



A large flock of birds, likely Canada geese, is shown flying in a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The birds are concentrated on the left side of the frame, while the right side features a single bird in flight and a few wispy clouds.

CS109: Independence

Generalized Chain Rule

Chain Rule

Definition of conditional probability:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$

normalization const

The Chain Rule:

$$P(EF) = P(E|F)P(F)$$
$$P(F|E)P(E) = \cancel{P(EF)} = P(E|F)P(F)$$

Generalized Chain Rule

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots E_n) = \underbrace{P(E_1)}_{\text{E}_1} \underbrace{P(E_2 | E_1)}_{\text{E}_2, \text{E}_1} P(E_3 | \underbrace{E_1 E_2}_{\text{E}_1, \text{E}_2}) \dots P(E_n | \underbrace{E_1 E_2 \dots E_{n-1}}_{\text{E}_1, \text{E}_2, \dots, \text{E}_{n-1}})$$



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Pop Quiz

$$P(E_1E_2E_3 \dots E_n) = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1) \dots P(E_n|E_1E_2 \dots E_{n-1})$$

Chain Rule

You're planning to go to a friend's outdoor Groundhog Day party.

Let C = there is candy W = you wear a groundhog mask
 M = there is music E = no one wears your mask

When all four events occur, the party is **awesome**.

What is $P(\text{awesome party}) = P(CMWE)$?



- A. $\overbrace{P(C)P(M|C)}^{\text{Candy and Music}}P(W|CM)P(E|CMW)$
- B. $P(M)P(C|M)P(W|MC)P(E|MCW)$
- C. $P(W)P(E|W)P(CM|EW)$
- D. A, B, and C
- E. A and B



Pop Quiz

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots E_n) = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1) \dots P(E_n|E_1 E_2 \dots E_{n-1})$$

Chain Rule

You're planning to go to a friend's outdoor Groundhog Day party.

Let C = there is candy W = you wear a groundhog mask
 M = there is music E = no one wears your mask

When all four events occur, the party is **awesome**.

What is $P(\text{awesome party}) = P(CMWE)$?

- A. $P(C)P(M|C)P(W|CM)P(E|CMW) \rightarrow P(cmwE)$
- B. $P(M)P(C|M)P(W|MC)P(E|MCW) \rightarrow P(cmwE)$
- C. $P(W)P(E|W)P(CM|EW) \rightarrow P(cmwE)$
- D. A, B, and C
- E. A and B

Chain Rule is a way of introducing “order” and “procedure” into probability.

Think of the children

Two parents both have an (A, a) gene pair.

- Each parent will pass along one of their genes to their first child.
- The probability of the first child having curly hair is $P(E_1)$.
- The parents have three children.

What is the probability that all three children have curly hair?

Let E_1, E_2, E_3 be the events that child 1, 2, and 3 have curly hair, respectively.

~~EE~~

$$P(E_1 E_2 E_3) = P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1 E_2)$$



Independence I

Independence

Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

$$P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$$


Otherwise E and F are called dependent events.

If E and F are independent, then:



$$P(E|F) = P(E)$$

Intuition through proof

Independent events E and F $\Leftrightarrow P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$

Statement:

If E and F are independent, then $P(E|F) = P(E)$.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} P(E|F) &= \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} \\ &= \frac{P(E)P(F)}{P(F)} \\ &= P(E) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= 0.30 \\ P(E|F) &= 0.30 \end{aligned}$$

Definition of conditional probability

Independence of E and F

Taking the bus to cancellation city

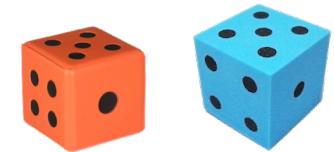
Knowing that F happened does not change our belief that E happened.



