

05: Independence

Lisa Yan

April 15, 2020

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Generalized Chain Rule

Definition of conditional probability:

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

The Chain Rule:

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

Generalized Chain Rule

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots E_n) \\ = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1 E_2) \dots P(E_n|E_1 E_2 \dots E_{n-1})$$



Quick check

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots E_n) = P(E_1) P(E_2 | E_1) \dots P(E_n | E_1 E_2 \dots E_{n-1})$$

Chain Rule

You are going to a friend's Halloween party.

Let C = there is candy
 M = there is music

W = you wear a costume
 E = no one wears your costume

An awesome party means that all of these events must occur.

What is $P(\text{awesome party}) = P(CMWE)$?

- A. $P(C)P(M|C)P(W|CM)P(E|CMW)$
- B. $P(M)P(C|M)P(W|MC)P(E|MCW)$
- C. $P(W)P(E|W)P(CM|EW)$
- D. A, B, and C
- E. None/other



Quick check

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots E_n) = P(E_1) P(E_2 | E_1) \dots P(E_n | E_1 E_2 \dots E_{n-1})$$
 Chain Rule

You are going to a friend's Halloween party.

Let C = there is candy
 M = there is music

E = no one wears your costume
 W = you wear a costume

An awesome party means that all of these events must occur.

What is $P(\text{awesome party}) = P(CMEW)$?

- A. $P(C)P(M|C)P(E|CM)P(W|CME)$
- B. $P(M)P(C|M)P(E|MC)P(W|MCE)$
- C. $P(W)P(E|W)P(CM|EW)$
- D. A, B, and C
- E. None/other

Chain Rule is a way of introducing “order” and “procedure” into probability.

Think of the children

Two parents both have an (A, a) gene pair.

- Each parent will pass on one of their genes (each gene equally likely) to their child.
- The probability of a single child having curly hair (recessive trait) is 0.25.
- There are three children.



What is the probability that all three children have curly hair?

Let E_1, E_2, E_3 be the events that child 1, 2, and 3 have curly hair, respectively.

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3) = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1 E_2)$$



Independence I

Independence

Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

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

Otherwise E and F are called dependent events.

If E and F are independent, then:

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

Intuition through proof

Independent events E and F $\iff P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$

Statement:

If E and F are independent, then $P(E|F) = P(E)$.

Proof:

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

Definition of conditional probability

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

Independence of E and F

$$= P(E)$$

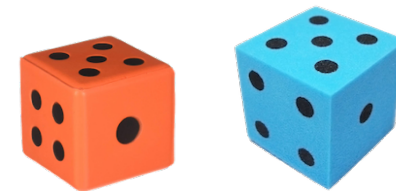
Taking the bus to cancellation city

Knowing that F happened does not change our belief that E happened.

Dice, our misunderstood friends

Independent events E and F \iff $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

- Roll two 6-sided dice, yielding values D_1 and D_2 .
- Let event E : $D_1 = 1$
event F : $D_2 = 6$
event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 5$



$$G = \{(1,4), (2,3), (3,2), (4,1)\}$$

1. Are E and F independent?

$$P(E) = 1/6$$

$$P(F) = 1/6$$

$$P(EF) = 1/36$$

independent

2. Are E and G independent?

$$P(E) = 1/6$$

$$P(G) = 4/36 = 1/9$$

$$P(EG) = 1/36 \neq P(E)P(G)$$

dependent

Generalizing independence

Three events E , F , and G are independent if:

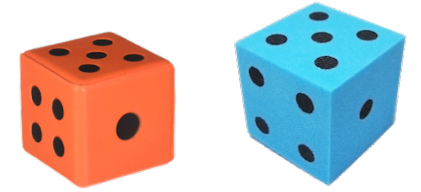
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P(EFG) = P(E)P(F)P(G), \text{ and} \\ P(EF) = P(E)P(F), \text{ and} \\ P(EG) = P(E)P(G), \text{ and} \\ P(FG) = P(F)P(G) \end{array} \right.$$

n events E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n are independent if:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{for } r = 1, \dots, n: \\ \quad \text{for every subset } E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r: \\ \quad \quad P(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r) = P(E_1)P(E_2) \cdots P(E_r) \end{array} \right.$$

