

# CS 109 Midterm Review

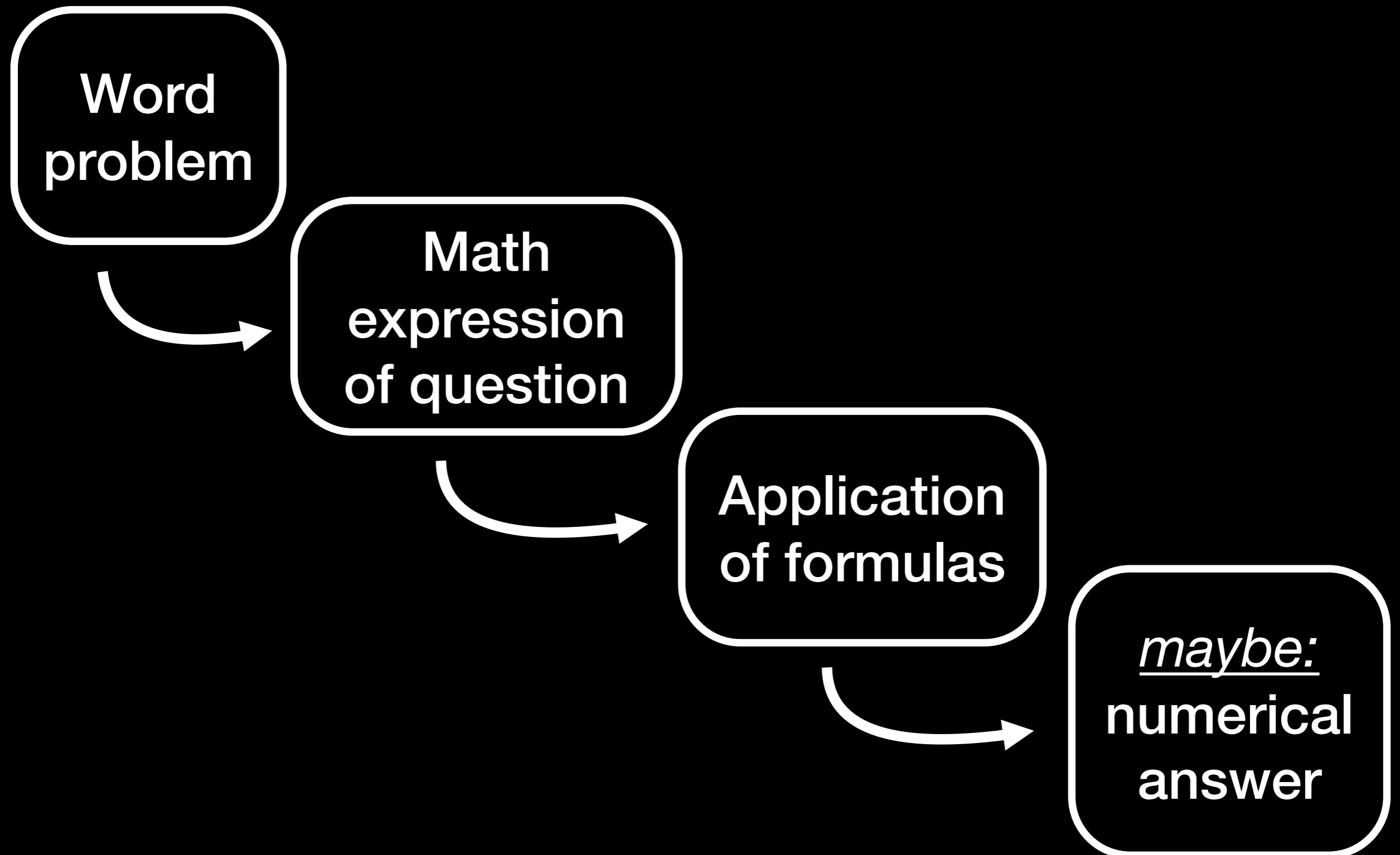
# Outline

- **General Strategies**
- **Counting and Events**
- **Probability Rules**
- **Random Variables**

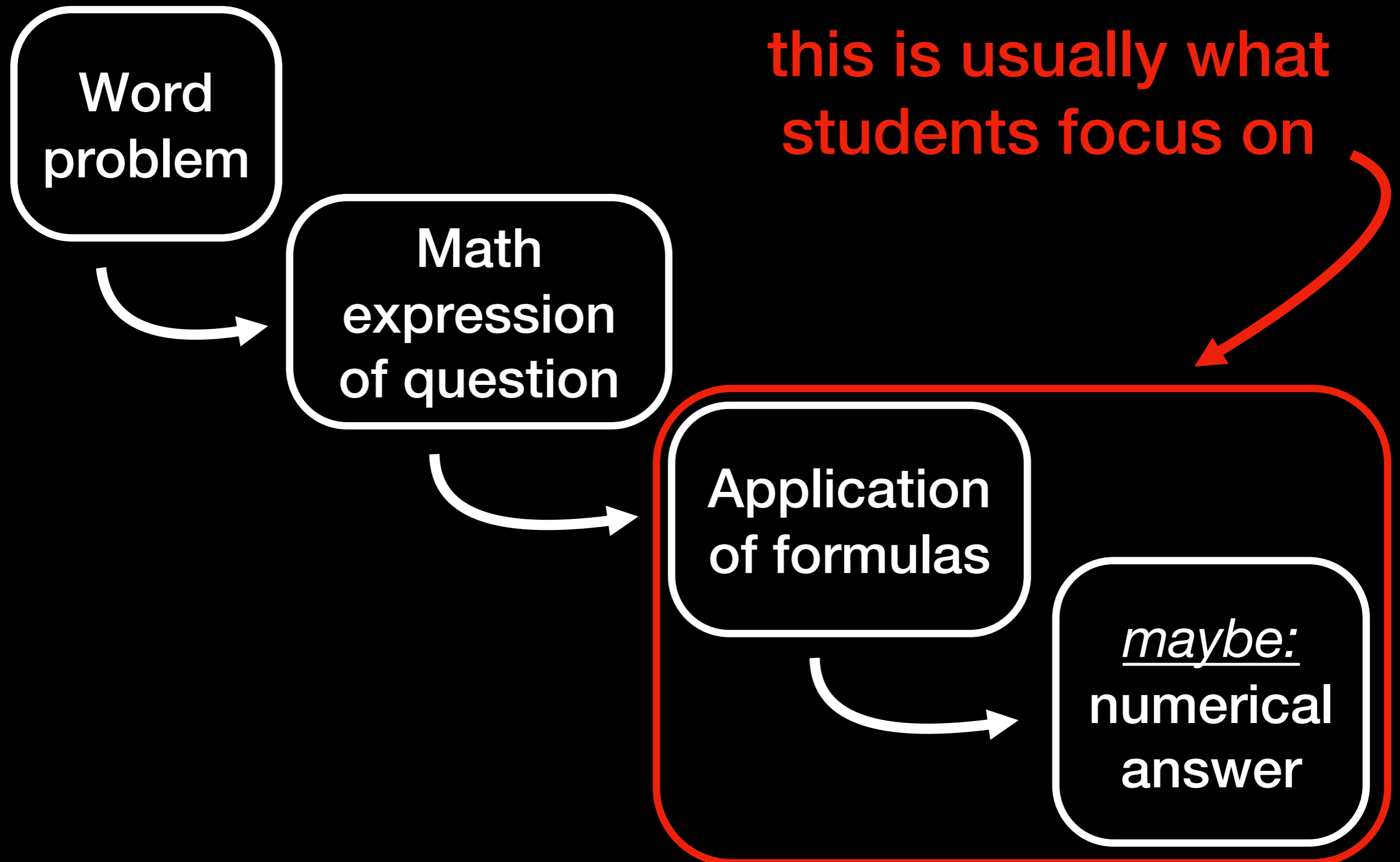
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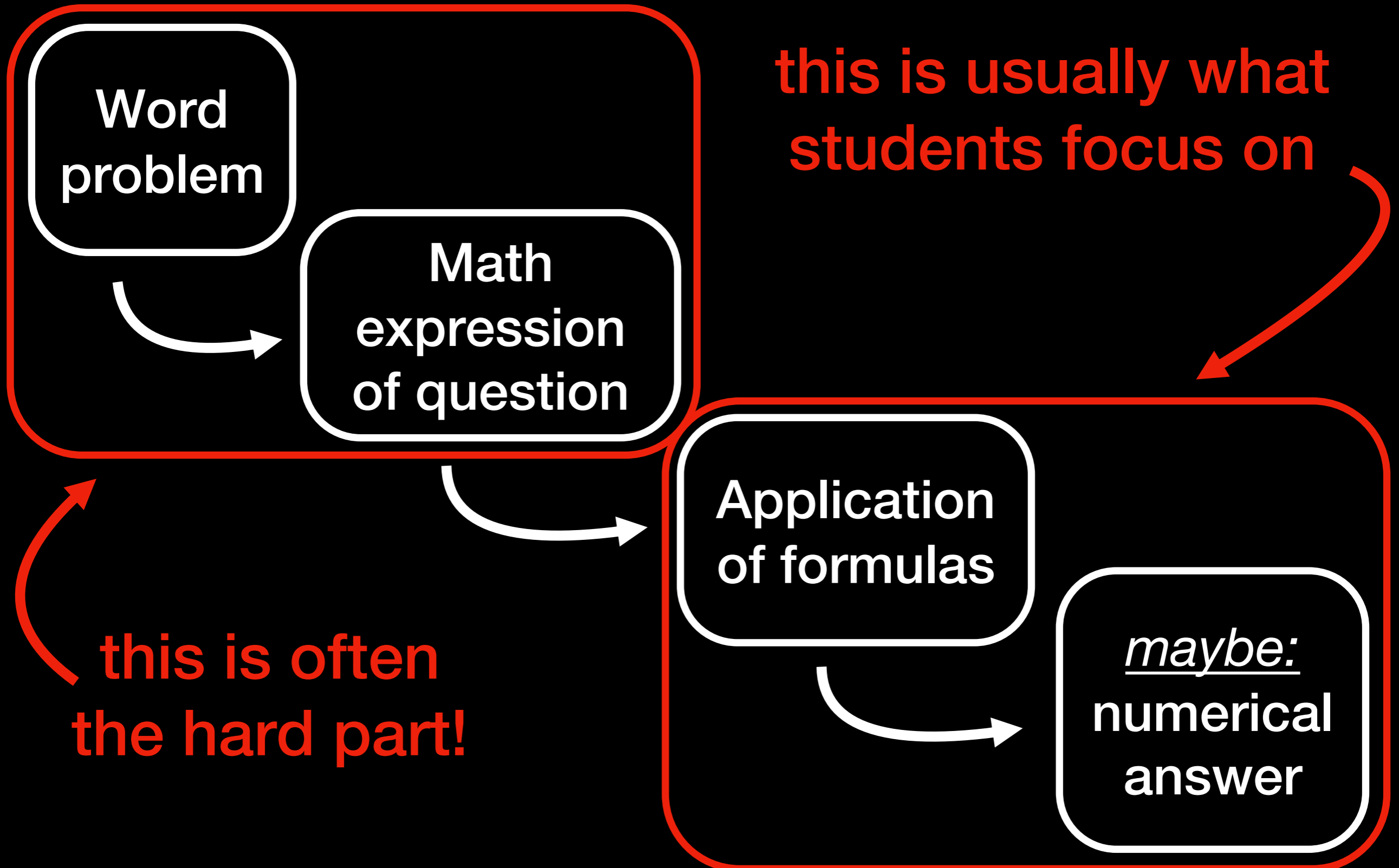
# Solving a CS109 problem