Dice, our misunderstood friends

Independent events E and F \Leftrightarrow $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

- Roll two 6-sided dice, yielding values D_1 and D_2 .
- Let event E : $D_1 = 1$
event F : $D_2 = 6$
event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 5$



$$G = \{(1,4), (2,3), (3,2), (4,1)\} \quad |G|=4$$

1. Are E and F independent?

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow P(E) &= 1/6 \\ \rightarrow P(F) &= 1/6 \\ \rightarrow P(EF) &= 1/36\end{aligned}$$

✓ independent

2. Are E and G independent?

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow P(E) &= 1/6 \\ \rightarrow P(G) &= 4/36 = 1/9 \\ P(EG) &= 1/36 \neq P(E)P(G)\end{aligned}$$

✗ dependent

Generalizing independence

Three events E , F , and G are independent if:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P(EFG) = P(E)P(F)P(G), \text{ and} \\ P(EF) = P(E)P(F), \text{ and} \\ P(EG) = P(E)P(G), \text{ and} \\ P(FG) = P(F)P(G) \end{array} \right\}$$

n events E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n are independent if:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{for } r = 1, \dots, n: \\ \text{for every subset } E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r: \\ P(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r) = \underbrace{P(E_1)P(E_2) \cdots P(E_r)} \end{array} \right\}$$

Dice, increasingly misunderstood (still our friends)

- Each roll of a 6-sided die is an **independent trial**.
- Two rolls: D_1 and D_2 .

• Let event E : $D_1 = 1$

event F : $D_2 = 6$

event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 7$

1. Are E and F
 independent?

2. Are E and G
independent?

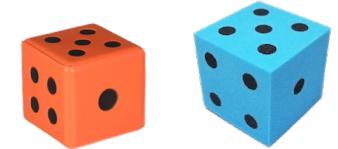
3. Are F and G
independent?

4. Are E, F, G
independent?

pairwise

$$\frac{16}{36} = \frac{4}{9} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$G = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

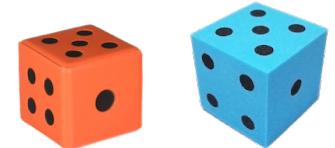


$$P(EF) = 1/36$$



Dice, increasingly misunderstood (still our friends)

- Each roll of a 6-sided die is an **independent trial**.
- Two rolls: D_1 and D_2 .
- Let event E : $D_1 = 1$
event F : $D_2 = 6$
event G : $D_1 + D_2 = 7$



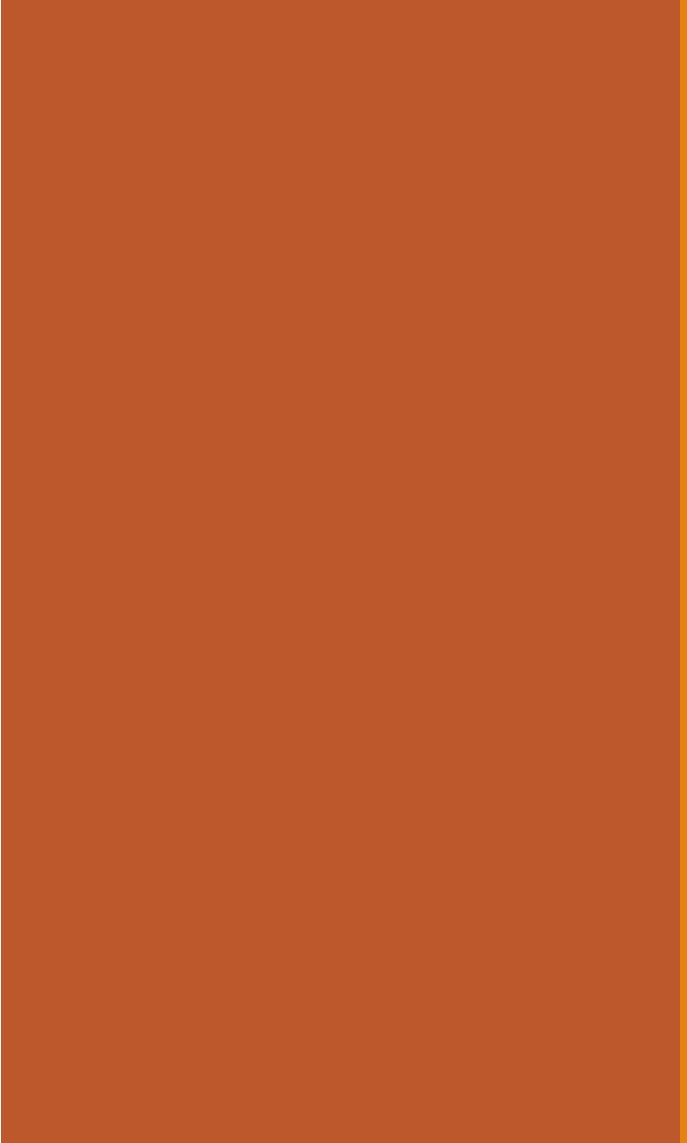
$$G = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

