

1. (a) IF  $S$  IS A SET, THE POWER SET OF  $S$  IS DEFINED BY  $P(S) = \{A : A \subset S\}$ , I.E., THE COLLECTION OF ALL SUBSETS OF  $S$ .
- (b)  $A \in P(S)$  SIMPLY MEANS  $A \subset S$ . ALL THE POWER SET DOES IS COLLECT ALL OF THE SUBSETS INTO A COLLECTION! SUBSETS OF  $S$  ARE THE SAME AS ALWAYS, BUT THEY'RE ELEMENTS OF  $P(S)$ .

(c) IF  $S$  IS FINITE, THEN  $|P(S)| = 2^{|S|}$

E.G., IF  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$ , THEN  $|S| = 4$  AND  $|P(S)| = 2^4 = 16$ .  
— WE CAN COUNT THE SUBSETS VIA CHOOSING WHETHER EACH ELEMENT OF  $S$  IS INCLUDED OR NOT: TWO CHOICES FOR EACH OF  $|S|$  ELEMENTS GIVES  $\underbrace{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdots 2}_{|S| \text{ TIMES}} = 2^{|S|}$ .

2. WHEN STUDYING A SYSTEM, THE SAMPLE SPACE IS THE SET OF POSSIBLE INDIVIDUAL OUTCOMES.

THE EVENT SPACE IS THE SET OF ALL COMBINATIONS OF OUTCOMES, I.E., ALL SUBSETS OF THE SAMPLE SPACE.

IN OTHER WORDS, AN EVENT IS SIMPLY A SET OF POSSIBLE OUTCOMES (OFTEN EXPRESSED AS A CONDITION).

E.G., ROLLING A FAIR SIX-SIDED DIE,

THE SAMPLE SPACE IS

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

THE EVENT SPACE IS

$$P(\Omega) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \dots, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}\}$$

"ROLL A SIX"  $\rightsquigarrow \{6\}$

"ROLL AN EVEN #"  $\rightsquigarrow \{2, 4, 6\}$

"ROLL A TEN"  $\rightsquigarrow \emptyset$

3. IF  $\Omega$  IS A FINITE SAMPLE SPACE, WITH  $|\Omega| = n \geq 1$ :

(a) A PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION ON  $\Omega$  IS SIMPLY A FUNCTION THAT ASSIGNS A PROBABILITY TO EACH SAMPLE  $x \in \Omega$ , I.E., A FUNCTION  $P: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ; IT MUST SATISFY 2 KEY AXIOMS:

①  $\forall x \in \Omega, P(x) \geq 0$ , AND (PROBABILITIES MUST BE NONNEGATIVE)

②  $\sum_{x \in \Omega} P(x) = 1$ . (EXACTLY ONE OUTCOME OCCURS)

THIS NOTATION SIMPLY SAYS TO ADD UP ( $\Sigma$  IS A CAPITAL SIGMA, READ AS "SUM") ALL OF THE VALUES  $P(x)$  FOR EACH  $x \in \Omega$ .

WE THEN ASSIGN PROBABILITIES TO EVENTS  $A \subset \Omega$  BY ADDING UP THE PROBABILITIES OF THE SAMPLES THAT EVENT CONTAINS:

$$P(A) = \sum_{x \in A} P(x) \quad (\text{WHICH ALLOWS US TO RESTATE } ② \text{ AS } P(\Omega) = 1)$$

\* NOTE: IN FULL-BLOOM PROBABILITY THEORY, THE SAMPLE SPACE  $\Omega$  NEED NOT BE A FINITE SET, AND NOT EVERY SUBSET OF  $\Omega$  MIGHT BE PERMITTED AS AN EVENT; IN THIS CASE, PROBABILITIES ARE ONLY DEFINED FOR EVENTS (NOT SAMPLES), AND ONE MORE AXIOM IS NECESSARY. WE WILL NOT GO THERE IN CSC1200 — IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, MATH 310 PRESENTS A BROADER VIEW!

(6) IN A UNIFORM PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION ON  $\Omega$ ,  
ALL SAMPLES ARE EQUALLY LIKELY, i.e.  $\forall x, y \in \Omega, P(x) = P(y)$

(So @ tells us that for any sample  $y \in \Omega$ ,  $1 = \sum_{x \in \Omega} P(x) = \sum_{x \in \Omega} P(y) = |\Omega| \cdot P(y)$ ,  
AND thus  $P(y) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|}$ ).

(i) For any sample  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $\underline{P(x)} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|}$ , AS ABOVE

(ii) For any event  $A \subset \Omega$ ,  $\underline{P(A)} = \sum_{x \in A} P(x) = \sum_{x \in A} \frac{1}{|\Omega|} = |A| \cdot \frac{1}{|\Omega|} = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|}$ .

