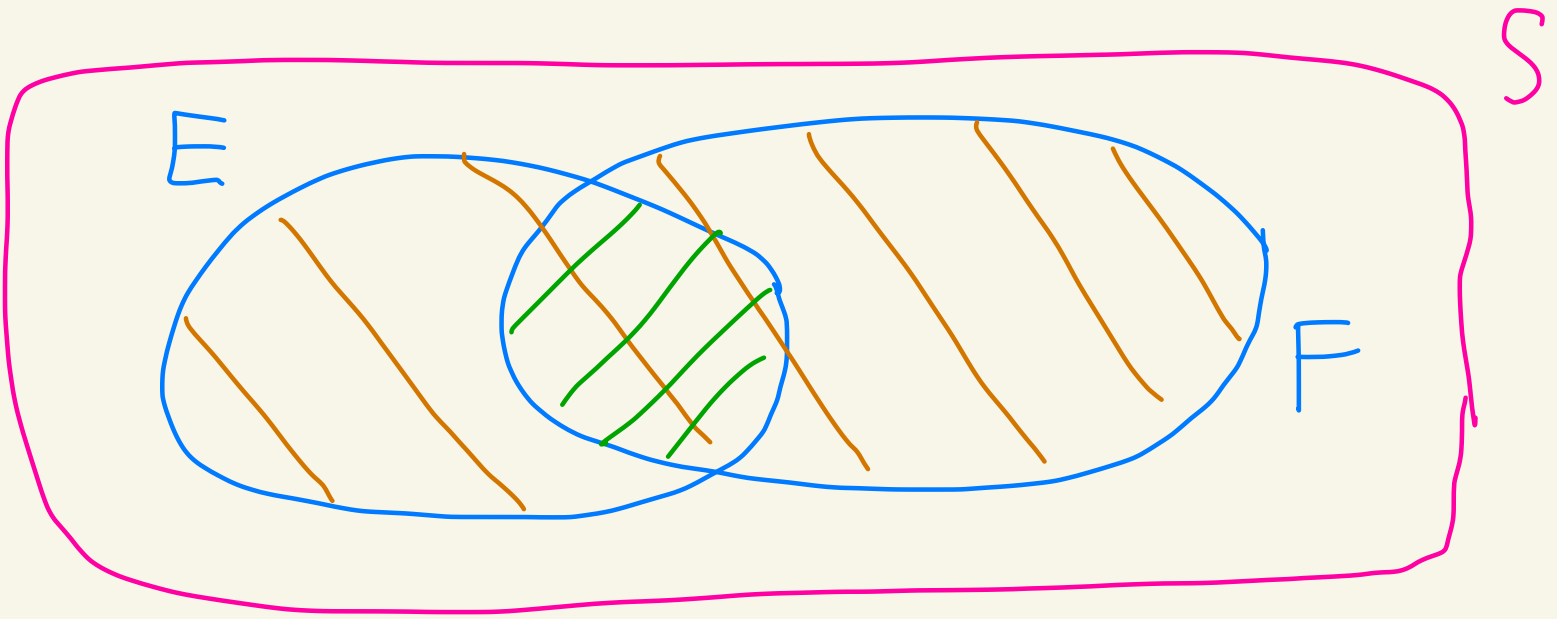
① $P(E) = 1 - P(\bar{E})$



② If $E \subseteq F$, then $P(E) \leq P(F)$



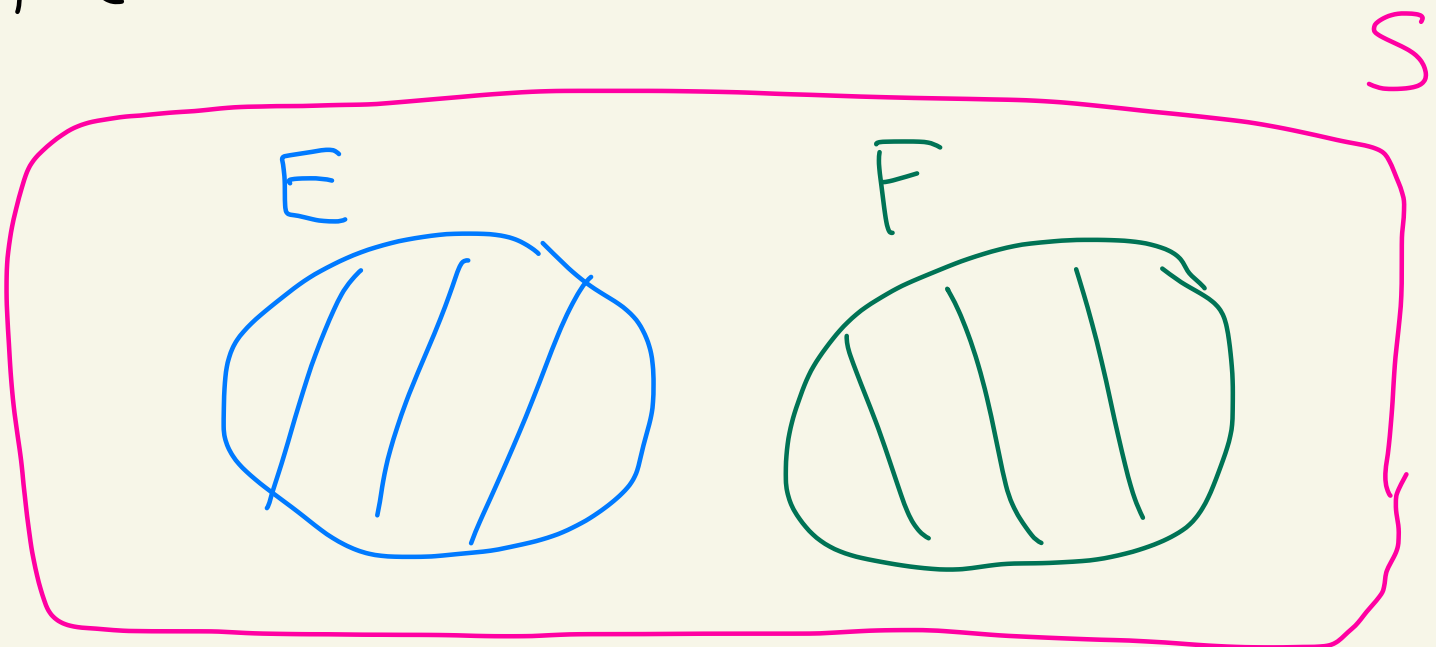
③ $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \cap F)$



$$\text{Orange lines} = E \cup F \quad \text{Green lines} = E \cap F$$

④ If E and F are disjoint, that is $E \cap F = \emptyset$, then

$$P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F)$$



Proof: See online notes.



Ex: Suppose we roll two 12-sided dice. The sides are labelled 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. Each side is equally likely.

Q: What is the probability that at least one of the dice is greater than or equal to 4?

Ex:

die 1	die 2
3	2
2	7
11	6

X

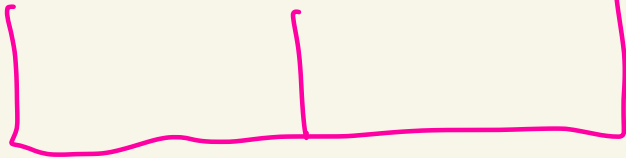
neither is ≥ 4

✓

die 2 ≥ 4

✓

both die



≥ 4

Sample space:

$$S = \{ (a, b) \mid \begin{array}{l} a = 1, 2, \dots, 12 \\ b = 1, 2, \dots, 12 \end{array} \}$$

$$= \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), \dots, (12, 12) \}$$

Here $|S| = 12 \cdot 12 = 144$

All outcomes are equally likely.

The event E that at least one of the dice is ≥ 4 is