Dice, increasingly misunderstood (still our friends)

- Each roll of a 6-sided die is an **independent trial**.
- Two rolls: D_1 and D_2 .
- Let event E : $D_1 = 1$
event F : $D_2 = 6$
event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 7$



$$G = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

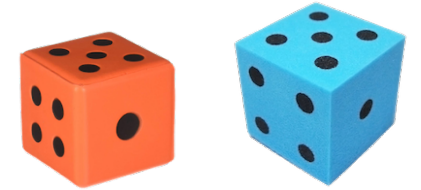
1. Are E and F independent?
2. Are E and G independent?
3. Are F and G independent?
4. Are E, F, G independent?

$$P(EF) = 1/36$$



Dice, increasingly misunderstood (still our friends)

- Each roll of a 6-sided die is an **independent trial**.
- Two rolls: D_1 and D_2 .
- Let event E : $D_1 = 1$
event F : $D_2 = 6$
event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 7$



$$G = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

1. Are E and F independent?
2. Are E and G independent?
3. Are F and G independent?
4. Are E, F, G independent?

$$P(EF) = 1/36$$

Pairwise independence is not sufficient to prove independence of >2 events!

Independence II

Independent trials

We often are interested in experiments consisting of n **independent trials**.

- n trials, each with the same set of possible outcomes
- n -way independence: an event in one subset of trials is independent of events in other subsets of trials

Examples:

- Flip a coin n times
- Roll a die n times
- Send a multiple choice survey to n people
- Send n web requests to k different servers

Think of the children as independent trials

Two parents both have an (A, a) gene pair.

- Each parent will pass on one of their genes (each gene equally likely) to their child.
- The probability of a single child having curly hair (recessive trait) is 0.25.
- There are three children. **Each child is an independent trial.**



What is the probability that all three children have curly hair?

Let E_1, E_2, E_3 be the events that child 1, 2, and 3 have curly hair, respectively.

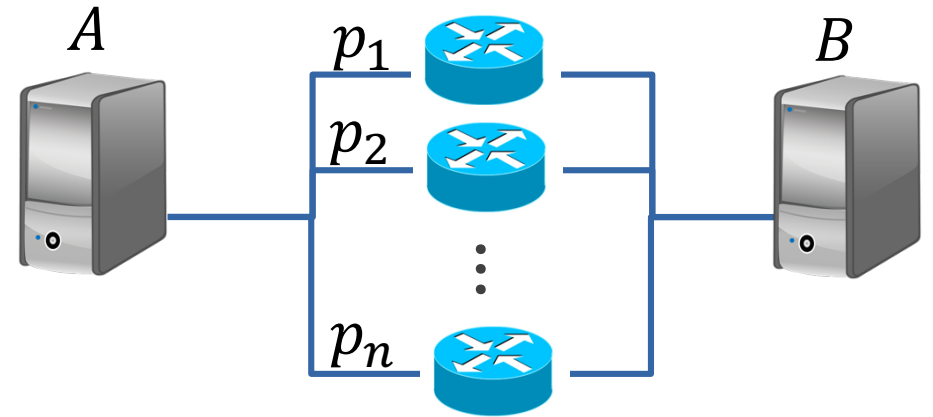
$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3) = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1 E_2)$$

Network reliability

Consider the following parallel network:

- n independent routers, each with probability p_i of functioning (where $1 \leq i \leq n$)
- E = functional path from A to B exists.

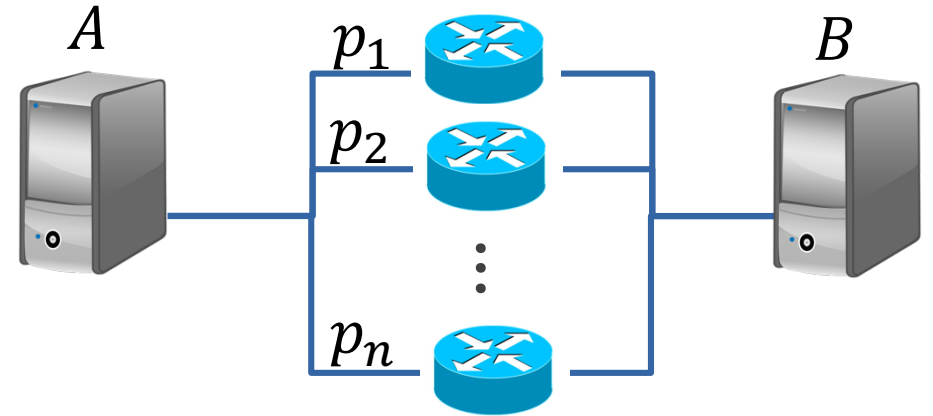
What is $P(E)$?



