

# I

## Random Events and Events Algebra

### **D. 1. 1. (Random Trial)**

A trial whose outcome cannot be predicted in advance is called a *random trial*.

### **D. 1. 2. (Random Event)**

The outcome of a random trial is called a *random event*.

### **Ex. 1. 1.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die

*Random events:*  $j = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ : Number appearing above

### **Ex. 1. 2.**

*Random trial:* Quality control

*Random events:*  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ : Number of defective products

### **Ex. 1. 3.**

*Random trial:* Examining the lifetime of a certain kind of tyre

*Random events:*  $t \in [0, +\infty[$ : lifetime of a certain kind of tyre.

### **R. 1. 1.**

The algebra of events is the application of the set theory to random events.

### **D. 1. 3. (Impossible and Certain Events)**

An event that in all repetitions of a certain random trial will never happen is called an *impossible event*. It will be denoted by  $\emptyset$ .

An event that in all repetitions of a certain event will always occur is called a *certain event*. It will be denoted by  $\Omega$ .

### **Ex. 1. 4.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die.

The random event “Throw the number 8” or  $\{8\}$  is an impossible event.

The random event “Throw at most the number 6” or  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  is a certain event.

### **D. 1. 4. (Subevent)**

The event  $E_1$  is called a *subevent of the event*  $E_2$  if it always accompanies the event  $E_2$ .

**Ex. 1. 5.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw an odd number”,

$E_2$ : “throw at most 5”.

We have:

$$E_1 = \{1, 3, 5\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} = E_2.$$

**D. 1. 5. (Equivalent Events)**

$$E_1 := E_2 \Leftrightarrow (E_1 \subseteq E_2 \wedge E_2 \subseteq E_1)$$

**D. 1. 6. (Sum of Events)**

$E$  is said to be the *sum* of the events  $E_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , if at least one of the events  $E_i$  occurs:

$$E := \bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i$$

**Ex. 1. 6.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw either 2 or 4”,

$E_2$ : “throw either 2 or 6”.

We have:

$$E_1 = \{2, 4\}, \quad E_2 = \{2, 6\},$$

$$E = E_1 \cup E_2 = \{2, 4, 6\}$$

**D. 1. 7. (Product of Events)**

$E$  is said to be the *product* of the events  $E_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , if the events  $E_i$  occurs at the same time:

$$E := \bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i$$

**Ex. 1. 7.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw 1 or 4”,  
 $E_2$ : “throw a prime number”.

We have:

$$E_1 = \{1, 4\}, \quad E_2 = \{1, 2, 3, 5\},$$
$$E = E_1 \cap E_2 = \{1\}$$

**D. 1. 8.** (*Mutually exclusive events*)

The events  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are said to be *mutually exclusive* if

$$E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$$

**Ex. 1. 8.**

*Random trial*: Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw an even number”,  
 $E_2$ : “throw an odd number”.

We have

$$E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$$

**D. 1. 9.** (*Complementary Events*)

The events  $E$  and  $\bar{E}$  are said to be *complementary* if

$$E \cup \bar{E} = \Omega \quad \wedge \quad E \cap \bar{E} = \emptyset$$

**Ex. 1. 9.**

*Random trial*: Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw an even number”,  
 $E_2$ : “throw an odd number”.

We have:

$$E_1 = \{2, 4, 6\}, \quad E_2 = \{1, 2, 3\},$$
$$E_1 \cup E_2 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} = \Omega, \quad E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$$

**D. 1. 10. (Difference)**

The *difference* of the events  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ , denoted by  $E_1 \setminus E_2$  is defined as the case in which  $E_1$  occurs while  $E_2$  does not occur.

**Ex. 1. 10.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die.

Let

$E_1$ : “throw either 1 or 4”,

$E_2$ : “throw the number 4”.

We have:

$$E_1 = \{1, 4\}, \quad E_2 = \{4\},$$

$$E_1 \setminus E_2 = \{1\}$$

**T. 1. 1.**

Let  $E_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , be random events. Then we have:

*The Commutative Laws:*

$$E_1 \cup E_2 = E_2 \cup E_1$$

$$E_1 \cap E_2 = E_2 \cap E_1.$$

*The Associative Laws:*

$$E_1 \cup (E_2 \cup E_3) = (E_2 \cup E_1) \cup E_3 = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$$

$$E_1 \cap (E_2 \cap E_3) = (E_2 \cap E_1) \cap E_3 = E_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3$$

