

# Chapter 4: Probability and Combinatorics

DSCC 462

Computational Introduction to Statistics

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# Probability

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- Probability is the mathematics of random occurrences

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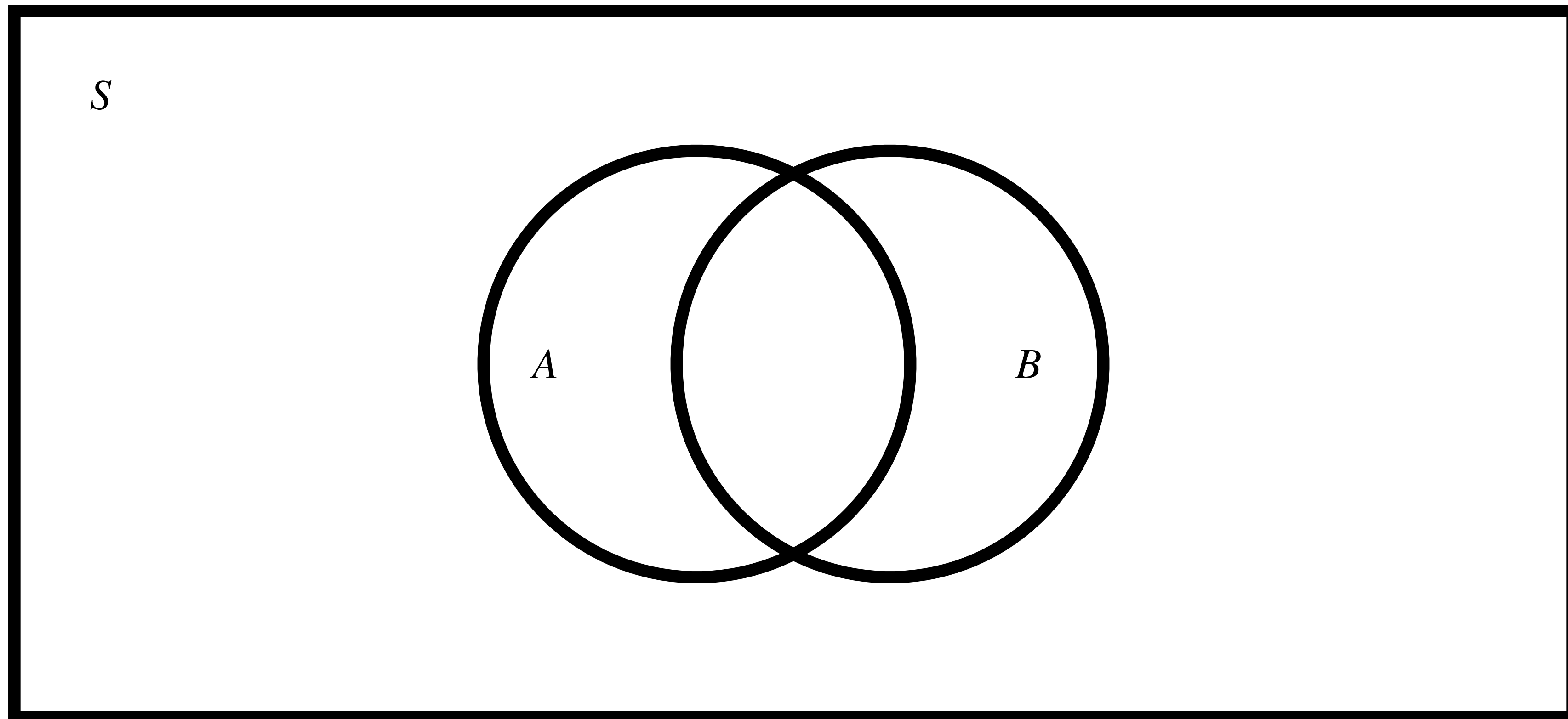
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- Example:  $A = \{\text{roll an even number on a six-sided die}\} = \{2, 4, 6\}$

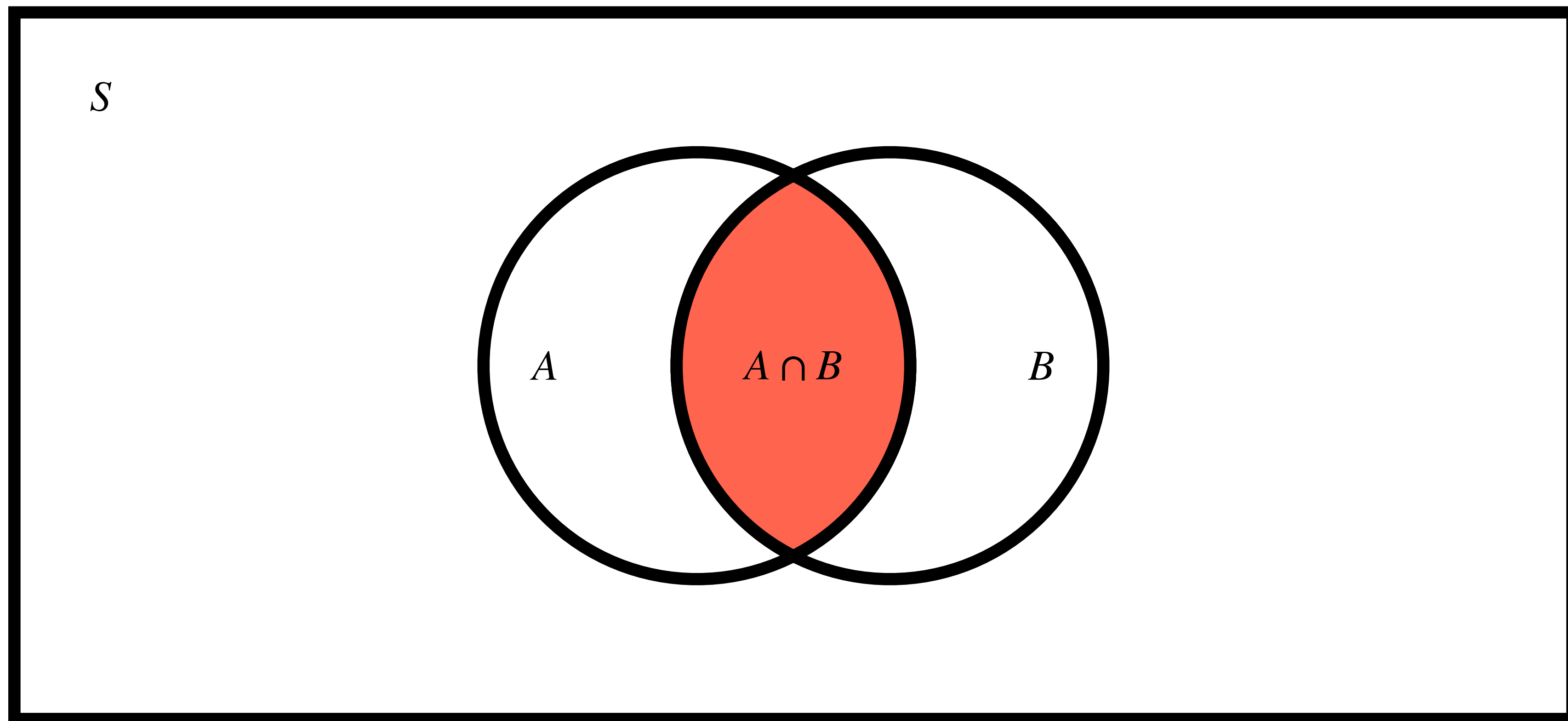
# Operations on Events

- Let  $A$  and  $B$  be events, or subsets of  $S$ , where  $A \subset S$  and  $B \subset S$



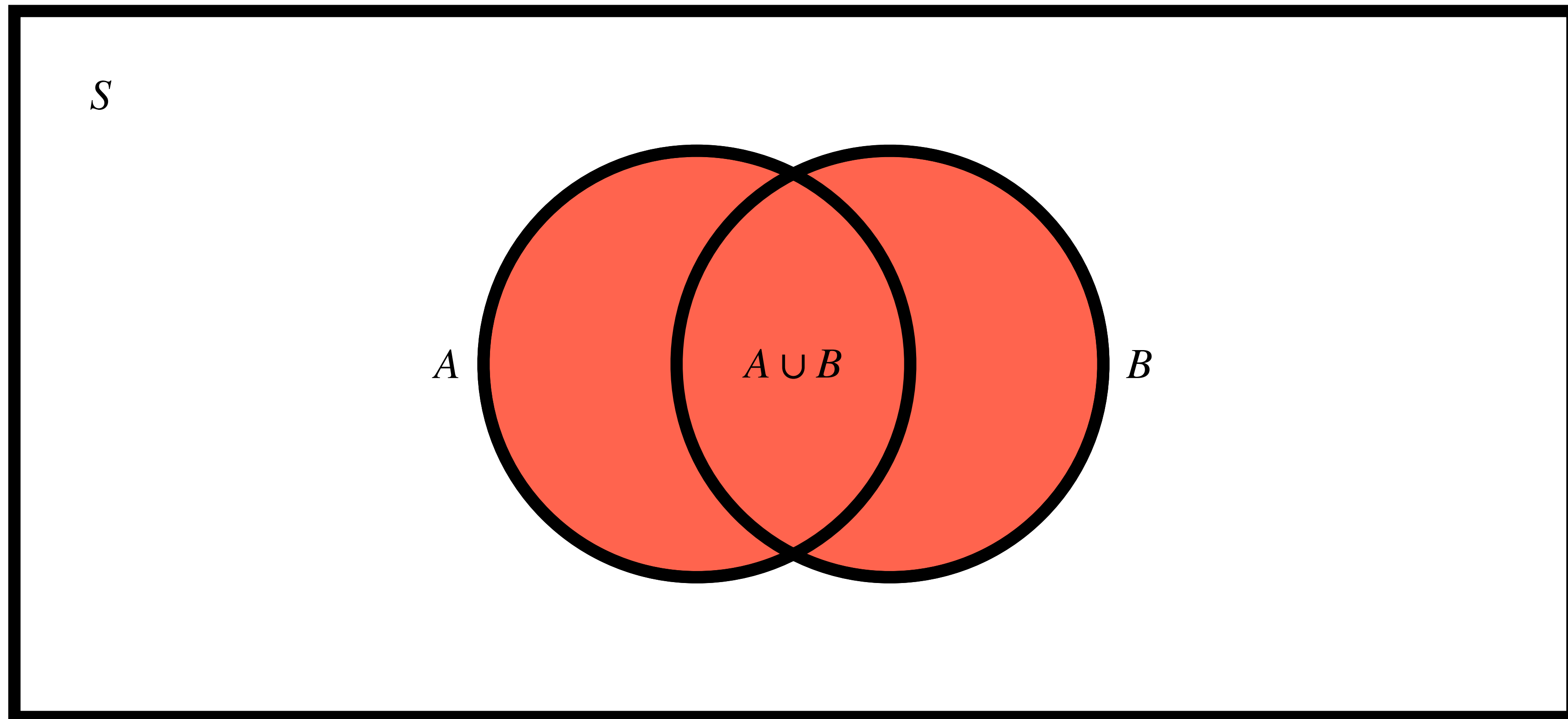
# Intersection

- Intersection ( $A \cap B$ ): The event "both  $A$  and  $B$ ", or all elements in  $S$  in both  $A$  and  $B$