Network reliability

Consider the following parallel network:

- n independent routers, each with probability p_i of functioning (where $1 \leq i \leq n$)
- E = functional path from A to B exists.



What is $P(E)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(\geq 1 \text{ one router works}) \\ &= 1 - P(\text{all routers fail}) \\ &= 1 - (1 - p_1)(1 - p_2) \cdots (1 - p_n) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - p_i) \end{aligned}$$

≥ 1 with independent trials:
take complement

05: Independence (live)

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Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

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

For independent events E and F ,

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

Think

Slide 24 has two questions to think over by yourself. We'll go over it together afterwards.

Post any clarifications here!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/109/discussion/27279>

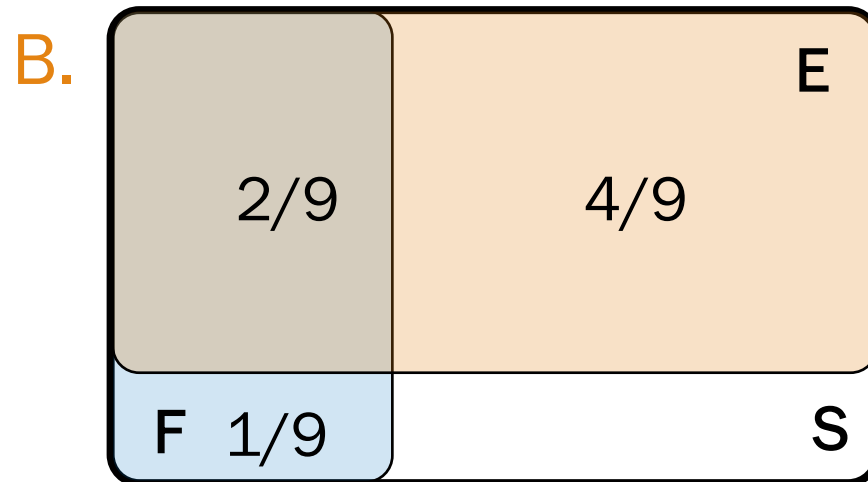
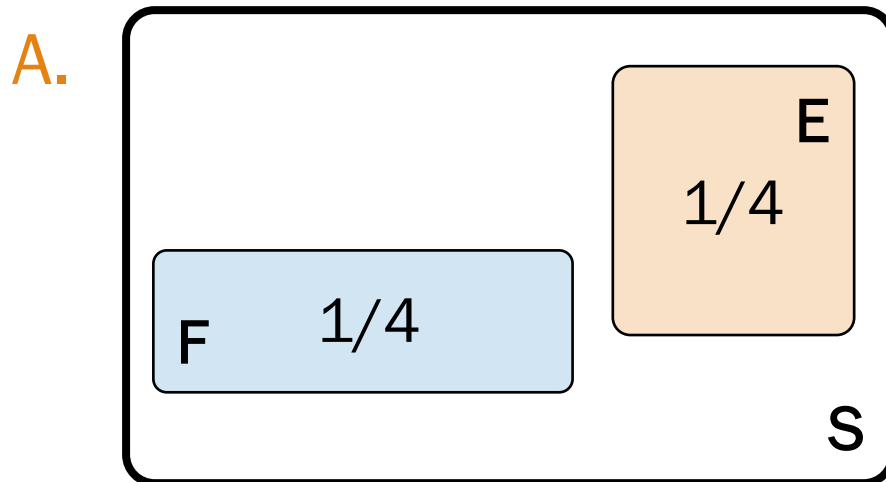
Think by yourself: 2 min



Independence?