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# Step 1: Defining Your Terms

- What's a 'success'? What's the sample space?
- What does each random variable actually represent, in English? Every definition of an event or a random variable should have a **verb** in it. (' = ' is a verb)
- Make sure units match - particularly important for  $\lambda$

# Translating English to Probability

<u>What the problem asks:</u>	<u>What you should immediately think:</u>
“What’s the probability of _____”	$P( \quad )$
“_____ given _____”, “_____ if _____”	$\quad   \quad$
“at least _____”	<i>could we use what we know about everything less than ___?</i>
“approximate _____.”	<i>use an approximation!</i>
“How many ways...”	<i>combinatorics</i>

these are just a few, and these are why practice is the best way to prepare for the exam!

# Translating English to Probability

**People can have blue or brown eyes.  
What's the probability John has blue eyes  
if his mother has brown eyes?**

# Translating English to Probability

**People can have blue or brown eyes.  
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if his mother has brown eyes?**

- 1. What events are we given?**
- 2. What are we asked to solve?**

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- **General Strategies**
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# Counting

## Sum Rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{outcomes} &= |A| + |B| \\ \text{if } |A \cap B| &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

**I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 4 farm animals. How many costume choices?**

# Counting

<b>Sum Rule</b>	<b>Inclusion-Exclusion Principle</b>
$\text{outcomes} =  A  +  B $ <p><i>if</i> <math> A \cap B  = 0</math></p>	$ A  +  B  -  A \cap B $ <p><i>for any</i> <math> A \cap B </math></p>
<b>I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 4 farm animals. How many costume choices?</b>	<b>I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 6 strong female movie leads. 2 of the superheroes are female movie leads. How many costume choices?</b>

# Counting

## Product Rule

$$\text{outcomes} = |A| \times |B|$$

if all outcomes of B are possible  
regardless of the outcome of A

I can choose to go to one of  
3 parties and then trick-or-  
treat in one of 5  
neighborhoods. How many  
different ways to celebrate?

# Combinatorics: Arranging Items

**Permutations  
(ordered)**

**Combinations  
(unordered)**

**Distinct**

$$n!$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

**Indistinct**

$$\frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_n!}$$

$$\binom{n+r-1}{r-1}$$

the divider method!

# Outline

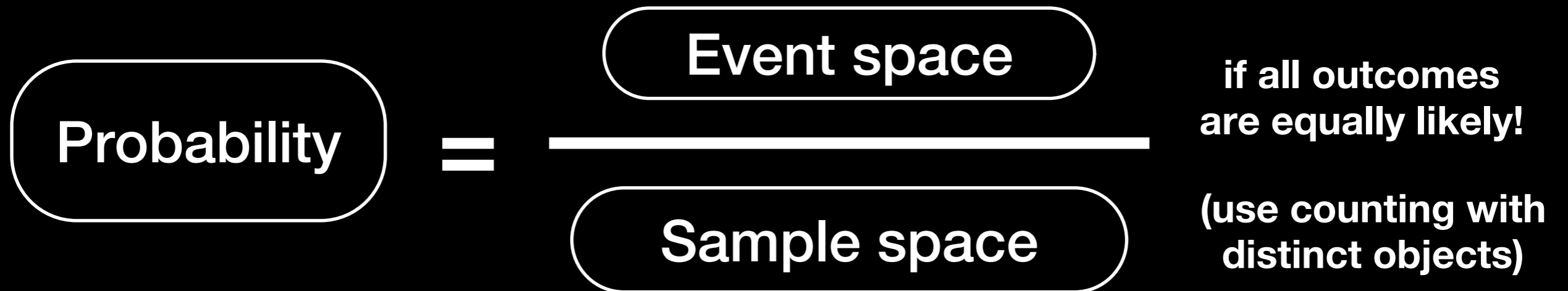
- **General Strategies**
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# Probability basics

$$P(E) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n} \quad \text{in the general case}$$

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# Probability basics

$$P(E) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n} \quad \text{in the general case}$$

$$\text{Probability} = \frac{\text{Event space}}{\text{Sample space}}$$

if all outcomes are equally likely!  
(use counting with distinct objects)

**Axioms:**  $0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$   $P(S) = 1$   $P(E^c) = 1 - P(E)$

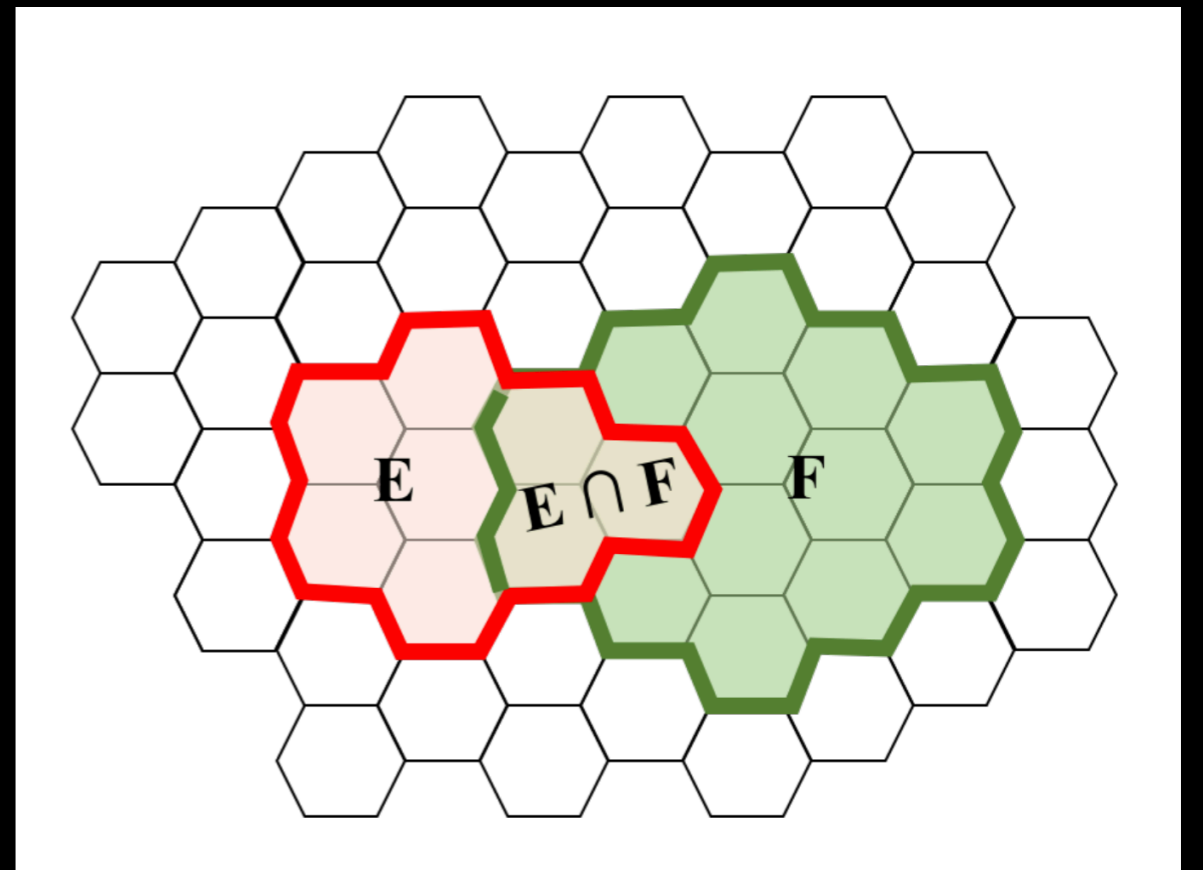
# Conditional Probability

**definition:**

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$

**Chain Rule:**

$$P(EF) = P(E|F)P(F)$$



\*  $P(EF) = P(E \cap F)$

# Law of Total Probability

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

# Law of Total Probability

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

We can either walk to class, or we can bike.

If we walk to class, we have a 50% chance of being late.

If we bike, we have a 10% chance of being late.

We walk if we can't find our bike key, which happens 30% of the time.

What's our probability of being late to class?

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Event  $W$  = we walk to class. Event  $B$  = we bike =  $W^c$ .

Event  $L$  = we are late to class.

