

**CS 364 Spring 2013**  
**Homework #2 Solutions**  
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Honor Code:

**Part 1**

a) This is right.

$$P(A \text{ exec.} \mid B \text{ not exec.}) = \frac{P(A \text{ exec.})P(B \text{ not exec.} \mid A \text{ exec.})}{P(B \text{ not exec.})} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 1}{\frac{2}{3}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

- (1) This is just an application of Bayes' theorem. Now that we know  $B$  will live, we can use this to figure out  $A$ 's probability of being executed.
- (2) We know that only one person is being executed, so if  $B$  is executed then the probability of  $A$  living is 1.

b) This explanation supposes that the probability of  $A$  being executed is independent of the probabilities of the other prisoners being executed. This is wrong. What if we had learned that  $B$  *was* going to be executed? Then clearly  $A$  would be stupid to think that they have a  $\frac{1}{3}$  probability of being executed.

**Part 2**

**Part 3**

**Part 4**

**Part 5**

**Part 6**

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