Independent events E and F \iff $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

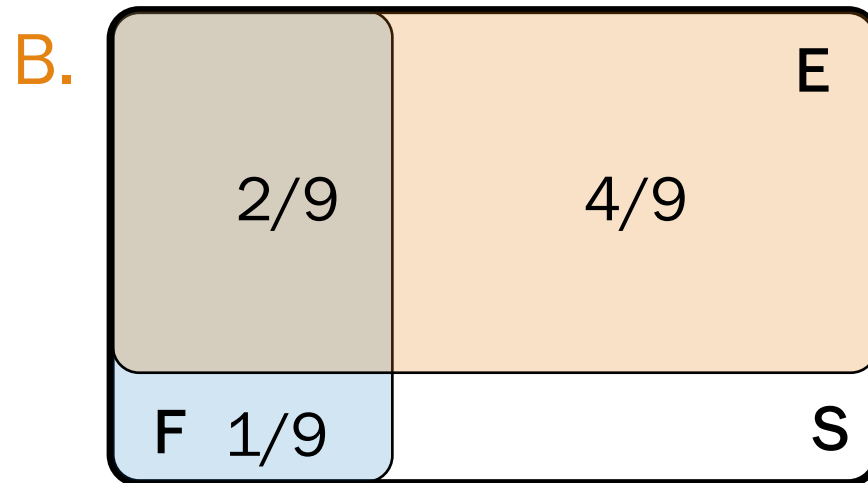
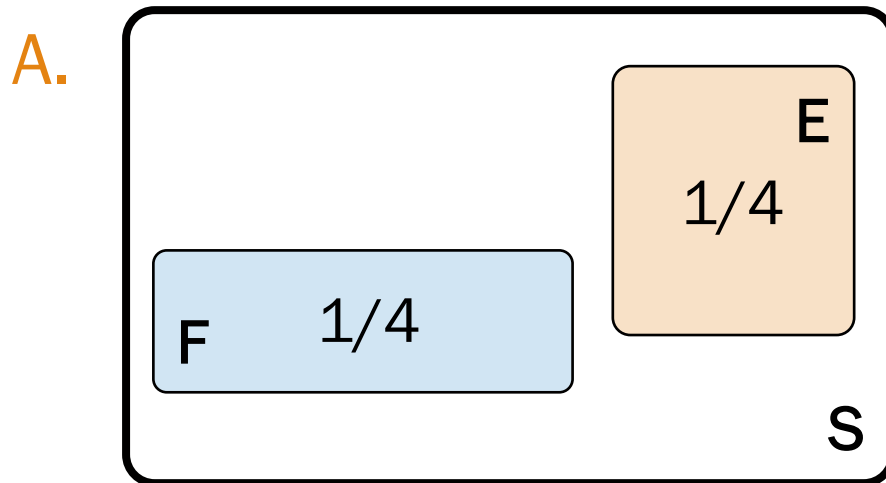
- Two events E and F are independent if:
 - Knowing that F happens means that E can't happen.
 - Knowing that F happens doesn't change probability that E happened.
- Are E and F independent in the following pictures?



Independence?

Independent events E and F \iff $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

- Two events E and F are independent if:
 - Knowing that F happens means that E can't happen.
 - Knowing that F happens doesn't change probability that E happened.
- Are E and F independent in the following pictures?



Be careful:

- Independence is NOT mutual exclusion.
- Independence is difficult to visualize graphically.

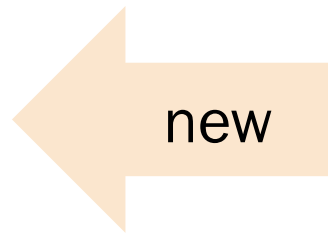
Independence

Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

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

For independent events E and F ,

- $P(E|F) = P(E)$
- E and F^C are independent.



Independence of complements

Statement:

If E and F are independent, then E and F^C are independent.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}P(EF^C) &= P(E) - P(EF) \\ &= P(E) - P(E)P(F) \\ &= P(E)[1 - P(F)] \\ &= P(E)P(F^C)\end{aligned}$$

E and F^C are independent

Intersection

Independence of E and F

Factoring

Complement

Definition of independence

Knowing that F did or didn't happen does not change our belief that E happened.

Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

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

For independent events E and F ,

- $P(E|F) = P(E)$
- E and F^C are independent

Independent trials are when we observe independent sub-experiments, each of which has the same set of possible outcomes.

Breakout Rooms

Check out the questions on the next slide (Slide 30). Post any clarifications here!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/109/discussion/27279>

Breakout rooms: 5 min. Introduce yourself!



(biased) Coin Flips

Suppose we flip a coin n times. Each coin flip is an **independent trial** with probability p of coming up heads. Write an expression for the following:

1. $P(n \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$
2. $P(n \text{ tails on } n \text{ coin flips})$
3. $P(\text{first } k \text{ heads, then } n - k \text{ tails})$
4. $P(\text{exactly } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$



(biased) Coin Flips

Suppose we flip a coin n times. Each coin flip is an **independent trial** with probability p of coming up heads. Write an expression for the following:

1. $P(n \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$
2. $P(n \text{ tails on } n \text{ coin flips})$
3. $P(\text{first } k \text{ heads, then } n - k \text{ tails})$
4. $P(\text{exactly } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

$$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

of mutually
exclusive
outcomes

$P(\text{a particular outcome's}$
 $k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

Make sure you understand #4! It will come up again.

Interlude for jokes/announcements

Announcements

Free Online CTL Tutoring

CTL offers appointment tutoring for CS 109, in addition to tutoring for a number of other courses. For more information and to schedule an appointment, visit our [tutoring appointments and drop-in schedule page](#). We also have a variety of [remote learning resources](#) and [academic coaching](#) available to assist with all of your learning needs!

Sections start today!

