

Model counting for logical theories

Problem set 2

1. Prove the *inclusion-exclusion principle*:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{k+1} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \mathbb{P}(A_{i_1} \dots A_{i_k}).$$

Hint: Partition events into disjoint unions of events of the form $A_1^{\sigma_1} \dots A_n^{\sigma_n}$ where each $A_i^{\sigma_i}$ is either A_i or $\overline{A_i}$. Compare the coefficient at $\mathbb{P}(A_1^{\sigma_1} \dots A_n^{\sigma_n})$ in the left- and right-hand sides. (Alternatively, you can use induction on n .)

2. Prove the *union bound*: $\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_i)$.

Hint: We already know that $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) \leq \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B)$.

3. Let $(\Omega, 2^\Omega, \mathbb{P})$ be a discrete probability space with Ω a finite set. Suppose $B \in 2^\Omega$ is such that $\mathbb{P}(B) > 0$. Prove that the function $\mathbb{Q}: 2^\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $\mathbb{Q}(A) = \mathbb{P}(A \mid B)$ is a probability measure:

(a) Show that $\mathbb{Q}(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \in 2^\Omega$.

(b) Show that $\mathbb{Q}(\Omega) = 1$.

(c) Show that $\mathbb{Q}(A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Q}(A_i)$ if the events A_1, \dots, A_n are pairwise disjoint, i.e., if $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$.

4. From the set of strings $\{000, 001, 002, \dots, 999\}$ a string $X_1 X_2 X_3$ is picked uniformly at random. We have proved in class that the events $X_1 = 5$, $X_2 = 5$, and $X_3 = 5$ are independent. What if the original set is replaced with $\{000, 001, 002, \dots, 998\}$?

5. In class we have constructed a probability space $(\Omega, 2^\Omega, \mathbb{P})$ and three events $A_1, A_2, A_3 \in 2^\Omega$ such that $\mathbb{P}(A_i A_j) = \mathbb{P}(A_i) \mathbb{P}(A_j)$ for all $i \neq j$, but A_1, A_2, A_3 are not independent. Can you come up with a (possibly different) probability space and three events B_1, B_2, B_3 such that $\mathbb{P}(B_1 B_2 B_3) = \mathbb{P}(B_1) \mathbb{P}(B_2) \mathbb{P}(B_3)$, but B_1, B_2, B_3 are not independent?

6. Can there exist random variables X, Y that have $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ but are *not* independent? If yes, find an example, otherwise prove this impossible.

7. Verify that the expectation and the variance of a geometrically distributed random variable with parameter $p \in (0, 1)$ are q/p and q/p^2 , respectively.