

Basic Probability Concepts

- **Probability** – In general, probability is the chance that some thing will happen. the chance that an uncertain event will occur (always between 0 and 1)
- **Event**: an event is one or more of the possibly outcomes of doing something. *Coin : H T*
die 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- **Impossible Event** – an event that has no chance of occurring (probability = 0)
eg. Sun rise from west = Prob = 0
- **Certain Event** – an event that is sure to occur (probability = 1)
prob. of death = 1
- **Experiment**: The activity that produces such an *o/p-*

$S = \Omega$ **Sample Space**

$$C = \{H, T\}$$

$$\Omega = \{H, T\}$$

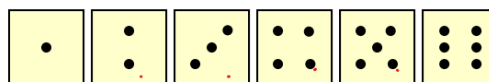
S

The **Sample Space** is the collection of all possible events

Countable
uncountable

e.g. All 6 faces of a die:

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$



e.g. All 52 cards of a bridge deck:

$$\{1, 10, 4 \text{ face}, \dots\}$$



- **Simple event**
 - An event described by a single **characteristic**
 - e.g., A red card from a deck of cards
- **Joint event**
 - An event described by two or more characteristics
 - e.g., An **ace that is also red** from a deck of cards
- **Complement of an event A** (denoted A^c)
 - All events that are not part of event A
 - e.g., All cards that are not diamonds

Mutually Exclusive Events

- **Mutually exclusive** events
 - Events that **cannot** occur simultaneously

Example: Drawing one card from a deck of cards

A = queen of diamonds; B = queen of clubs



- Events A and B are mutually exclusive

Collectively Exhaustive Events

- **Collectively exhaustive** events
 - One of the events must occur
 - The set of events covers the entire sample space

example:

A = aces

B = Black cards

A = aces; B = black cards;
C = diamonds; D = hearts

A = 4

- Events A, B, C and D are collectively exhaustive (but not mutually exclusive – **an ace may also be a heart**)
- Events B, C and D are collectively exhaustive and also mutually exclusive

Ex: Give a collectively exhaustive list of the possible outcomes of **two dice**.

$$1+1 = 2$$

| | | | | | |
|-----|--|--|--|--|-----|
| 1,1 | | | | | 1,6 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 6,1 | | | | | 6,6 |

6,1 6,6
36

Ex: What is the probability for each of the following totals in the rolling of two dice: 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, and 11.

$$P(1) = 0/36$$

$$P(2) = 1/36$$

$$P(5) = 4/36$$

$$P(6) = 5/36$$

$$1+0 \Rightarrow 1 \Rightarrow 0$$

$$(2,3) \quad (3,2) \quad (1,4) \quad (4,1)$$

$$(3,3) \quad (2,4) \quad (4,2) \quad (1,5) \quad (5,1)$$

Answers

$$P(1) = 0/36$$

$$P(2) = 1/36$$

$$P(5) = 4/36$$

$$P(6) = 5/36$$

$$P(7) = 6/36$$

$$P(10) = 3/36$$

$$P(11) = 2/36$$

Three Types of Probability

1. Classical approach
2. Relative frequency approach
3. Subjective approach

Three Types of Probability

1. Classical approach

Prob of an event = (no. of outcomes where the event occurs) / (total number of possible outcomes)

$$P(H) = 1/(1+1) = 1/2$$

Total possible outcomes

$$(H, T)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(5) = 1/6 \text{ for the dice rolling example}$$

$$1, 2, 3, 4, (5), 6$$

$$\frac{1}{6}$$

Classical prob is also called a **priori probability** because we don't need to perform experiments.

Find the probability of selecting a **face** card (Jack, Queen, or King) from a standard deck of 52 cards.

$$\text{Probability of Face Card} = \frac{X}{T} = \frac{\text{number of face cards}}{\text{total number of cards}}$$

$$\frac{X}{T} = \frac{12 \text{ face cards}}{52 \text{ total cards}} = \frac{3}{13}$$

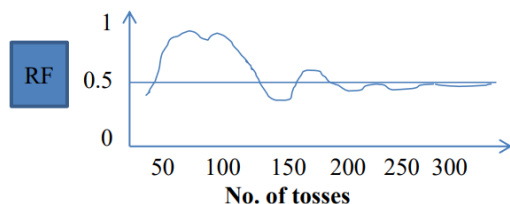
2. **Relative Frequency (RF)** : Live up to 85 yrs, plant near river will substantially kill fish.