Late signups/change form: end of day

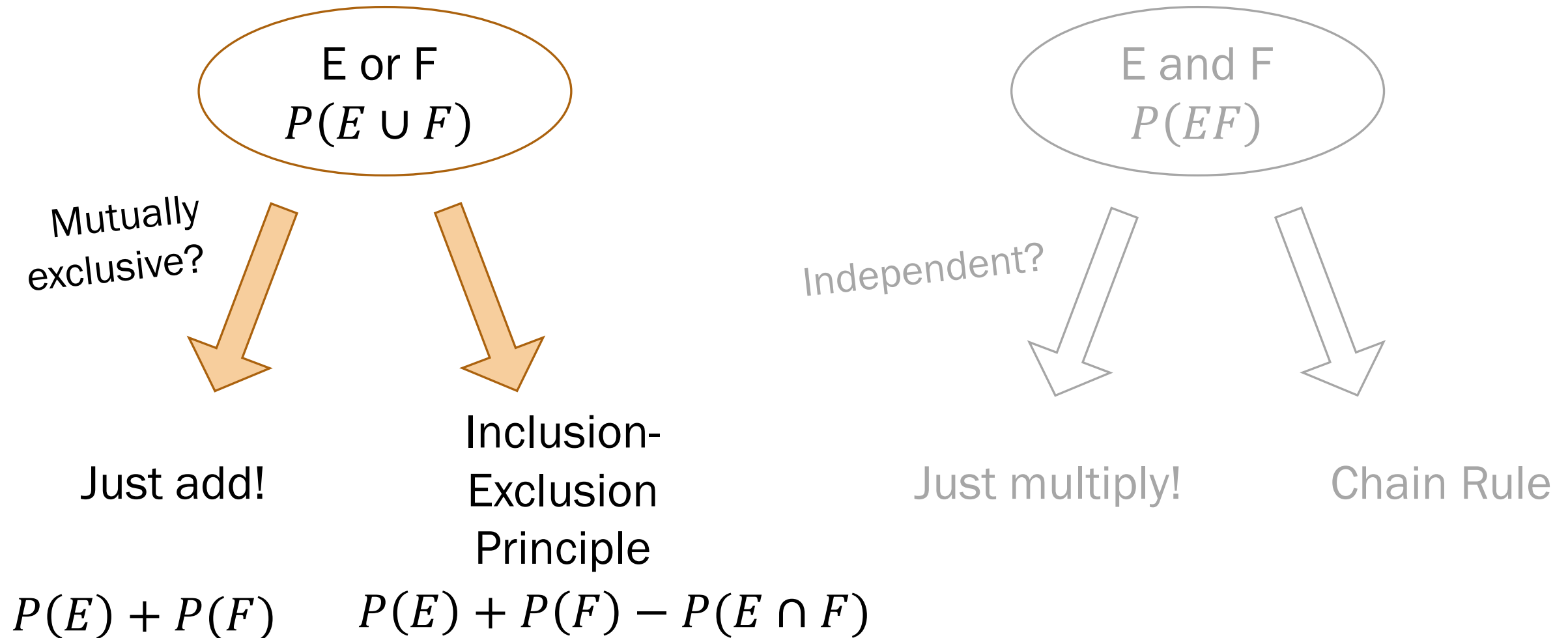
Problem Set 1

due: **10am Friday** (not 10:30am)

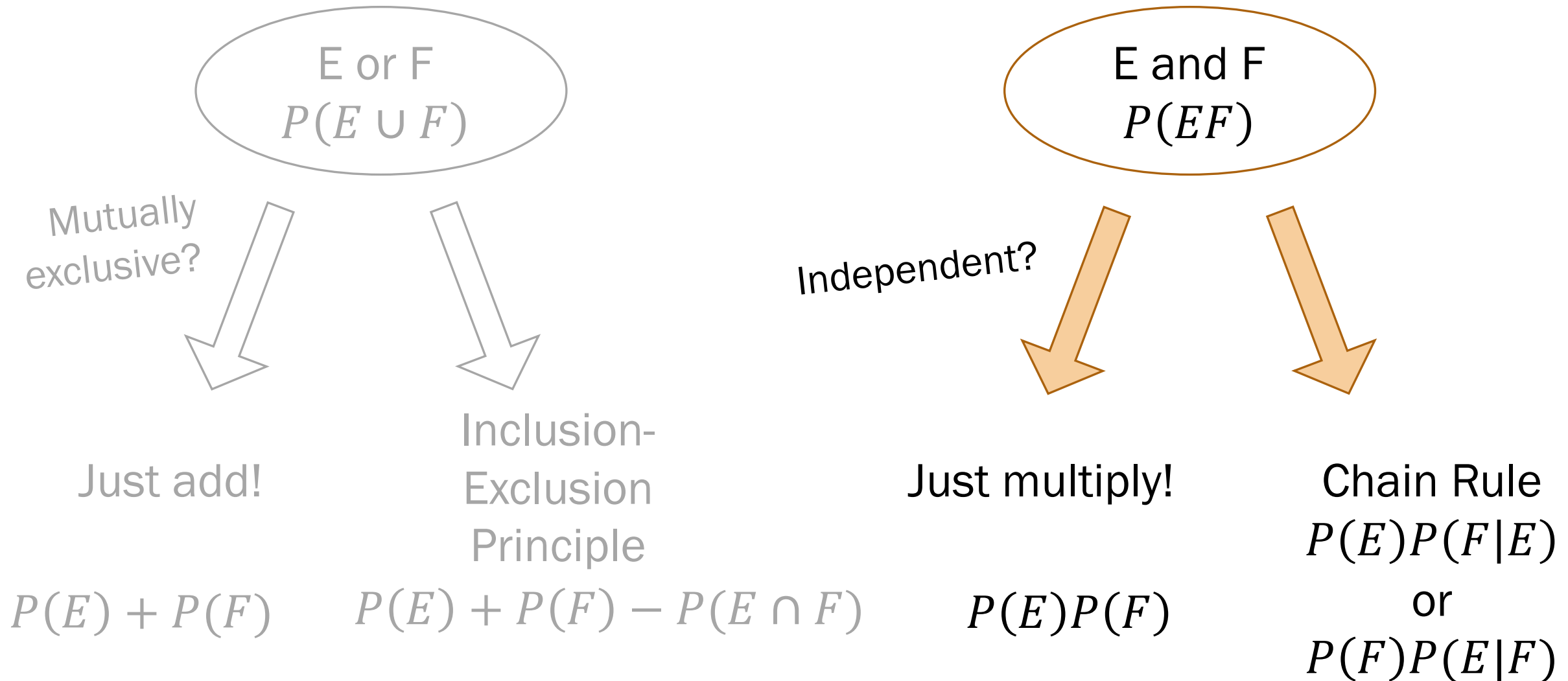
Still confused about Monty Hall? Check out the code!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/109/discussion/27277?comment=93040>