$P(L | W) = 0.5$ ,  $P(L | B) = 0.1$ .

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**$P(W) = 0.3$ .**

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$P(W) = 0.3$ .

**$P(L) = ?$**

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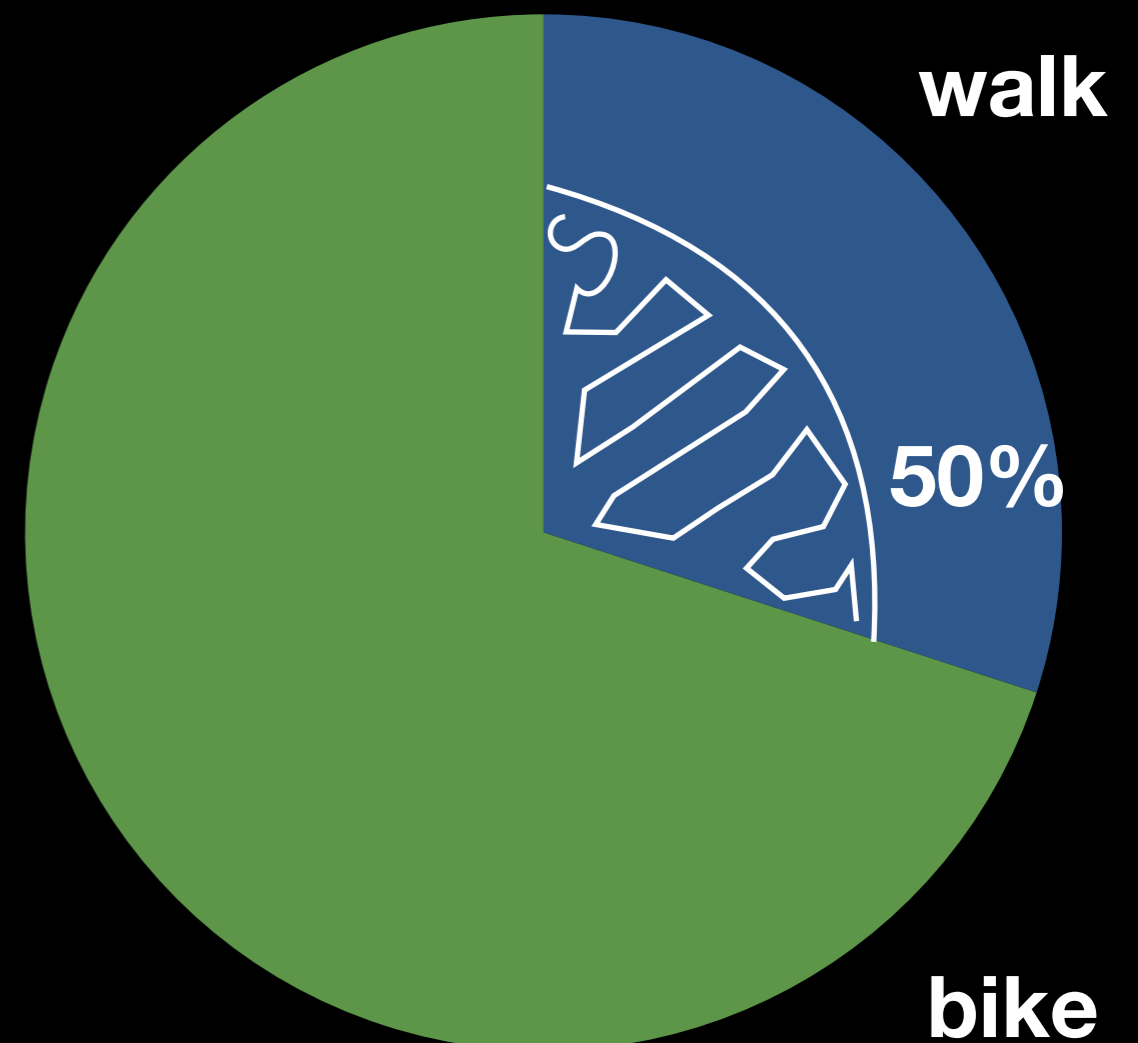
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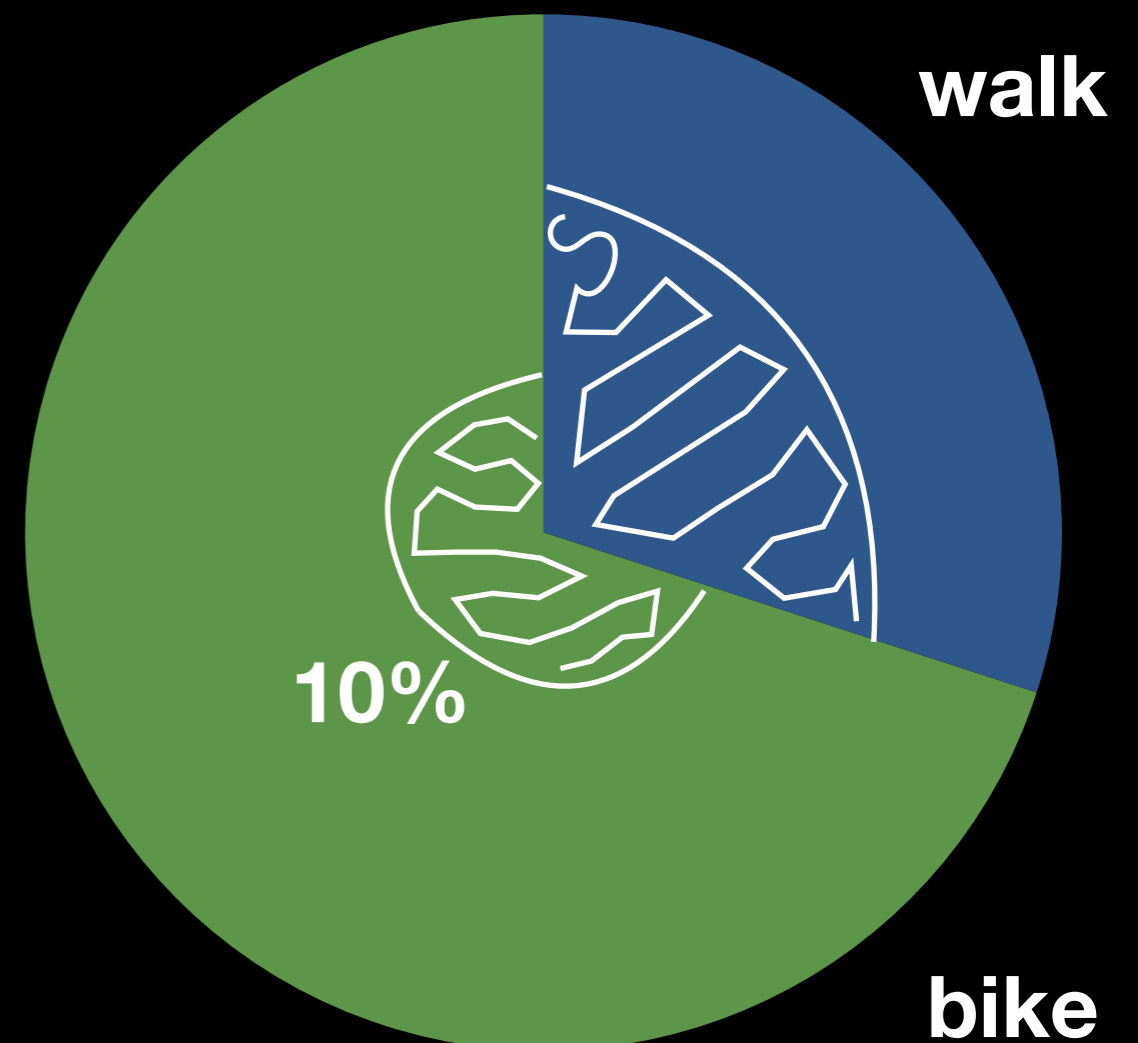
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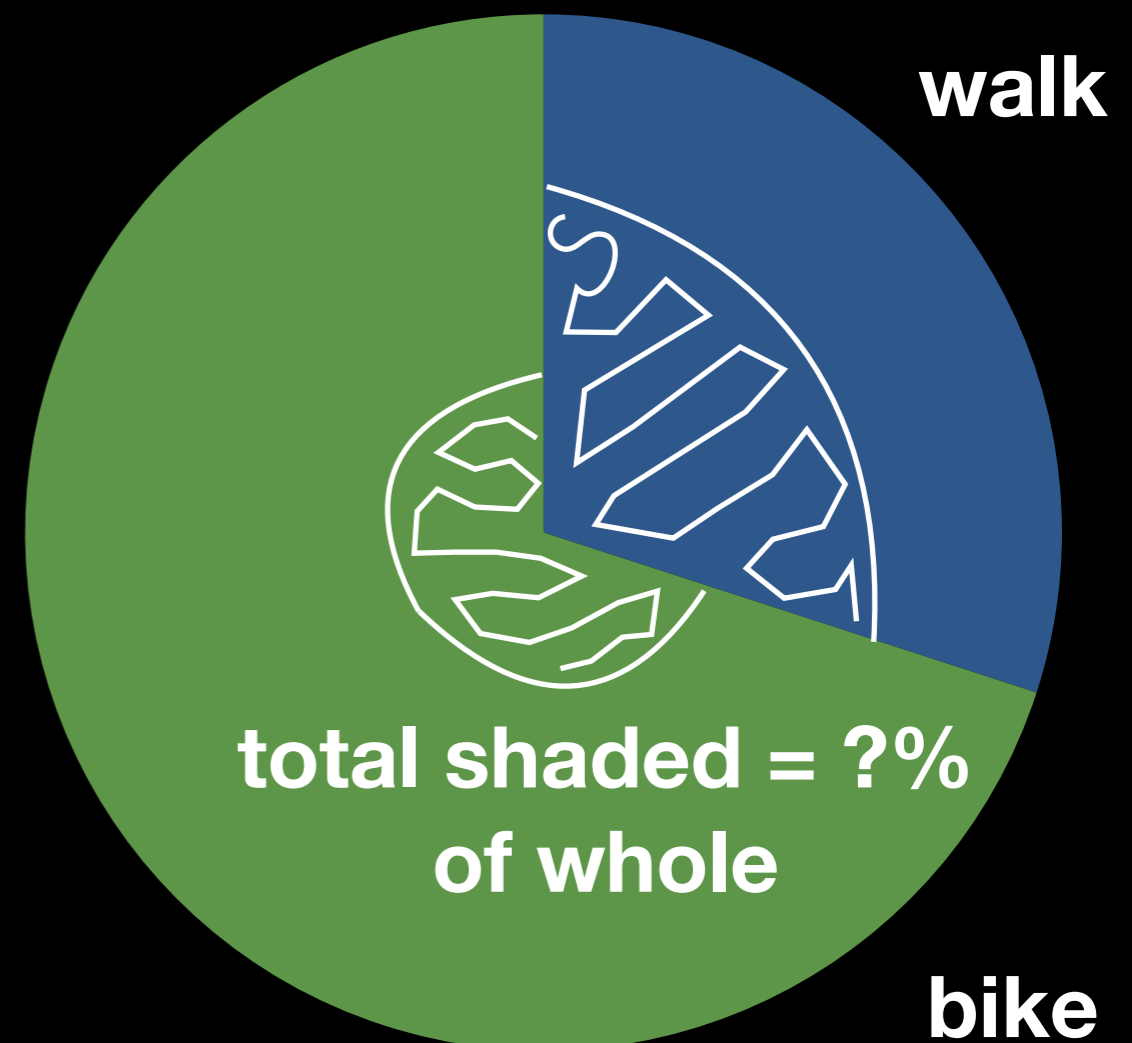
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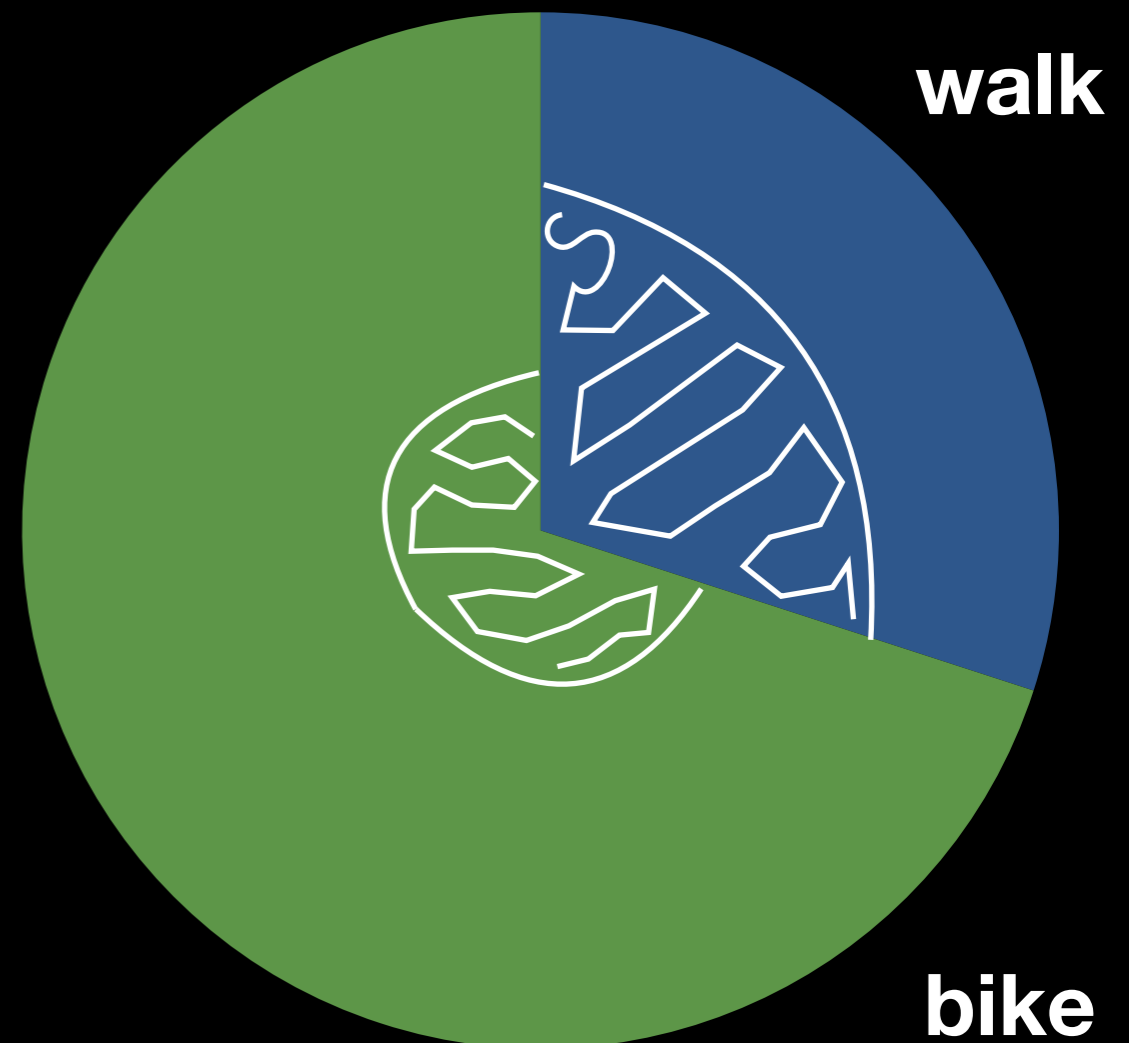
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$P(W) = 0.3$ .