# Union

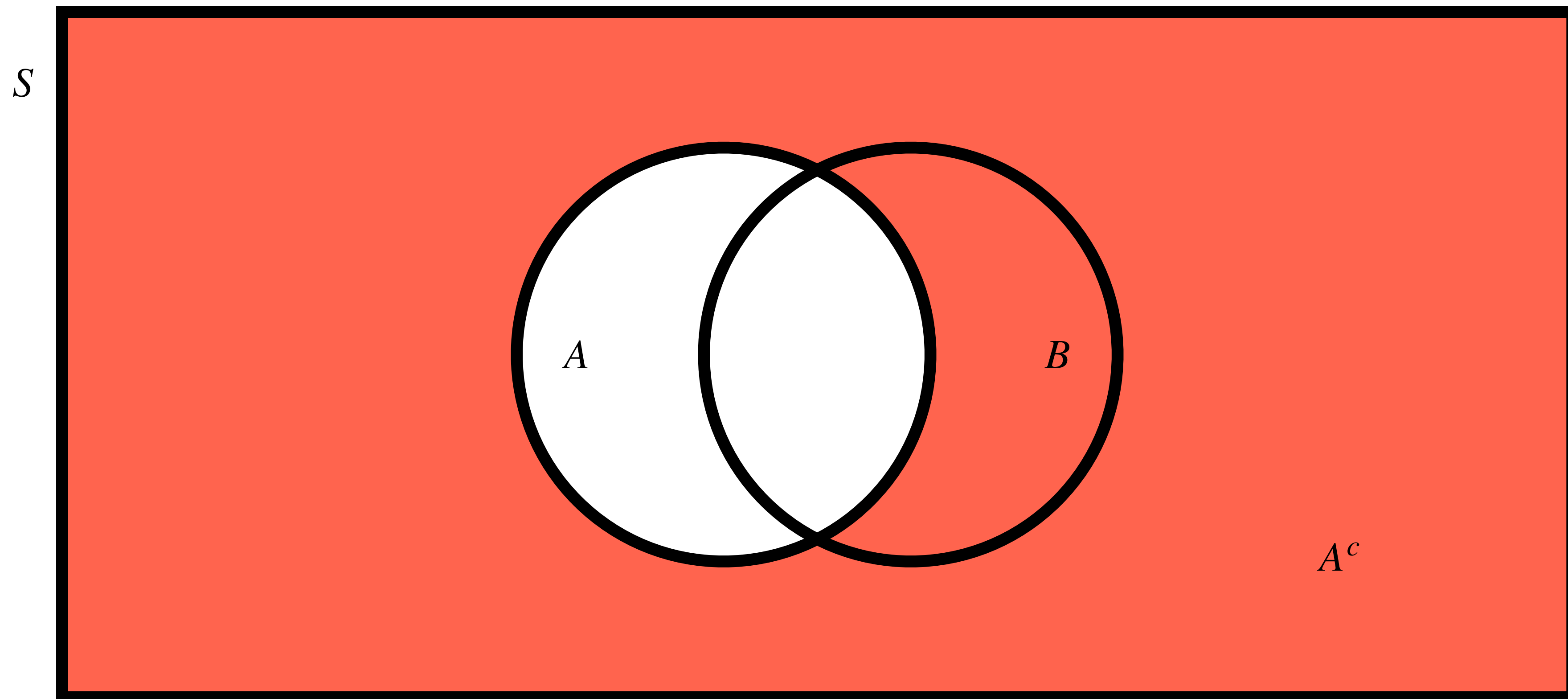
- Union ( $A \cup B$ ): The event "either  $A$  or  $B$ ", or all elements in  $S$  in either  $A$  or  $B$





# Complement

- Complement ( $A^c$ ,  $\bar{A}$ , or  $A'$ ): The event "not  $A$ ", or all elements in  $S$  not in  $A$



# Operations Example

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- Suppose we have the following, where  $A \subset S$ ,  $B \subset S$ , and  $C \subset S$ :

$$S = \{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8\}$$

$$A = \{1,2,3,4\}$$

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$$C = \{7,8\}$$

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- Evaluate the following expressions:

$$A \cap B =$$

$$(A \cup C) \cap B =$$

$$A^c \cap C =$$

$$(A \cap B^c) \cup C =$$

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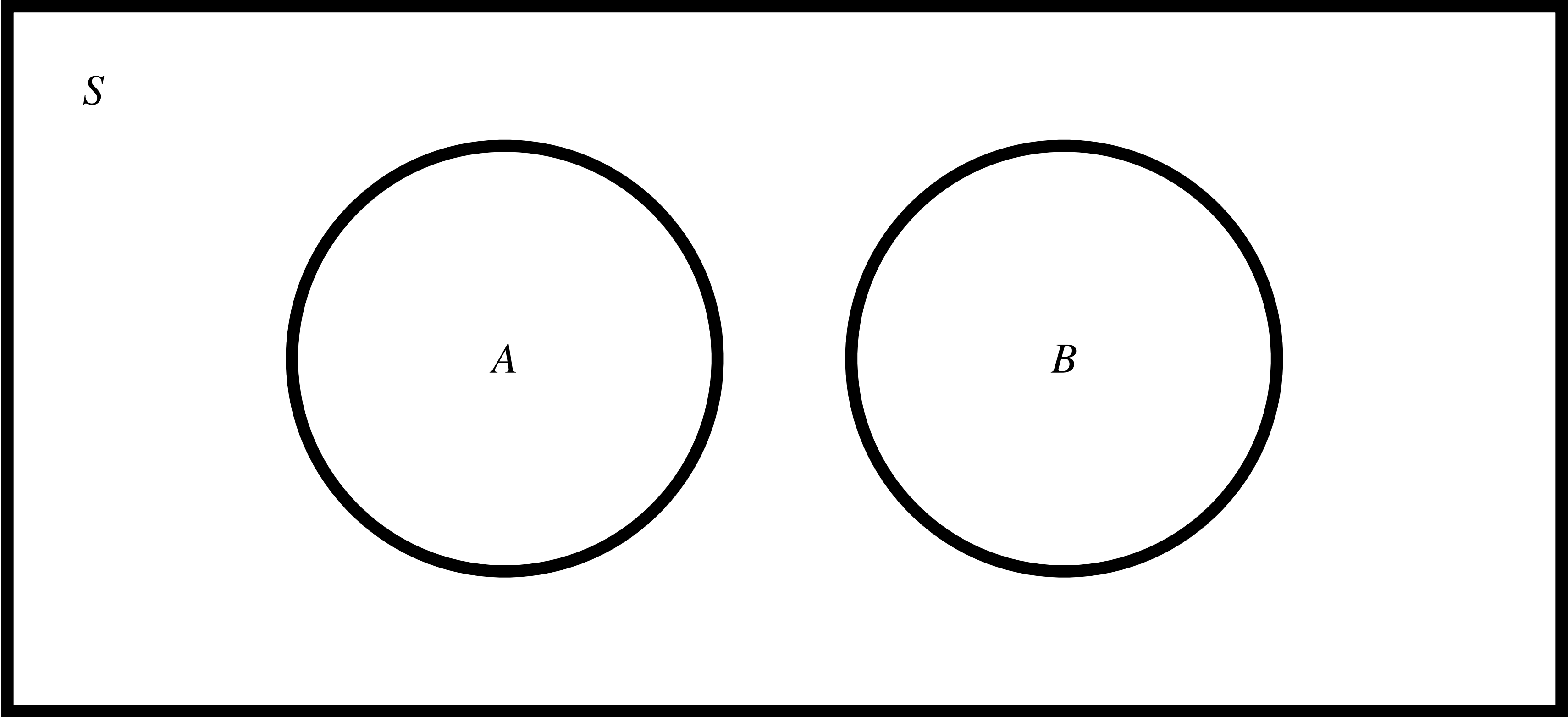
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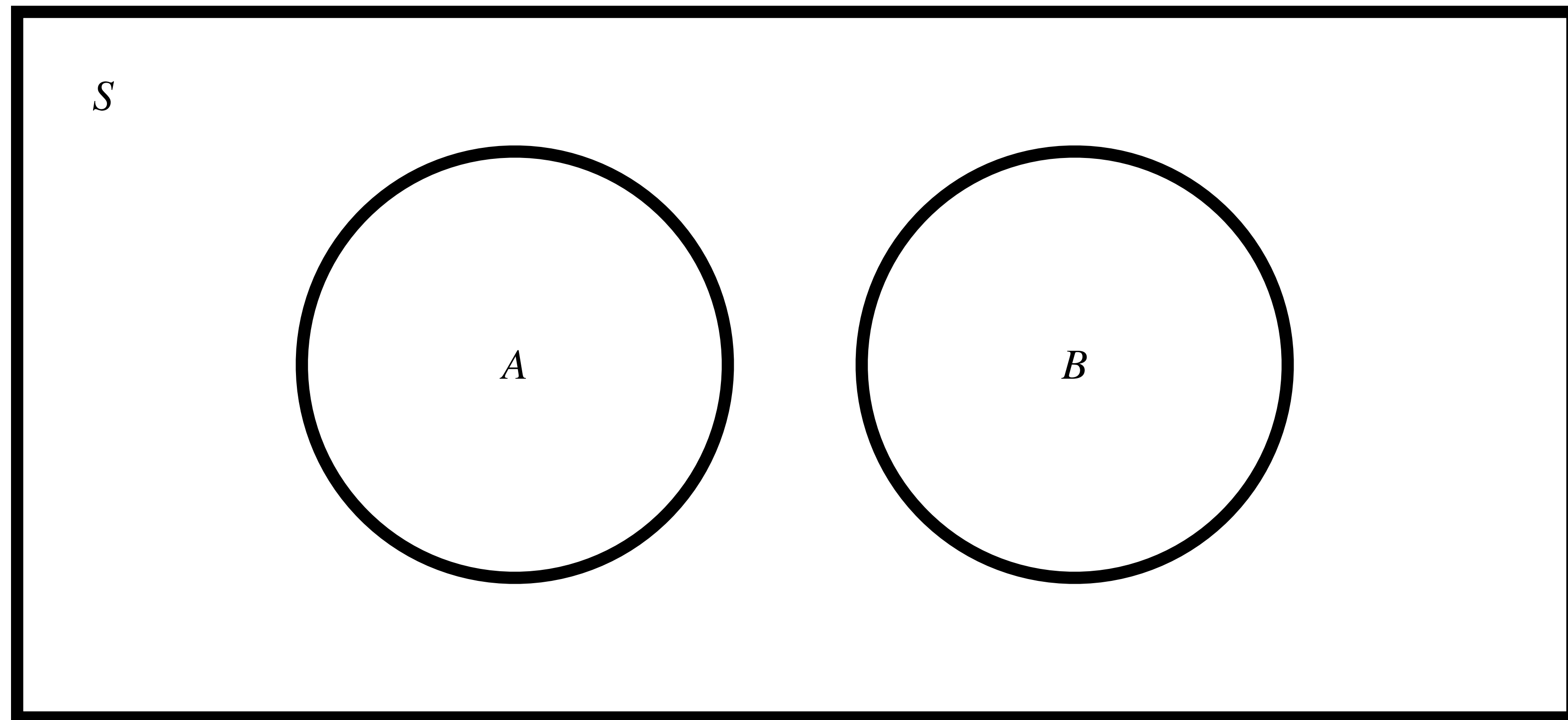


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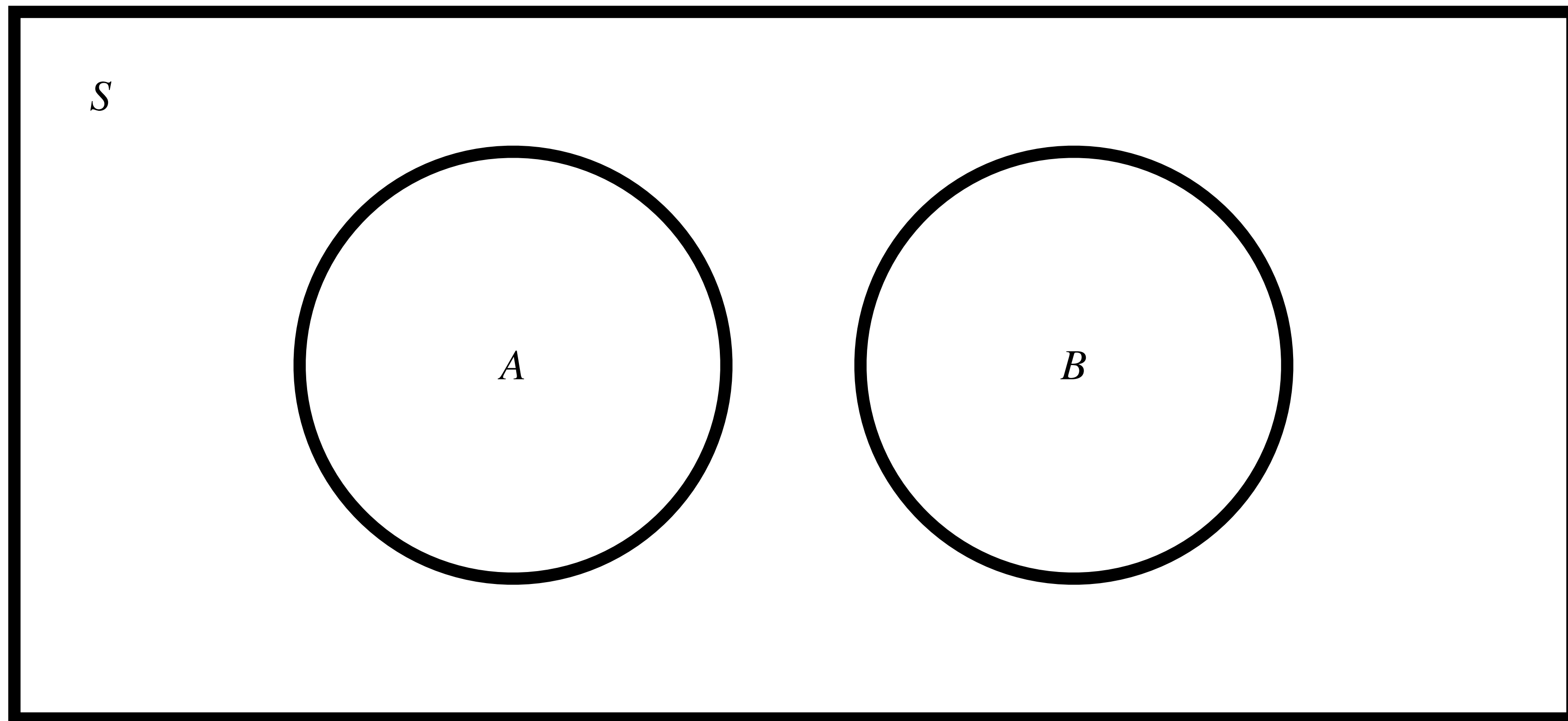
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- Null events are events that can never occur, represented as  $\emptyset$
- Disjoint or mutually exclusive events are events that cannot occur simultaneously;  
 $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint if and only if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$



