

Probability Concepts

Joint Probability and
Total Probability Rule

1. Conditional Probability
2. Joint Probability
3. Total Probability Rule

Unconditional Probability

“Marginal Probability”

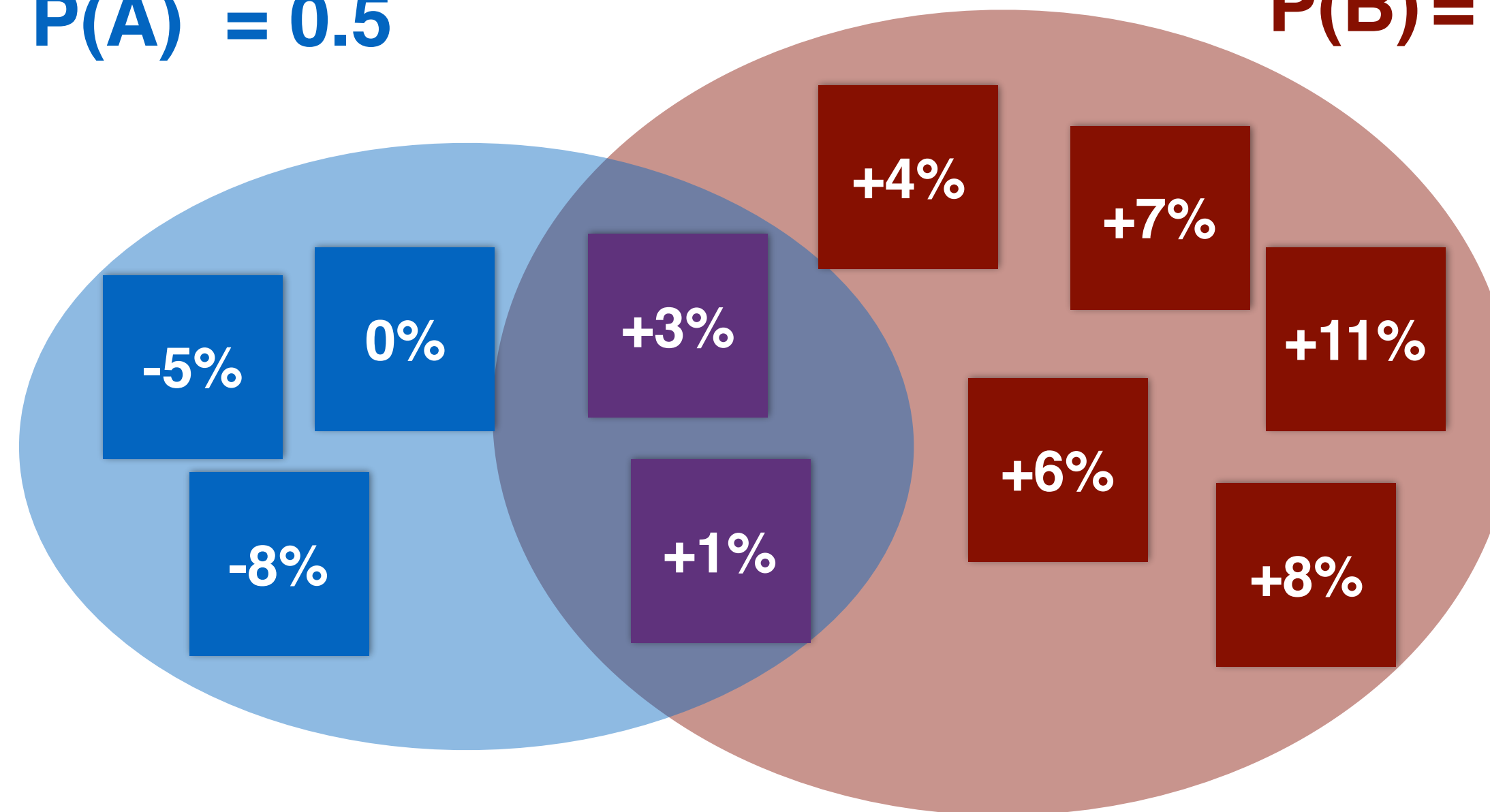
probability of an event regardless of past or future occurrences of other events

A: $X \leq 3$

$P(A) = 0.5$

B: $X > 0$

$P(B) = 0.7$



X: *monthly return of a stock*

Conditional Probability

$$P(A \mid B)$$

What is the probability that $X \leq 3$ if $X > 0$?

