

Conditional Probability & Bayes' Rule

- **Q:** Should the following probabilities be different?
 - Event = a pitcher wins at least 16 games in a season
 - $P=??$ in the beginning of the season
 - $P=??$ in the middle of the season
 - $P=??$ close to the end of the season
 - Event = rain tomorrow
 - $P=??$ if no information about where you are staying
 - $P=??$ if you are staying in a desert
 - $P=??$ if a typhoon will hit the place you stay tomorrow
- **Q:** What causes the differences?
 - For an event, new information (i.e., some other event has occurred) could change its probability
 - We call the altered probability a conditional probability

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- Mathematical Definition: If A and B are two events in a sample space Ω and $P(A)>0$, then

$$P(B|A) \equiv \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)}$$

is called the conditional probability of B given A .

- In the classical probability,

$$P(A) = \#A/\#\Omega \quad \text{and} \quad P(A \cap B) = \#(A \cap B)/\#\Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B|A) = \frac{\#(A \cap B)/\#\Omega}{\#A/\#\Omega} = \frac{\#(A \cap B)}{\#A}.$$

- Example: A family is known to have 2 children, at least one of whom is a girl. **Q:** Probability that the other is a boy=??
 - $\Omega = \{bb, bg, gb, gg\}$
 - $A = \{bg, gb, gg\}$ and $B = \{bb, bg, gb\}$
 - $P(B|A) = \#(A \cap B)/\#A = 2/3$
- Note: $\#\Omega$ is reduced to $\#A$.

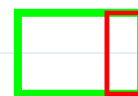
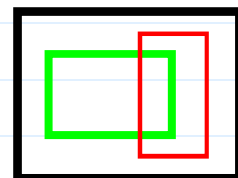
➤ In effect by conditioning,

- we are restricting the sample space from Ω to A , i.e.,

$$\Omega \rightarrow A,$$

- and, for an arbitrary event B (in Ω) to occur when A has occurred, we need that both A and B occur together, i.e.,

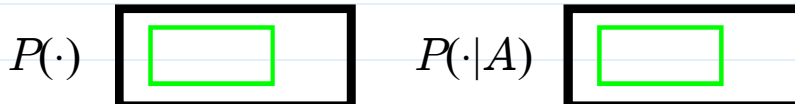
$$B \rightarrow B \cap A.$$



➤ The division by $P(A)$ in the definition above rescales all probabilities from the entire sample space Ω to being relative to the new sample space A

➤ $P(B|A)$ is a probability measure defined on B , but not A .

- $P(\cdot|A)$ satisfies the 3 axioms of probability (exercise)



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- Any propositions developed in Chapter 2 for probability measures can be applied on $P(\cdot|A)$.

(For example, $P(B^c|A) = 1 - P(B|A)$.)

• 3 Useful Formulas for Calculating Probabilities
(for 2-events case)

1. If $P(A) > 0$, then $P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B|A)$.



2. If $0 < P(A) < 1$, then

$$P(B) = P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c).$$



3. If $0 < P(A) < 1$ and $P(B) > 0$, then

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A)P(B|A)}{P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c)}.$$



➤ Example (Urn Problem)

- The Story. n balls sequentially and randomly chosen, without replacement, from an urn containing R red and $N-R$ white balls ($n \leq N$). **Q**: Given that k of the n balls are red ($k \leq R$), probability that the 1st ball chosen is red = ??
- Let $A = \{k \text{ of the } n \text{ balls are red}\}$
 $B = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ ball chosen is red}\}$
- Method 1: $P(B|A) = \frac{\binom{n-1}{k-1}}{\binom{n}{k}} = \underline{k/n}$
- Method 2:
 - $P(A) = \left[\binom{R}{k} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k} \right] / \binom{N}{n}$

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$$\square P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A|B) = \frac{R}{N} \times \frac{\binom{R-1}{k-1} \times \binom{N-R}{n-k}}{\binom{N-1}{n-1}}$$

p. 4-6

$$\square P(B|A) = P(A \cap B) / P(A) = k/n$$

➤ Example (Sampling Experiments): An urn contains R red balls and $N-R$ white balls. Sample 2 balls from the urn.