4. Problem 3(b)(ii) gives us an approach to any basic probability question in the case of a uniform probability distribution (on a finite sample space  $\Omega$ ):

IF  $A \subset \Omega$ , TO COMPUTE  $P(A)$ , JUST COUNT THE ELEMENTS OF A,  
COUNT THE ELEMENTS OF  $\Omega$ , AND DIVIDE!

5. Rolling two fair sided dice (in order) has  $6 \times 6 = 36$  possible outcomes, each of which is equally likely (thus each has probability  $\frac{1}{36}$ ):

(a) Both dice show the same #:  $\frac{6}{36}$

(b) The first die shows a # strictly greater than the second:  $\frac{15}{36}$

(c) Probability of each sum:

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{3}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	$\frac{5}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{3}{36}$	$\frac{2}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$

		FIRST DIE									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SECOND DIE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

BLOCKS ARE SAMPLES —  
THE SUMS OF THE DICE ARE IN RED

6. FOR 10 CONSECUTIVE FLIPS OF A FAIR COIN, WE HAVE TWO CHOICES (H or T).  
FOR EACH FLIP, 10 TIMES, GIVING  $\underbrace{2 \cdot 2 \cdots 2}_{10} = 2^{10} = 1024$  SAMPLES IN OUR SAMPLE SPACE.

THE CORRESPONDING EVENT SPACE HAS  $2^{1024} \approx 1.8 \times 10^{308}$  ELEMENTS!

(a) FIRST FLIP IS H LEAVES  $2^9$  CHOICES FOR THE REST, GIVING  $\frac{2^9}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$

(b) IDENTICAL FIRST & SECOND FLIPS GIVES HH... OR TT..., SO 2 CHOICES FOR THE FIRST PAIR OF FLIPS, LEAVING  $2^8$  CHOICES FOR THE REST:

$$\frac{2 \cdot 2^8}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

(c) DIFFERENT FIRST & SECOND FLIPS GIVES HT... OR TH..., SO 2 CHOICES FOR THE FIRST PAIR OF FLIPS, LEAVING  $2^8$  CHOICES FOR THE REST:

$$\frac{2 \cdot 2^8}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

(d) ALL FLIPS ARE T GIVES JUST ONE OUTCOME,  $\overbrace{\text{TT...T}}^{10}$ . THUS, THE PROBABILITY IS  $\frac{1}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{1024}\right)$ .

(e) FIRST 9 FLIPS ARE T, AND THE LAST IS H ALSO GIVES JUST ONE OUTCOME, SO THE PROBABILITY IS  $\frac{1}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{1024}\right)$ .

(f) HTHTHTHTHT: JUST AS IN (d)&(e), ONLY ONE OUTCOME,  
SO THE PROBABILITY IS  $\frac{1}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{1}{1024}\right)$ .

(g)  $H_k$ : EXACTLY  $k$  H's: FOR ANY GIVEN  $k$ , COUNTING THE OUTCOMES MEANS CHOOSING WHERE TO PUT  $k$  H's AMONG 10 ROWS, I.E.,  $\binom{10}{k}$ .

$$P(H_k) \text{ IS THUS } \frac{\binom{10}{k}}{2^{10}} = \left(\frac{\binom{10}{k}}{1024}\right).$$

NOT CANCELING THE 2's IN THE DENOMINATOR, THIS GIVES:

$k$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$P(H_k)$	$\frac{1}{1024}$	$\frac{10}{1024}$	$\frac{45}{1024}$	$\frac{120}{1024}$	$\frac{210}{1024}$	$\frac{252}{1024}$	$\frac{210}{1024}$	$\frac{120}{1024}$	$\frac{45}{1024}$	$\frac{10}{1024}$	$\frac{1}{1024}$

(h) 3 H's IN THE FIRST FIVE ROWS, THEN 2 H's IN THE LAST FIVE ROWS:

AS ABOVE, WE NEED TO CHOOSE 3 OF THE FIRST 5 TO BE H:  $\binom{5}{3}$ ,  
THEN CHOOSE 2 OF THE NEXT 5 TO BE H:  $\binom{5}{2}$ .

THE TOTAL IS  $\binom{5}{3} \cdot \binom{5}{2} = 10 \cdot 10 = 100$ , SO THE PROBABILITY IS  $\left(\frac{100}{1024}\right)$

COMPARE TO  $\frac{252}{1024}$  ABOVE — 3+2 IS JUST ONE WAY TO GET 5 H's  
(IN FACT, ABOUT 40% OF THE WAYS).