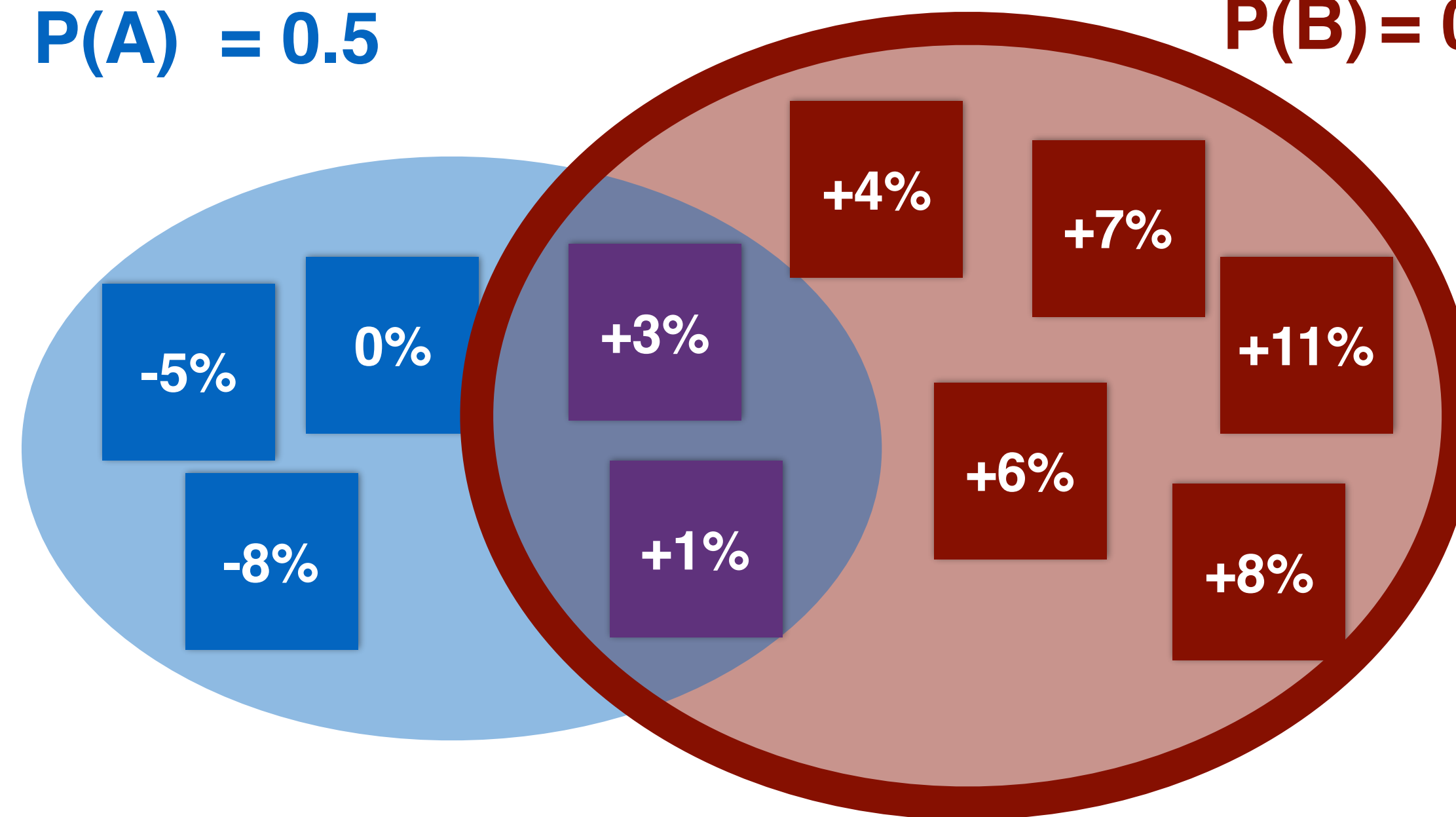
A: $X \leq 3$

$P(A) = 0.5$

B: $X > 0$

$P(B) = 0.7$

**Limit to this
condition**



Conditional Probability

$$P(A \mid B) = 2/7 = 0.29$$

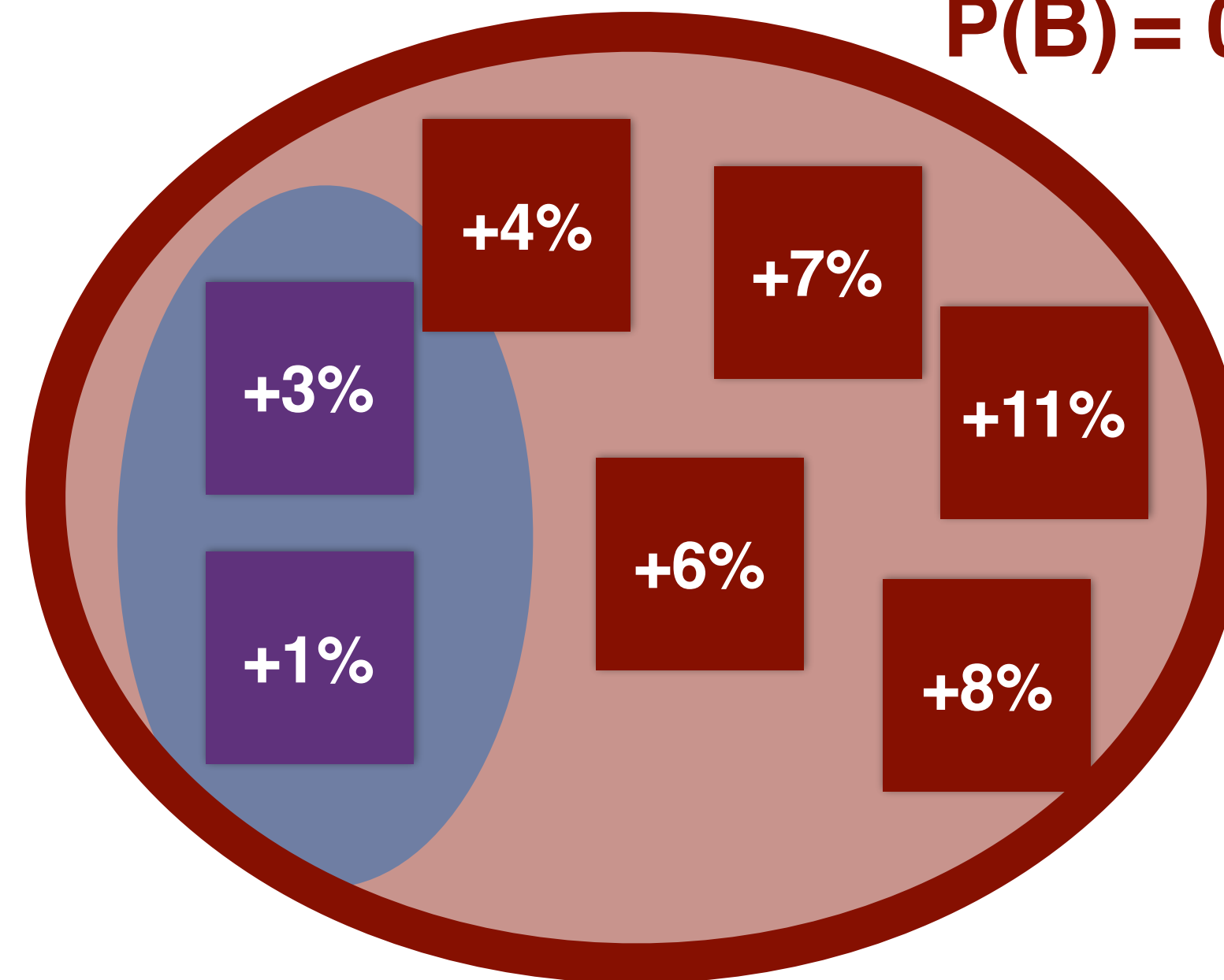
A: $X \leq 3$

$P(A) = 0.5$

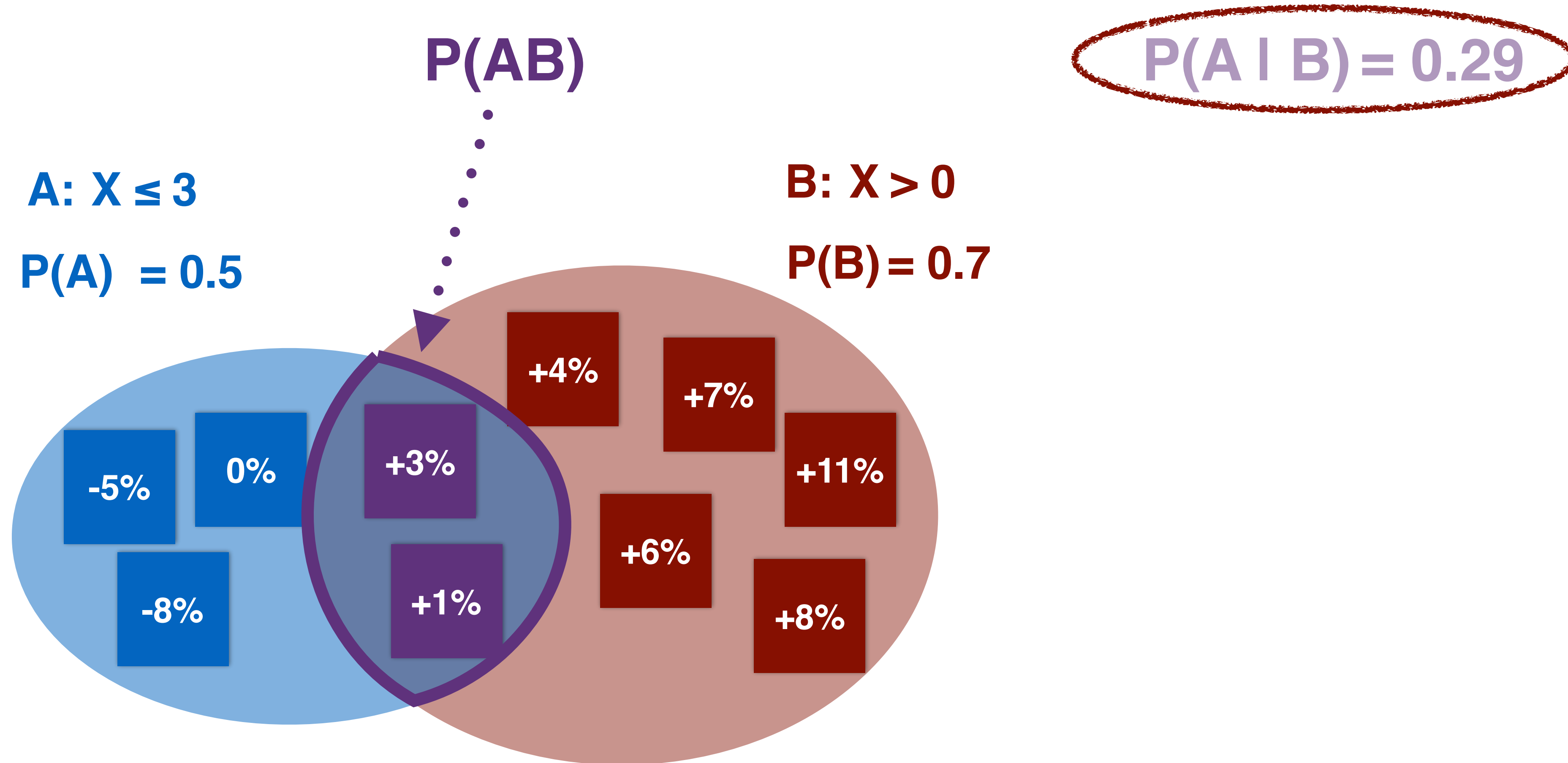
B: $X > 0$

$P(B) = 0.7$

Limit to this
condition



Joint Probability



Joint Probability

$$P(AB) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

$$= 0.29 \times 0.7$$

$$= 0.2$$

**Multiplication
rule**

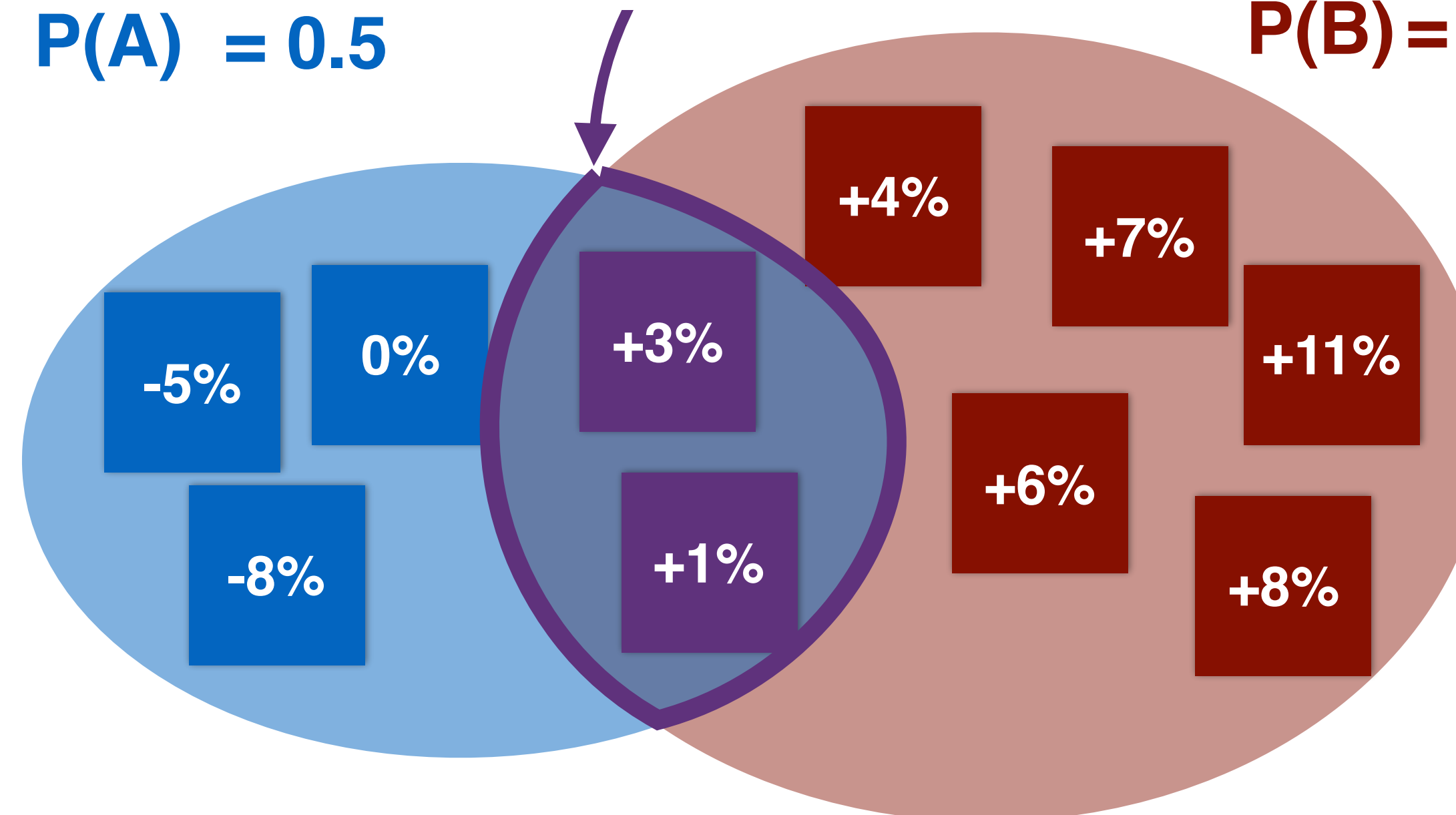
A: $X \leq 3$

$P(A) = 0.5$

B: $X > 0$

$P(B) = 0.7$

Consistent



Joint Probability

$$P(AB) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

**Multiplication
rule**

* This formula can be simplified if A and B are **INDEPENDENT**

*events which the
occurrence of one
has no influence on
the occurrence of
the other*

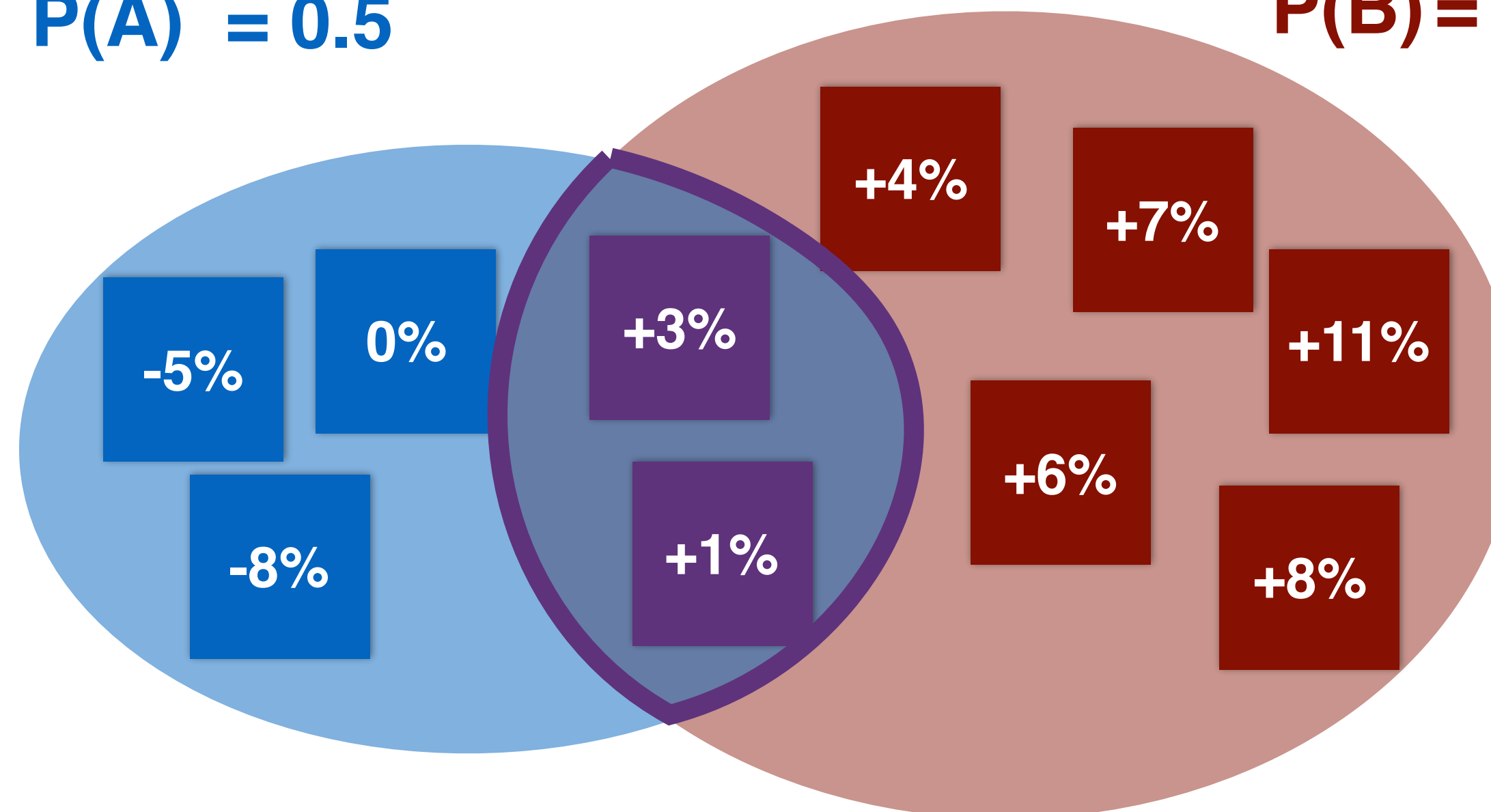
A: $X \leq 3$

P(A) = 0.5

A and B are obviously
NOT independent

B: $X > 0$

P(B) = 0.7



Joint Probability

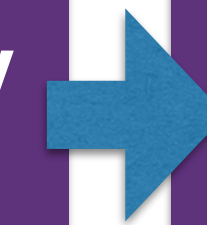
$$P(AB) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