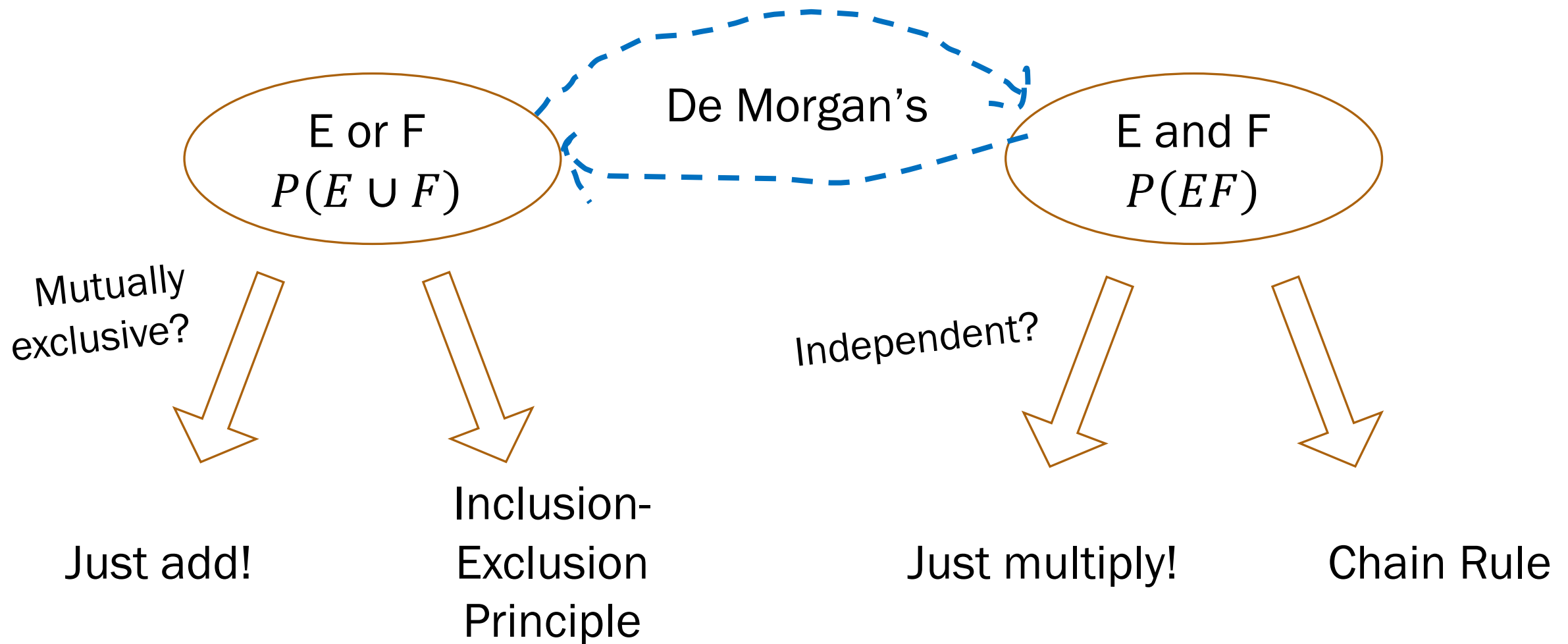
Probability of events



Probability of events



Probability of events



Augustus De Morgan

Augustus De Morgan (1806–1871):

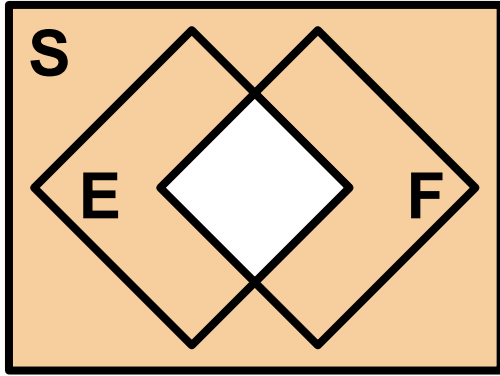
British mathematician who wrote the book *Formal Logic* (1847).