We need experiment to answer these.

This method uses the **relative frequencies of past occurrences** as probabilities.

How often something has **happened** in past - we **predict** future

More trails , greater accuracy: Tossing a fair coin for 300 times. In first 100 tosses prob **is far from** 0.5, but approaches 0.5 as we increase number of toss. RF becomes **stable** as no. of tosses **become large**.



→ Prob.

Limitation: We need **sufficient no. of experiments** or observations before conclusion.

3. **Subjective probability** : Based on belief, experience, when event has occurred once or few times.

Because most higher-level social and managerial decisions are concerned with **specific, unique** situations, rather than with a **long series of identical** situation, **decisions makers** use this prob.

Ex: Retirement policy is to be presented to top management. To know the support of the policy a manager conducts a poll.

| | Machinists | inspector |
|------------------|------------|-----------|
| Strongly support | 9 | 10 |
| Mildly support | 11 | 3 |
| Undecided | 2 | 2 |
| Mildly oppose | 4 | 8 |
| Strongly oppose | 4 | 7 |
| | 30 | 30 |

- What is the prob that a **machinist** randomly selected from the polled group **mildly supports** the package = 11/30
- What is the prob that an **inspector** randomly selected from the polled group **is undecided** = 2/30
- What is the prob that a worker (machinist or inspector) randomly selected from the polled group **strongly or mildly supports** the package = $\frac{9+11+10+3}{60} = \frac{33}{60} = \frac{11}{20}$
- What prob **estimates** are these = **Relative frequency**.

2. Classify the following probability estimates as to their type (classical, relative frequency, or subjective):

- (a) The probability of scoring on a penalty shot in ice hockey is 0.47. = **RF**
- (b) The probability that the current Mayor will resign is 0.85. = **S**
- (c) The probability of rolling two sixes with two dice is $1/36$. = **C**
- (d) The probability that a president elected in a year ending in zero will die in office is $7/10$. = **RF**
- (e) The probability that you will go Europe this year is 0.14. **S**

Probability rules:

Prob of event A happening = $P(A)$

~~Marginal~~ or unconditional probability: A single prob means that **only one event** can take place. It is called **marginal or unconditional** probability.

Out of 50 students one student is winning free ticket to National Rock Festival

$$P(w) = 1/50$$

Probability of one or more ME events:

Addition rule for ME events:

Prob of **either A or B** happening: $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B)$

Out of A, B, C, D, E. What is the **prob of A selected**, $P(A) = 1/5$.

What is the prob of **either A or B** selected = $1/5 + 1/5 = .4$

$A \cup B$

$$= 1/5$$

$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{0.4}{1}$$

Example

| Number of children | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 or more |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Proportion of having this many children | 0.05 | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.25 | 0.15 | 0.10 | 0.05 |

What is the prob of a randomly chosen family having 4 or more children?

$$P(A) = \frac{0.30}{\text{total}}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.15 \\ 0.10 \\ 0.05 \\ \hline 0.30 \end{array}$$

What is the prob of a randomly chosen family having 4 or more children = $P_4 + P_5 + P_6 = 0.30$

$P(A) + P(\text{not } A) = 1$

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

What is the prob of a family having 5 or fewer children = $1 - 0.05 = 0.95$

$$= 1 - 0.05$$

Addition rule for events that are not ME: If two events are not mutually exclusive, it is possible for both events to occur.

What is the prob of drawing either an *ace* or a *heart* from a deck of cards.

Ace and *heart* can occur together because we could draw an *ace of heart*. Thus *ace* and *heart* are not ME.

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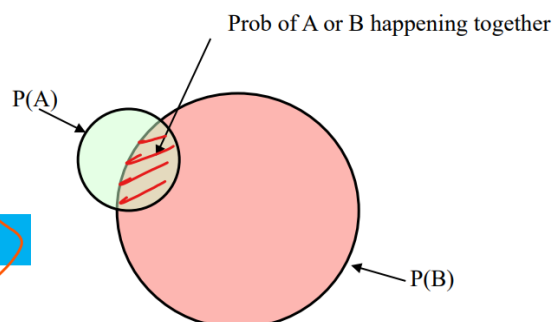
Ace and *heart* can occur together because we could draw an *ace of heart*. Thus *ace* and *heart* are not ME.