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- Three types of cardinality:
  - Finite:  $|A| < \infty$
  - Countable:  $|A| = \infty$  but elements can be listed as  $x_1, x_2, \dots$
  - Uncountable:  $|A| = \infty$  and elements cannot be listed as  $x_1, x_2, \dots$

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- **Probability:** If an experiment is repeated  $n$  times under identical conditions, and if event  $A$  occurs  $m$  times, then as  $n$  grows large, the ratio  $m/n$  approaches a fixed limit that is the probability of event  $A$ :  $\Pr(A) = \frac{m}{n}$



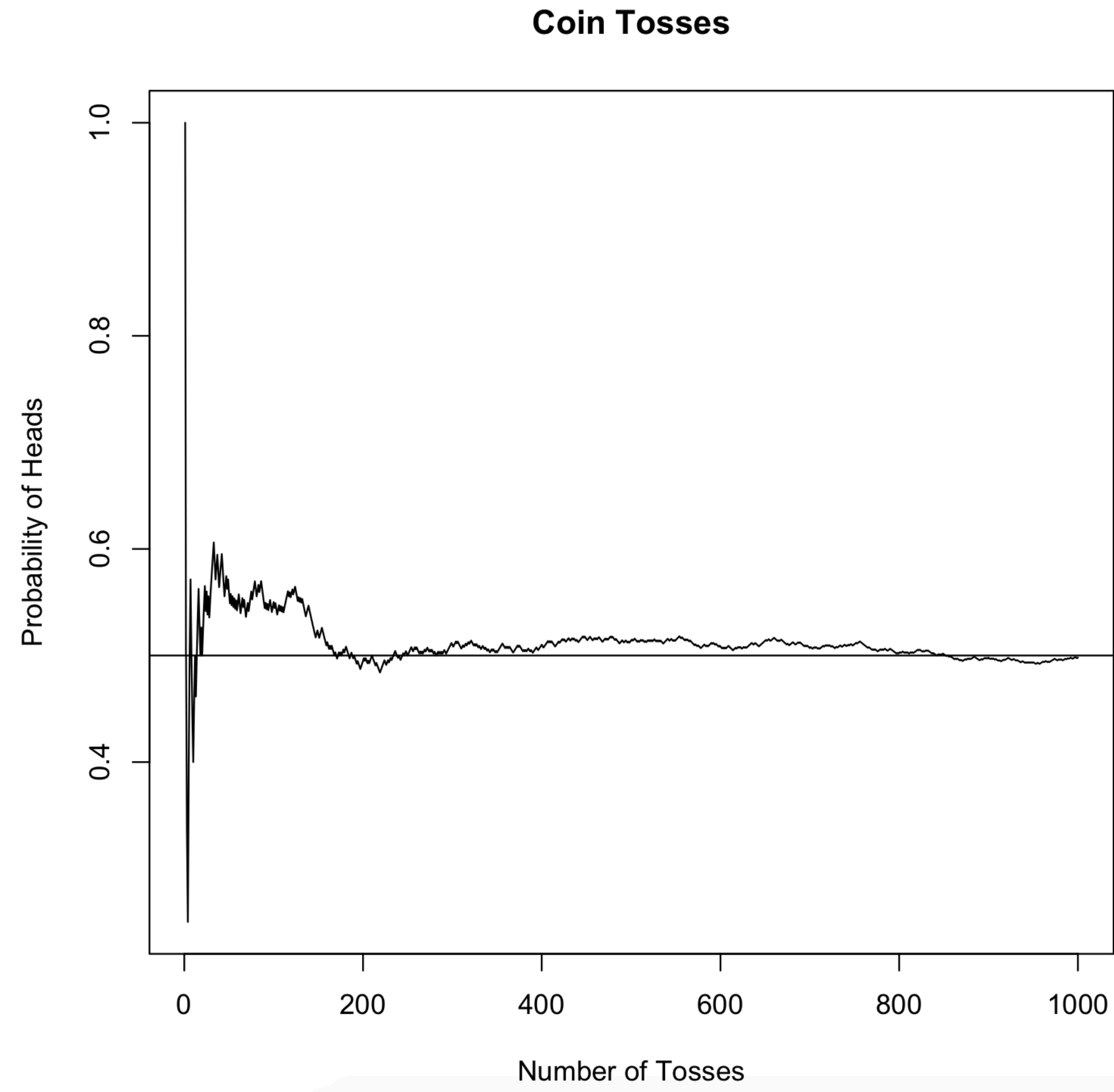
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- Relative frequency of occurrence of an event when repeated many times
- $\Pr(A) = \frac{\text{\# of times } A \text{ occurs}}{\text{total \# of trials}}$

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- If  $A \subset B$ , then  $\Pr(A) \leq \Pr(B)$

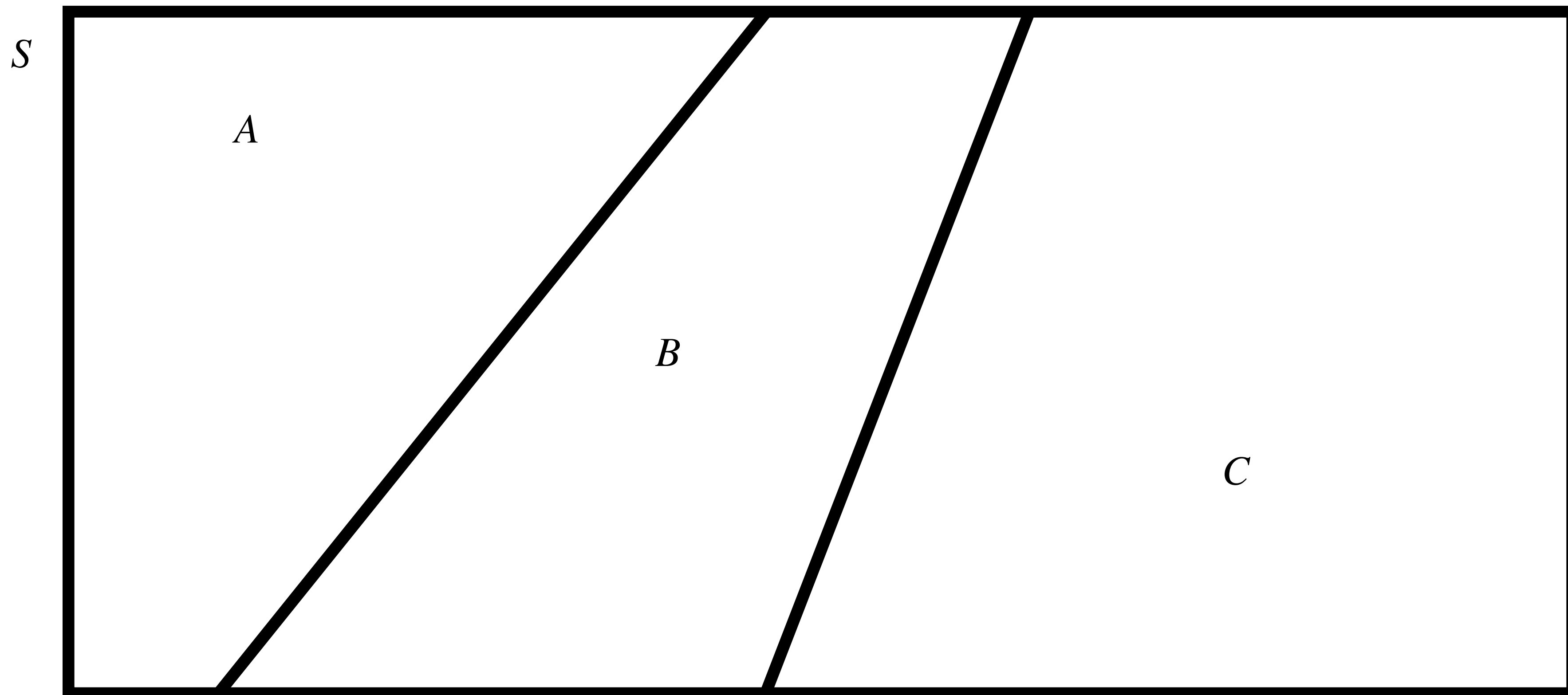
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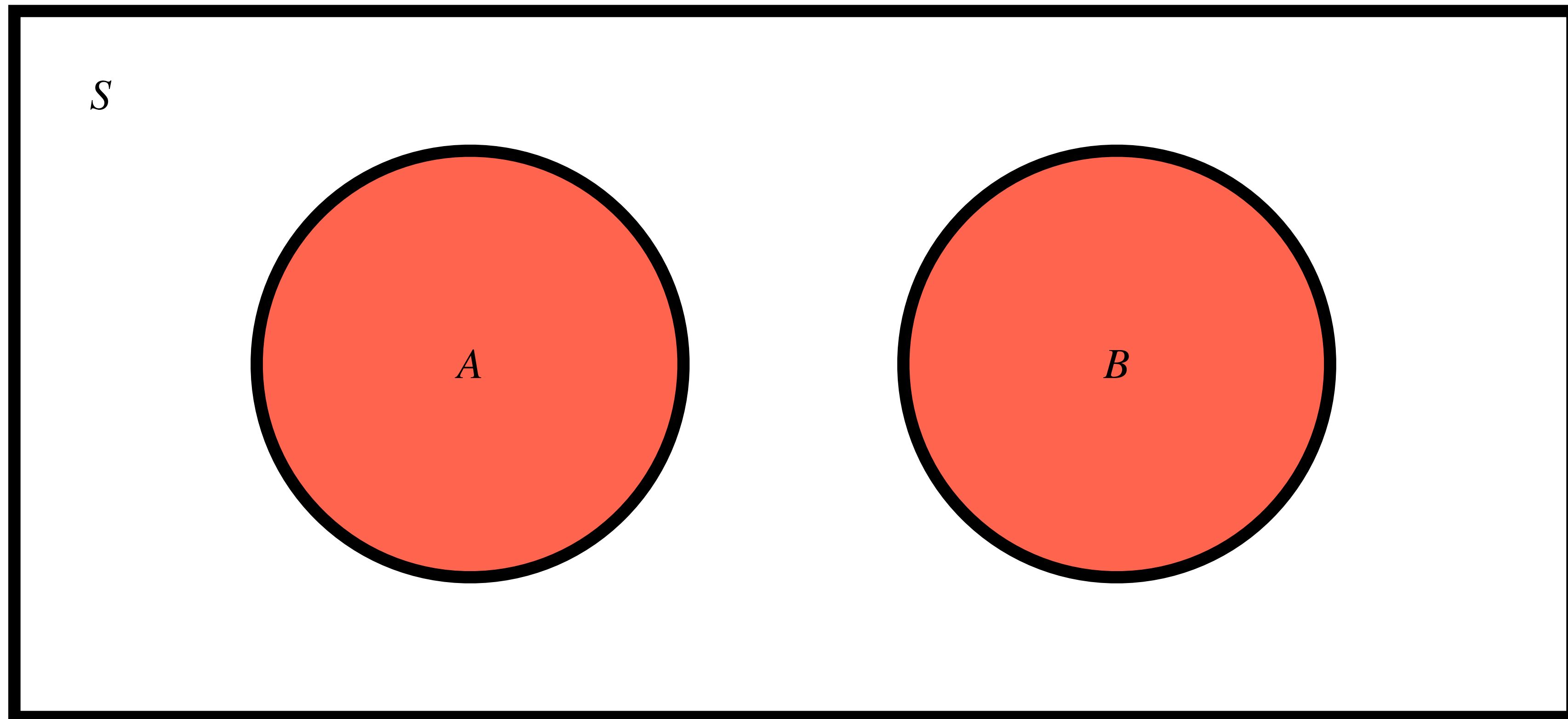
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# Addition Rule: General