He looked remarkably similar to Jason Alexander (George from Seinfeld)
(but that's not important right now)

De Morgan's Laws

DeMorgan's lets you switch from AND to OR.



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

$$\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i \right)^C = \bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i^C$$

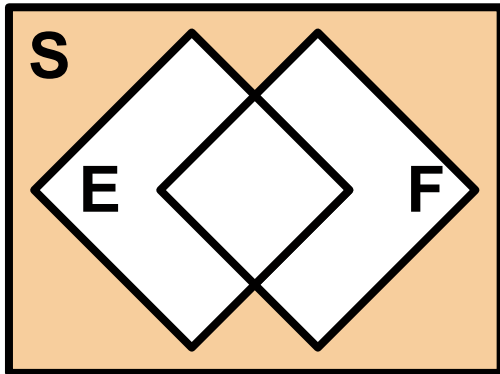
In probability:

$$P(E_1 E_2 \cdots E_n)$$

$$= 1 - P\left((E_1 E_2 \cdots E_n)^C \right)$$

$$= 1 - P(E_1^C \cup E_2^C \cup \cdots \cup E_n^C)$$

Great if E_i^C mutually exclusive!



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

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i \right)^C = \bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i^C$$

In probability:

$$P(E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n)$$

$$= 1 - P\left((E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n)^C \right)$$

$$= 1 - P(E_1^C E_2^C \cdots E_n^C)$$

Great if E_i independent!

Think, then Breakout Rooms

Check out the questions on the next slide (Slide 40). **These are challenging problems.** Post any clarifications here!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/109/discussion/27279>

Think by yourself: 2 min

Breakout rooms: 5 min



Hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

2. $E =$ at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?




Hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

Define $S_i =$ string i is hashed into bucket 1
 $S_i^C =$ string i is not hashed into bucket 1


$$P(S_i) = p_1$$
$$P(S_i^C) = 1 - p_1$$

Hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

WTF (not-real acronym for Want To Find):

$$P(E) = P(S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_m)$$

$$= 1 - P\left((S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_m)^c\right)$$

$$= 1 - P(S_1^c S_2^c \dots S_m^c)$$

$$= 1 - P(S_1^c)P(S_2^c) \dots P(S_m^c) = 1 - \left(P(S_1^c)\right)^m$$

$$= 1 - (1 - p_1)^m$$

Define $S_i =$ string i is hashed into bucket 1
 $S_i^c =$ string i is not hashed into bucket 1

Complement

De Morgan's Law

S_i independent trials

↓

$$P(S_i) = p_1$$
$$P(S_i^c) = 1 - p_1$$

More hash table fun: Possible approach?

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. $E =$ **at least 1** of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k) \\ &= 1 - P\left((F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k)^c\right) \\ &= 1 - P(F_1^c F_2^c \dots F_k^c) \\ &? = 1 - P(F_1^c)P(F_2^c) \dots P(F_k^c) \end{aligned}$$

Define $F_i =$ bucket i has at least one string in it

 F_i bucket events are *dependent*!

So we cannot approach with complement.

More hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. $E =$ **at least 1** of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k) \\ &= 1 - P\left((F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k)^c\right) \\ &= 1 - P(F_1^c F_2^c \dots F_k^c) \end{aligned}$$

Define $F_i =$ bucket i has at least one string in it

$$\begin{aligned} &= P(\text{no strings hashed to buckets 1 to } k) \\ &= \left(P(\text{string hashed outside bkts 1 to } k)\right)^m \\ &= (1 - p_1 - p_2 \dots - p_k)^m \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1 - (1 - p_1 - p_2 \dots - p_k)^m$$

The **fun** never stops with hash tables

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. $E =$ at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?



Looking for a challenge? 😊

The fun never stops with hash tables

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hashed is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. $E =$ bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. $E =$ at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
3. $E =$ each of of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?



Hint: Use Part 2's event definition:

Define $F_i =$ bucket i has at least one string in it

Check out the Lecture Notes for a solution!