Addition rule for events that are not ME :

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

$$P(\text{ace or heart}) = (4/52) + (13/52) - (1/52) = 4/13$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$



Let take one more example: The employees have selected five representatives to represent them to management. A spokesperson is to be selected.

| Gender | Age |
|--------|-----|
| Male | 30 |
| Male | 32 |
| Female | 45 |
| Female | 20 |
| Male | 40 |

What is the prob the spokesperson will be *either* female *or* over 35?

$$P(\text{female or over 35}) = P(\text{Female}) + P(\text{over 35}) - P(\text{Female and over 35})$$

$$= \frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{3}{5}$$

Exapmle: An inspector of the Alaska pipeline has the task of comparing the **reliability** of **two pumping stations**. Each station is susceptible to **two kinds of failure**: **pump** failure and **leakage**. When either (or both) occur, the station must be shut down. The data at hand indicate that the following probabilities prevail:

| Station | P (Pump failure) | P (Leakage) | P (Both) |
|---------|------------------|-------------|----------|
| 1 | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0 |
| 2 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.06 |

Which station has the higher probability of being shut down?

Answer

$$P(\text{Failure}) = P(\text{Pump failure or leakage})$$

$$\text{Station 1: } 0.07 + 0.1 - 0 = 0.17$$

$$\text{Station 2: } 0.09 + 0.12 - 0.06 = 0.15$$

Thus, **station 1** has the higher probability of being **shut** down.

Probabilities under conditions of statistical independence:

Statistical **independence**: The occurrence of one event has **no** effect on the prob. of occurrence of any **other** event.

1. Marginal probabilities under statistical independence
2. Joint probabilities under statistical independence
3. Conditional probabilities under statistical independence

1. Marginal probabilities under statistical independence: Tossing of a fair coin. Outcome of **second toss** is **independent** of outcome of **first** toss. This is true even if the coin is **biased**.

2. Joint probabilities under statistical independence: The prob of **two or more independent** events occurring **together or in succession** is the **product of their** marginal probabilities.

Joint prob. of two independent events:

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

$P(AB)$ = Prob of events A and B **occurring together**, this is known as a **joint prob.**

$P(A)$ = marginal prob of event A occurring

$P(B)$ = marginal prob of event B occurring

$$P(H_1H_2) = 0.5 \times 0.5 = 0.25 \text{ (this is the prob of heads in two succession tosses)}$$

Similarly, the prob of heads in **three** in succession tosses = $0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 = 0.125$

Even if it is an **unfair coin**, let take $P(H) = 0.8$.

Prob of heads in **three** in succession tosses $P(H_1H_2H_3) = 0.8 \times 0.8 \times 0.8 = 0.512$

Prob of Tails in **three** in succession tosses $P(T_1T_2T_3) = 0.2 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 = 0.008$

These two don't add up to 1 because the events $H_1H_2H_3$ and $T_1T_2T_3$ do **not** constitute a **collectively exhaustive** list. They are **ME**, because if one occurs the other cannot.