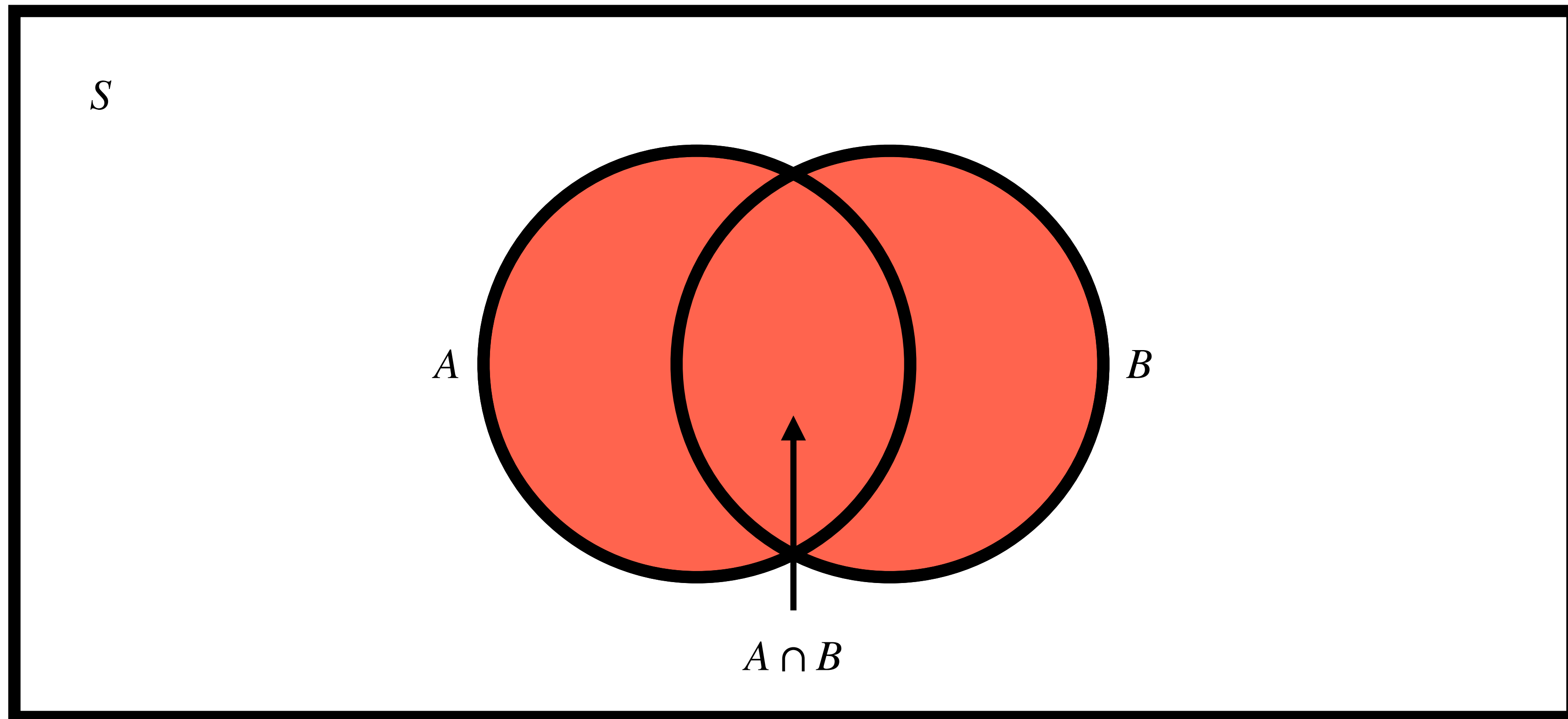


# Addition Rule: General

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- What is the probability that a patient is female or has undergone chemotherapy?

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- **Conditional Probability:** The probability that event  $A$  will occur given that we already know the outcome of event  $B$
- $\Pr(A | B) =$  probability of  $A$  given  $B$

# Multiplicative Rule

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- The *multiplicative rule of probability* tells us the following:

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- Rearranging yields *conditional probability expressions*:

$$\Pr(B | A) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(A)}$$

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- Q2: What is the probability of changing majors given that you are not a male?



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- Setup:
  - The probability that you will be sick tomorrow is 0.6
  - If you are sick tomorrow, the probability that you will be sick the next day is 0.7
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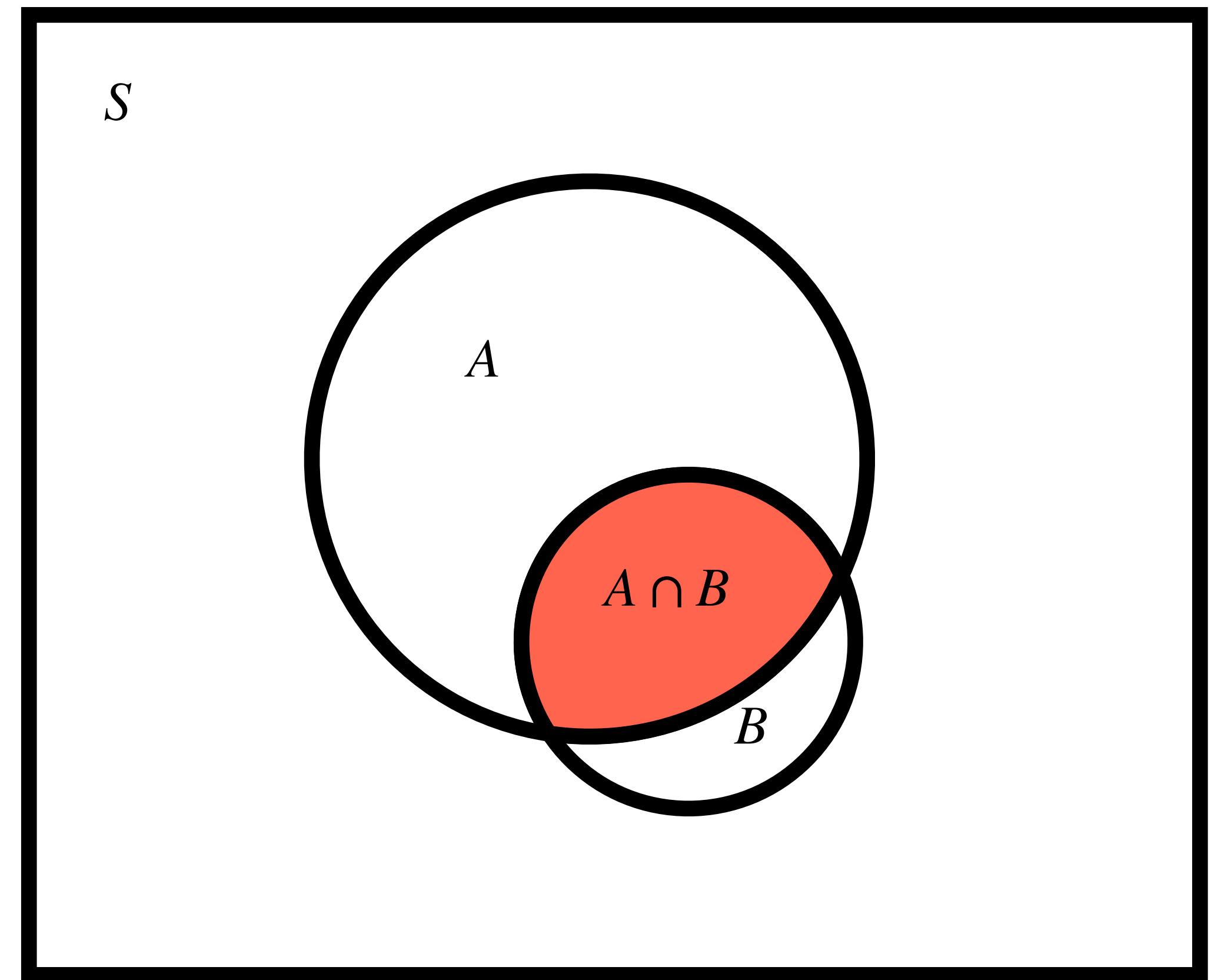
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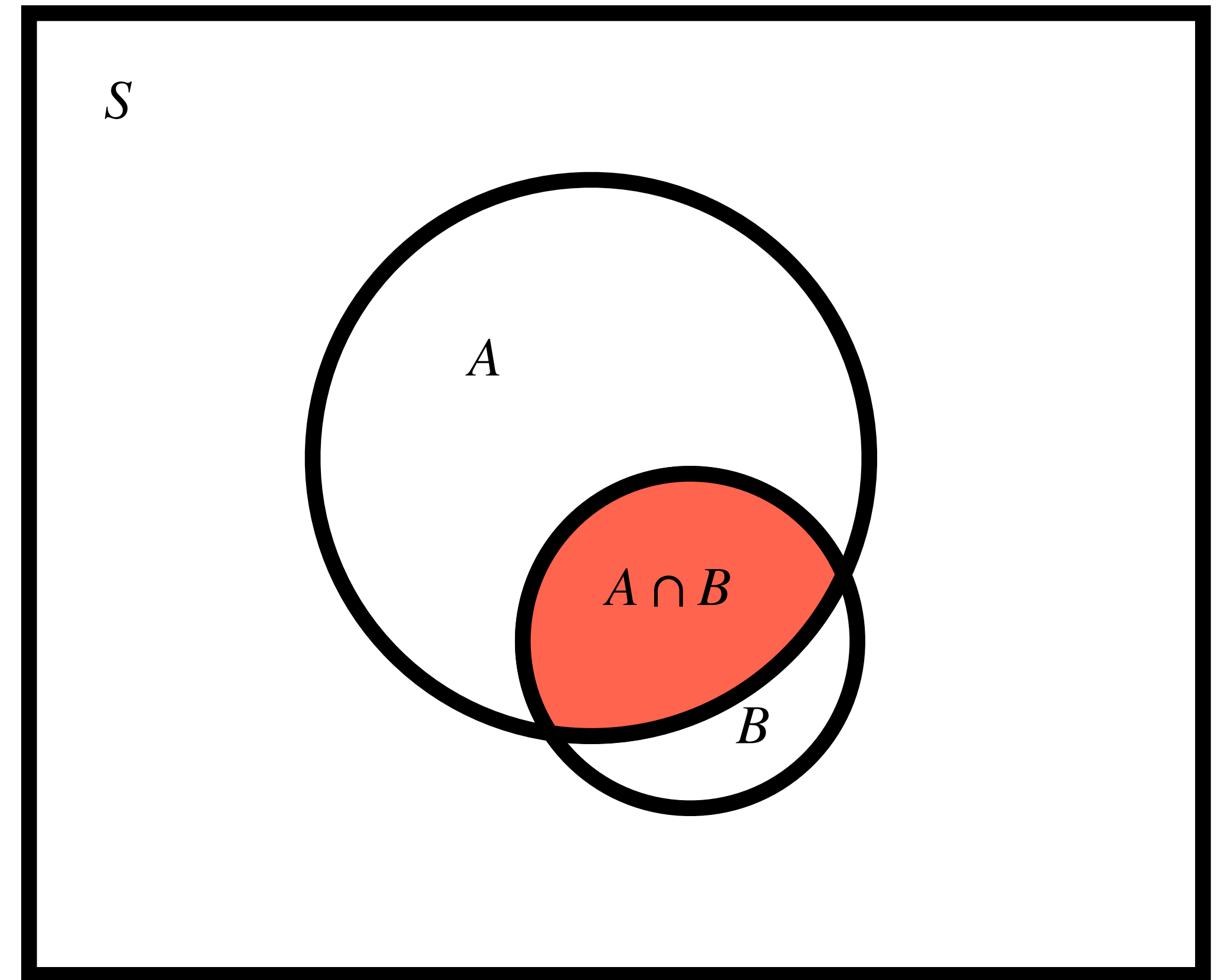
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- Q1: What is the probability that you are sick tomorrow and the next day?
- Q2: What is the probability that you are not sick tomorrow but sick the following day?