1. Are E and F independent?
2. Are E and G independent?
3. Are F and G independent?
4. Are E, F, G independent?

$$\begin{aligned}P(E) &= \frac{1}{6} \\P(G) &= \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{36} \\P(EG) &= \frac{1}{36} = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{6}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}P(G) &= \frac{1}{6} \\P(G|EF) &= 1 \\P(GEF) &\neq P(E)P(F)\end{aligned}$$

Pairwise independence does not imply universal independence of > 2 events!



Independence II

Independent trials

We often are interested in experiments consisting of n **independent trials**.

- n trials, each with the same set of possible outcomes
- n -way independence: an event in one subset of trials is independent of events in other subsets of trials

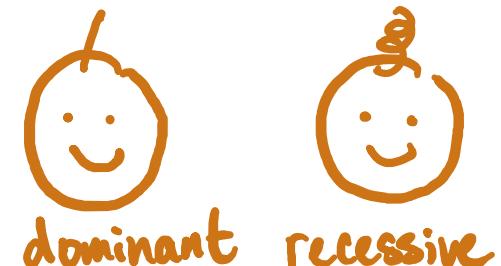
Examples:

- 
- Flip a coin n times
 - Roll a die n times
 - Send a multiple-choice survey to n people
 - Send n Google Doodle image requests to k different servers

Think of the children as independent trials

Two parents both have an (A, a) gene pair.

- Each parent will pass on one of their genes (each gene equally likely) to a child.
- The probability of **any single child** having curly hair (the recessive trait) is 0.25, independent of other siblings.
- There are three children.



What is the probability that all three children have curly hair?

Let E_1, E_2, E_3 be the events that child 1, 2, and 3 have curly hair, respectively.

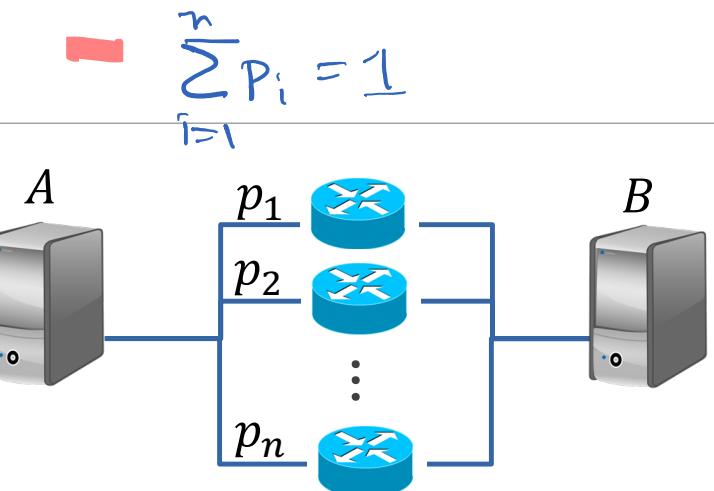
$$\begin{aligned} P(E_1 E_2 E_3) &= P(E_1)P(E_2|E_1)P(E_3|E_1 E_2) \\ &= P(E_1)P(E_2)P(E_3) \end{aligned}$$

Network reliability

Consider the following parallel network:

- n independent routers, each with probability p_i of functioning (where $1 \leq i \leq n$)
- E = functional path from A to B exists.

What is $P(E)$?