**Multiplication
rule**

*Simplified multiplication rule for
independent events*

$$P(AE) = P(A) \times P(E)$$

A and E are likely
independent



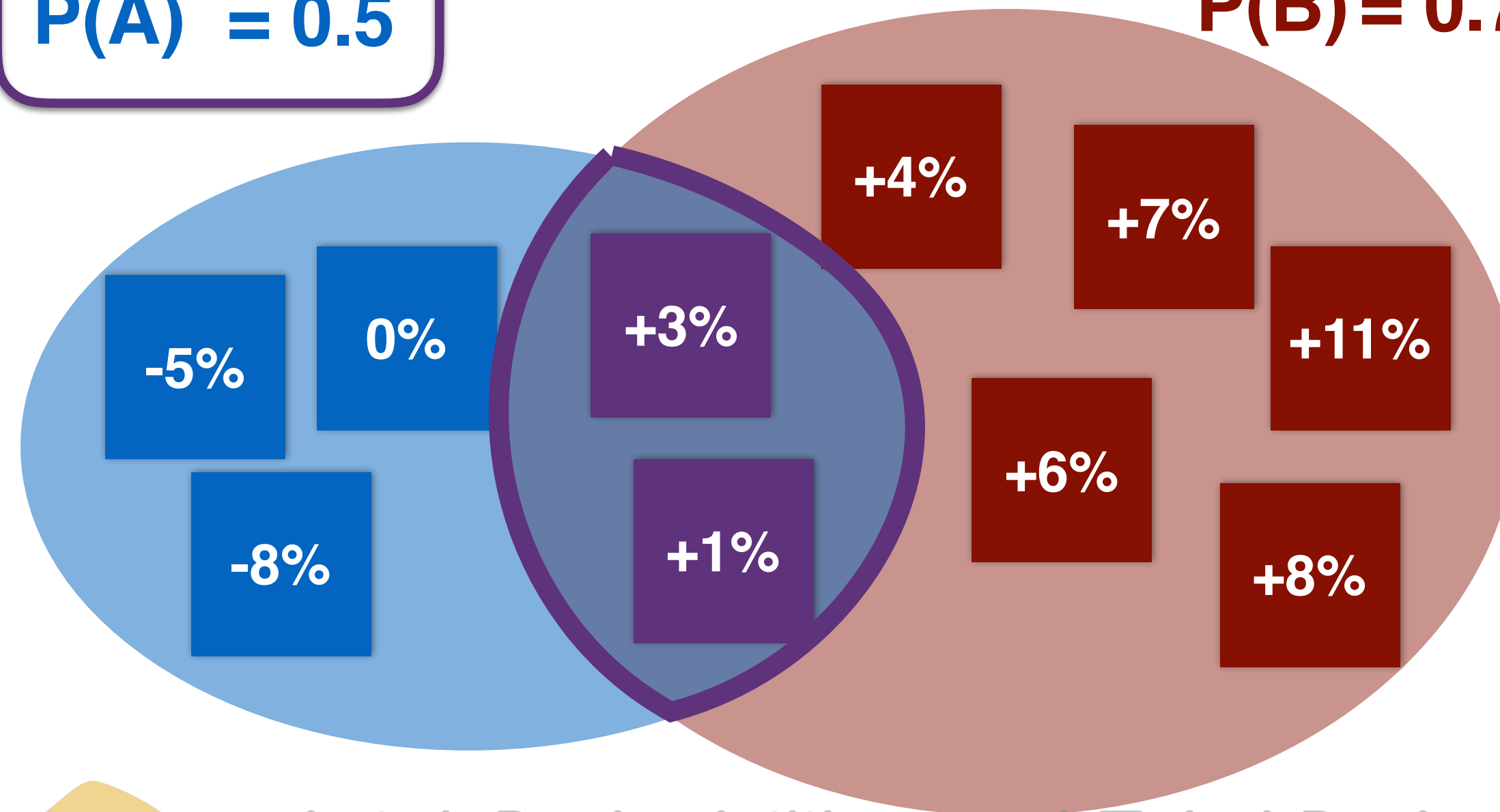
$$P(A | E) = P(A)$$

A: $X \leq 3$

$$P(A) = 0.5$$

B: $X > 0$

$$P(B) = 0.7$$



E: Investor gets hospitalised

$$P(E) = 0.01$$



Lily observed that ABC stock has 3 up days for every 5 trading days for the past 8 years. She has also determined that the up and down days of this stock are independent. Using the empirical method, compute the probability of the stock closing higher for 4 consecutive days.

$$P(\text{Up}) = 3/5 = 0.6$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(4 \text{ consecutive Up}) &= 0.6 \times 0.6 \times 0.6 \times 0.6 \\ &= 0.13 \end{aligned}$$