# Conditional Probability



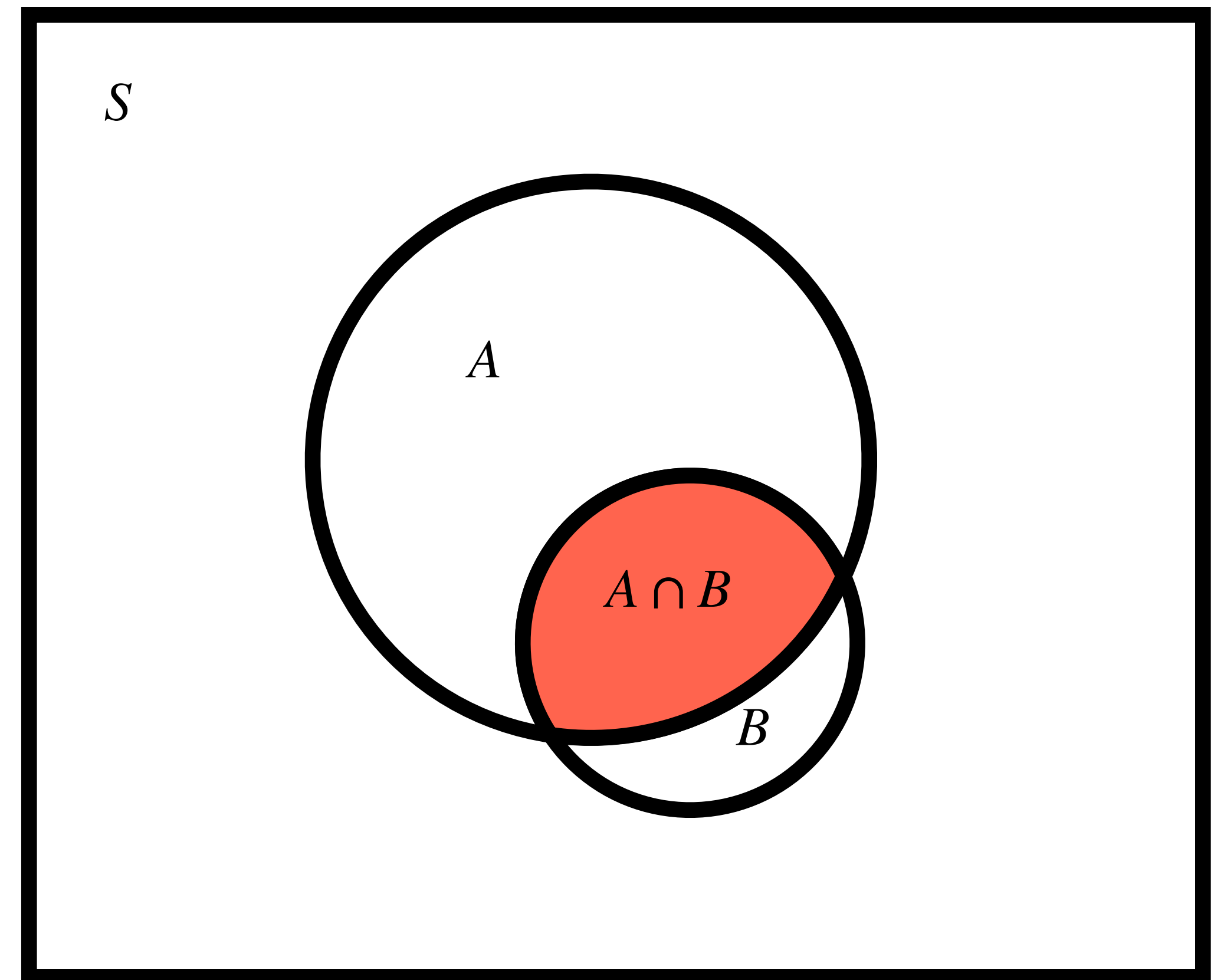
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- Note,  $\Pr(B | A) \neq 1 - \Pr(A | B)$



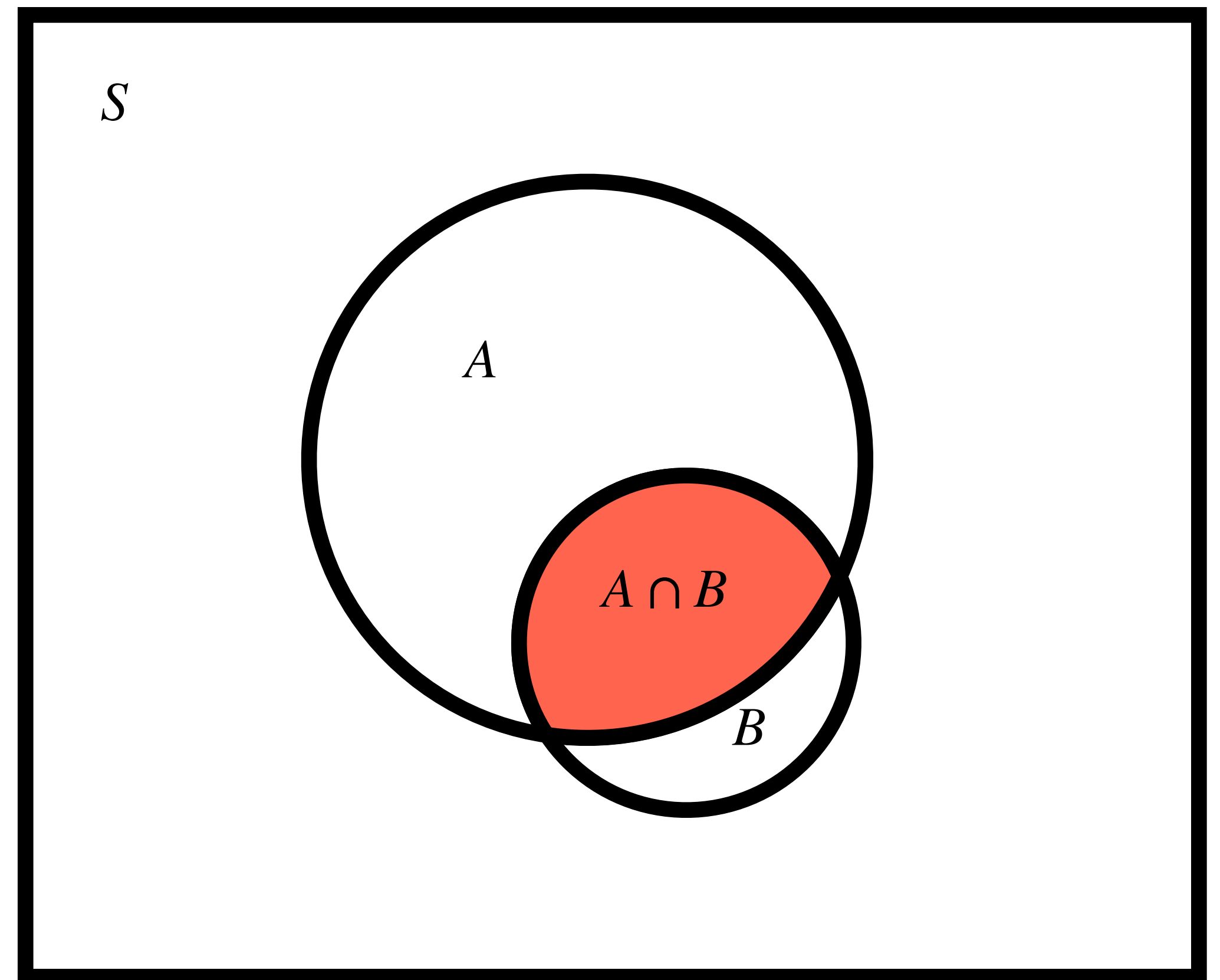
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- But,  $\Pr(B | A) = 1 - \Pr(B^c | A)$





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- Setup:
  - Consider a random experiment where 3 balls are randomly selected (without replacement) from 5 balls labeled 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Sample space:

123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 145

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- Let  $A = \{1 \text{ is selected}\}$  and  $B = \{5 \text{ is selected}\}$ . What is  $\Pr(A | B)$ ?

# Independence

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- **Independence:** The outcome of one event has no effect on the outcome of another event
  - If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $\Pr(A | B) = \Pr(A)$  (and  $\Pr(B | A) = \Pr(B)$ )

# Independence

- **Independence:** The outcome of one event has no effect on the outcome of another event
  - If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $\Pr(A \mid B) = \Pr(A)$  (and  $\Pr(B \mid A) = \Pr(B)$ )
- This is because intersection is decomposable:
  - If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $\Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)$
  - From this, we see that  $\Pr(A \mid B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{\Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)}{\Pr(B)} = \Pr(A)$

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- Setup:
  - Suppose we flip a coin twice; tosses are independent
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- What is  $\Pr(A \cap B)$  (probability that both flips are heads)?

# Mutual Independence

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- Suppose we have  $n$  events,  $N$ . These  $n$  events are **mutually independent** iff, for every subset of events  $M \subseteq N$ , we have

$$\Pr \left( \bigcap_{i \in M} A_i \right) = \prod_{i \in M} \Pr(A_i)$$

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- Consider the case of  $n = 3$ . Events  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are independent iff the following hold:

$$\Pr(A_1 \cap A_2) = \Pr(A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_2)$$

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$$\Pr(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = \Pr(A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_2) \cdot \Pr(A_3)$$

- If all but the last equality hold,  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are *pairwise independent*, but not mutually independent

# Pairwise Independence: Example

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- Setup: Consider rolling a fair six-sided die. Consider the events  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $B = \{1,3\}$ , and  $C = \{2,3\}$ 
  - $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B) = \Pr(C) =$
  - $\Pr(A \cap B) =$
  - $\Pr(A \cap C) =$
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  - $\Pr(A \cap B \cap C) =$
- These events are pairwise independent but not mutually independent



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- This is not the same thing as independence, where  $\Pr(A | B) = \Pr(A)$  and  $\Pr(B | A) = \Pr(B)$
- Independence: the other event still may occur; its probability is unaffected

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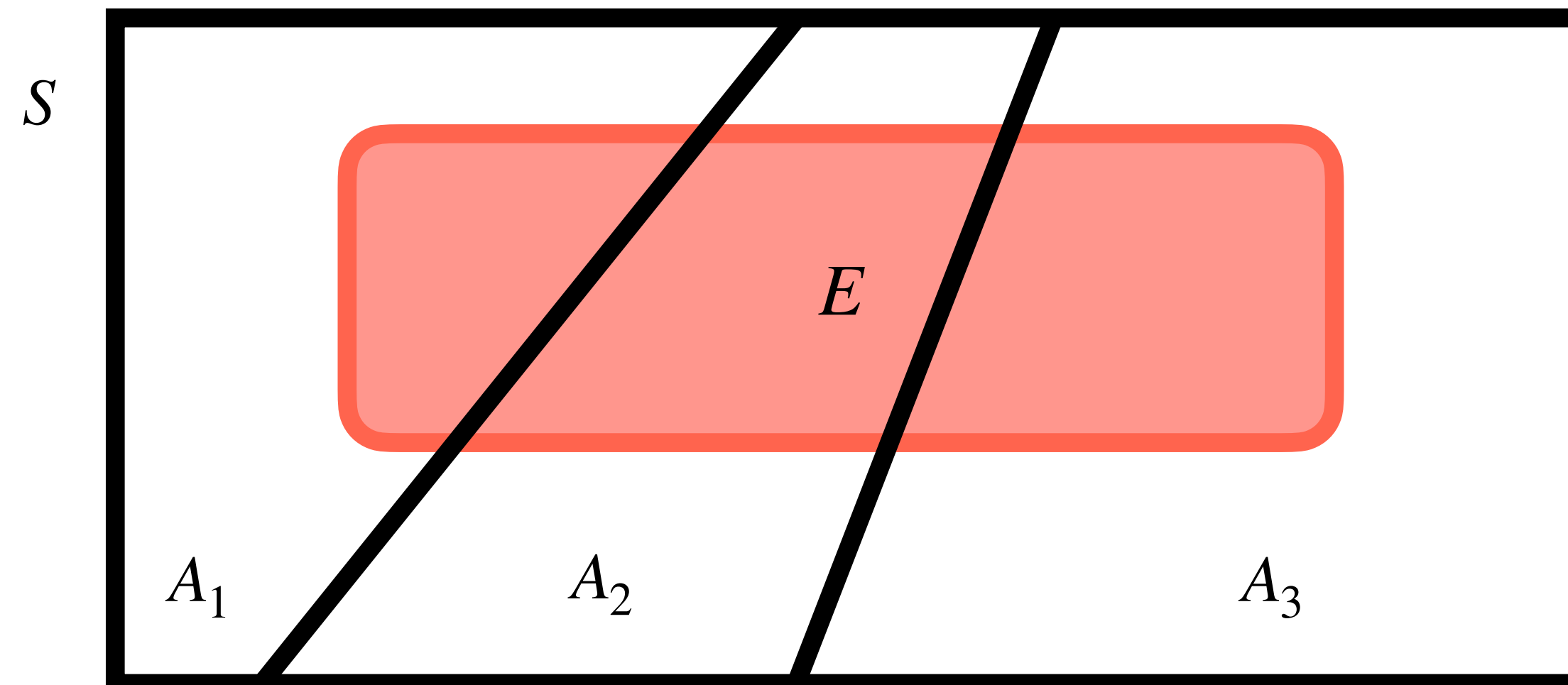
$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(E) &= \Pr(E \cap A_1) + \Pr(E \cap A_2) + \dots + \Pr(E \cap A_n) \\ &= \Pr(E | A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_1) + \Pr(E | A_2) \cdot \Pr(A_2) + \dots + \Pr(E | A_n) \cdot \Pr(A_n)\end{aligned}$$



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- Consider a collection of mutually exclusive and exhaustive events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  that *partitions* the sample space  $S$
- Then, for any event  $E$ , the law of total probability states the following:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(E) &= \Pr(E \cap A_1) + \Pr(E \cap A_2) + \dots + \Pr(E \cap A_n) \\ &= \Pr(E | A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_1) + \Pr(E | A_2) \cdot \Pr(A_2) + \dots + \Pr(E | A_n) \cdot \Pr(A_n)\end{aligned}$$



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Posterior      Likelihood      Prior

# Bayes' Theorem: Example

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- Setup:
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  - Given that you do not have diabetes, there is a 35% chance you are overweight
  - 10% of people have diabetes



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  - Given that you have diabetes, there is a 70% chance you are also overweight
  - Given that you do not have diabetes, there is a 35% chance you are overweight
  - 10% of people have diabetes
- Q: Given that a randomly selected person is overweight, what is the probability that he has diabetes?