*The Distributive Laws:*

$$E_1 \cup (E_2 \cap E_3) = (E_1 \cup E_2) \cap (E_1 \cup E_3)$$

$$E_1 \cap (E_2 \cup E_3) = (E_1 \cap E_2) \cup (E_1 \cap E_3).$$

Further we have:

$$E \cup E = E, \quad E \cap E = E$$

$$E \cup \bar{E} = \Omega \quad E \cap \bar{E} = \emptyset$$

$$E \cup \emptyset = E \quad E \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

$$E \cup \Omega = \Omega \quad E \cap \Omega = E$$

*De Morgan Laws.*

$$\overline{\bigcap_{i=1}^n E} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \bar{E}_i,$$

$$\overline{\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i} = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \bar{E}_i.$$

**Ex. 1. 11.**

A factory consists of three departments  $D_1, D_2, D_3$ . Let

$E_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ : “There is no disturbance in  $D_i$ .”

Describe the following events:

- $A$ : “There is no disturbance in the three departments.”  
 $B$ : “There is disturbance in all departments.”  
 $C$ : “There is no disturbance in at least one department.”  
 $D$ : “There is disturbance in at least one department.”  
 $E$ : “There is disturbance in at most one department.”  
 $F$ : “There is disturbance only in department  $D_3$ ”  
 $G$ : “There is disturbance in department  $D_3$ .”

*Solution:*

$$A = E_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3$$

$$B = \bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3 = \overline{E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3}$$

$$C = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$$

$$= (E_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3)$$

$$\cup (E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) \cup (E_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap E_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3)$$

$$\cup (E_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap E_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3)$$

$$= \Omega \setminus (\bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3)$$

$$D = \bar{E}_1 \cup \bar{E}_2 \cup \bar{E}_3$$

$$E = (E_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3) \cup (E_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap E_3) \cup (E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3)$$

$$F = E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3$$

$$G = (E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap E_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) \cup (E_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3) \cup (\bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2 \cap \bar{E}_3)$$

**D. 1. 11. (System of Mutually Exclusive and Exhaustive Events)**

The events  $E_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , form a *mutually exclusive and exhaustive* system if the following conditions are fulfilled:

1.  $E_i \neq \emptyset$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$
2.  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i = \Omega$
3.  $E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset$ ,  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

**Ex. 1. 12.**

Determine if the following events form a *mutually exclusive and exhaustive* system:

1. Random trial: Rolling an unbiased die

- $E_1$  : : „throw 1 or 4“  
 $E_2$  : : „throw an odd number  $> 2$ “  
 $E_3$  : : “throw an even number  $\neq 4$ ”.

$$E_1 = \{1, 4\}, \quad E_2 = \{3, 5\}, \quad E_3 = \{2, 6\}.$$

The events form a *mutually exclusive and exhaustive* system, since

$$E_i \neq \emptyset, \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3 = \Omega$$

$$E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset, \quad E_1 \cap E_3 = \emptyset, \quad E_2 \cap E_3 = \emptyset$$

2. Random trial: Rolling three unbiased dice.

- $E_1$  : : „throw at least 17“  
 $E_2$  : : „throw at most 5“

$$E_1 = \{17, 18\}, \quad E_2 = \{3, 4, 5\}.$$

The events do not form a *mutually exclusive and exhaustive* system, since among other things

$$E_1 \cup E_2 \neq \Omega$$

**D. 1. 12. (Field of Events)**

The *field of events*  $F$  is a set with the following properties:

1.  $\emptyset, \Omega \in F$
2.  $E_1, E_2 \in F \Rightarrow (E_1 \cup E_2 \in F) \wedge (E_1 \cap E_2 \in F)$
3.  $E \in F \Rightarrow E \in \bar{F}$
4.  $E_i \in F, i=1,2,\dots \Rightarrow \bigcup_i E_i \in F \wedge \bigcap_i E_i \in F$

**Ex. 1. 13.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die. Let

- $E_1$  : : „throw an odd number“  
 $E_2$  : : „throw an even number“

$$F = \{ E_1, E_2, \Omega, \emptyset \}$$

- $\Omega$  : „throw either 1 or 2 or...6”  
 $\emptyset$  : „throw neither of the numbers 1, 2, ..., 6”

**D. 1. 13. (Elementary or Atomic Event)**

An *elementary* or *atomic event* is an event which is not further genuinely decomposable.

**Ex. 1. 14.**

*Random trial:* Rolling an unbiased die. Let

- $E_1$  : : „throw an odd number“  
 $E_2$  : : „throw a 6“.

$E_1$  is decomposable:  $E_1 = \{1, 3, 5\} = \{1\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{5\}$ ,  $E_2$  is not.

*(Last updated: 10.05.2009)*