$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$$



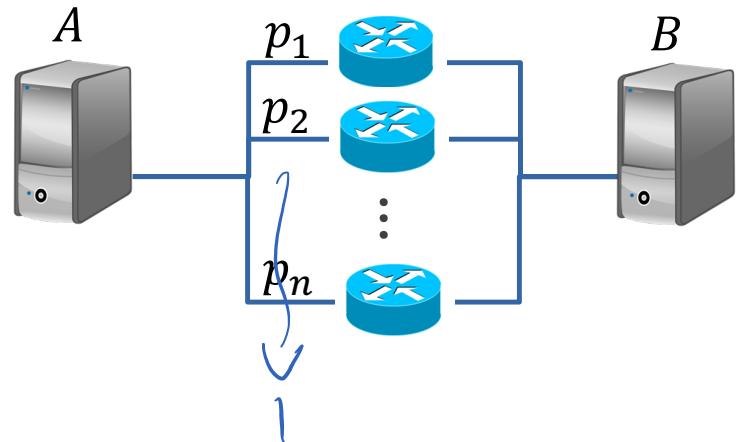
Network reliability

Consider the following parallel network:

- n independent routers, each with probability p_i of functioning (where $1 \leq i \leq n$)
- E = functional path from A to B exists.

What is $P(E)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(\geq 1 \text{ one router works}) \\ &= 1 - P(\text{all routers fail}) \\ &= 1 - \underbrace{(1 - p_1)(1 - p_2) \cdots (1 - p_n)}_{n} \\ &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - p_i) \end{aligned}$$



≥ 1 with independent trials:
take complement

Ponder

Let's take a two-minute breather.

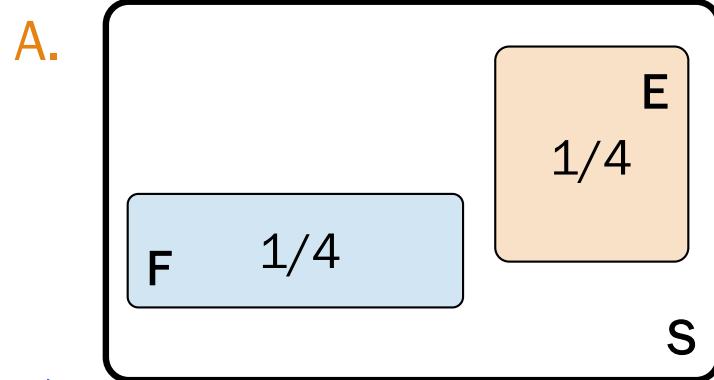
Slide 21 has two questions to think over by yourself while you do that breathing. We'll go over it together afterwards.



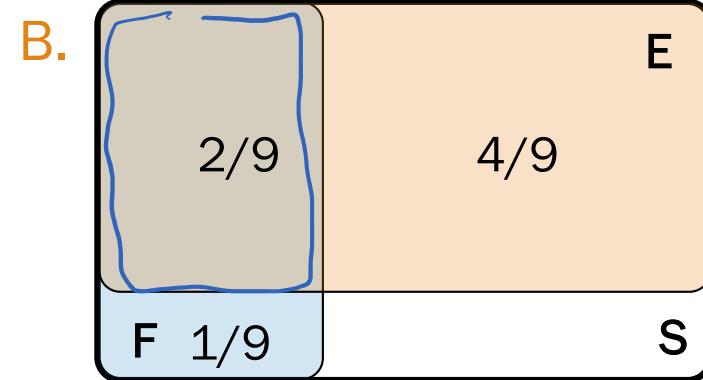
Independence?

Independent events E and F \Leftrightarrow $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

1. True or False? Two events E and F are independent if:
 - A. Knowing that F happens means that E can't happen. *False*
 - B. Knowing that F happens doesn't change probability that E happened.
2. Are E and F independent in the following pictures?