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- Assume that we run a screening test on a patient to determine if they have the disease, with two mutually exclusive and exhaustive outcomes:
  - $T^+$ : the test is positive
  - $T^-$ : the test is negative
- Typically, we are interested in  $\Pr(D_1 | T^+)$

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- **False positive probability:** Probability of a positive test result given that the individual tested does not have the disease (false positive):
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- What are  $\Pr(D_1)$  and  $\Pr(D_2)$ ?
  - $\Pr(D_1)$ : probability of having the disease, or prevalence of the disease
  - $\Pr(D_2) = 1 - \Pr(D_1)$

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# Diagnostic Tests: Example

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- Cancer test has the following properties:
  - The test gives a positive result 95% of the time when the patient has cancer
  - The test gives a negative result 90% of the time when the patient does not have cancer
  - About 12% of patients have cancer

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$C$     $C^c$   
 $pos$     $neg$

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  - The test gives a positive result 95% of the time when the patient has cancer
  - The test gives a negative result 90% of the time when the patient does not have cancer
  - About 12% of patients have cancer
- Q: A patient tested positive for cancer. What is the probability that they have cancer?

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(C | pos) &= \frac{\Pr(pos | C) \Pr(C)}{\Pr(pos)} = \frac{\Pr(pos | C) \Pr(C)}{\Pr(pos | C) \Pr(C) + \Pr(pos | C^c) \Pr(C^c)} \\ &= \frac{.95 \times .12}{.95 \times .12 + (1-.9)(1-.12)} \approx \underline{56\%} \end{aligned}$$

# Combinatorics

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  - Where  $N$  is the total number of outcomes in  $E$  and  $D$  is the total number of outcomes in  $S$
- We're going to learn how to count the number of outcomes

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  - Care about the names and order of choices
- **Unordered selection** of size  $n$  from sample space  $S$ : select  $n$  distinct objects from  $S$  where order of selection does not matter
  - Care about the names of choices (think of it as a set)

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# Rule of Product: Example

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- How many valid three-digit numbers (i.e., between 100 and 999, inclusive) have three different digits and only a single odd number in the middle?

$$\begin{array}{llllll} \textcircled{1} & \text{Choose} & \text{middle digit} & = & 5 & \leftarrow 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 \\ \textcircled{2} & " & \text{first} & " & = & 4 \leftarrow 2, 4, 6, 8 \\ \textcircled{3} & " & \text{last} & " & = & 4 \leftarrow \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\} \setminus \{2\} \\ & & & & \hline & & & & 80 \end{array}$$

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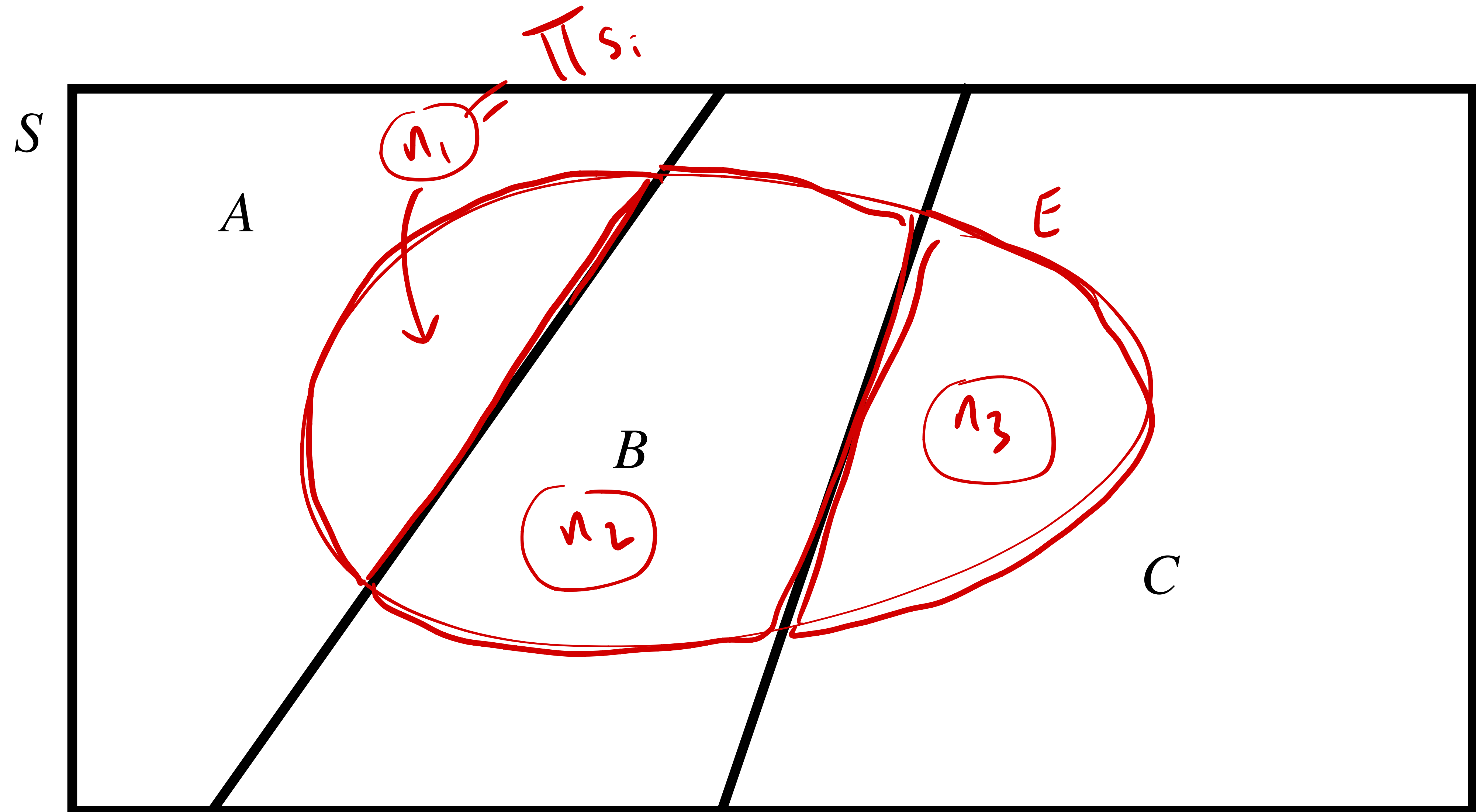
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- Often, use the rule of sum (tree method) and the rule of product together



# Rule of Sum (OR) and Rule of Product (AND)



# Factorials

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$$5! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$$

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5 4 3 2 1

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- In R: use `factorial(x)`

# Permutation

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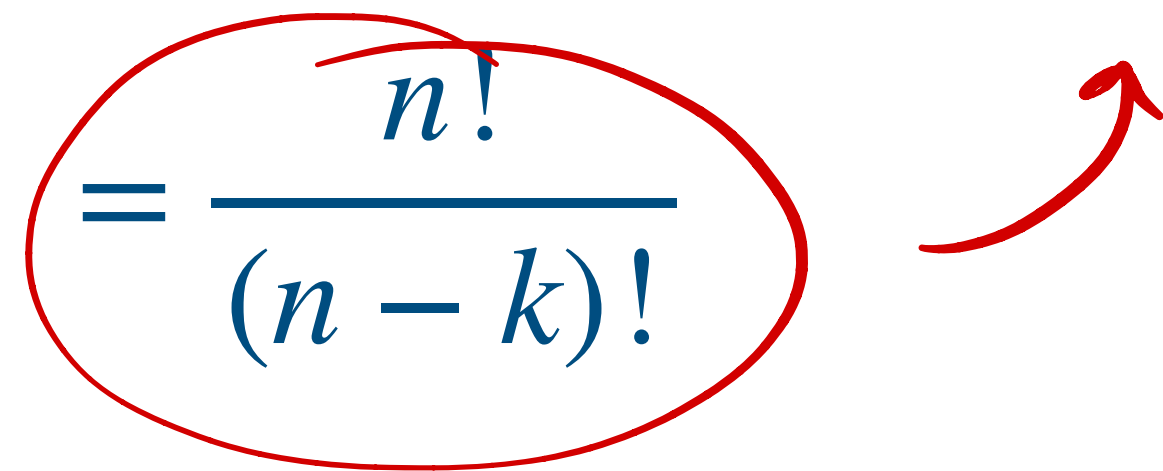
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  - Ordered selection



# Permutation

- Suppose we want to select and order  $k$  objects from a total of  $n$  objects
  - Ordered selection
- There are  $n$  ways to select the first object,  $n - 1$  ways to select the second object, and so on until we have  $n - k + 1$  ways to select the final object

$$P(n, k) = n \cdot (n - 1) \cdot \dots \cdot (n - k + 1)$$

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


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$$P(26, 4) = 26 \times 25 \times 24 \times 23 \sim 360K$$

- Q2: How many ways are there of assigning three students among seven orientation groups, where each student must go to a different group?

$$P(7, 3) = 7 \times 6 \times 5 = 210$$

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3

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

$(1, 2, 3)$

3!

2, 1, 3

# Combination

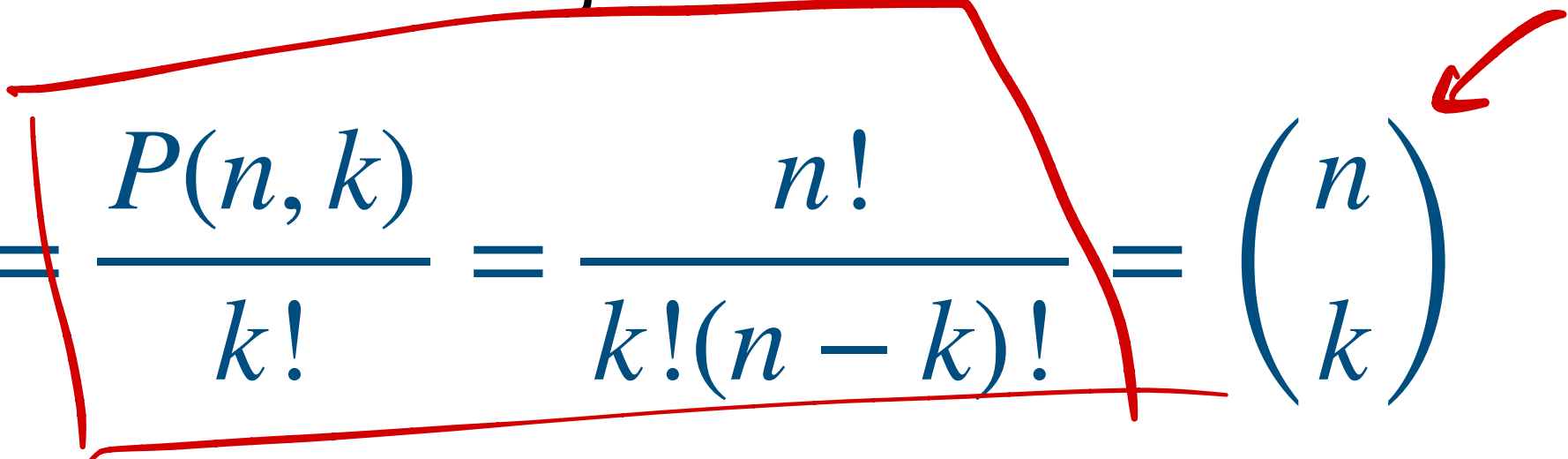
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- *Binomial coefficient*

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$$(3c, 3h, 3s, 3d)$$

- Q2: What is the probability of getting four of the same ~~kind~~ <sup>value</sup>?

value  
#

$$13 \cdot \binom{4}{4}$$

$$13 \cdot \binom{4}{4} \cdot 48$$

$n_1$ : # ways of drawing 4 of same #

$n_2$ : choose 5<sup>th</sup> card.  $\leftarrow 48$ .

$$\binom{52}{5}$$

$$\approx 0.00024$$



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- Q1: What is the probability that there are two pairs of balls which have the same number?