$$E = \{ (a, b) \mid a \geq 4 \text{ or } b \geq 4 \}$$

$$= \{ (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), \dots, (5, 1), \dots, (2, 10), \dots \}$$

there are too many to count.

Instead let's calculate \bar{E} .

Here \bar{E} is both die are < 4 .

So,

$$\bar{E} = \left\{ (1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (2,1), \right. \\ \left. (2,2), (2,3), (3,1), \right. \\ \left. (3,2), (3,3) \right\}$$

Then,

$$P(\bar{E}) = \frac{|\bar{E}|}{|S|} = \frac{9}{144} = \frac{1}{16}$$

Thus,

$$P(E) = 1 - P(\bar{E}) = 1 - \frac{1}{16}$$

$$= \frac{15}{16} = 0.9375$$

$$= 93.75\%$$

Note: You can construct a probability space when S is countably infinite, that is S is infinite and you can list the elements out in an infinite list. That is,

$$S = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4, \dots\}$$

infinitely many more

Let Ω be the set of all subsets of S .

Define $P(\{\omega_i\})$ for each i so that $0 \leq P(\{\omega_i\}) \leq 1$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(\{\omega_i\}) = 1$$

If E is an event define

$$P(E) = \sum_{\omega \in E} P(\{\omega\})$$

Theorem: This is a probability space.