- $A = \{\text{red on the first draw}\}$
 $B = \{\text{red on the second draw}\}$



- Sampling Without Replacement:

$$P(A) = \frac{R(N-1)}{N(N-1)} = \frac{R}{N}, \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{R(R-1)}{N(N-1)},$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{(R(R-1))/(N(N-1))}{R/N} = \frac{R-1}{N-1}.$$

$$\text{Similarly, } P(B|A^c) = \frac{R}{N-1}. \text{ (exercise)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(B) &= P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c) \\
 &= \frac{R}{N} \cdot \frac{R-1}{N-1} + \frac{N-R}{N} \cdot \frac{R}{N-1} \\
 &= \frac{R^2 - R + NR - R^2}{N(N-1)} = \frac{R(N-1)}{N(N-1)} = \frac{R}{N}.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{(R(R-1))/(N(N-1))}{R/N} = \frac{R-1}{N-1}.$$

▣ Notes:

- ◆ The probabilities are proportional to # of red balls left
- ◆ $P(A|B) = P(B|A) \Rightarrow$ Symmetry.

■ Sampling With Replacement:

$$P(A) = \frac{R \cdot N}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R}{N}, \quad P(B) = \frac{N \cdot R}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R}{N},$$

$$P(A \cap B) = \frac{R \cdot R}{N \cdot N} = \frac{R^2}{N^2},$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{R^2/N^2}{R/N} = \frac{R}{N} = P(B).$$

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➤ Example (Diagnostic Tests)

- The Story. A diagnostic test for a rare disease (e.g., an Xray for lung cancer) is part of a routine physical exam.

- Let $\Omega = \{\text{the whole population of Taiwan}\}$

$$\underline{D} = \{\text{disease is present}\}$$

$$\underline{E} = \{\text{test indicates disease present}\}$$



- Suppose that $\underline{P(D)}=0.001$, $\underline{P(E|D)}=0.98$, $\underline{P(E|D^c)}=0.01$

Q: Do you think the test is effective?

- Let us examine it from an alternative viewpoint. Suppose that you are tested as positive. What is the probability that you actually have the disease?

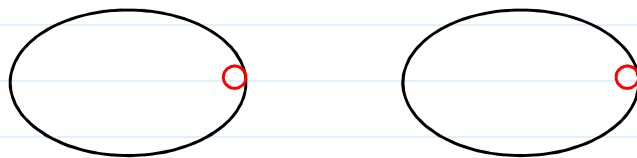
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(E) &= \underline{P(D)P(E|D)} + \underline{P(D^c)P(E|D^c)} \\
 &= \underline{0.001 \times 0.98} + \underline{0.999 \times 0.01} = 0.01097.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{P(D|E)} = \frac{\underline{P(D)P(E|D)}}{\underline{P(D)P(E|D)} + \underline{P(D^c)P(E|D^c)}} = \frac{0.00098}{0.01097} = \underline{0.0893}.$$

$$P(D^c|E) = 1 - P(D|E) = 0.9107$$

Q: Now, do you still think the test is effective?

- The probability of D increased by a factor of roughly 90 ($0.001 \rightarrow 0.0893$) when E occurs, but 0.0893 is still **small**
- The $P(E|D^c)$ ($=0.01$) and $P(E^c|D)$ ($=1-P(E|D)=0.02$) are called the false positive and false negative rates, respectively.
- Q: Why the 2 interpretations so different? What causes it?



➤ Example (引自“快思慢想”, Kahneman)

- 在1970年代，湯姆是美國某州裡重要大學的研究生，請將下面九個研究所領域排序，標出湯姆就讀這些領域的可能性，1代表可能性最高，9代表最低。
A. 企業管理, B. 電腦, C. 工程, D. 人文與教育, E. 法律,
F. 醫學, G. 圖書館學, H. 物理和生命科學, I. 社會學和社會工作

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- 下面是湯姆念高三時，心理學家根據心理測驗結果對湯姆的人格素描：
 - 湯姆是個很聰明的學生，但缺少真正的創造力。
 - 他喜歡整潔和秩序，他的每一樣東西，不管多少，都有條有理的擺放在恰當位置上。
 - 他的作文有點無趣呆板和機械式，偶爾會出現一些陳舊過時的雙關語和類似科幻想像的句子。
 - 他的好勝心很強，對人冷淡，沒什麼同情心，也不喜歡跟別人來往。
 - 雖然以自我為中心，卻有很強的道德感。