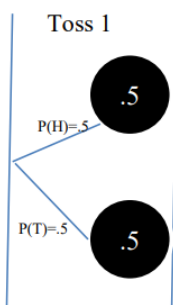
$$P(H) = 0.5$$

$$P(H) = 0.8$$

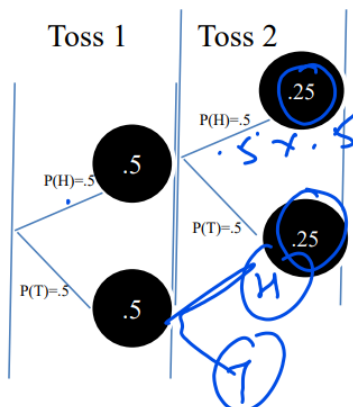
$$P(T) = 1 - 0.8 = 0.2$$

$$P(\text{all possible } H \text{ or } T) = 1$$

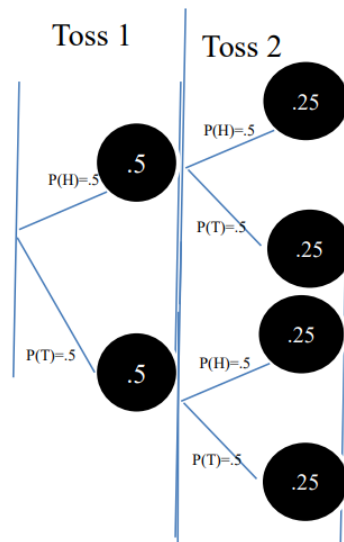
Prob tree of one toss

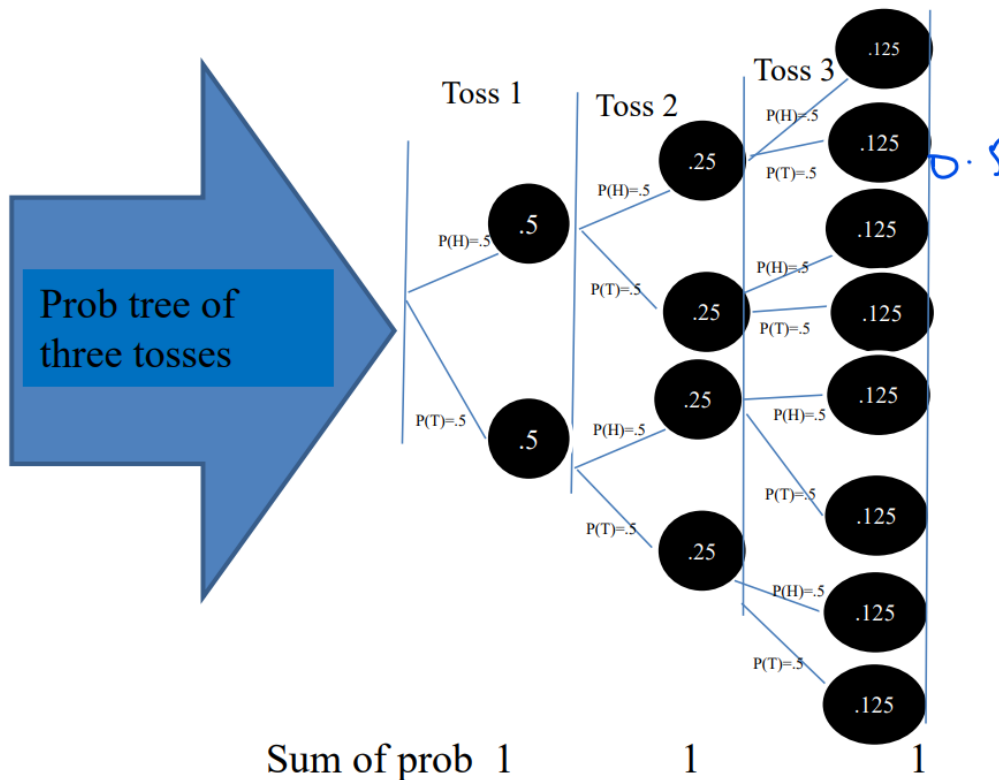


Prob tree of a partial second toss



Prob tree of two toss





3. Conditional probabilities under statistical independence: It is written as $P(B/A)$. The prob of event B given A has occurred.

$$P(B/A) = P(B)$$

What is the prob that the **second toss of a fair coin will result in heads**, given that heads **resulted in first toss**. $P(H_2/H_1)$, we know that **independence means** the first toss's result would not affect the result of second toss.

$$P(H_2/H_1) = 0.5$$

$$P(A/B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

Summary

| | Type of prob | Symbol | Formula |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|
| Prob. under statistical independence | Marginal | $P(A)$ | $P(A)$ |
| | Joint | $P(AB)$ | $P(A) \times P(B)$ |
| | Conditional | $P(B/A)$ | $P(B)$ |
| | | | |

Ex: What is the probability that in selecting two cards one at a time from a deck with replacement, the second card is:

- ✓ (a) A face card, given that the first card was red? (F/R)
 (b) An ace, given that the first card was a face card? (A/F)
 (c) A black jack, given that the first card was a red ace?