**Simplified
Multiplication rule**

Joint Probability

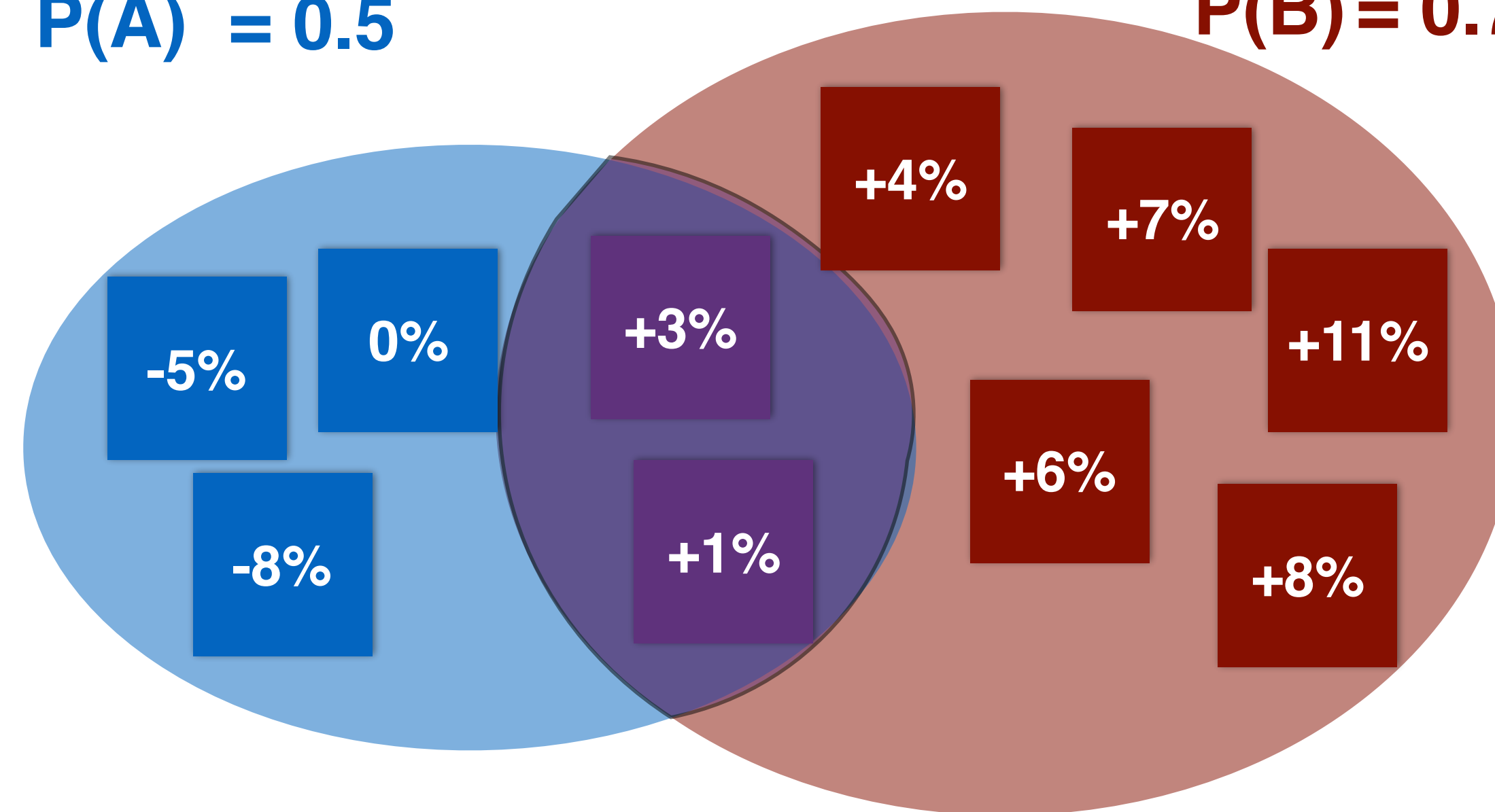
$$A \cap B$$

A: $X \leq 3$

$$P(A) = 0.5$$

B: $X > 0$

$$P(B) = 0.7$$



At Least One Event Will Occur

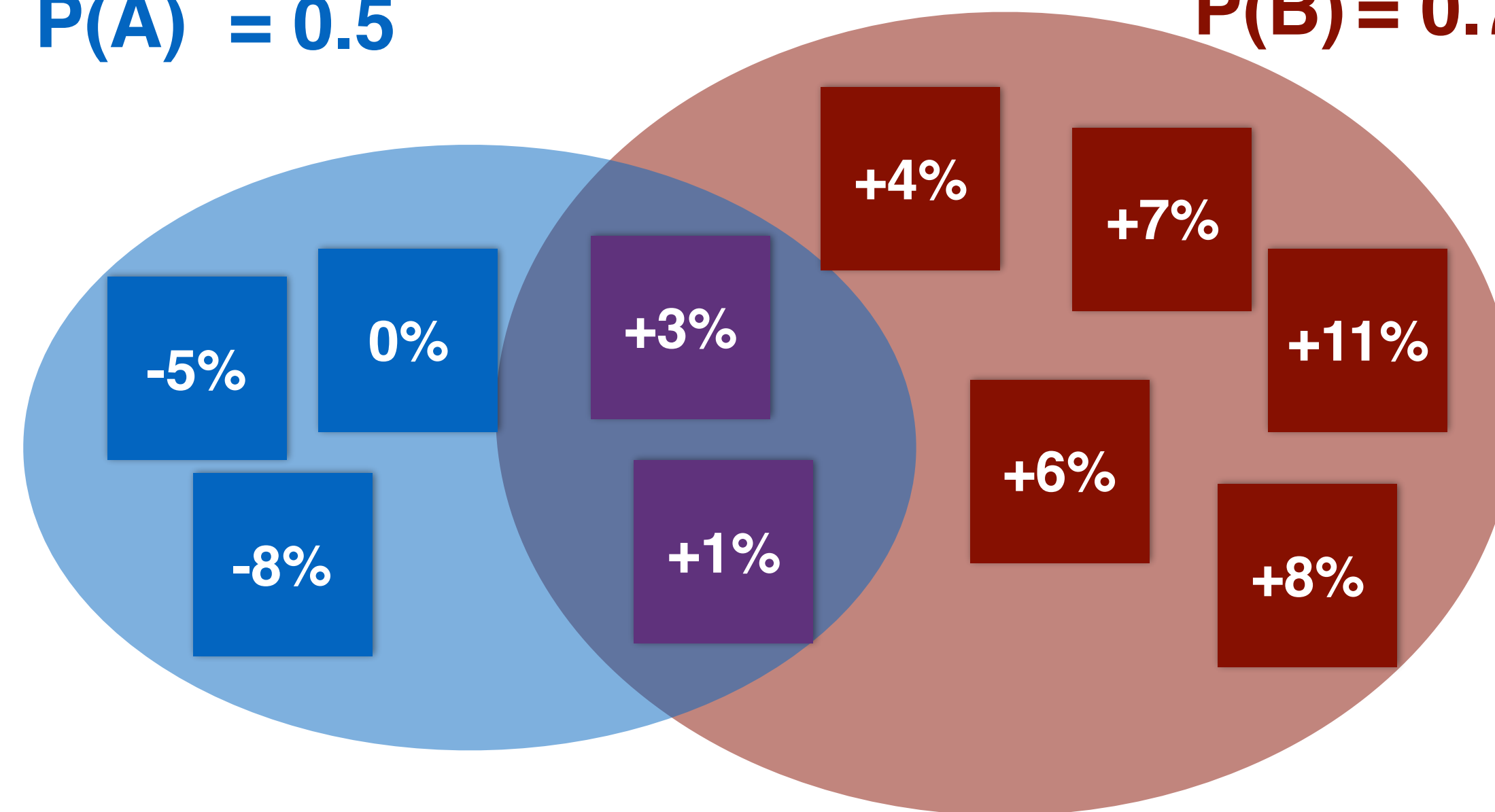
$$A \cup B$$

$$A: X \leq 3$$

$$P(A) = 0.5$$

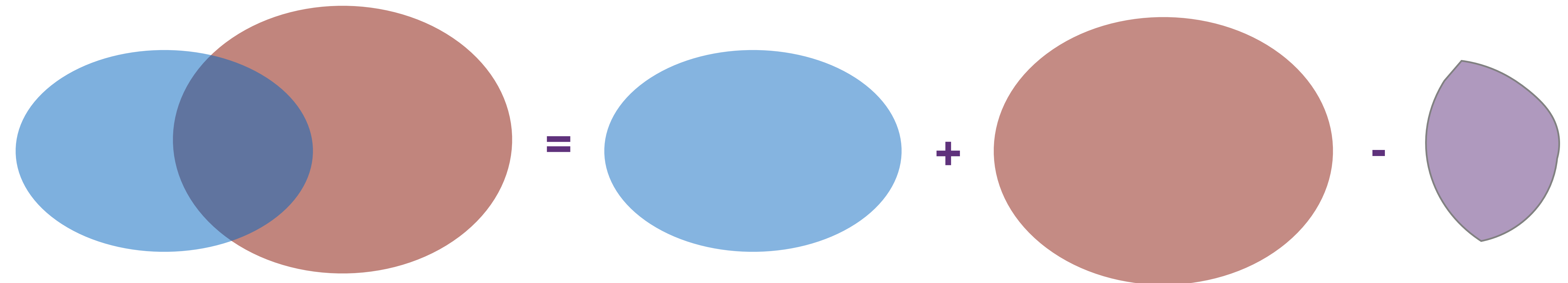
$$B: X > 0$$

$$P(B) = 0.7$$



At Least One Event Will Occur

$$A \cup B$$



$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(AB)$$

Addition Rule

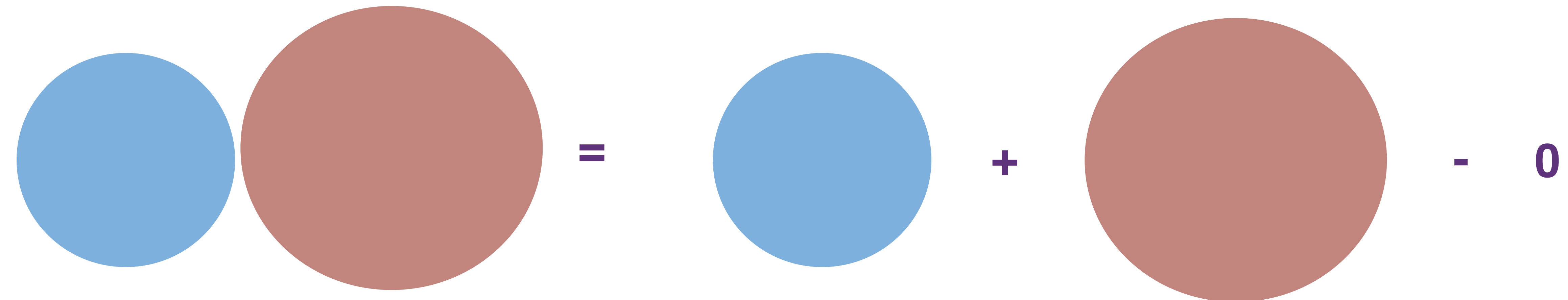


Joint Probability and Total Probability Rule

1. Conditional Probability 2. Joint Probability 3. Total Probability Rule

At Least One Event Will Occur

$$A \cup B$$



$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(AB)$$

Simplified **Addition Rule** *for mutually exclusive events*

As an analyst, David has collated the following information:

- $P(C) = 0.05$, the probability of a cut in interest rate in any given month
- $P(U | C) = 0.8$, the probability of a rise in DJIA for the month (U) given a cut in interest rate

(a) $P(C)$ is derived based on David's interpretation of the language used by the central bank on the rate outlook. What kind of probability is $P(C)$?

Personal Judgement → Subjective probability

As an analyst, David has collated the following information:

- $P(C) = 0.05$, the probability of a cut in interest rate in any given month
- $P(U | C) = 0.8$, the probability of a rise in DJIA for the month (U) given a cut in interest rate

(b) What is the joint probability of a cut in interest rate (C) and a rise in DJIA (U) in the same month?

$$P(UC) = P(U | C) \times P(C) \quad \text{Multiplication rule}$$

$$= 0.8 \times 0.05$$

$$= 0.04$$

As an analyst, David has collated the following information:

- $P(C) = 0.05$, the probability of a cut in interest rate in any given month
- $P(U | C) = 0.8$, the probability of a rise in DJIA for the month (U) given a cut in interest rate

(c) Given that the unconditional probability of a rise in DJIA in any given month is 0.65, what is the probability that there is a cut in interest rate or a rise in DJIA in any given month?

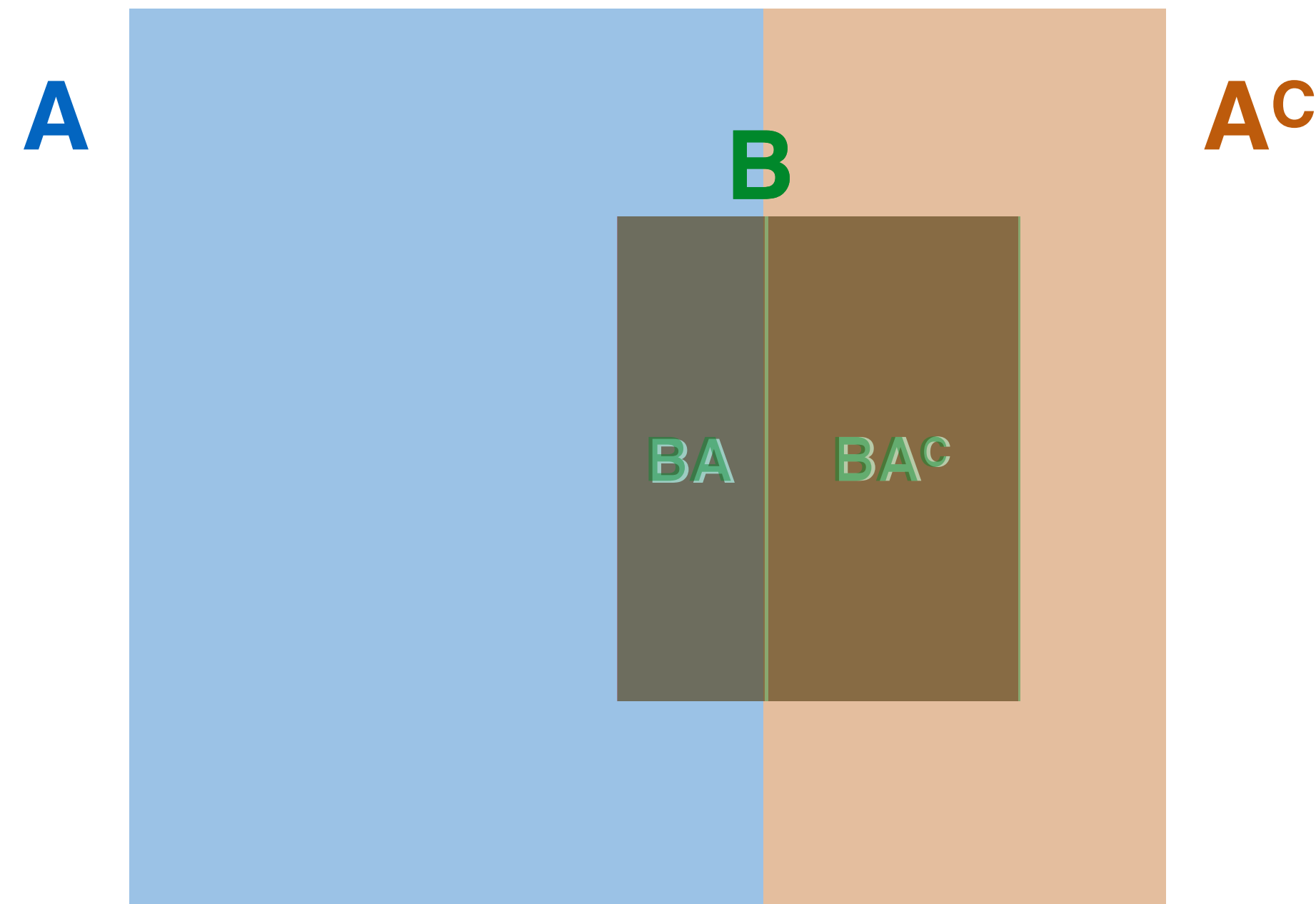
$$P(U \text{ or } C) = P(U) + P(C) - P(UC)$$

