

Let's say we partition S into A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n . Suppose event B occurs.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

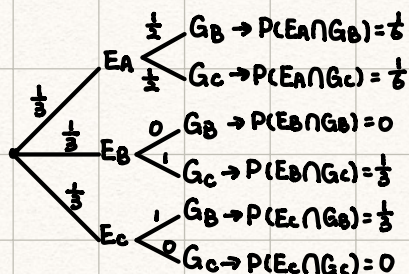
We have used the total prob. theorem to rewrite the denominator

Example: Prisoner's dilemma

There are 3 prisoner (A, B and C). One will be executed, 2 will be released. "A" asks the guard, who will be released between B and C. "B" will be released. "A" now thinks: before asking, my chance to be executed were $\frac{1}{3}$, but now they are $\frac{1}{2}$. Why is he wrong?

Let $E_i = \{\text{prisoner } i \text{ will be executed}\}$, for $i = A, B, C$

Let $G_j = \{\text{guard names prisoner } j\}$, for $j = A, B, C$



We know B will be released. What is the prob. that A will be executed?

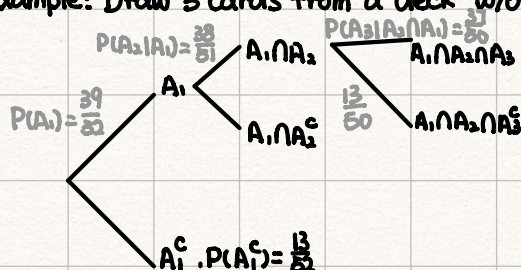
$$P(EA|GB) = \frac{P(GB|EA)P(EA)}{P(GB)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}}{(\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \times 0)} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Multiplication Rule

We have seen that $P(A_1 \cap A_2) = P(A_1|A_2)P(A_2) = P(A_2|A_1)P(A_1)$. What if we wish to define multiple events?

$$P(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i) = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1)P(A_3|A_2 \cap A_1) \dots P(A_n|\bigcap_{i=1}^{n-1} A_i)$$

Example: Draw 3 cards from a deck w/o replacement. What is the probability that none of them is a heart?



$$\Rightarrow P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1)P(A_3|A_2 \cap A_1) = \frac{39}{52} \times \frac{28}{51} \times \frac{27}{50} \approx 0.41$$

Independence of events

Two events are independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.

Recall conditional probability: $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$. If two events are independent, $P(A|B) = P(A)$