$$\frac{12}{52}$$

Answers

(a) $P(\text{Face}_2 | \text{Red}_1) = 12/52 = 3/13$

(b) $P(\text{Ace}_2 | \text{Face}_1) = 4/52 = 1/13$

(c) $P(\text{Black jack} | \text{Red ace}_1) = 2/52 = 1/26$

Record of 45 years of a jail where prisoners tried to escape.

| Attempted Escapes | Winter | Spring | Summer | Fall |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 1-5 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 6-10 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 16 |
| 11-15 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| 16-20 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| 21-25 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| More than 25 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| Total | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 |

$$8 + 4 + 6 + 5 = 23$$

$$\Rightarrow 180$$

What is the prob that in a year selected at random, the number of escapes was **between 16 and 20 during the winter** = $3/45$

What is the prob that more than **10 escapes were during summer** = $7+6+5+4=22/45$

What is the prob that between **11 and 20 escapes** were attempted during a **randomly chosen season** = $8+12+13+12 = 45/180 = 1/4$.

Probabilities under conditions of statistical Dependence:

When prob of some event is dependent on or affected by the occurrence of some other event.

1. Conditional Probabilities under statistical **dependence**
2. Joint Probabilities under statistical **dependence**
3. Marginal Probabilities under statistical **dependence**

1. Conditional probabilities under statistical Dependence:

Assume a box has 10 balls as follows:

- Three are colored and dotted
- One is colored and striped
- Two are gray and dotted
- Four are gray and stripes

The prob. of drawing one ball is??????

- Three are colored and dotted
- One is colored and striped
- Two are gray and dotted
- Four are gray and stripes

| Event | Prob of event | |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 0.1 | Colored and dotted |
| 2 | 0.1 | |
| 3 | 0.1 | |
| 4 | 0.1 | Colored and striped |
| 5 | 0.1 | Gray and dotted |
| 6 | 0.1 | |
| 7 | 0.1 | Gray and striped |
| 8 | 0.1 | |
| 9 | 0.1 | |
| 10 | 0.1 | |

$$D/C = \frac{0.3}{0.4}$$

Gray

Ex . If a **colored** ball is drawn.

1. What is the prob that it is **dotted** $P(D/C)=0.3/0.4$
2. What is the prob that it is **striped** $P(S/C)=0.1/0.4$

$$\left\{ P(D/G) \Rightarrow \frac{0.2}{0.6} \right\} \frac{0.1}{0.4}$$

Conditional probabilities for statistical **dependent** events:

$$P(B/A) = \{P(BA)\}/P(A)$$

$$\text{What is } P(D/G) = P(DG)/P(G) = 0.2/0.6 =$$

$$\text{What is } P(S/G) = P(SG)/P(G) = 0.4/0.6$$

$$\text{What is } P(G/D) = P(GD)/P(D) = 0.2/0.5$$

$$\text{What is } P(C/D) = P(CD)/P(D) = 0.3/0.5$$

$$\text{What is } P(C/S) = P(CS)/P(S) = 0.1/0.5$$

$$\text{What is } P(G/S) = P(GS)/P(S) = 0.4/0.5$$

$$P(B/A)$$

$$= \frac{P(BA)}{P(A)}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(SG)$$

$$P(CS)$$

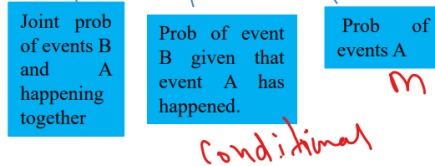
$$= \frac{0.4}{0.6}$$

| Event | Prob of event | |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 0.1 | colored and dotted |
| 2 | 0.1 | |
| 3 | 0.1 | |
| 4 | 0.1 | colored and striped |
| 5 | 0.1 | gray and dotted |
| 6 | 0.1 | |
| 7 | 0.1 | gray and striped |
| 8 | 0.1 | |
| 9 | 0.1 | |
| 10 | 0.1 | |

2. Joint Probabilities under statistical **dependence**:

We know that **conditional** prob under statistical dependence: $P(B/A) = \{P(BA)\}/P(A)$, we solve for $P(BA)$ as :

$$P(BA) = P(B/A) * P(A)$$



$$P(BA) = P(B/A) \cdot P(A)$$

Same sum another solution using above formula:

