

Exercise 1.1.6. If $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is a probability space and if $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$, check that

- 1) $\mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(A)$, where $A^c := \Omega \setminus A$,
- 2) $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$,
- 3) If $A \subset B$, then $\mathbb{P}(A) \leq \mathbb{P}(B)$.

1) Since $A \cup A^c = \Omega$ and $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$,

$$\mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(A^c) = \mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$$

$$\therefore \mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(A) \quad \square$$

2) If $A \cap B = \emptyset$,

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) \quad \text{from Definition 1.1.5}$$

else if $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$,

Since $(A \setminus (A \cap B)) \cap (A \cap B) = \emptyset$ from Definition 1.7.5

$$\mathbb{P}(A \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}((A \setminus (A \cap B)) \cup (A \cap B)) = \mathbb{P}(A).$$

By applying this argument to $B \setminus (A \cap B)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(A \cup B) &= \mathbb{P}(A \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mathbb{P}(B \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(A) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) + \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

3) $A \subset B \Leftrightarrow B = A \cup (B \setminus A)$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A) &= \mathbb{P}(A \cup (B \setminus A)) - \mathbb{P}(A) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B \setminus A) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap (B \setminus A)) - \mathbb{P}(A) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(B \setminus A) - \mathbb{P}(\emptyset) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(B \setminus A) \end{aligned}$$

since $A \subset B$, $\mathbb{P}(B \setminus A) \geq \mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$ so

$$\mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}(A) \leq \mathbb{P}(B)$$

Lemma 1.1.7 (Continuity of probability). Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space and consider $\{A_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{F}$. If

4) $A_j \subset A_{j+1}$ for any j , then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} A_j\right) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_j),$$

5) while if $A_j \supset A_{j+1}$ for any j , then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in \mathbb{N}} A_j\right) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_j).$$

4) Since $A_j \subset A_{j+1}$, $\bigcup_{j=1}^n A_j = A_n$.

Set C_j as follows: $j=1$

$$C_j = A_j \setminus A_{j-1}, \quad C_1 = A_1.$$

By observing that

$$\text{for any } j, k \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq k, \quad C_j \cap C_k = \emptyset$$

and

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^n C_j = A_n$$

We get

$$\mathbb{P}(A_n) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^n C_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(C_j)$$

then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} A_j\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^n A_j\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^n C_j\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^n C_j\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) \quad \square$$

5) Since $A_j \supset A_{j+1}$, $\bigcap_{j=1}^n A_j = A_n$.

Set C_j as follows.

$$C_j = A_j \setminus A_{j+1} \quad \text{for } j \geq 1$$

By observing that

$$\text{for any } j, k \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq k, \quad C_j \cap C_k = \emptyset$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} C_j\right) = \mathbb{P}(A_{n-1} \setminus A_n) + \mathbb{P}(A_{n-2} \setminus A_{n-1}) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(A_2 \setminus A_3) + \mathbb{P}(A_1 \setminus A_2)$$

we get

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^n A_j\right) = \mathbb{P}(A_1) - \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} C_j\right) = \mathbb{P}(A_1) - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{P}(C_j)$$

then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in \mathbb{N}} A_j\right) = \mathbb{P}(A_1) - \mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} C_j\right) = \mathbb{P}(A_1) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} C_j\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) \quad \square$$