把剛剛那幾個領域再排序一下，你認為湯姆最可能是哪個領域的研究生，1代表可能性最高，9代表最低。

- 在1970年代，受試者的排序大致如下：
1. 電腦, 2. 工程, 3. 企業管理, 4. 物理和生命科學,
5. 圖書館學, 6. 法律, 7. 醫學, 8. 人文與教育,
9. 社會學和社會工作

• Extensions of the 3 Useful Formulas (for m -events case)

1. (Multiplication Law) If $\underline{A_1}, \dots, \underline{A_m}$ are events for which

$$\underline{P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{m-1}) > 0}, \text{ then}$$

$$P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_m)$$

$$= \underline{P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1)P(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2) \cdots P(A_m|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{m-1})}.$$

- Example (Birthday Problem, LNp.3-4). Let $\underline{A_k}$ be the event that the k^{th} birthday differs from the first $k-1$. Then, $\underline{P(A_1)=1}$,

$$\square P(A_k|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{k-1}) = \frac{365 - k + 1}{365}$$

$$\square \underline{P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n)} = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1) \cdots P(A_n|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1})$$

$$= \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{365 - k + 1}{365} = \frac{365!}{365^n \cdot (365 - n)!} = \frac{(365)_n}{365^n}.$$

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- Example (Matching Problem, LNp.3-14). **Q:** Probability that exactly k of n members ($k \leq n$) have matches = ??

□ Let $\underline{\Omega}$ be all permutations $\omega = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$ of $1, 2, \dots, n$.

□ Let $\underline{A_j} = \{\omega: i_j = j\}$ and

$$A = \bigcup_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} \underline{(A_1^c \cap \dots \cap A_{j_1-1}^c \cap A_{j_1} \cap A_{j_1+1}^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c)}$$

□ By symmetry,

$$P(A) = \binom{n}{k} \times P(\underline{A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_k \cap A_{k+1}^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c})$$

□ Let $\underline{E} = A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_k$ and $\underline{G} = A_{k+1}^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c$

□ Then, $\underline{P(E \cap G)} = P(E)P(G|E)$, where

$$\underline{P(E)} = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1) \cdots P(A_k|A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{k-1})$$

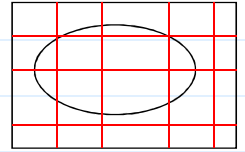
$$= \frac{1}{n} \times \frac{1}{n-1} \times \cdots \times \frac{1}{n-k+1} = \frac{(n-k)!}{n!} = \frac{1}{(n)_k}$$

$$\text{and, } \underline{P(G|E)} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-k} (-1)^i \frac{1}{i!} \equiv p_{n-k}$$

$$\square P(A) = \binom{n}{k} \frac{1}{(n)_k} p_{n-k} = \frac{p_{n-k}}{k!} \approx \frac{e^{-1}}{k!}, \text{ when } n \text{ is large}$$

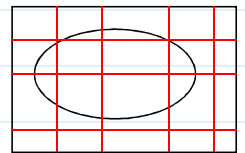
2. (Law of Total Probability) Let A_1, \dots, A_m be a partition of Ω and $P(A_i) > 0, i=1, \dots, m$, then for any event $B \subset \Omega$,

$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^m P(A_i)P(B|A_i).$$



3. (Bayes' Rule) Let A_1, \dots, A_m be a partition of Ω and $P(A_i) > 0, i=1, \dots, m$. If B is an event such that $P(B) > 0$, then for $1 \leq j \leq m$,

$$P(A_j|B) = \frac{P(A_j)P(B|A_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^m P(A_i)P(B|A_i)}.$$



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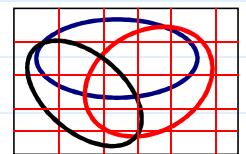
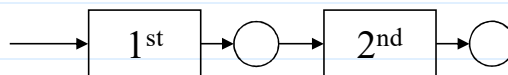
- From Bayesians' viewpoint,

$P(A_j)$ = probability of A_j before B occurs \rightarrow prior prob.

$P(A_j|B)$ = probability of A_j after B occurs \rightarrow posterior prob.

