

Greek Letters		Common Usages
Aα	Alpha	α : Constant in regression/statistics: $y = \alpha + \beta x + \varepsilon$; also type I error
Bβ	Beta	β : Coefficient in regression/statistics, often subscripted to indicate different coefficients: $y = \alpha + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \varepsilon$; also type II error; related, $1 - \beta$ is called the “power” of a statistical test.
Γγ	Gamma	Γ : A particular statistical distribution; also used to denote a game.
Δδ	Delta	Δ : Means “change” or “difference”, as in the equation of a line’s slope: $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_1 - y_2}{x_1 - x_2}$. δ : Known in game theory as the “discount parameter” and is used for repeated games.
Eε	Epsilon	ε : “Error term” in regression/statistics; more generally used to denote an arbitrarily small, positive number.
∈	(Variant Epsilon)	This version of epsilon is used in set theory to mean “belongs to” or “is in the set of”: $x \in \mathbf{X}$; similarly used to indicate the range of a parameter: $x \in [0, 1]$. “ $x \notin \emptyset$ ” means “the element x does <i>not</i> belong to the empty set”.
Zζ	Zeta	
Hη	Eta	
Θθ	Theta	θ : The fixed probability of success parameter in a Binomial Distribution and related distributions.
ϑ	(Script Theta)	
Iι	Iota	
Kκ	Kappa	
Λλ	Lambda	$\lambda = n\theta$: Parameter in the Poisson Distribution.
Mμ	Mu	μ : In statistics, the mean of a distribution. In game theory, often used as the probability of belief.
Nν	Nu	
Ξξ	Xi	
Oο	Omicron	
Ππ	Pi	Π : Product symbol, as in $\prod_{i=3}^5 i = 60$. π : Mathematical constant (3.14159...); also used in game theory to denote an actor’s belief as a probability.
Ρρ	Rho	ρ : Correlation coefficient in some statistical analyses.
Σσ	Sigma	Σ : Summation symbol, as in $\sum_{i=3}^5 i = 12$. σ : Standard Deviation of a distribution; also used to denote an actor’s mixed strategy. σ^2 : Variance of a distribution.
ς	(Final Sigma)	
Tτ	Tau	
Υυ	Upsilon	
Φφ	Phi	$\Phi(z)$: The cumulative density function (cdf) for the standard normal distribution. $\phi(z)$: The probability density function (pdf) for the same.
φ	(Script Phi)	
Xχ	Chi	χ^2 : A particular statistical distribution.
Ψψ	Psi	
Ωω	Omega	Ω : The “positive definite matrix” in regression/statistics.
ϖ	(Variant Omega)	

Mathematical Constants

$e \approx 2.718281828\dots$	$\pi \approx 3.141592653\dots$	$i = \sqrt{-1}$ (imaginary numbers)
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Mathematical Symbols		Usage
!	Factorial	$n! = \prod_{i=1}^n i$; e.g., $5! = 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 120$
^	“carrot” or “hat”	$3^2 = 3^2 = 9$. Also used in statistics to denote estimates: $\hat{\sigma}$
$\bar{\mathbf{X}}$	x “bar”	Sample mean of $\mathbf{X} = (\sum x)/n$, where n is the number of observations.
\forall	All	$\forall x$; for all x , something is true.
\exists	Exists	$\exists x = 1$; there exists some x equal to 1.
\rightarrow	Implies	$p \rightarrow q$; if p is true (or occurs), then q is true (or will occur).
\therefore	Therefore	Indicating a logical result: $p \rightarrow q$ and $q \rightarrow r$, $\therefore p \rightarrow r$.
	Given, Conditional	$P(\mathbf{E} \mathbf{F})$; The probability of \mathbf{E} given (or within the set of) \mathbf{F} .
	Absolute Value	$ -x = x$
\sim	Not	$\sim C$; not to cooperate. (Also used in geometry to mean “similar”.)
\leq	Less than or equal to	
\geq	Greater than or equal to	
∞	Infinity	
\pm	Plus or minus	
\propto	Proportional to	$x \propto 1/f$
∂	Derivative	Calculus notation; $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(y = mx + b) = m$
\neq	Not equal to	
\equiv	Identically equal to	$x \equiv x$; sometimes a way proving something; also a way of denoting a definition.
\approx	Approximately equal to	$\pi \approx 3.14$
\mathfrak{R} , \mathbf{R} , or \mathbb{R}	Set of Real Numbers	
\emptyset	Empty Set	$\mathbf{X} = \emptyset$; The set \mathbf{X} is empty. $\mathbf{X} \neq \emptyset$; The set \mathbf{X} is not empty.
\cap	Conjunction; And	$\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \cap \{4, 5, 6, 7\} = \{4\}$
\cup	Union; Or	$\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \cup \{4, 5, 6, 7\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$
$\sqrt{\quad}$	Square root	$\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414$; $\sqrt{4} = 2$
$P(\cdot)$	Probability of	$P(\text{HH}) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$; the probability of landing two heads in successive coin flips; sometimes $\text{Pr}(\cdot)$.
L	Likelihood	Used in Maximum Likelihood Estimation in statistics.
$L(\cdot)$	Lottery (in game theory)	$L(B, W; p)$ is a lottery between winning one’s best outcome, B , with probability p and “winning” one’s worst outcome, W , with probability $1 - p$.
$E(\cdot)$	Expectation of	$E(\mathbf{X}) = \sum x \cdot P(x)$; also as expected utility: $\text{EU}(L(1, 0; \frac{1}{4})) = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 0 \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$.
ln or LN	Natural log	$(\ln(x) = b) \equiv (e^b = x)$, where e is the mathematical constant.
lim	Limit	$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$; The limit of $1/x$ as x goes to (or approaches) infinity equals zero.
\int	Integral	Calculus notation; $\int x dx = \frac{1}{2}x^2$ and $\int_a^b \frac{1}{a+b} dx = \frac{b-a}{a+b}$
J	Jacobian	\mathbf{J} : a particular matrix; J : Determinant of a Jacobian matrix.

Rules of Logic

$$\frac{p}{\therefore p \cup q}$$

Addition

$$\frac{p \quad q}{\therefore p \cap q}$$

Conjunction

$$\frac{p \cap q}{\therefore p \quad \therefore q}$$

Simplification

$$\frac{p \cup q \quad \sim p}{\therefore q}$$

Elimination

$$\frac{\sim(\sim p)}{\therefore p}$$

Double Negation

$$\frac{\sim(p \cup q)}{\therefore \sim p \cap \sim q}$$

$$\frac{\sim(p \cap q)}{\therefore \sim p \cup \sim q}$$

De Morgan's Rule

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q}{\therefore \sim p \cup q}$$

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q}{\therefore \sim(p \cap \sim q)}$$

Implication

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad p}{\therefore q}$$

Modus Ponens

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad \sim q}{\therefore \sim p}$$

Modus Tollens

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q}{\therefore \sim q \rightarrow \sim p}$$

$$\frac{\sim q \rightarrow \sim p}{\therefore p \rightarrow q}$$

Contrapositive or Transposition

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad q \rightarrow r}{\therefore p \rightarrow r}$$

Chain Rule

$$\frac{p \leftrightarrow q}{\therefore p \rightarrow q \quad \therefore q \rightarrow p}$$

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad q \rightarrow p}{\therefore p \leftrightarrow q}$$

Biconditional