We know that :

$$\text{What is } P(D/G) = P(DG)/P(G) = 0.2/0.6 = 1/3$$

$$\text{What is } P(S/G) = P(SG)/P(G) = 0.4/0.6 = 2/3$$

$$\text{What is } P(G/D) = P(GD)/P(D) = 0.2/0.5 = 0.4$$

$$\text{What is } P(C/D) = P(CD)/P(G) = 0.3/0.5 = 0.6$$

$$\text{What is } P(C/S) = P(CS)/P(S) = 0.1/0.5 = 0.2$$

$$\text{What is } P(G/S) = P(GS)/P(S) = 0.4/0.5 = 0.8$$

We can calculate $P(CS) = 0.2 * 0.5 = 0.1$

$$P(GD) = 0.4 * 0.5 = 0.2$$

$$P(GS) = 0.5 * 0.8 = 0.4$$

3. Marginal Probabilities under statistical **dependence**: Are computed by **summing** up the prob of **all the joint events** in which the simple event occurs.

| Event | Prob of event | |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 0.1 | colored and dotted |
| 2 | 0.1 | |
| 3 | 0.1 | |
| 4 | 0.1 | colored and striped |
| 5 | 0.1 | |
| 6 | 0.1 | gray and dotted |
| 7 | 0.1 | |
| 8 | 0.1 | |
| 9 | 0.1 | |
| 10 | 0.1 | gray and striped |
| | | |

$$P(C) = P(CD) + P(CS) = 0.3 + 0.1 = 0.4$$

$$P(G) = P(GD) + P(GS) = 0.2 + 0.4 = 0.6$$

$P(D)?$

$P(S)?$

$$P(GD) + P(CD) = 0.2 + 0.3 = 0.5$$

$$P(C) = P(CD) + P(CS) = 0.3 + 0.1 = 0.4$$

Ex: According to a survey, the prob that a family **owns two cars** if its annual income is greater than Rs **35000 is 0.75**.

Of the household surveyed 60 % had income over Rs 35000 and 52 % had two cars. What is the prob that a family **has two cars** and an income over Rs 35000 a year??.

Answer: Conditional Probabilities for statistical dependent events

Let $I = \text{income} > 35000$ $C = 2 \text{ cars}$

$$P(C \text{ and } I) = P(C/I)P(I) = 0.75 \times 0.6 = 0.45$$

Ex Friendly's Department store has been the target of **many shoplifters during the past month**, but owing to increased security precautions, **250 shoplifters have been caught**. Each shoplifter's **gender** is noted; also noted is whether the perpetrator **was a first time or repeat offender**. The data are summarized in the below table.

| Gender | First time offender | Repeat offender |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Male | 60 | 70 |
| Female | 44 | 76 |
| Total | 104 | 146 |

Assuming that an apprehended shoplifter is chosen at random, find:

- The probability that the shoplifter is male
- The probability that the shoplifter is first time offender, given that the shoplifter is male.
- The probability that the shoplifter is female, given that the shoplifter is a repeat offender.
- The probability that the shoplifter is female, given that the shoplifter is a first time offender.
- The probability that the shoplifter is both male and a repeat offender.

| Gender | First time offender | Repeat offender |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Male | 60 | 70 |
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| Total | 104 | 146 |

- The probability that the shoplifter is male
- The probability that the shoplifter is **first time offender**, **given** that the shoplifter is **male**.
- The probability that the shoplifter is **female**, **given** that the shoplifter is a **repeat offender**.
- The probability that the shoplifter is **female**, **given** that the shoplifter is a **first time offender**.
- The probability that the shoplifter is both **male and a repeat offender**.

Answers

$M/W = \text{Shoplifter is male/female}$; $F/R = \text{Shoplifter is first time or repeat offender}$.

- $P(M) = (60+70)/250 = 0.520$
- $P(F/M) = P(F \text{ and } M) / P(M) = (60/250) / (130/250) = 0.462$
- $P(W/R) = P(W \text{ and } R) / P(R) = (76/250) / (146/250) = 0.521$
- $P(W/F) = P(W \text{ and } F) / P(F) = (44/250) / (104/250) = 0.423$
- $P(M \text{ and } R) = 70/250 = 0.280$