

## Expected number of satisfied clauses

Note: This assumes knowledge of the propositional calculus.

A. Suppose you have a collection of  $N$  clauses in the propositional logic, where each clause has three literals with three different atoms.

You assign a truth value to each atom at random, with equal probability true or false. Let random variable  $K$  be the number of clauses satisfied by the assignment. What is  $\text{Exp}(K)$  as a function of  $N$ ? Justify your answer.

For example one set with  $N = 5$  is

- 1.  $P \vee \neg Q \vee R.$
- 2.  $\neg P \vee Q \vee W.$
- 3.  $P \vee \neg R \vee W.$
- 4.  $P \vee R \vee \neg W.$
- 5.  $Q \vee R \vee \neg W. \}$

If you randomly choose  $P = F, Q = T, R = T, W = F$ , then in that case 1, 2, 4, and 5 are satisfied but 3 is unsatisfied, so in that case, the value of  $K$  is 4.

Hint: This is an *easy* problem; your answer should not be more than three or four sentences long. Determining the probability distribution of  $K$  is difficult, and depends on the particular set of clauses. For example,  $P(K = N)$  is equal to 0 only if the set of clauses is unsatisfiable, which is a hard problem (co-NP-complete). But  $\text{Exp}(K)$  is the same, regardless of what the clauses are (even if the collection is just  $N$  repetitions of the same clause, say.)

B. Find the probability distribution for  $K$  for the above specific example of five clauses. (There is no clever way to do this; you just have to enumerate all 16 different valuations.)