$P(L) = ?$

$$P(L) = P(L|W)P(W) + P(L|W^C)P(W^C)$$



# Law of Total Probability

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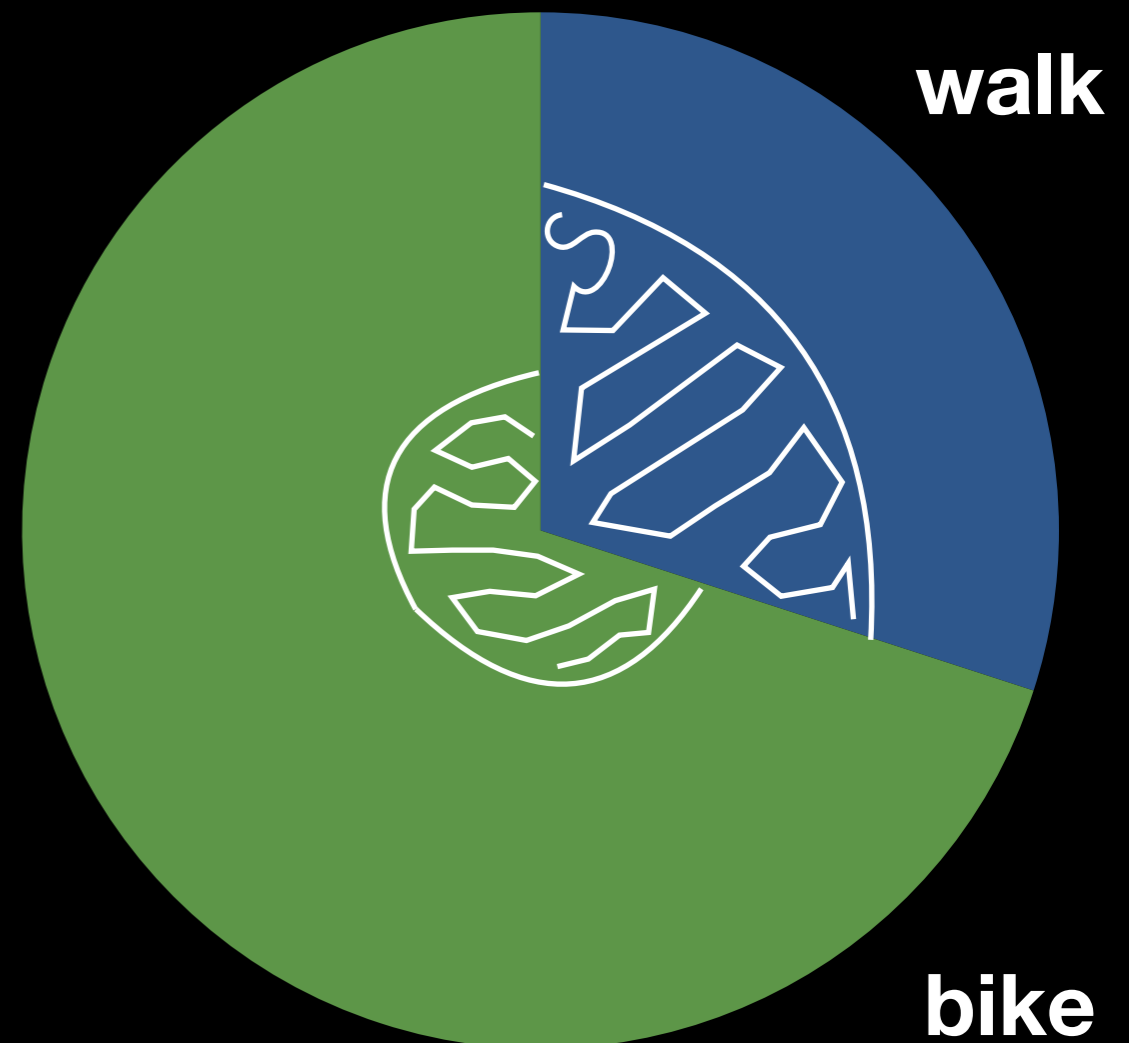
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$P(L | W) = 0.5$ ,  $P(L | B) = 0.1$ .

$P(W) = 0.3$ .