$$= 0.65 + 0.05 - 0.04$$

$$= 0.66$$

A and A^c

Mutually exclusive and Exhaustive Events



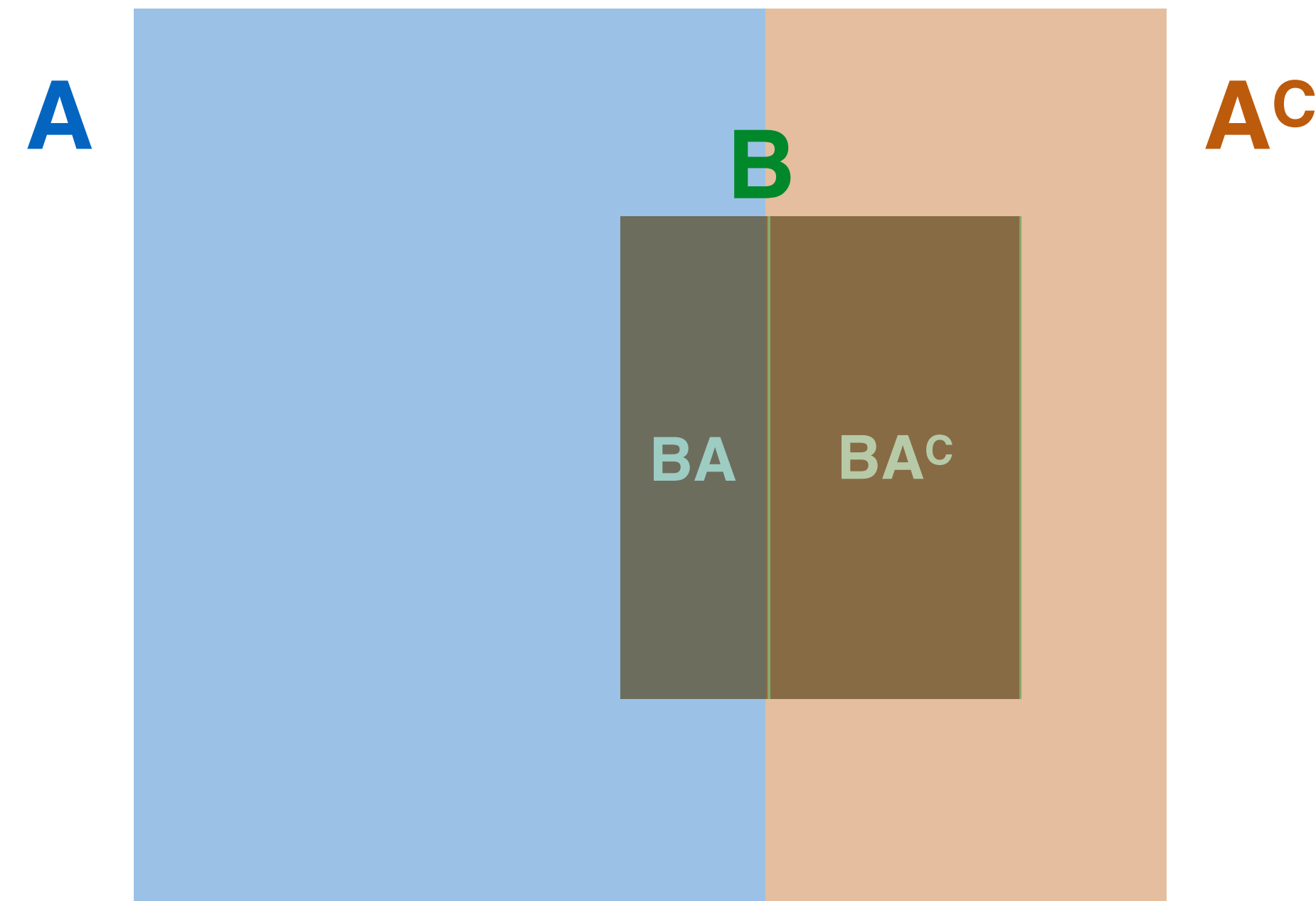
B has to occur with either A OR A^c

Total Probability Rule

$$P(B) = P(BA) + P(BA^C)$$

Applying
Multiplication rule

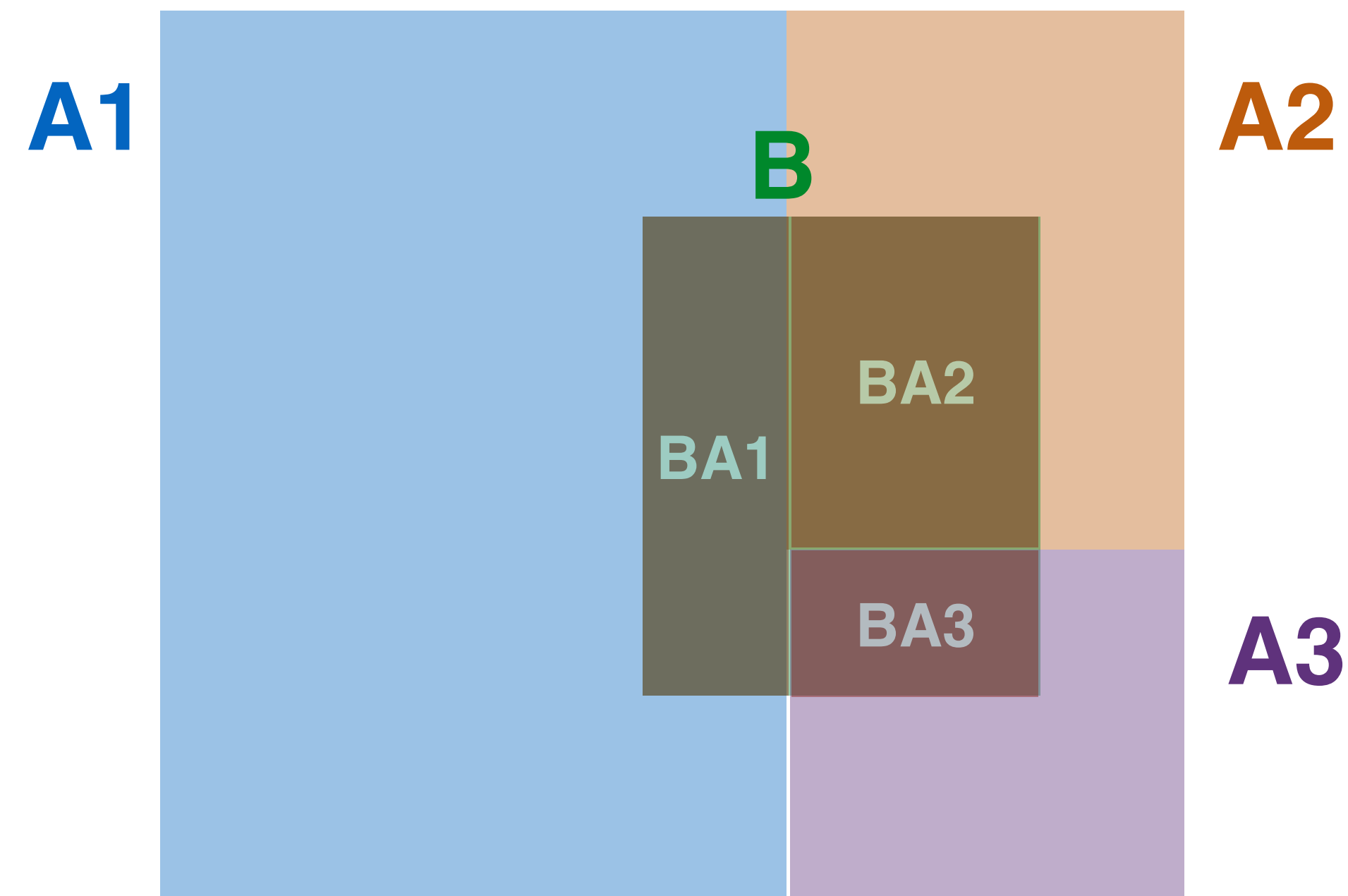
$$P(B) = P(B \mid A) \times P(A) + P(B \mid A^C) \times P(A^C)$$



Total Probability Rule

$$P(B) = P(BA1) + P(BA2) + P(BA3)$$

$$P(B) = P(B \mid A1) \times P(A1) + P(B \mid A2) \times P(A2) + P(B \mid A3) \times P(A3)$$



*A1, A2 and A3 are **mutually exclusive** and **exhaustive***

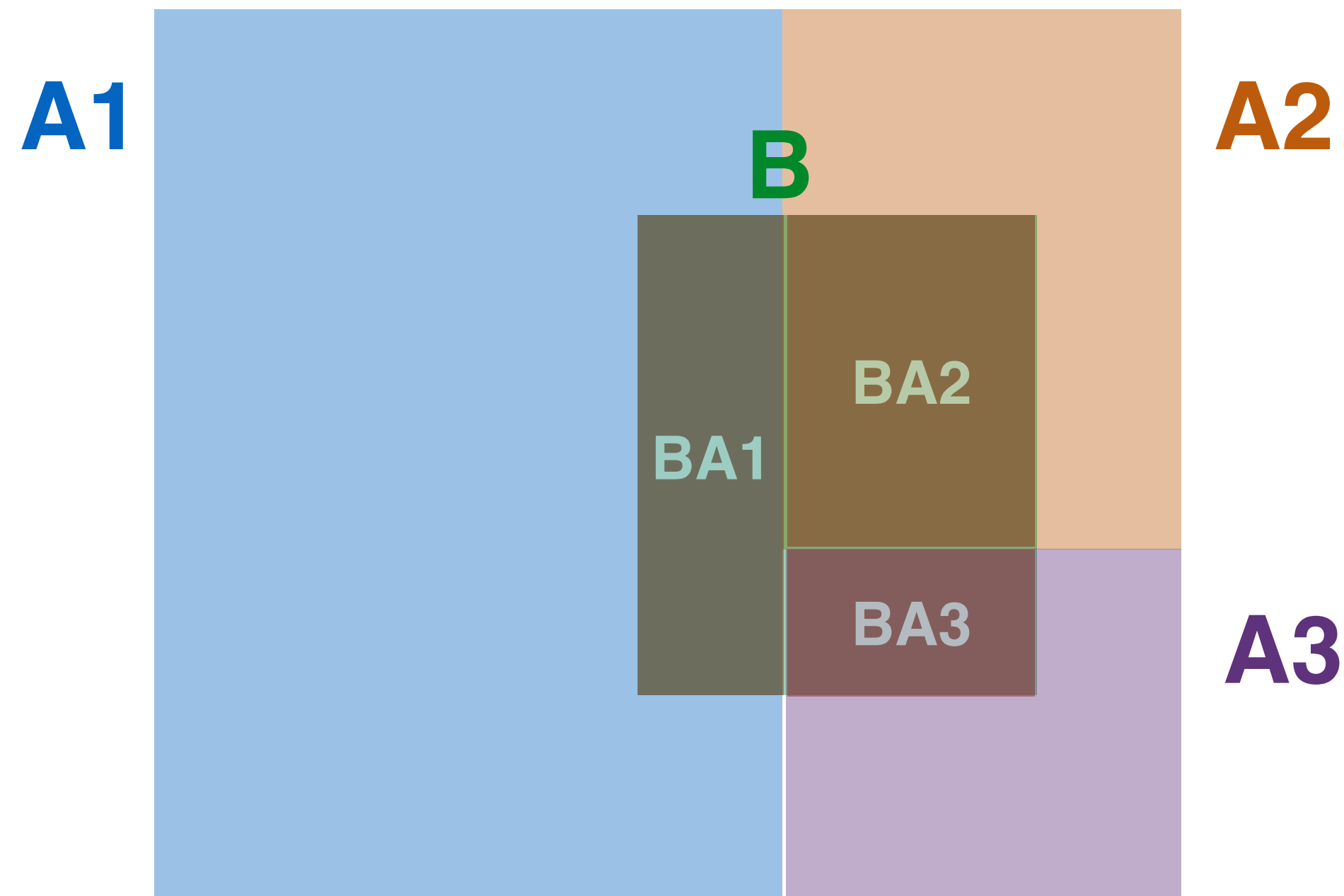
Joint Probability and Total Probability Rule

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Total Probability Rule

$$\begin{aligned} P(B) &= P(B \mid A1) \times P(A1) + P(B \mid A2) \times P(A2) + P(B \mid A3) \times P(A3) \\ &= 0.55 \times 0.9 + 0.8 \times 0.05 + 0.3 \times 0.05 \\ &= 0.55 \end{aligned}$$