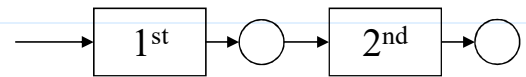
\Rightarrow The Bayes' rule tells how to update the probabilities of A_j in light of the new information (i.e., B occurs)

- An Application of Bayes' Rule. Suppose that a random experiment consists of two random stages



- The probabilities of the 2nd-stage results depend on what happened in the 1st stage
 - We never see the result of the 1st stage, only the final result
 - We may be interested in finding the probability for outcomes in the 1st stage given the final result

➤ Example (Gold Coins):



■ The Story.

- Box 1 contains 2 silver coins.
- Box 2 contains 1 gold and 1 silver coin.
- Box 3 contains 2 gold coins.
- Experiment: (i) Select a box at random and, (ii) Examine the 2 coins in order (assuming all choices are equally likely at each stage)

- **Q**: Given that 1st coin is gold, what is the probability that Box k is selected, $k=1, 2, 3$?

- Let $A_k = \{\text{Box } k \text{ is selected}\}$, $B = \{\text{1st coin is gold}\}$,

$$P(B|A_k) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } k = 1, \\ 1/2, & \text{if } k = 2, \\ 1, & \text{if } k = 3. \end{cases}$$

$$P(B) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

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$$P(A_1|B) = \frac{(1/3) \cdot 0}{1/2} = 0.$$

Similarly, $P(A_2|B) = 1/3$, $P(A_3|B) = 2/3$.

- **Q**: Given that 1st coin is gold, what is the probability that 2nd coin is gold?

$$\text{□ Let } C = \{\text{2nd coin is gold}\}. P(B \cap C|A_k) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } k = 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } k = 2, \\ 1, & \text{if } k = 3. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{□ } P(B \cap C) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$P(C|B) = \frac{P(B \cap C)}{P(B)} = \frac{1/3}{1/2} = \frac{2}{3}.$$

➤ Example (TV Game Show: Let's Make A Deal)

■ The story.

1. The contestant is given an opportunity to select one of three doors.
2. Behind one of the doors is a great prize (say, a car) and there is nothing behind the other two doors.
3. The host knows which door contains the car, but the contestant does not.



4. After the contestant select a door, the host opens an empty door that the contestant did not pick.

5. After opening an empty door, the host always offers the contestant the opportunity to switch to the other remaining unopened door.

- **Q:** Should the contestant switch to the other door or not?
- Argument 1 (*The Drunkard's Walk* by L. Mlodinow): “Two doors are available --- open one and you win; open the other and you lose ..., your chances of winning are 50/50.”
- Argument 2. Without loss of generality, assume that the contestant select door 3. Let

$\underline{A}_i = \{\text{the car is behind the door } i\}, i=1, 2, 3.$

$\underline{B} = \{\text{door 1 is opened}\}$

$$\square P(A_1) = P(A_2) = P(A_3) = 1/3 \quad \longrightarrow \boxed{1^{\text{st}}} \rightarrow \bigcirc \rightarrow \boxed{2^{\text{nd}}} \rightarrow \bigcirc$$

$$\square P(B|A_1) = 0, \quad P(B|A_2) = 1, \\ P(B|A_3) = 1/2$$

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$$\square P(\underline{A}_3|\underline{B}) = \frac{(1/3) \times (1/2)}{(1/3) \times 0 + (1/3) \times 1 + (1/3) \times (1/2)} = 1/3$$

$$\square P(\underline{A}_2|\underline{B}) = 2/3$$

■ Similar result obtained if $\underline{B} = \{\text{door 2 is opened}\}$

- Intuitive interpretation.

➤ **Q:** Why are the 3 formulas useful in calculating probabilities?
(Note: They all benefit from conditional probabilities.)