$P(L) = ?$

$$\begin{aligned} P(L) &= P(L|W)P(W) + P(L|W^C)P(W^C) \\ &= (0.5)(0.3) + (0.1)(0.7) \end{aligned}$$



# Law of Total Probability

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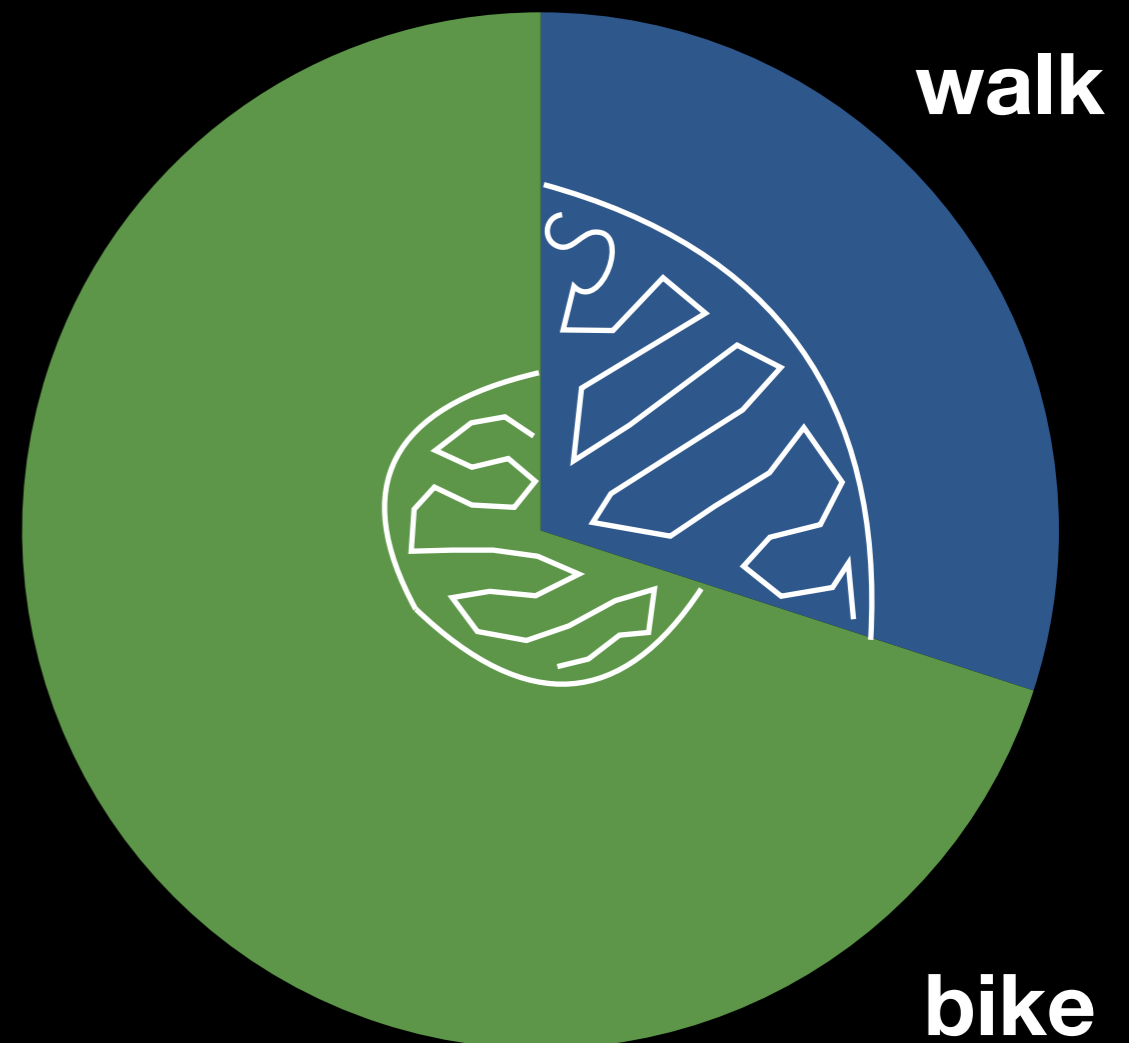
$P(W) = 0.3$ .

$P(L) = ?$

$$P(L) = P(L|W)P(W) + P(L|W^C)P(W^C)$$

$$= (0.5)(0.3) + (0.1)(0.7)$$

$$= 0.22$$



# Law of Total Probability

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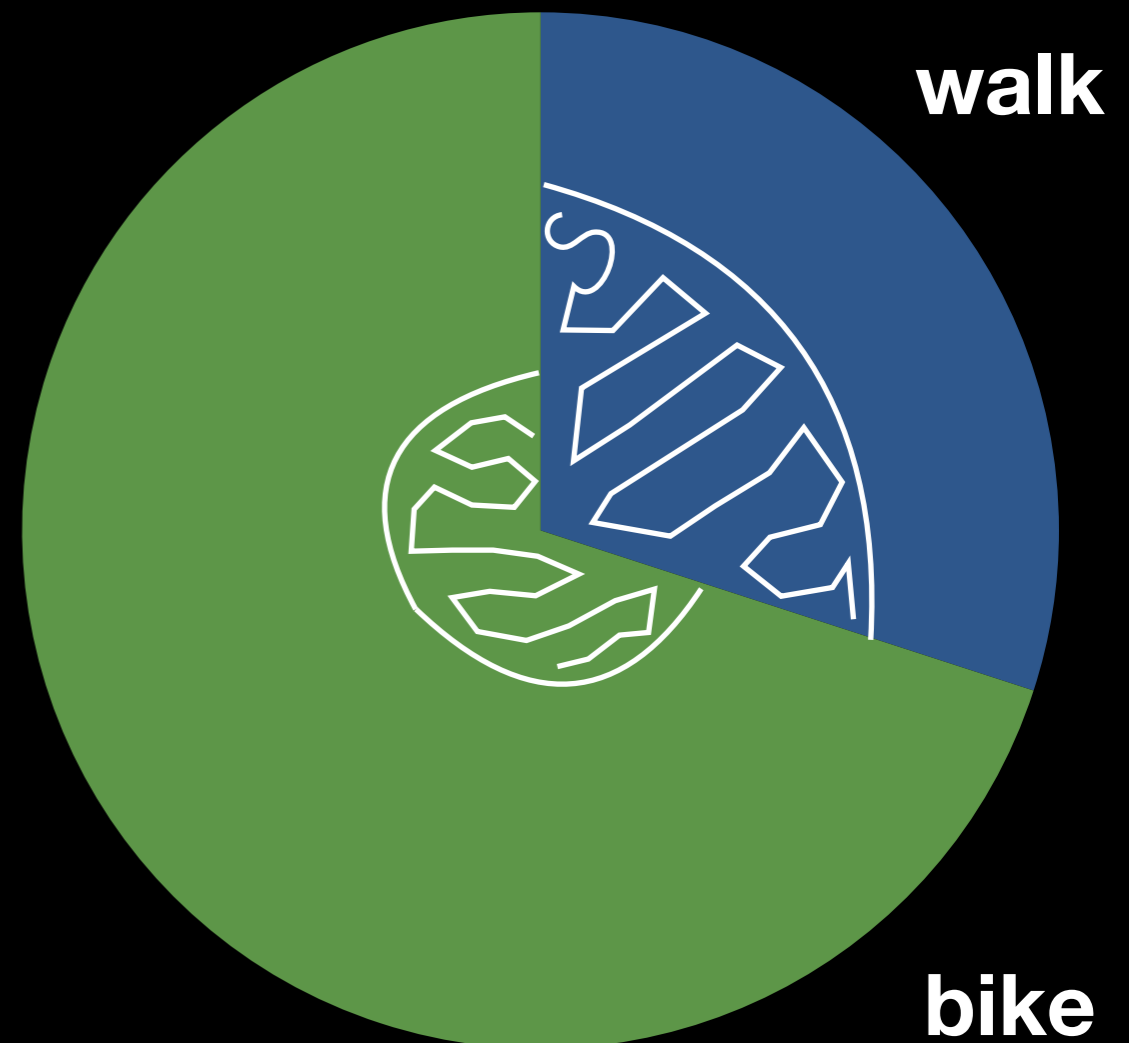
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what if we can bike, walk, or  
take the Marguerite (> 2 options)?



