

12.13.3.62

Rambha Satvik*

If A and B are two events and $A \neq \phi$, $B \neq \phi$, then

- 1) $\Pr(A|B) = \Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)$
- 2) $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)}$
- 3) $\Pr(A|B) \cdot \Pr(B|A) = 1$
- 4) $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A)}{\Pr(B)}$

Solution:

Let us take an example. The following table describes events when a die is rolled.

Event	Description	Probability
A	Even number shows up	$\frac{1}{2}$
B	Perfect number shows up	$\frac{1}{3}$
AB	Both Event A and B happen	$\frac{1}{6}$

1)

$$\Pr\left(\frac{A}{B}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1)$$

$$\Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B) = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \quad (3)$$

As (1) and (3) are not equal, option 1 is not correct.

2)

$$\frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{3}} \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \quad (5)$$

As (1) and (5) are equal, option 2 is correct.

$$\Pr\left(\frac{A}{B}\right) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \quad (6)$$

3) From (5),

$$\Pr\left(\frac{A}{B}\right) \cdot \Pr\left(\frac{B}{A}\right) = \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(B)} \times \frac{\Pr(AB)}{\Pr(A)} \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{\Pr(AB)^2}{\Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)} \quad (8)$$

$$\neq 1 \quad (9)$$

Hence, option 3 is incorrect. Let us verify it using the example. From (5),

$$\frac{\Pr(AB)^2}{\Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}^2}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}} \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \quad (11)$$

Hence, option 3 is incorrect.

4)

$$\frac{\Pr(A)}{\Pr(B)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{3}} \quad (12)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \quad (13)$$

As (1) and (13) are not equal, option 4 is incorrect.

*The author is with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad 502285 India e-mail: ee22btech11043@iith.ac.in. All content in this manual is released under GNU GPL. Free and open source.