Probability of DJIA going up in any given month is 0.55



$P(A1)=0.9$ Interest rate unchanged

$P(A2)=0.05$ Interest rate cut

$P(A3)=0.05$ Interest rate increase

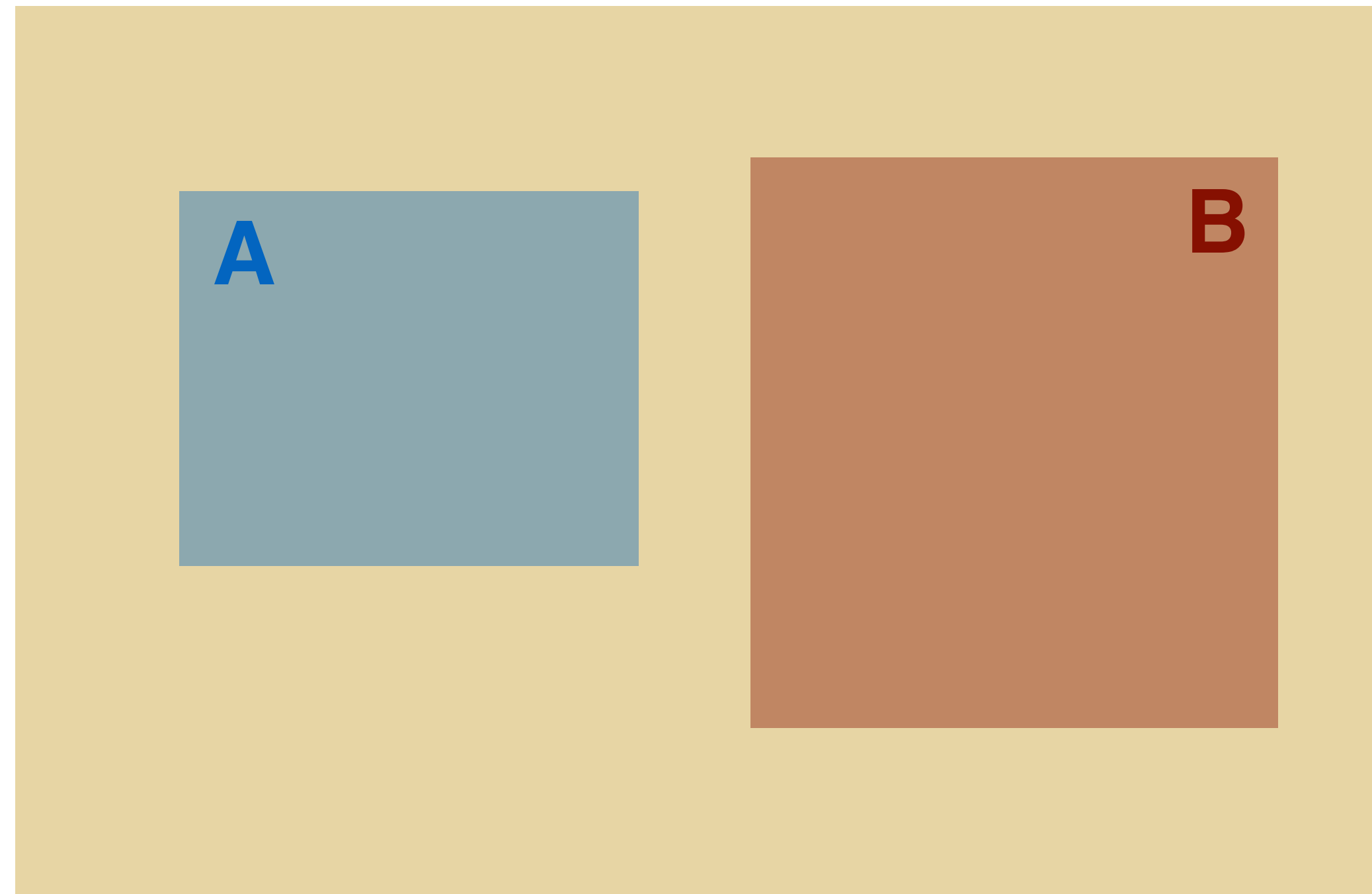
$P(B \mid A1)=0.55$ DJIA up given A1

$P(B \mid A2)=0.8$ DJIA up given A2

$P(B \mid A3)=0.3$ DJIA up given A3

Mutually Exclusive

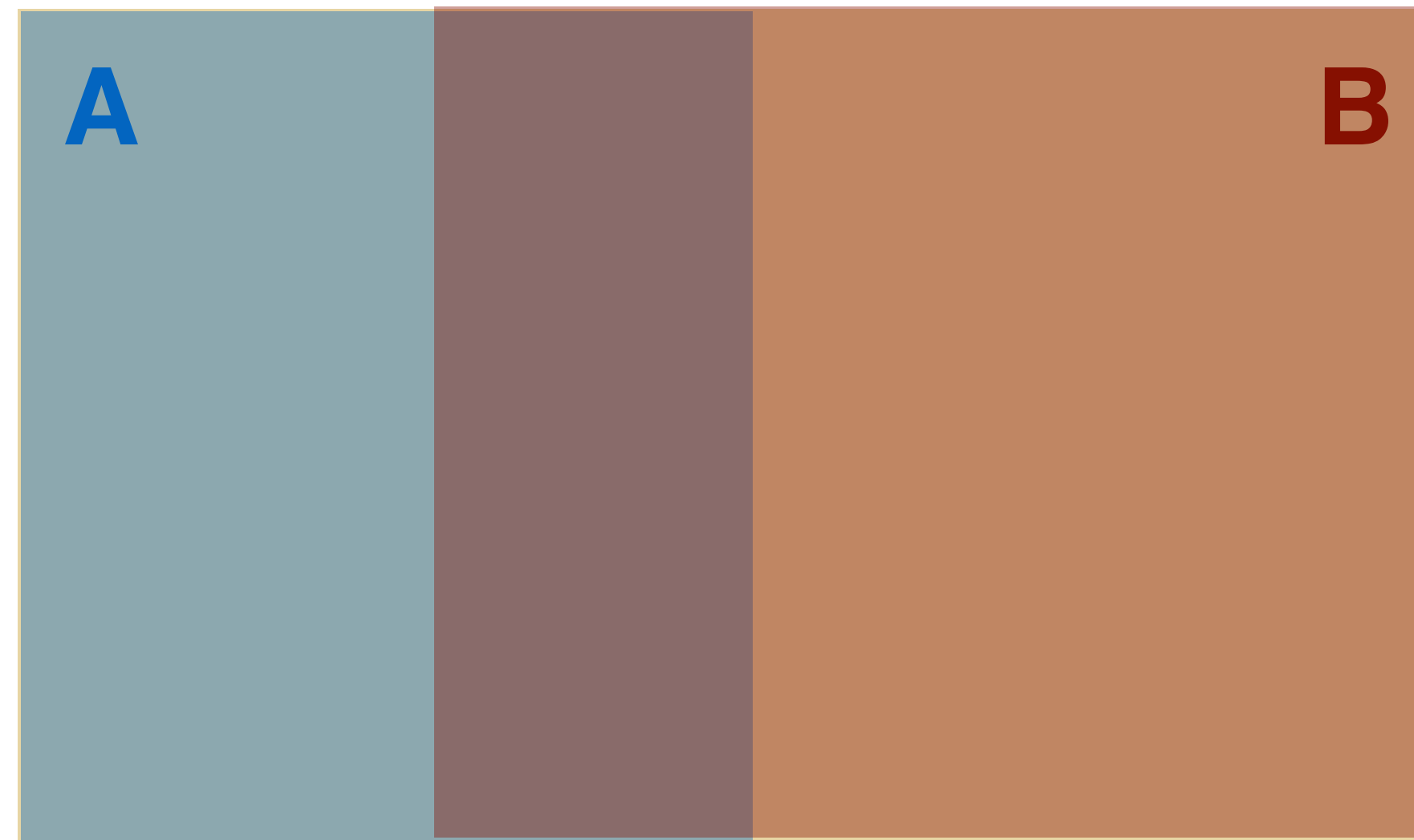
cannot happen at the same time



All possible outcomes

Exhaustive

covers all possible outcomes



All possible outcomes

Mutually Exclusive and Exhaustive

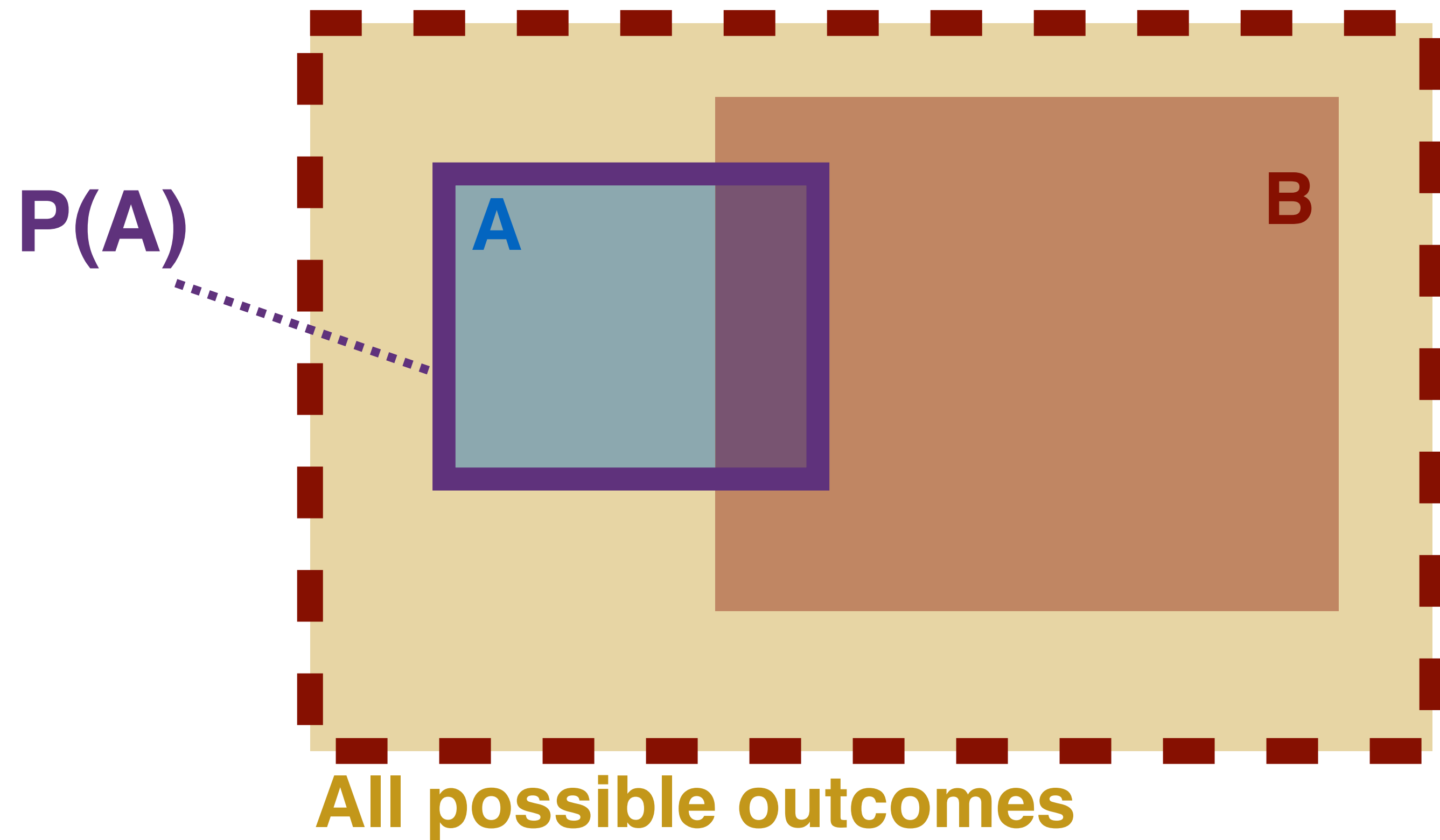
$$P(A) + P(B) = 1$$



All possible outcomes

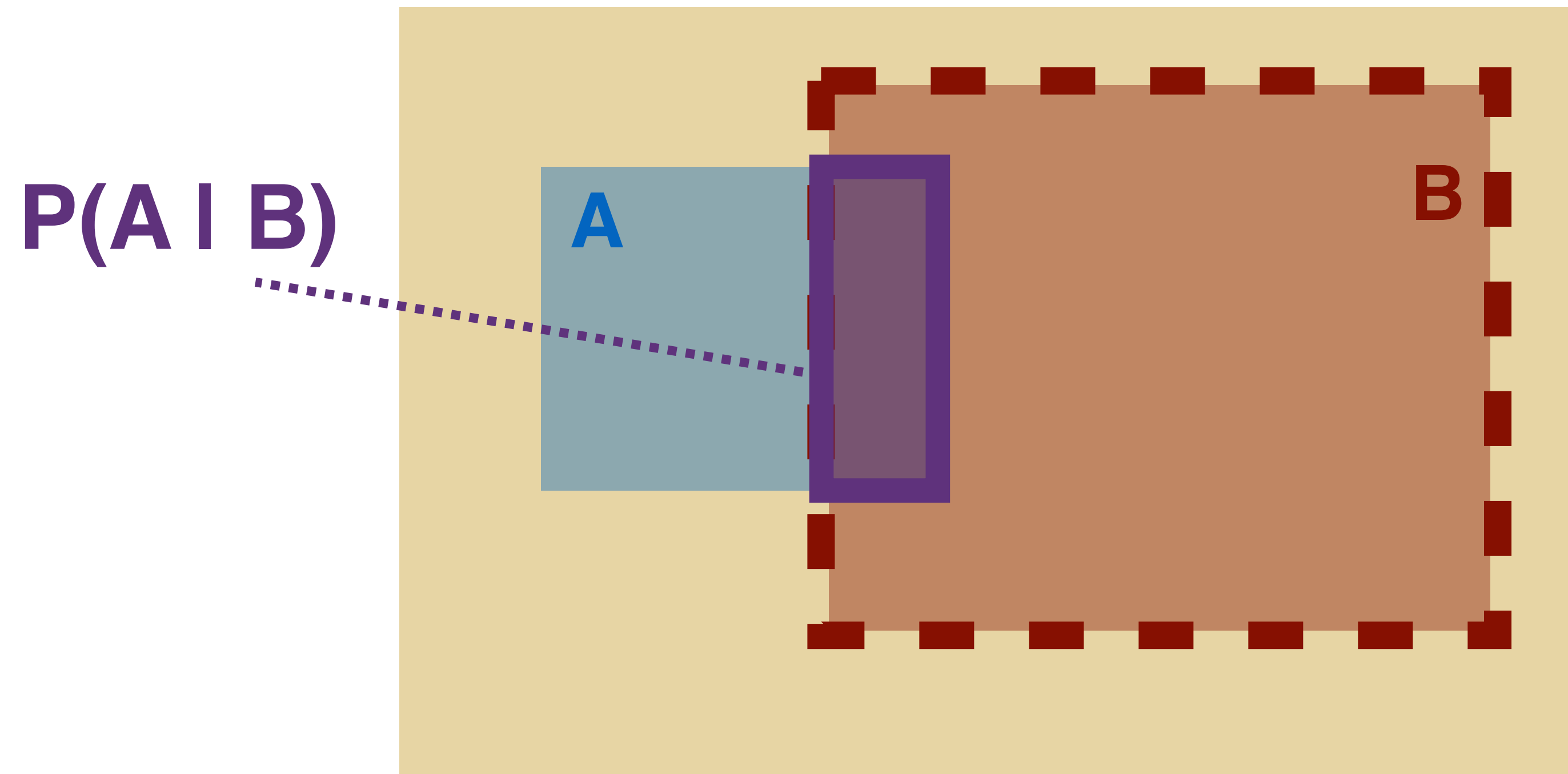
Unconditional Probability

probability of an event regardless of past or future occurrences of other events



Conditional Probability

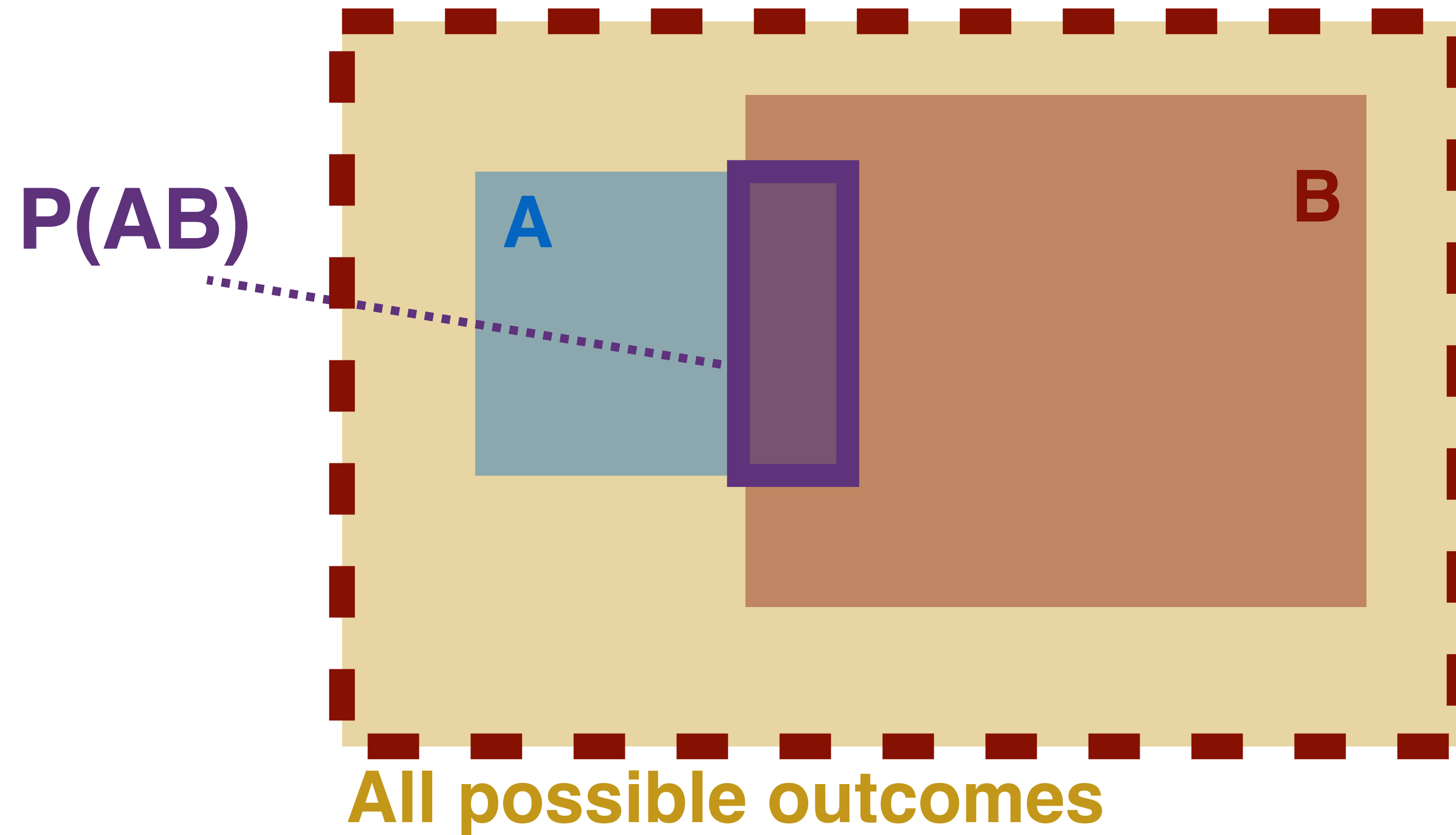
probability of an event in the context of another event