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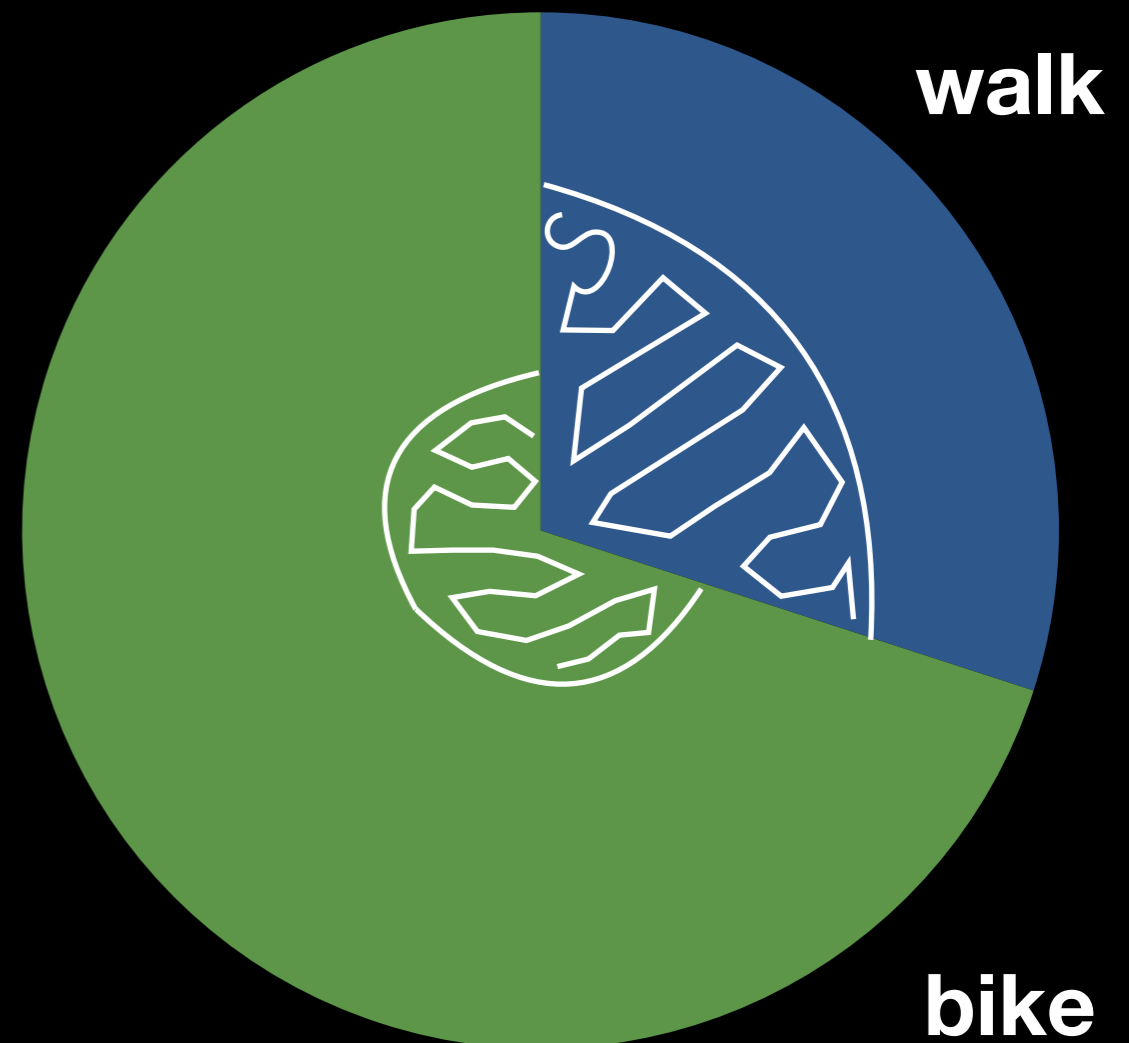
$P(W) = 0.3$ .

$P(L) = ?$

what if we can bike, walk, or take the Marguerite (> 2 options)?

events for “scale factors” must be:

- **mutually exclusive**, and
- **exhaustive**



# Bayes' Rule

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(F|E)P(E)}{P(F)}$$

# Bayes' Rule

posterior

likelihood


prior

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(F|E)P(E)}{P(F)}$$

normalization constant

The diagram illustrates the components of Bayes' Rule. The equation is  $P(E|F) = \frac{P(F|E)P(E)}{P(F)}$ . An orange arrow points from the label 'posterior' to the term  $P(E|F)$ . Another orange arrow points from the label 'likelihood' to the term  $P(F|E)$ . A third orange arrow points from the label 'prior' to the term  $P(E)$ . A fourth orange arrow points from the label 'normalization constant' to the term  $P(F)$  in the denominator.

# Bayes' Rule

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(F|E)P(E)}{P(F)}$$


The diagram shows two white lines originating from the bottom of the denominator  $P(F)$  in the equation above. These lines extend downwards and outwards to the left and right, meeting the first two terms of the sum in the equation below:  $P(F|E)P(E)$  and  $P(F|E^C)P(E^C)$ . This visualizes the process of decomposing the total probability of event F into the probabilities of F occurring under each possible state of event E.

$$P(F|E)P(E) + P(F|E^C)P(E^C)$$

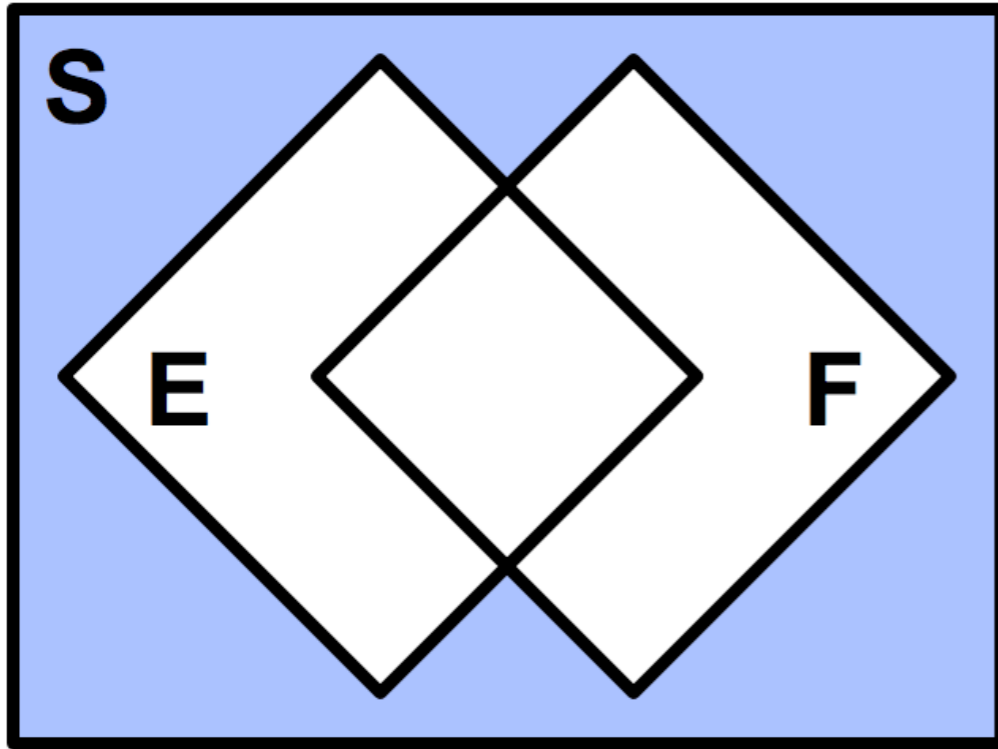
divide the event F into all the possible ways it can happen; use LoTP

# Old Principles, New Tricks

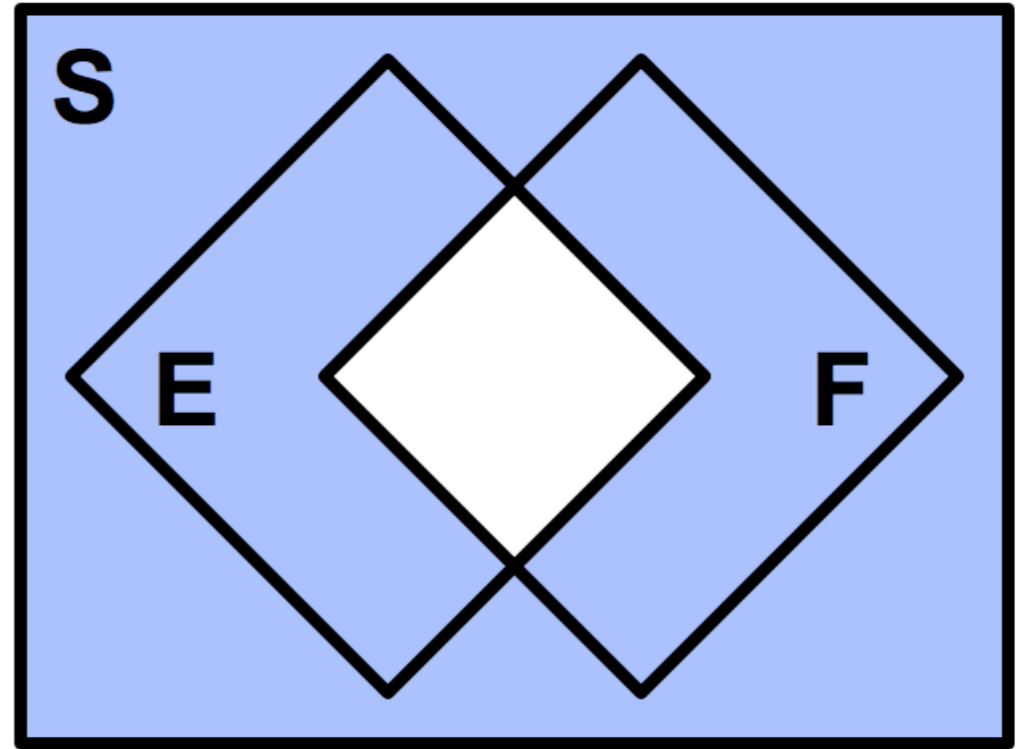
Name of Rule	Original Rule	Conditional Rule
First axiom of probability	$0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$	$0 \leq P(E   G) \leq 1$
Complement Rule	$P(E) = 1 - P(E^C)$	$P(E   G) = 1 - P(E^C   G)$
Chain Rule	$P(EF) = P(E   F)P(F)$	$P(EF   G) = P(E   FG)P(F   G)$
Bayes Theorem	$P(E   F) = \frac{P(F E)P(E)}{P(F)}$	$P(E   FG) = \frac{P(F EG)P(E G)}{P(F G)}$