Ans: (i) 繁 \rightarrow 簡 & 簡 & ... & 簡;

(ii) 簡 = conditioning because the sample space is reduced from Ω to a smaller set. (e.g., in many previous examples, $P(B|A)$'s are known or easier to evaluate)

• Odds and Conditional Odds

➤ The odds of an event B :

$$o(B) \equiv \frac{P(B)}{P(B^c)} = \frac{P(B)}{1 - P(B)}$$

➤ The odd of event B given A:

$$\underline{o(B|A)} \equiv \frac{P(B|A)}{P(B^c|A)}$$

and

$$o(B|A) = \underline{o(B)} \times \frac{P(A|B)}{P(A|B^c)}$$

❖ **Reading:** textbook, Sec 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5

Independence

- Definition (independence for 2-events case): Two events A and B are said to be independent if and only if

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B).$$

Otherwise, they are said to be dependent.

➤ Notes. If $P(A) > 0$, events A and B are independent if and only if

$$P(B|\underline{A}) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(A)} = P(B),$$

similarly, if $P(B) > 0$, if and only if $P(A|\underline{B}) = P(A)$.

Q: How to interpret the equality?

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➤ Example (Sampling 2 balls, LNp.4-6~7). Events A and B were ^{p. 4-20} “independent” for sampling with replacement, but “dependent” for sampling without replacement.

➤ Example (Cards): If a card is selected from a standard deck, let

▪ $A = \{\underline{\text{ace}}\}$ and $B = \{\underline{\text{spade}}\}$. Then,

$$P(A) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13}, \quad P(B) = \frac{13}{52} = \frac{1}{4},$$

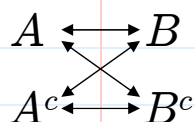
$$P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{52} = P(A)P(B)$$

▪ Face and Suit are independent

➤ Theorem (Independence and Complements, 2-events case).

If A and B are independent, then so are A^c and B.

- Corollary: If A and B^c are independent, so are A^c and B^c
- Corollary: If A and B are independent and $0 < P(A) < 1$, $0 < P(B) < 1$, then



$$P(B) = P(B|A) = P(B|A^c),$$

$$P(B^c) = P(B^c|A) = P(B^c|A^c),$$

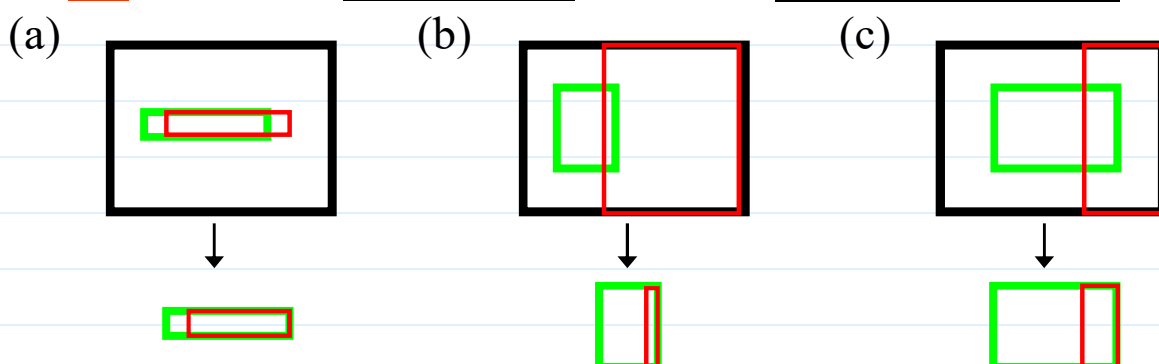
$$P(A) = P(A|B) = P(A|B^c),$$

$$P(A^c) = P(A^c|B) = P(A^c|B^c).$$

Q: What do these equalities say?

➤ Example.

- Q: Which of the following graphs represents “green and red events are independent” (assume probability \propto area)?



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- Q: Let green event = {graduate from Tsing-Hua University},
red event = {your future dream will come true}.

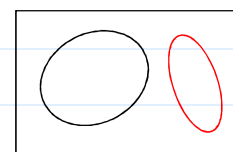
Which of the graphs would you prefer?

- Q: What do we prefer? independent? or dependent?

➤ Theorem (Independence and Mutually Exclusive).