All possible outcomes

Joint Probability

probability of both events happening

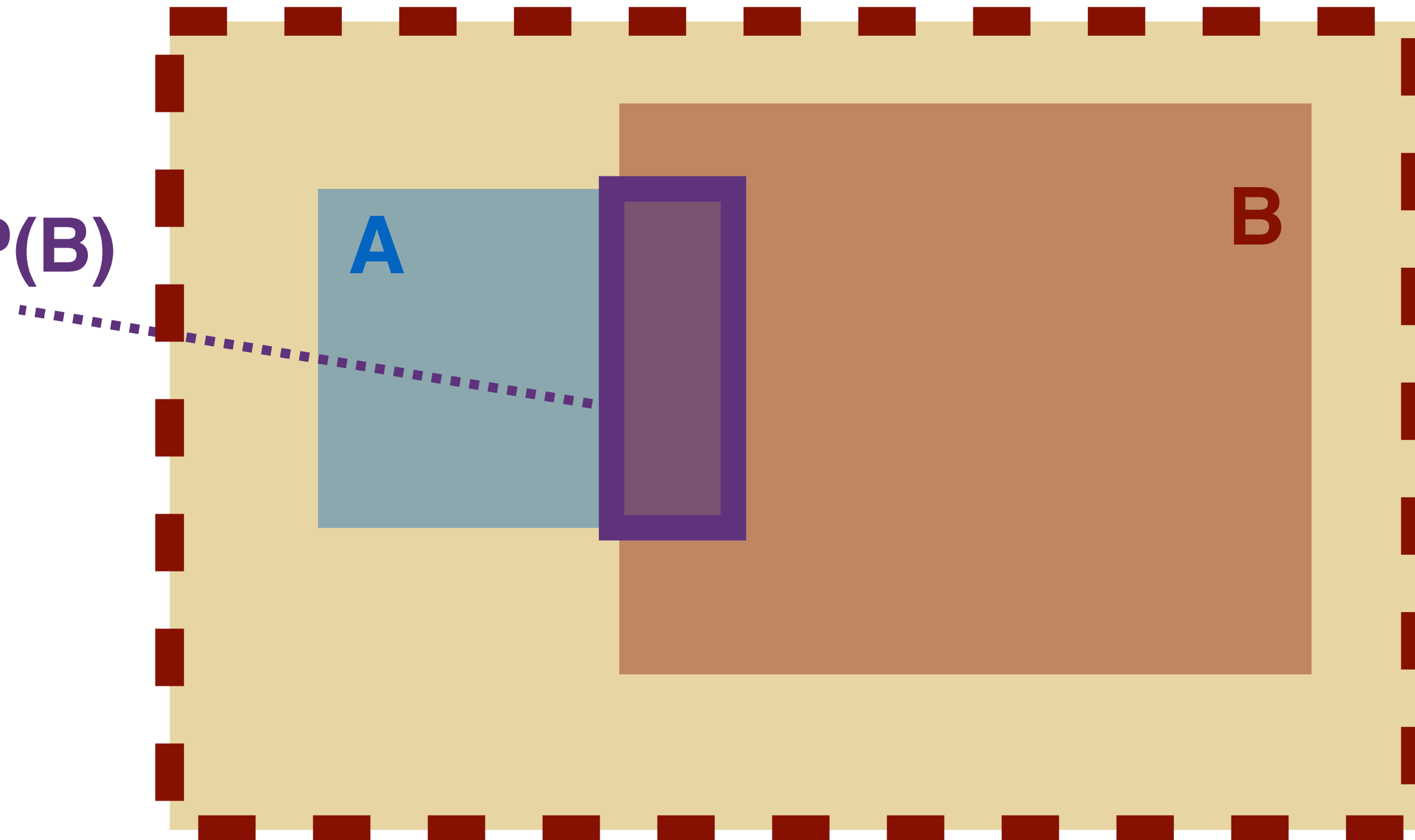


Joint Probability

probability of both events happening

$$P(AB) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

Multiplication Rule



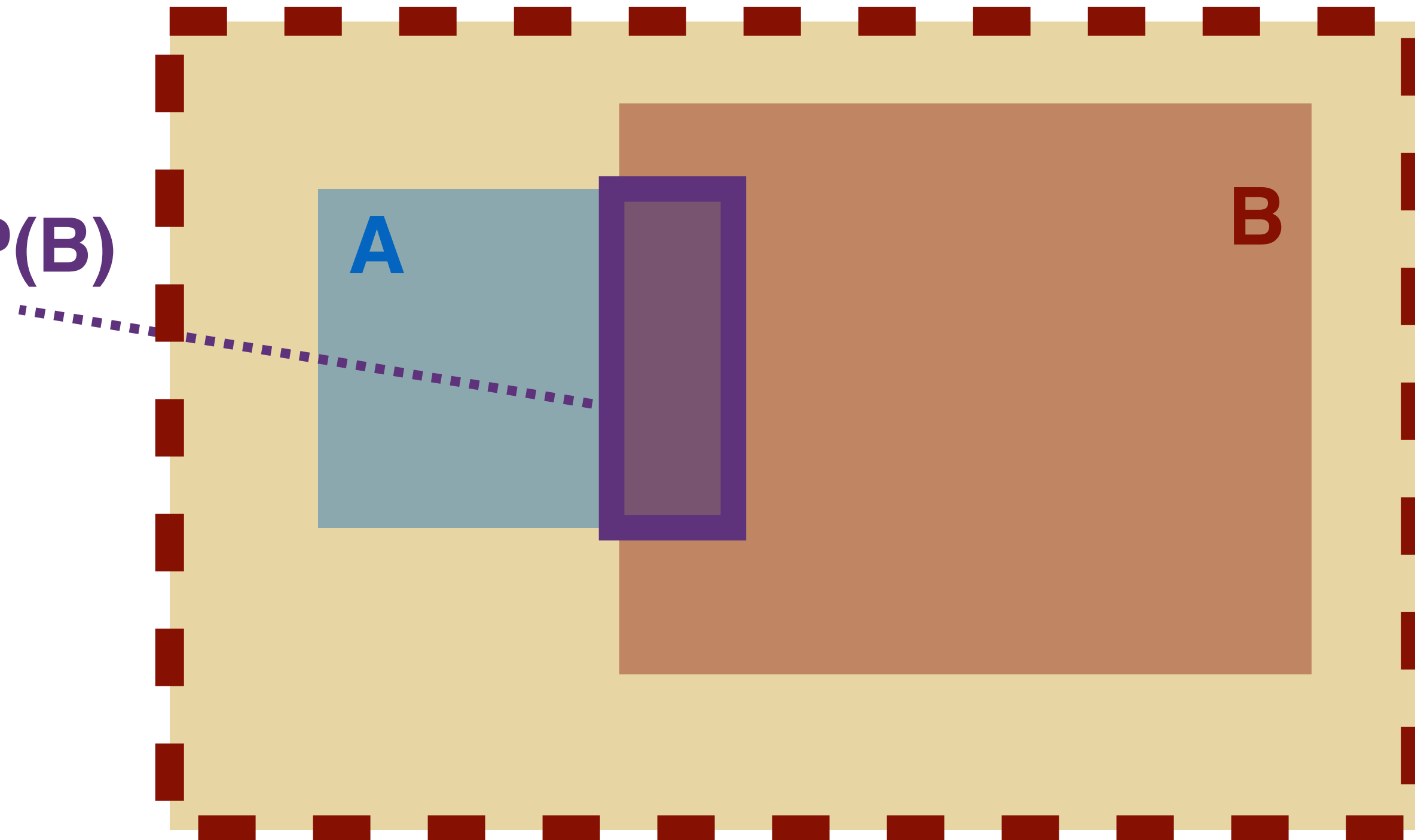
All possible outcomes

Joint Probability

probability of both events happening

$$P(AB) = P(A | B) \times P(B)$$

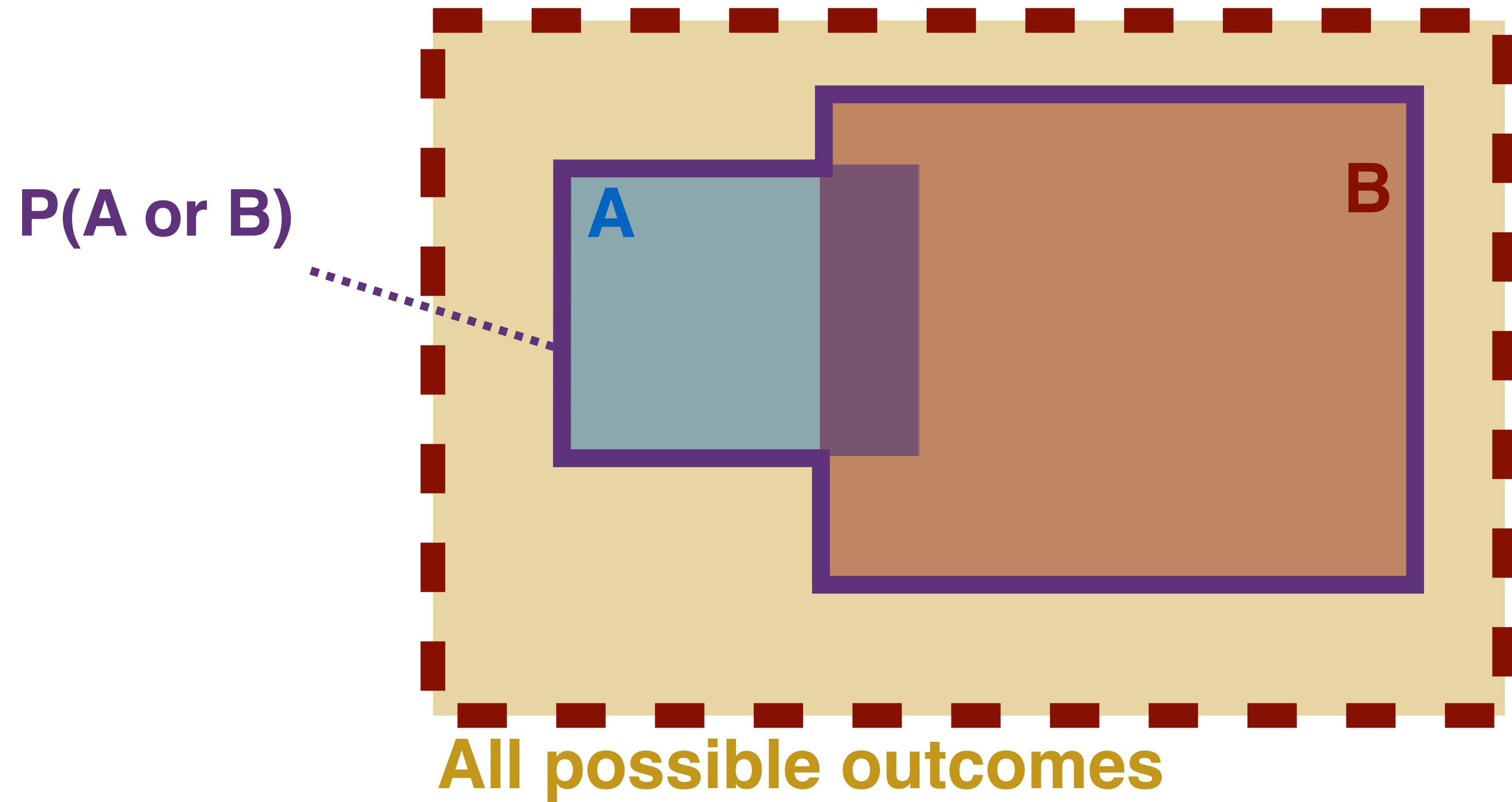
Multiplication Rule



All possible outcomes

Union