Handwritten notes and formula:

denom:  $\binom{70}{4}$   $\swarrow$   $\#_1$   $\#_2$

num:  $\binom{35}{2} \binom{2}{2} \binom{2}{2}$   $\uparrow$   $\#_1$   $\uparrow$   $\#_2$

Handwritten notes above the formula:

$3p \quad 3y$        $13p \quad 13y$

Formula:

$$\frac{\binom{35}{2}}{\binom{70}{4}} \approx 0.00065$$

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- Q1: What is the probability that there are two pairs of balls which have the same number?

denom:  $\binom{70}{4}$

pair:  $35 \binom{2}{2} = 35$

diff:  $\binom{34}{2} \times 2 \times 2$

- Q2: What is the probability that there is exactly one pair of balls with matching numbers?



$\binom{35}{2} \binom{2}{2} \cdot \binom{68}{2} - \binom{35}{2}$

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2<sub>y</sub> 3<sub>y</sub> 4<sub>y</sub> 5<sub>y</sub>

- Setting: An urn contains 35 yellow balls (numbered 1-35) and 35 pink balls (numbered 1-35). Four balls are chosen at random
- Q3: What is the probability that the balls are all the same color and consecutively numbered?

denom:  $\binom{70}{4}$

y: 32

num:

p:

① 2, 3, 4  
2, 3, 4, 5  
3, 4, 5, 6

...

30, 31, 32, 33

③ 32, 33, 34, 35

$$\frac{2 \times 32}{\binom{70}{4}} = 7 \times 10^{-5}$$

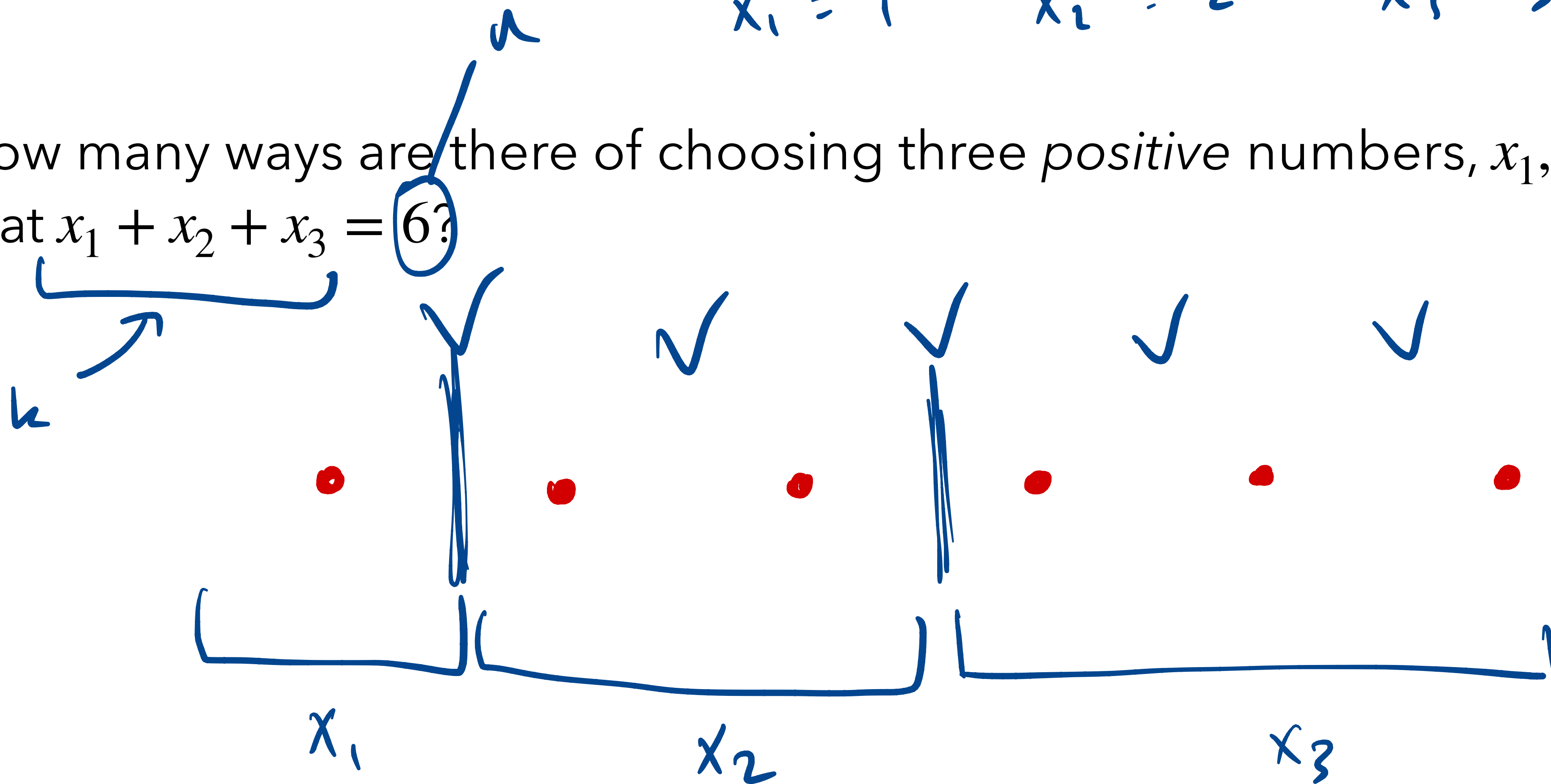
# Stars and Bars: Intuition



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$$x_1 = 1 \quad x_2 = 2 \quad x_3 = 3$$

- How many ways are there of choosing three *positive* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?



$$\binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

$$\binom{5}{2}$$

10''

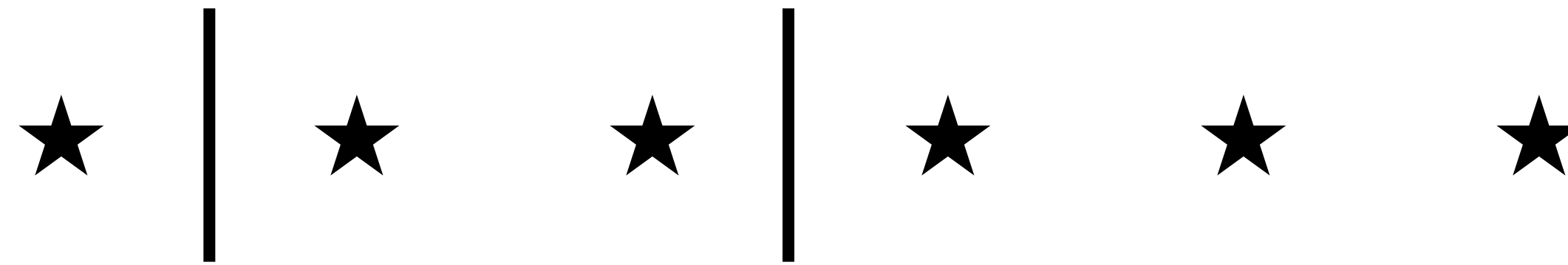
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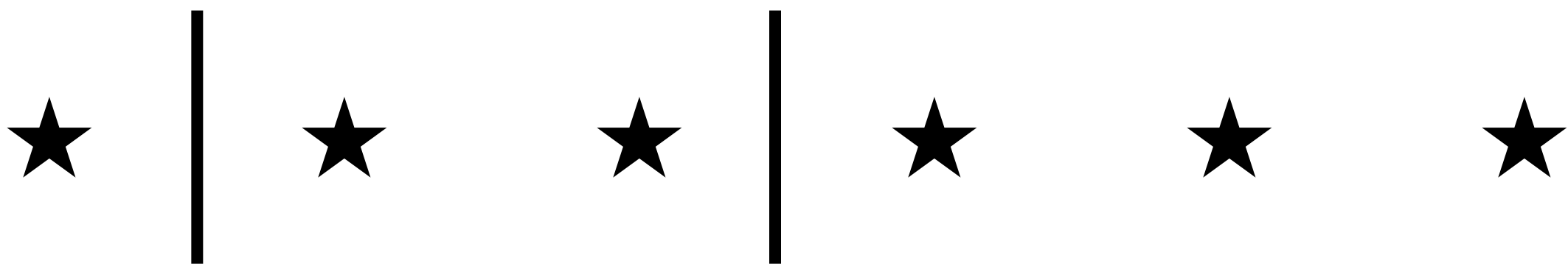
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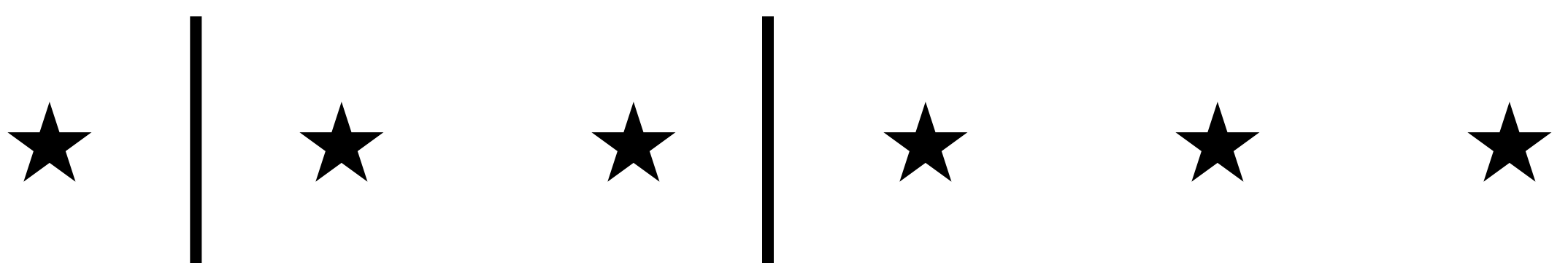
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- $\binom{6-1}{3-1} = \binom{5}{2}$ : A stars and bars diagram representing the equation x1 + x2 + x3 = 6 with positive integers. It consists of five stars (★) and two vertical bars (|). The stars are arranged in three groups: one star before the first bar, two stars between the first and second bars, and two stars after the second bar. This corresponds to the solution (1, 2, 2).

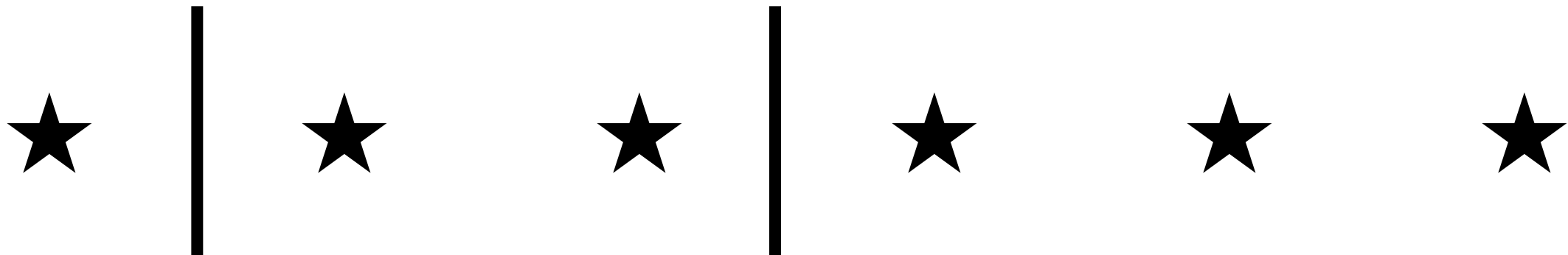
- How many ways are there of choosing three *nonnegative* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?