If A and B are mutually exclusive and $P(A) > 0$, $P(B) > 0$, then A and B are dependent since

$$P(B|A) = 0 \neq P(B).$$



- Definition (independence for n -events case). Events A_1, \dots, A_n are said to be pairwise independent iff for all $1 \leq i < j \leq n$;

$$P(A_i \cap A_j) = P(A_i)P(A_j),$$

A_1, \dots, A_n are said to be mutually independent iff for $k=2, \dots, n$,

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2}) = P(A_{i_1})P(A_{i_2}), \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n,$$

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap A_{i_3}) = P(A_{i_1})P(A_{i_2})P(A_{i_3}), \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n,$$

\dots ,

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}) = P(A_{i_1}) \dots P(A_{i_k}), \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n,$$

\dots

➤ Note:

- Suppose $\underline{A}_1, \dots, \underline{A}_n$ are mutually independent. For $1 \leq r < k \leq n$, and different $\underline{t}_1, \dots, \underline{t}_r, \underline{t}_{r+1}, \dots, \underline{t}_k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$,

$$P(\underline{A}_{\underline{t}_1} \cap \dots \cap \underline{A}_{\underline{t}_r} | \underline{A}_{\underline{t}_{r+1}} \cap \dots \cap \underline{A}_{\underline{t}_k}) = P(\underline{A}_{\underline{t}_1} \cap \dots \cap \underline{A}_{\underline{t}_r}).$$
- Mutual independence implies pairwise independence; but, the converse statement is usually not true.
- “ n events are independent” means “mutually independent”

➤ Example (Sampling With Replacement)

- A sample of n balls is drawn with replacement from an urn containing R red and $N-R$ white balls

- Let $\underline{A}_k = \{\text{red on the } k^{\text{th}} \text{ draw}\}$, then

$$P(\underline{A}_k) = R/N, \quad k=1, \dots, n.$$

- For all $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n$, where $k=2, \dots, n$,

$$P(\underline{A}_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap \underline{A}_{i_k}) = \frac{R^k N^{n-k}}{N^n} = \left(\frac{R}{N}\right)^k = P(\underline{A}_{i_1}) \dots P(\underline{A}_{i_k}),$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{A}_1, \dots, \underline{A}_n \text{ are mutually independent}$$

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➤ Example. Draw one card from a standard deck.

- Let $\underline{A} = \{\text{Spades or Clubs}\}$,
 $\underline{B} = \{\text{Hearts or Clubs}\}$,
 $\underline{C} = \{\text{Diamonds or Clubs}\}.$

- $P(\underline{A}) = 26/52 = 1/2$, similarly, $P(\underline{B}) = P(\underline{C}) = 1/2$.

- $P(\underline{A} \cap \underline{B}) = P(\{\text{Clubs}\}) = \frac{13}{52} = \frac{1}{4} = P(\underline{A})P(\underline{B})$, similarly,

$$P(\underline{A} \cap \underline{C}) = 1/4 = P(\underline{A})P(\underline{C}), \quad P(\underline{B} \cap \underline{C}) = 1/4 = P(\underline{B})P(\underline{C}).$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{A}, \underline{B}, \text{ and } \underline{C} \text{ are pairwise independent}$$

- However,

$$P(\underline{A} \cap \underline{B} \cap \underline{C}) = P(\{\text{Clubs}\}) = \frac{1}{4} \neq \frac{1}{8} = P(\underline{A})P(\underline{B})P(\underline{C}),$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{A}, \underline{B}, \text{ and } \underline{C} \text{ are not mutually independent}$$

➤ Theorem (Independence and Complements, n -events case).

$\underline{A}_1, \dots, \underline{A}_n$ are mutually independent if and only if

$$P(\underline{B}_1 \cap \dots \cap \underline{B}_n) = P(\underline{B}_1) \dots P(\underline{B}_n),$$

where \underline{B}_i is either \underline{A}_i or \underline{A}_i^c , for $i=1, \dots, n$.

- Example (Series and Parallel Connections of Relays).