probability of either events happening



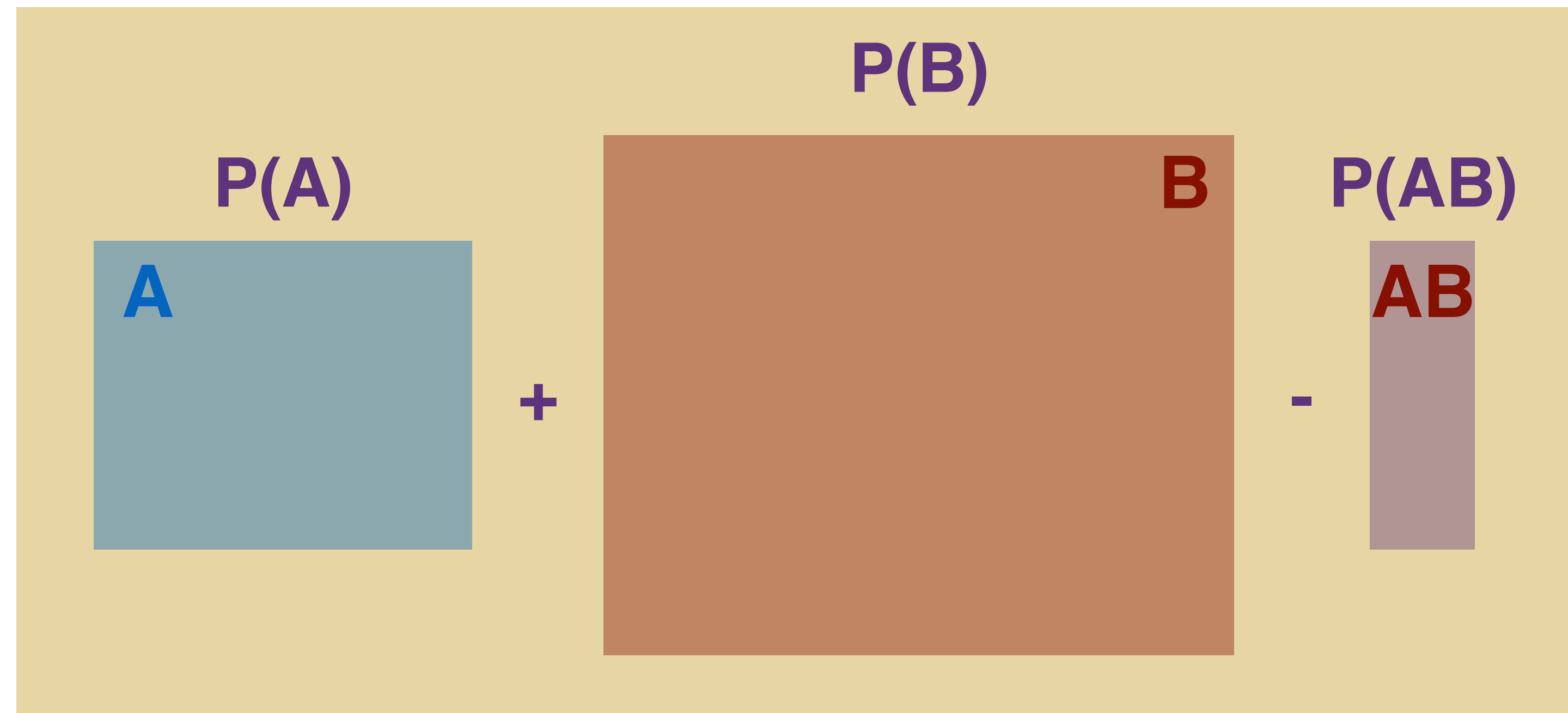
Union

probability of either events happening

Addition Rule

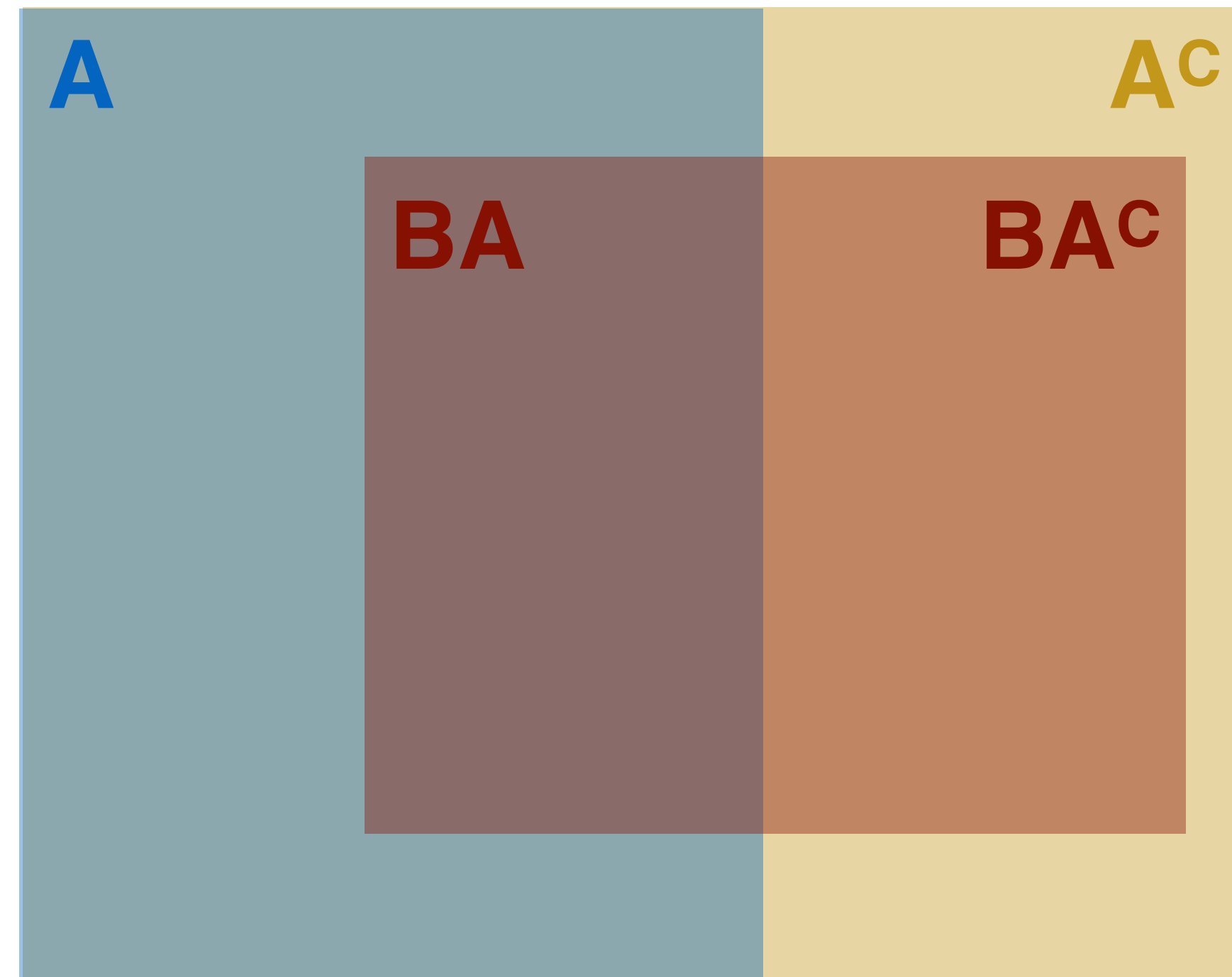
$P(A \text{ or } B)$

=



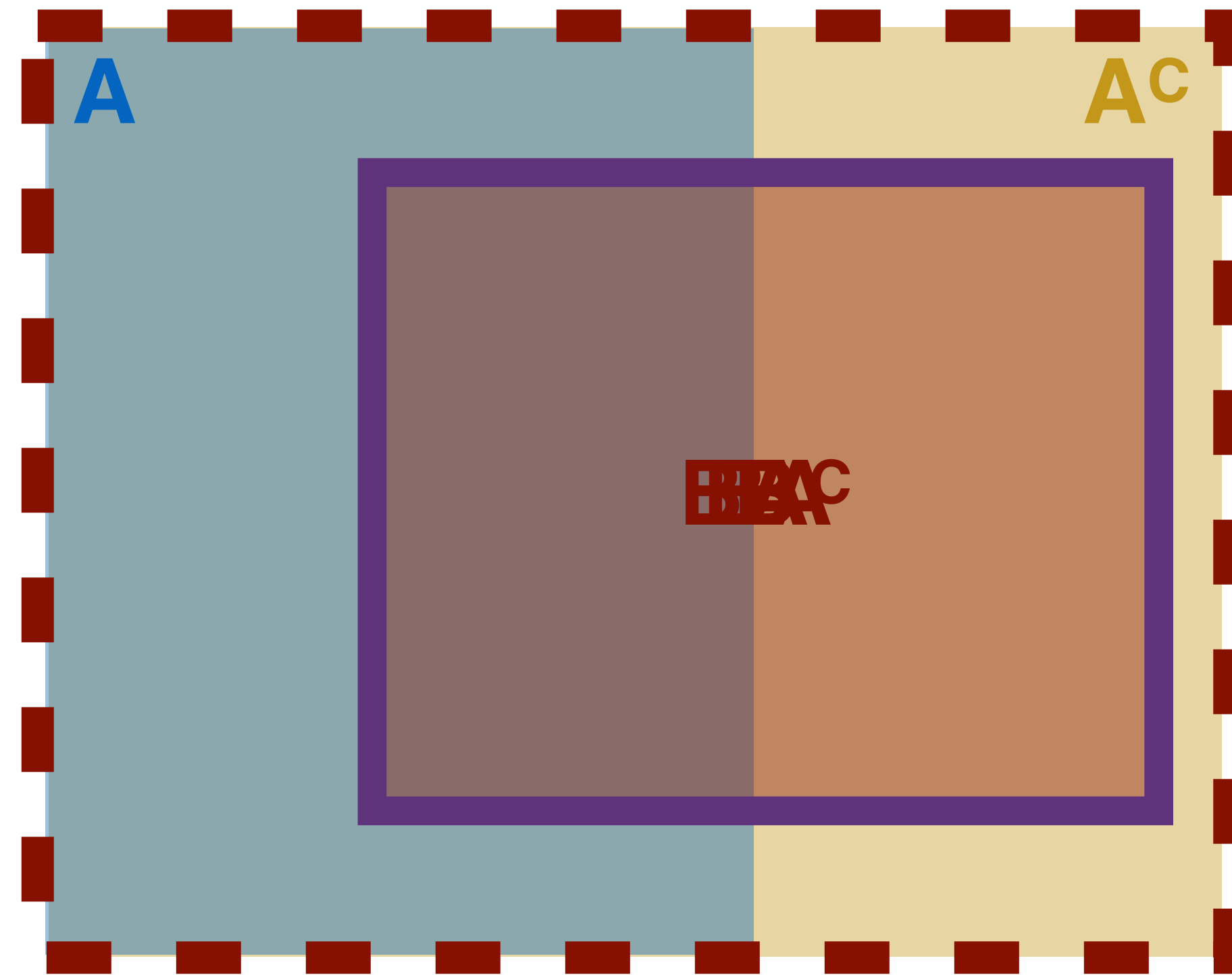
Total Probability Rule

$$P(B) = P(BA) + P(BA^C) \\ = P(B \mid A) \times P(A) + P(B \mid A^C) \times P(A^C)$$



Total Probability Rule

$$P(B) = P(BA) + P(BA^C)$$
$$= P(B \mid A) \times P(A) + P(B \mid A^C) \times P(A^C)$$





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