

# Review of Topics — Basic Concepts of Probability Theory

## 1. Sample space $S$

- discrete:  $S_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- continuous:  $S_2 = \{x : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$

## 2. Event $E \subset S$

- sure event:  $E_1 = S$
- impossible event:  $E_2 = \phi$

## 3. Corollary 5

$$\begin{aligned}
 P[A \cup B] &= P[A] + P[B] - P[A \cap B] \\
 P[A \cup B \cup C] &= P[A] + P[B] + P[C] \\
 &\quad - P[A \cap B] - P[A \cap C] - P[B \cap C] \\
 &\quad + P[A \cap B \cap C]
 \end{aligned}$$

## 4. $P[A \cap B] = P[A]P[A|B]$

## 5. Conditional probability

$$P[A|B] = \frac{P[A \cap B]}{P[B]}$$

## 6. Mutually exclusiveness

$$\begin{aligned}
 A \cap B &= \phi \quad \text{i.e. } A \text{ and } B \text{ are disjoint} \\
 \Rightarrow P[A \cap B] &= 0 \text{ and } P[A \cup B] = P[A] + P[B]
 \end{aligned}$$

## 7. Independence

- $A$  and  $B$  are independent if

$$P[A \cap B] = P[A]P[B]$$

- $A, B$  and  $C$  are independent if

$$P[A \cap B] = P[A]P[B]$$

$$P[A \cap C] = P[A]P[C]$$

$$P[B \cap C] = P[B]P[C]$$

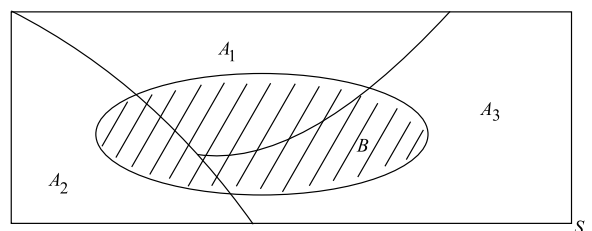
and

$$P[A \cap B \cap C] = P[A]P[B]P[C]$$

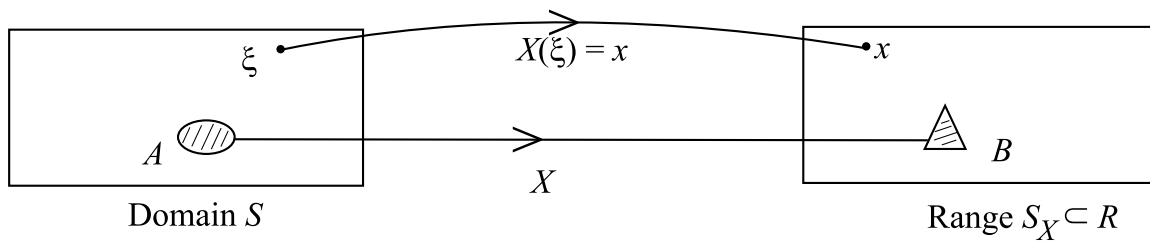
## 8. Bayes' Theorem

$\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$  is a partition of  $S$ . For  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P[A_i|B] \\
 &= \frac{P[B \cap A_i]}{P[B]} \\
 &= \frac{P[A_i]P[B|A_i]}{P[A_1]P[B|A_1] + P[A_2]P[B|A_2] + P[A_3]P[B|A_3]}
 \end{aligned}$$



9. Random variable  $X$



10. Events  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent if

$$P[A] = P[B].$$

Usually, given  $B$ ,  $A$  is computed by

$$A = X^{-1}(B).$$

11. cdf:  $F_X(x) = P[X \leq x]$ ,  $-\infty < x < \infty$

12.  $P[a < X \leq b] = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$

13.  $P[X = b]$

- $F_X(x)$  is continuous at  $x = b$

$$P[X = b] = 0$$

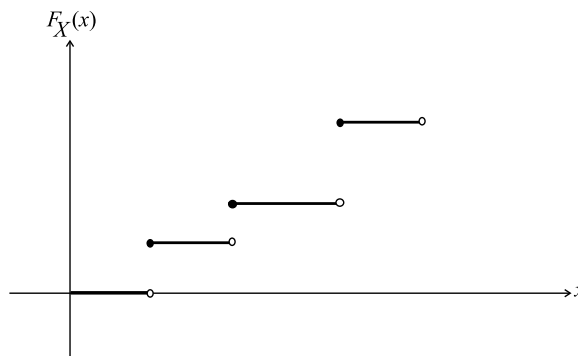
- Otherwise

$$P[X = b] = F_X(b) - F_X(b^-)$$

14. Three types of random variables

- Discrete random variables

$$F_X(x) = \sum_k P_X(x_k) u(x - x_k)$$



- Continuous random variables
- Mixed type

$$F_X(x) = \theta F_D(x) + (1 - \theta)F_C(x), \quad 0 < \theta < 1$$

15. pdf of continuous  $F_X(x)$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) \geq 0$$

- $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) dt$

16. pdf of discrete  $F_X(x)$

- Define  $u(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \delta(t) dt$
- Dirac function  $\delta(x)$ :

$$\delta(x) = \frac{d}{dx} u(x)$$

17. For both continuous and discrete random variables:

- Conditional cdf of  $X$  given  $A$

$$F_X(x|A) = \frac{P[\{X \leq x\} \cap A]}{P[A]}, \quad P[A] > 0$$

- Conditional pdf of  $X$  given  $A$

$$f_X(x|A) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x|A)$$