$$P(E) = \frac{1}{4}, P(F) = \frac{1}{4}$$



$$\cancel{P(EF) = \frac{1}{16}}$$
$$P(EF) = 0$$

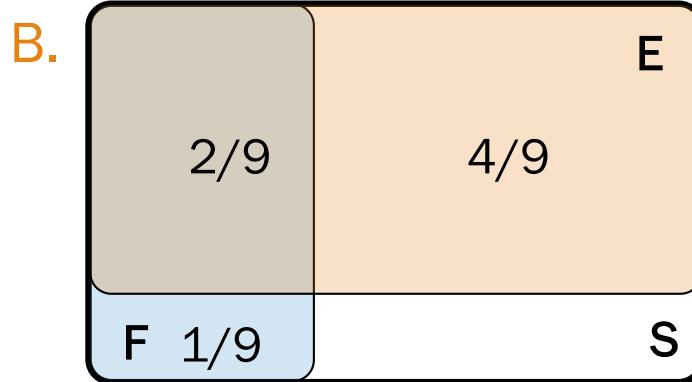
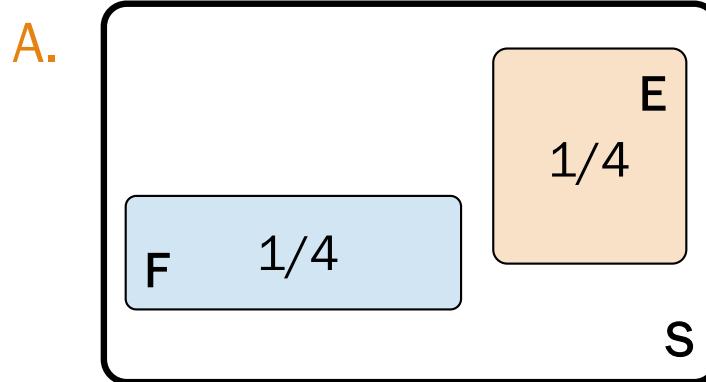
$$\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$$



Independence?

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Independent} \\ \text{events } E \text{ and } F \end{array} \leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} P(EF) = P(E)P(F) \\ P(E|F) = P(E) \end{array}$$

1. True or False? Two events E and F are independent if:
 - A. Knowing that F happens means that E can't happen.
 - B. Knowing that F happens doesn't change probability that E happened.
2. Are E and F independent in the following pictures?



Be careful:

- Independence is NOT mutual exclusion.
- Independence is difficult to visualize graphically.

Independence

Two events E and F are defined as independent if:

$$P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$$

For independent events E and F ,

- $P(E|F) = P(E)$
- E and F^C are independent.

new

Independence of complements

Statement:

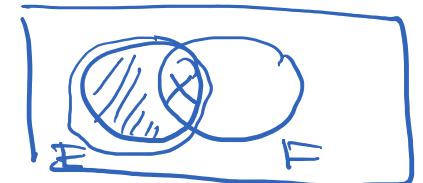
If E and F are independent, then E and F^C are independent.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} P(EF^C) &= \cancel{P(E)} - \cancel{P(EF)} \\ &= P(E) - P(E)P(F) \\ &= P(E)[1 - P(F)] \\ &= P(E)P(F^C) \end{aligned}$$

E and F^C are independent

Intersection



Independence of E and F

Factoring

Complement

Definition of independence

Knowing whether F does or doesn't happen
doesn't change our belief about E happening.

Biased Coin Flips

Suppose we flip a coin n times. Each coin flip is an **independent trial** with probability p of coming up heads and probability $q = 1 - p$ of coming up tails. Write an expression for the following:

1. $P(n \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips}) = p^n$

2. $P(n \text{ tails on } n \text{ coin flips}) \rightarrow q^n = (1-p)^n$

3. $P(\text{first } k \text{ heads, then } n-k \text{ tails})$

4. $P(\text{exactly } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{n}{k} p^k q^{n-k}$$

HT HT HT ...