Series Connection $S \rightarrow \text{---} R_1 \text{---} R_2 \text{---} R_3 \text{---} E$

Parallel Connection $S \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c} R_1 \\ R_2 \\ R_3 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow E$

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- The Story. For n electrical relays R_1, \dots, R_n , let

$$A_k = \{R_k \text{ works properly}\},$$

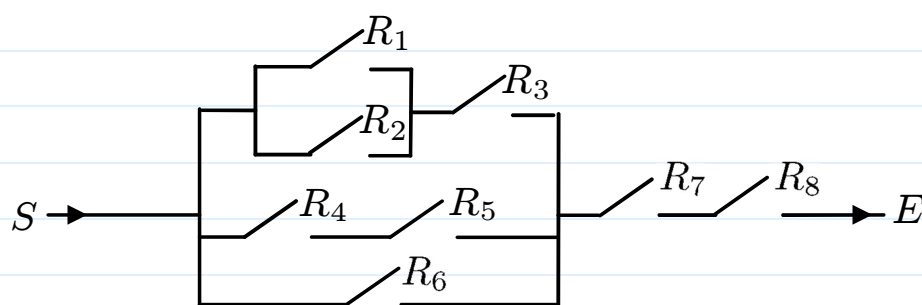
$k=1, \dots, n$, and suppose that A_1, \dots, A_n are independent.

- Series Connection. The probability that current can flow from S to E (corresponding to the event $A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n$)

is
$$P(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n) = P(A_1) \cdots P(A_n).$$

- Parallel Connection. The probability that current can flow from S to E (corresponding to the event $A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n$) is

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n) &= 1 - P(A_1^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c) \\ &= 1 - P(A_1^c) \cdots P(A_n^c) = 1 - \prod_{k=1}^n [1 - P(A_k)] \end{aligned}$$



➤ Theorem. If $\underline{A}_1, \dots, \underline{A}_n$ are mutually independent and $\underline{B}_1, \dots, \underline{B}_m$, $m \leq n$, are formed by taking unions or intersections of mutually exclusive subgroups of $\underline{A}_1, \dots, \underline{A}_n$, then $\underline{B}_1, \dots, \underline{B}_m$ are mutually independent.

• Definition (conditional independence): Events $\underline{B}_1, \dots, \underline{B}_n$ are (pairwise or mutually) independent under the probability measure $P(\cdot|A)$.

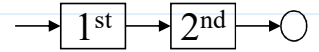
➤ e.g., \underline{B}_1 and \underline{B}_2 are conditionally independent given \underline{A} iff

$$P(\underline{B}_1 \cap \underline{B}_2 | \underline{A}) = P(\underline{B}_1 | \underline{A})P(\underline{B}_2 | \underline{A}),$$

or, equivalently,

$$P(\underline{B}_1 | \underline{B}_2 \cap \underline{A}) = P(\underline{B}_1 | \underline{A}) \text{ or } P(\underline{B}_2 | \underline{B}_1 \cap \underline{A}) = P(\underline{B}_2 | \underline{A})$$

➤ Example (Gold Coins):



■ The Story.

- Box i contains i gold coins and $k-i$ silver coins, $i=0,1,\dots,k$.
- Experiment: (i) Select a box at random, (ii) Draw coins *with replacement* from the box

■ Q: Given that first n draws are all gold, what is the probability that $(n+1)^{\text{st}}$ draw is gold?

- Let $\underline{A_i} = \{\text{Box } i \text{ is selected}\}$, $\underline{B} = \{\text{first } n \text{ draws are gold}\}$, $\underline{C} = \{(n+1)^{\text{st}} \text{ draw is gold}\}$

- By applying law of total probability on $\underline{P(\cdot|B)}$,

$$\underline{P(\underline{C}|\underline{B})} = \sum_{i=0}^k P(\underline{A_i}|\underline{B})P(\underline{C}|\underline{A_i} \cap \underline{B})$$

- Because \underline{B} and \underline{C} are conditionally independent given $\underline{A_i}$,

$$P(\underline{C}|\underline{A_i} \cap \underline{B}) = P(\underline{C}|\underline{A_i}) = i/k$$

- By Bayes' rule,

$$\underline{P(\underline{A_i}|\underline{B})} = \frac{P(\underline{A_i})P(\underline{B}|\underline{A_i})}{\sum_{j=0}^k P(\underline{A_j})P(\underline{B}|\underline{A_j})} = \frac{[1/(k+1)](i/k)^n}{\sum_{j=0}^k [1/(k+1)](j/k)^n}$$

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□ Hence, $\underline{P(\underline{C}|\underline{B})} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^k (i/k)^{n+1}}{\sum_{j=0}^k (j/k)^n}$

■ Q: Are the events \underline{B} and \underline{C} independent under $\underline{P(\cdot)}$?