7

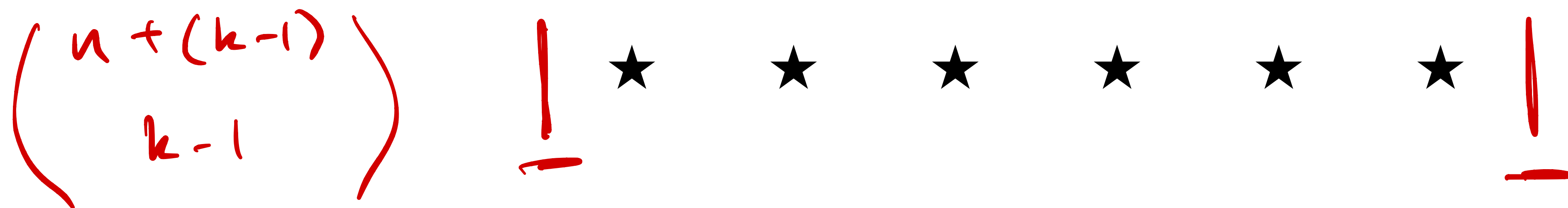
4

# Stars and Bars: Intuition

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- $\left( \begin{matrix} 6-1 \\ 3-1 \end{matrix} \right) = \left( \begin{matrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right):$ 


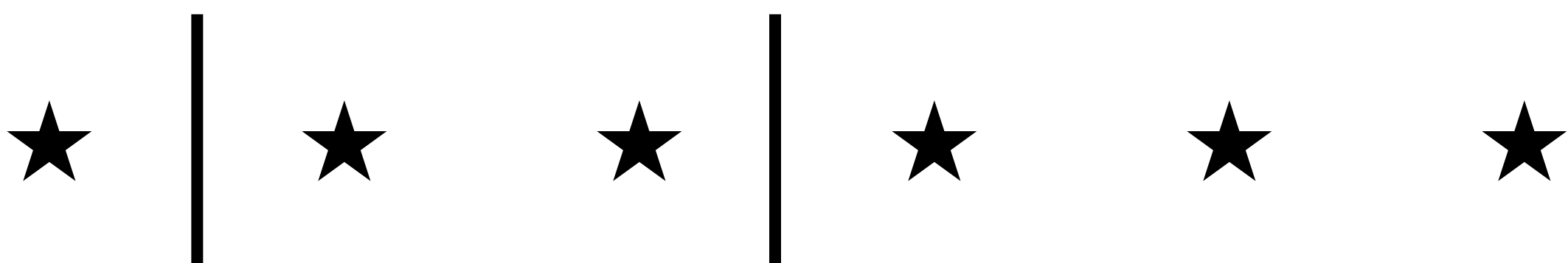
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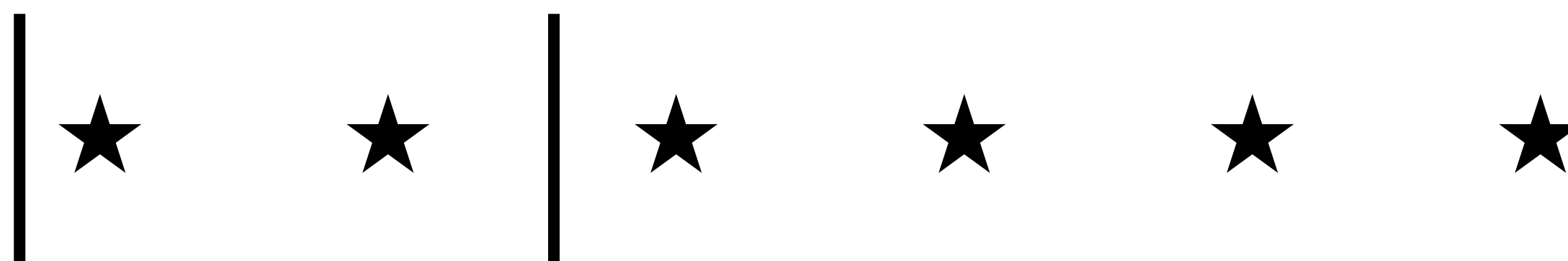
$$\left( \begin{matrix} n + (k-1) \\ k-1 \end{matrix} \right)$$

# Stars and Bars: Intuition

- How many ways are there of choosing three *positive* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?

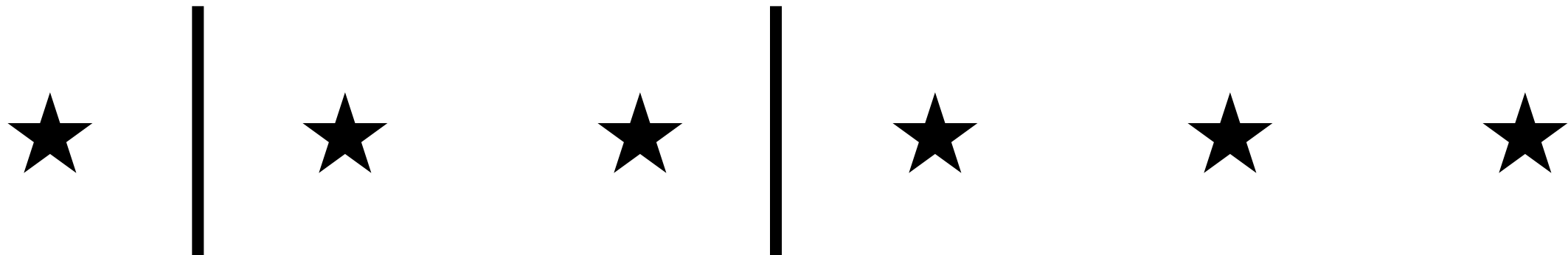
- $\binom{6-1}{3-1} = \binom{5}{2}$ : A stars and bars diagram representing the equation  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$  with positive integers. It consists of five stars arranged in a horizontal line. There are two vertical bars placed between the stars: one between the first and second star, and another between the third and fourth star. This configuration represents the solution  $x_1=1, x_2=1, x_3=4$ .

- How many ways are there of choosing three *nonnegative* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?

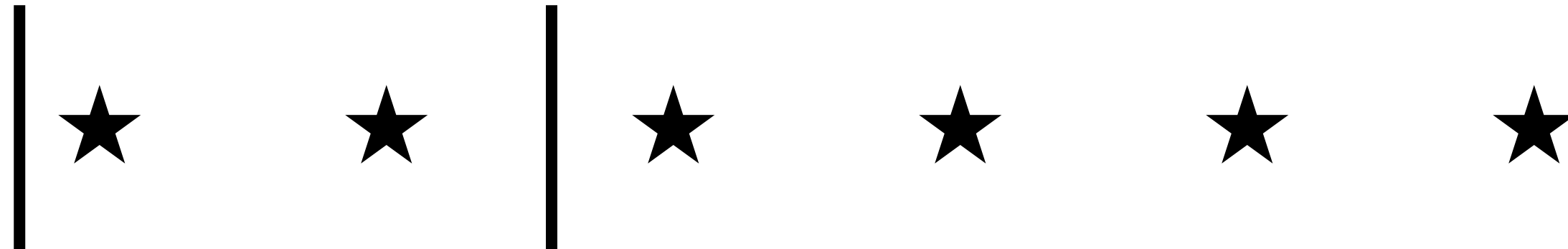


# Stars and Bars: Intuition

- How many ways are there of choosing three *positive* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?

- $\left( \begin{matrix} 6-1 \\ 3-1 \end{matrix} \right) = \left( \begin{matrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right)$ :
 
 A diagram showing 6 stars arranged in a horizontal line. There are two vertical bars placed between the stars, dividing the 6 stars into three groups of 2 stars each. This represents the solution (2, 2, 2) for the equation x1 + x2 + x3 = 6.

- How many ways are there of choosing three *nonnegative* numbers,  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , such that  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ ?

- $\left( \begin{matrix} 6+3-1 \\ 3-1 \end{matrix} \right) = \left( \begin{matrix} 8 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right)$ :
 
 A diagram showing 8 stars arranged in a horizontal line. There are two vertical bars placed between the stars, dividing the 8 stars into three groups of 2 stars each. This represents the solution (2, 2, 2) for the equation x1 + x2 + x3 = 6, where each variable is nonnegative.



# Stars and Bars: More Formally

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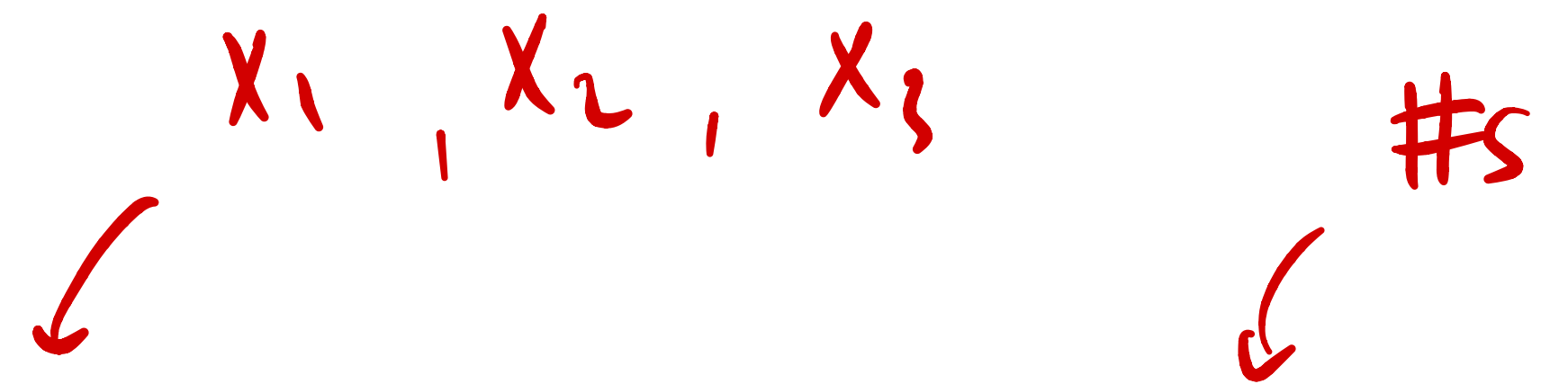
- Suppose there are  $n$  objects and  $k$  bins. Bins are distinguishable, but objects are not. The only thing we care about is the number of objects in each bin.

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  - Total number of ways =  $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$  (think of filling in gaps between objects)

# Stars and Bars: More Formally

$x_1, x_2, x_3$        $\#s$



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- If each bin has to have at least one object in it:
  - Total number of ways =  $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$  (think of filling in gaps between objects)
- For nonnegative (not positive) constraints:
  - Total number of ways =  $\binom{n+k-1}{k-1}$  (think of arranging  $n$  objects and  $k-1$  dividers)

# Stars and Bars: Example

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- Setup: Six children are choosing ice cream flavors from {vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, caramel}. Each child picks exactly one flavor. Requests are placed in the form: {# vanilla, # strawberry, # chocolate, # caramel}.

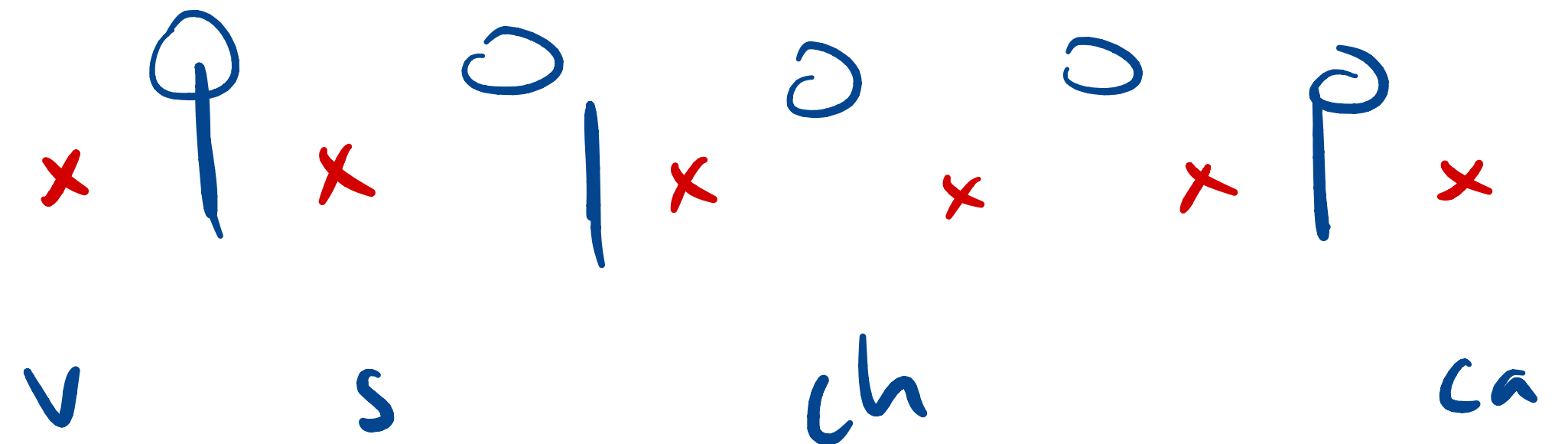
# Stars and Bars: Example

- Setup: Six children are choosing ice cream flavors from {vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, caramel}. Each child picks exactly one flavor. Requests are placed in the form: {# vanilla, # strawberry, # chocolate, # caramel}.
- Q1: How many different requests are possible if at least one child must choose each flavor?

$$\binom{5}{3} = 10$$

$n = \text{stars} = \text{children} = 6$

$k = \text{bars} = 3$



# Stars and Bars: Example

- Setup: Six children are choosing ice cream flavors from {vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, caramel}. Each child picks exactly one flavor. Requests are placed in the form: {# vanilla, # strawberry, # chocolate, # caramel}.
- Q1: How many different requests are possible if at least one child must choose each flavor?

- Q2: How many different requests are possible without this restriction?

$$\binom{n+k-1}{k-1} = \binom{9}{3} \times | \times || \times \quad \times \quad \times \quad \times$$

$$= 84$$

$$n + (k-1)$$

$$k-1$$