# DeMorgan's Laws

$$(E \cup F)^c = E^c \cap F^c$$

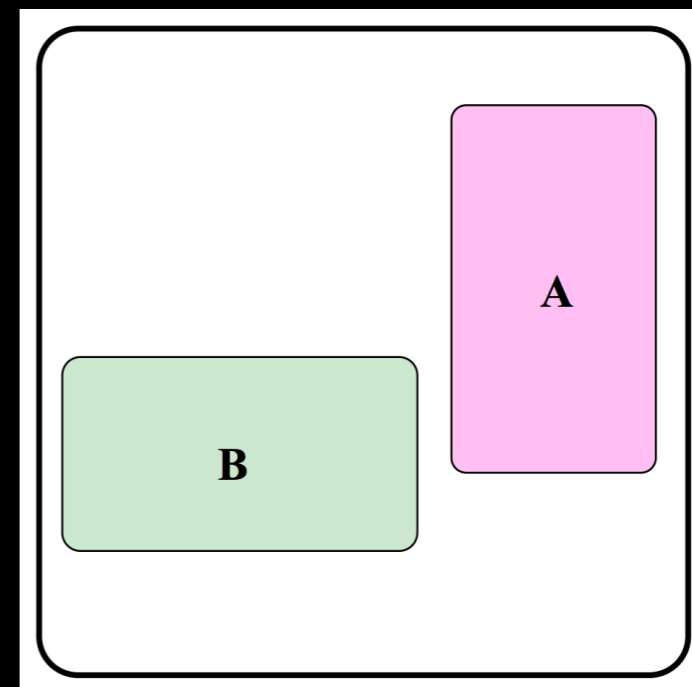
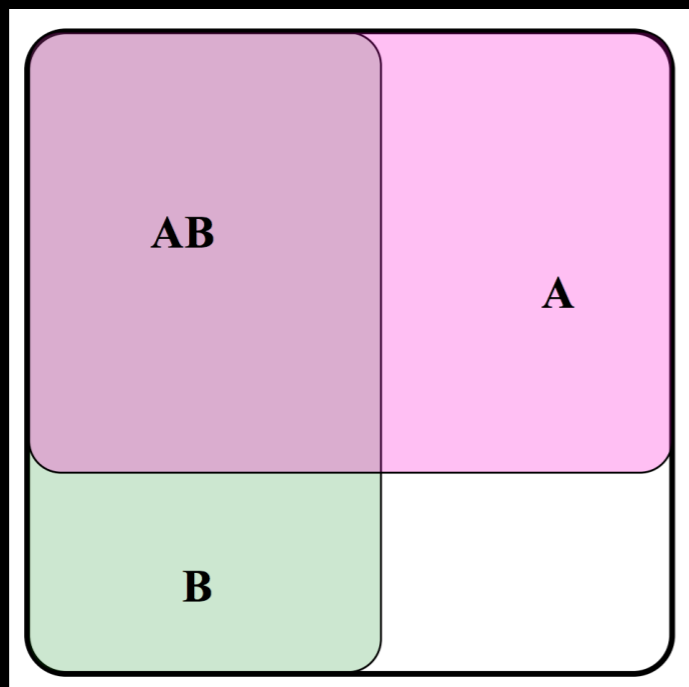


$$(E \cap F)^c = E^c \cup F^c$$



# Independence

Independence	Mutual Exclusion
$P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$	$ E \cap F  = 0$
“AND”	“OR”



# Independence

<b>Independence</b>	<b>Conditional Independence</b>
$P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$	$P(EF G) = P(E G)P(F G)$ $P(E FG) = P(E G)$
<b>“AND”</b>	<b>“AND [if]”</b>

**If E and F are independent.....**

**.....that does not mean they'll be independent if another event happens!**

**& vice versa**

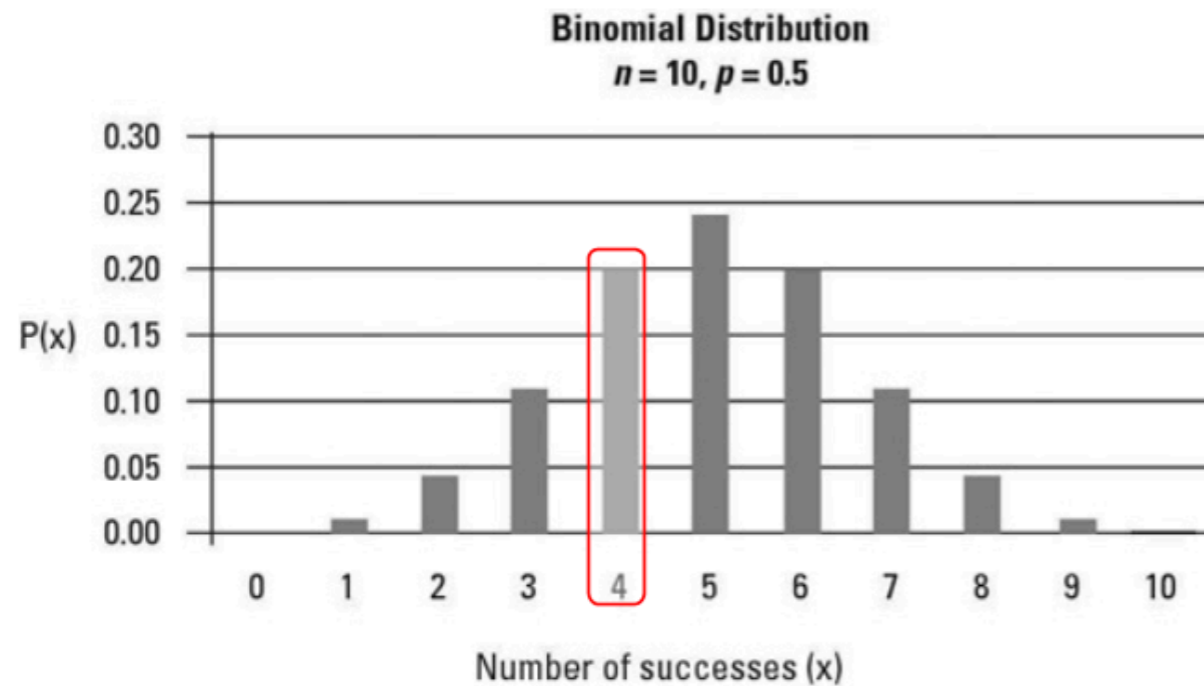
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# Probability Distributions

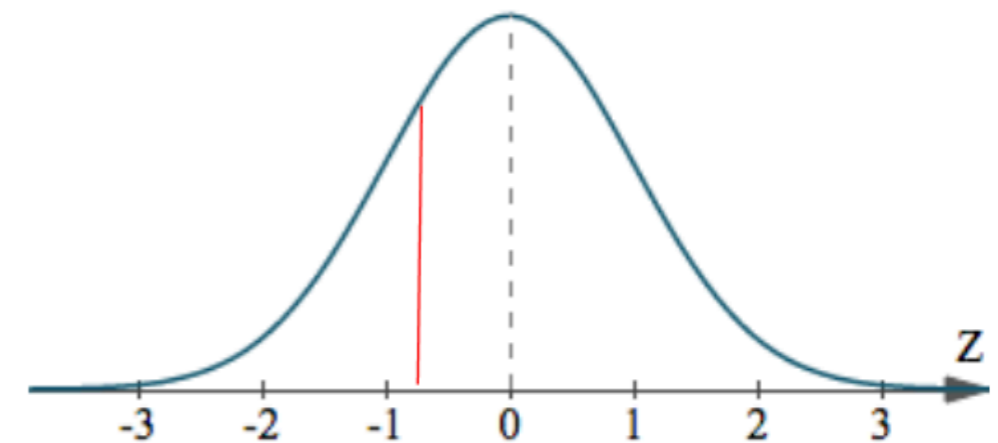
Discrete

PMF:



Continuous

PDF:

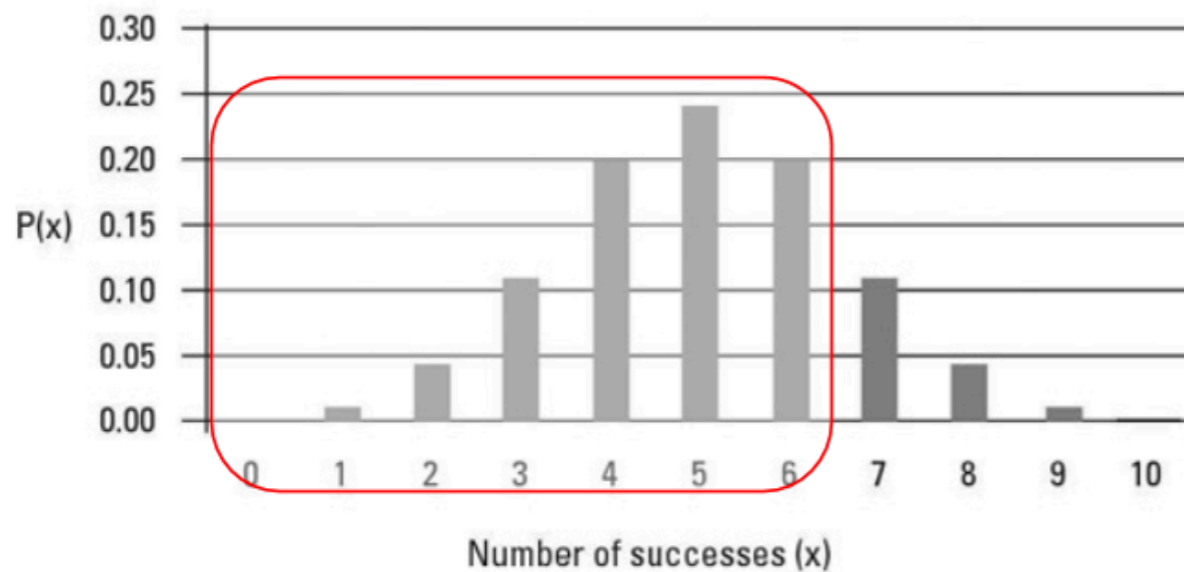


# Probability Distributions

## Discrete

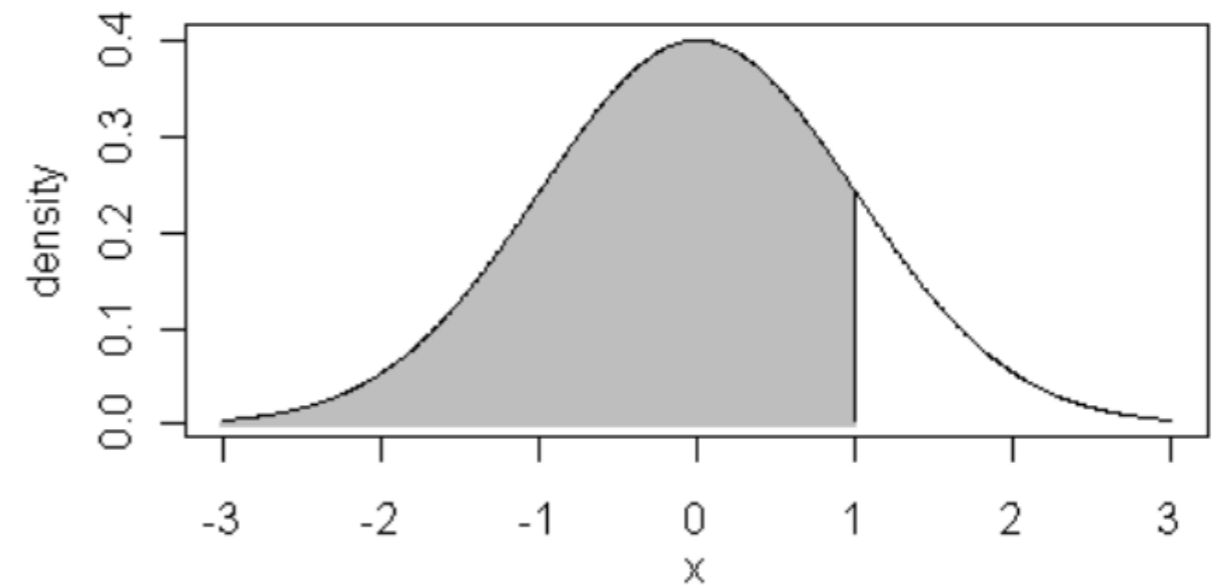
CDF:

**Binomial Distribution**  
 $n = 10, p = 0.5$



## Continuous

CDF:



# Expectation & Variance

**Discrete definition**

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:P(x)>0} x * P(x)$$

**Continuous definition**

$$E[X] = \int_x x * p(x) dx$$

# Expectation & Variance

**Discrete definition**

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:P(x)>0} x * P(x)$$

**Continuous definition**

$$E[X] = \int_x x * p(x) dx$$

**Properties of Expectation**

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

$$E[aX + b] = aE[X] + b$$

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x) * p_x(x)$$

**Properties of Variance**

$$Var(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$$

$$Var(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

$$Var(aX + b) = a^2 Var(X)$$

# All our (discrete) friends

Ber(p)	Bin(n, p)	Poi( $\lambda$ )	Geo(p)	NegBin(r, p)
$P(X) = p$	$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$	$\frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$	$(1-p)^{k-1} p$	$\binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}$
$E[X] = p$	$E[X] = np$	$E[X] = \lambda$	$E[X] = 1 / p$	$E[X] = r / p$
$\text{Var}(X) = p(1-p)$	$\text{Var}(X) = np(1-p)$	$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$
Getting candy or not at a random house	# houses out of 20 that give out candy	# houses in an hour that give out candy	# houses to visit before getting candy	# houses to visit before getting candy 3 times

# All our (continuous) friends

Uni( $\alpha, \beta$ )	Exp( $\lambda$ )	N( $\mu, \sigma$ )
$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha}$	$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \frac{b - a}{\beta - \alpha}$	$F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$	$F(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$
$E(x) = \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}$	$E[x] = 1 / \lambda$	$E[x] = \mu$
$Var(x) = \frac{(\beta - \alpha)^2}{12}$	$Var(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$	$Var(x) = \sigma^2$
thickness of sidewalk pavement between houses	time until feet get too sore to trick or treat	weight of filled candy baskets

# Approximations

When can we approximate a binomial?

**n is large**

**Binomial**

```
graph TD; Binomial --> Normal; Binomial --> Poisson;
```

**Normal**

**p is moderate**

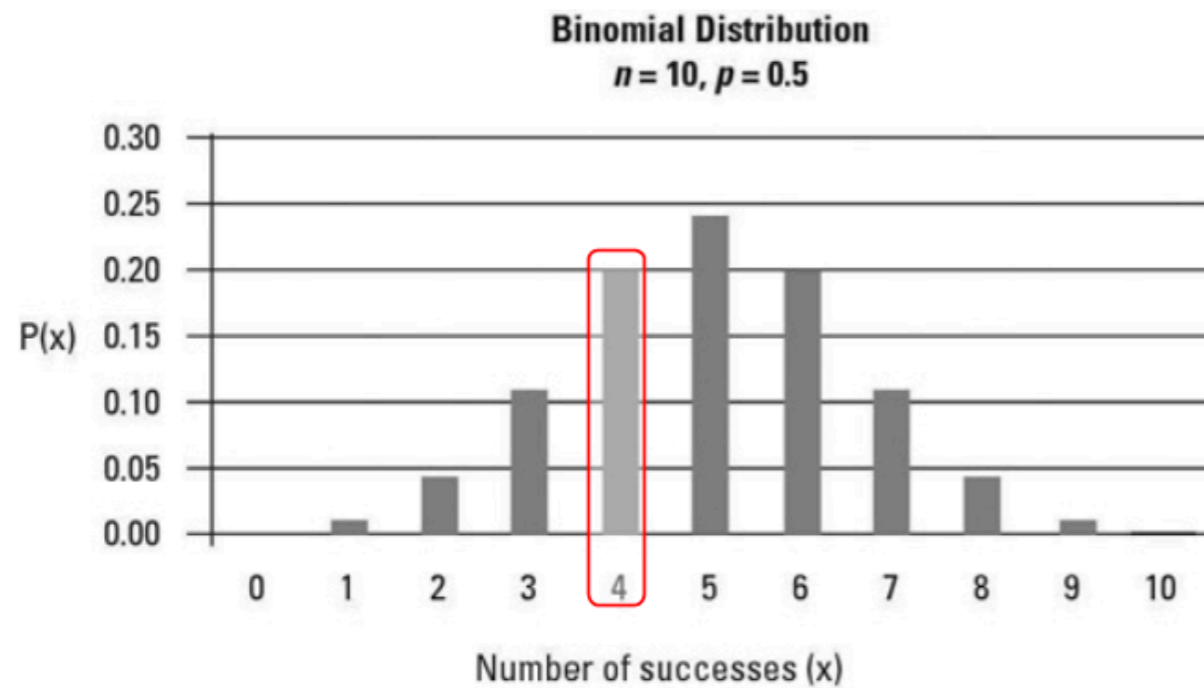
**Poisson**

**p is small**

# Continuity & epsilon

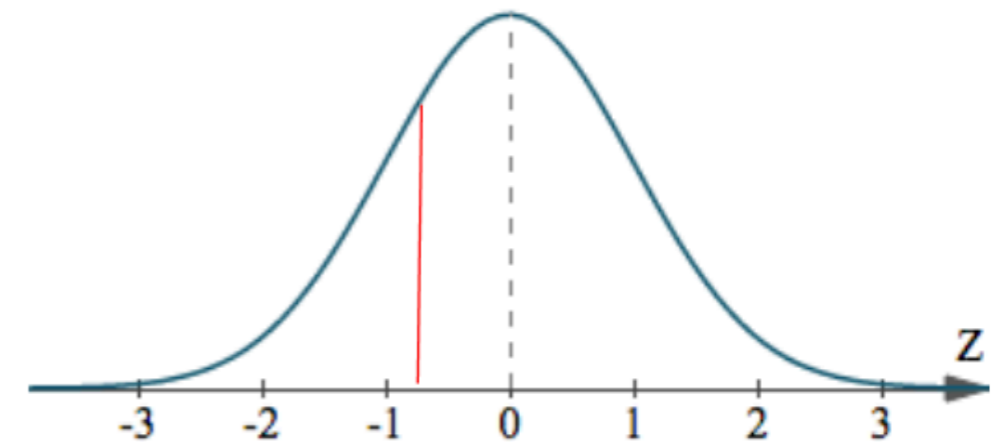
Discrete

PMF:



Continuous

PDF:



- Only applies to PDF - why?

# Joint Distributions

- Discrete case:  $p_{x,y}(a, b) = P(X = a, Y = b)$ .  $P_x(a) = \sum_y P_{x,y}(a, y)$

- Continuous case:

$$P(a_1 < x \leq a_2, b_1 < y \leq b_2) = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \int_{b_1}^{b_2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$

$$f_X(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(a, y) dy$$

- For joint distributions to be independent, both their joint probability density function must be factorable and the bounds of the variables must be separable.

# Practice Problems

How many ways are there to rearrange the letters of the alphabet such that none of the 5 vowels are next to each other?

Think of the 5 vowels as dividers for buckets, and imagine at least one consonant must go in the middle four buckets. That means that there are  $\binom{17+6-1}{6-1}$  arrangements of vowels and consonants (17 consonants into 6 buckets). Then there are  $21!$  ways to arrange the consonants and  $5!$  ways to arrange the vowels, so our final answer is

$$21! 5! \binom{17+6-1}{6-1}$$

Assume SAT scores are normally distributed, with mean 500 and variance 1000. If two students take the exam, what is the probability that their combined score is greater than 1020?

Score of student 1  $\sim N(500, 1000)$

Score of student 2  $\sim N(500, 1000)$

Score of both students varies as  $N(500, 1000) + N(500, 1000) = N(1000, 2000)$ .

$$P(N(1000, 2000) > 1050) = 1 - P(N(1000, 2000) < 1020.5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(N(1000, 2000) < 1020.5) &= P\left(Z < \frac{1020.5 - 1000}{\sqrt{2000}}\right) \\ &= P(Z < .458) = .677 \end{aligned}$$

So our final probability is  $1 - .677$  or  $.323$

# Are Hogwarts house and favorite pet independent?

	Dog	Cat	Fish
Gryffindor	<b>.12</b>	<b>.12</b>	<b>.06</b>
Slytherin	.04	.04	.02
Ravenclaw	.16	.16	.08
Hufflepuff	.8	.2	.04