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$\overbrace{\text{HHHH...H}}^k \quad \overbrace{\text{TTTTT}}^{n-k}$

$p^k q^{n-k} = p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$

HT HT HHHH ... HT TT

$\overbrace{\text{HH...H}}^{k-1} \quad \overbrace{\text{TTTTT}}^{n-k}$



Biased Coin Flips

Suppose we flip a coin n times. Each coin flip is an **independent trial** with probability p of coming up heads and probability $q = 1 - p$ of coming up tails. Write an expression for the following:

1. $P(n \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$
2. $P(n \text{ tails on } n \text{ coin flips})$
3. $P(\text{first } k \text{ heads, then } n - k \text{ tails})$
4. $P(\text{exactly } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

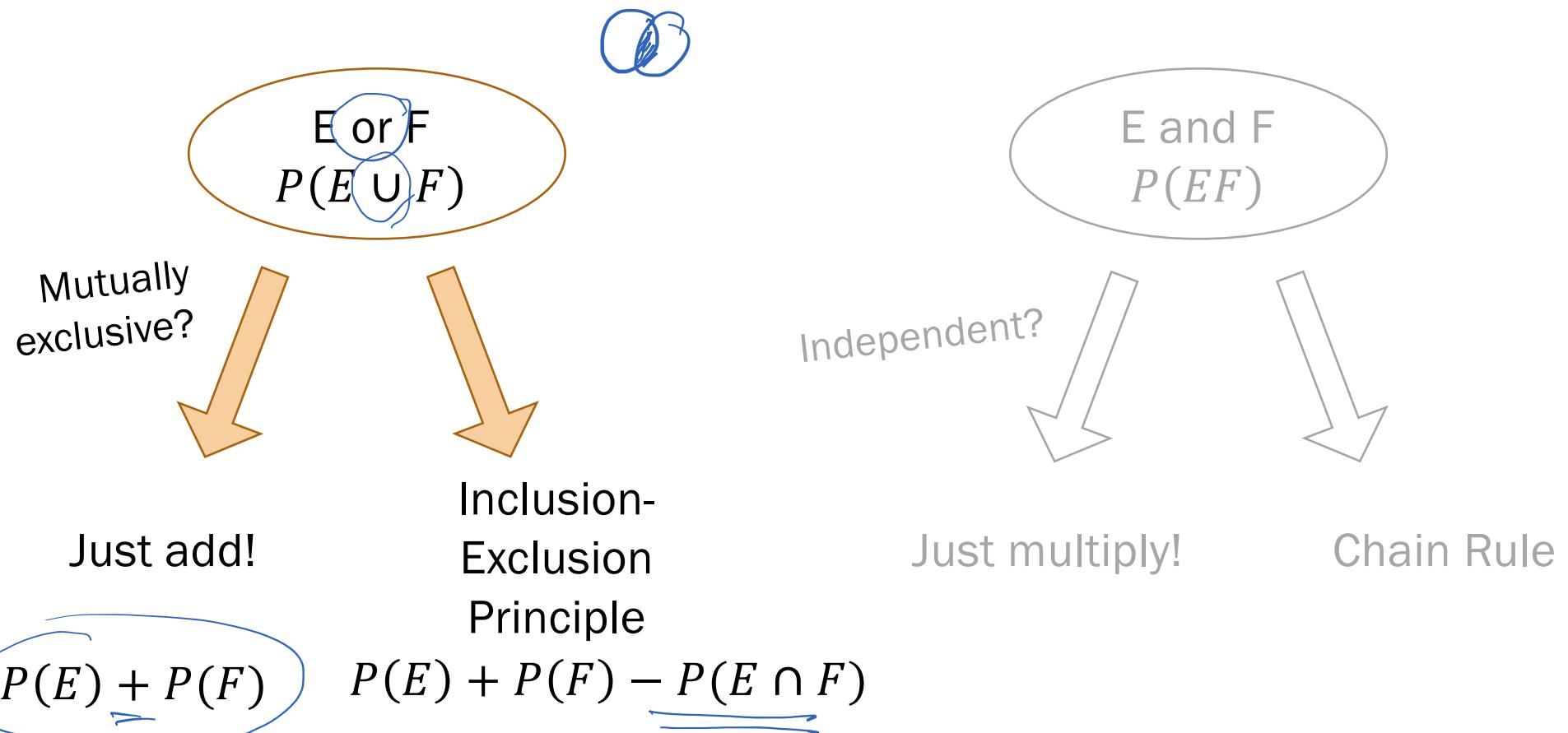
$$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

of mutually
exclusive
outcomes

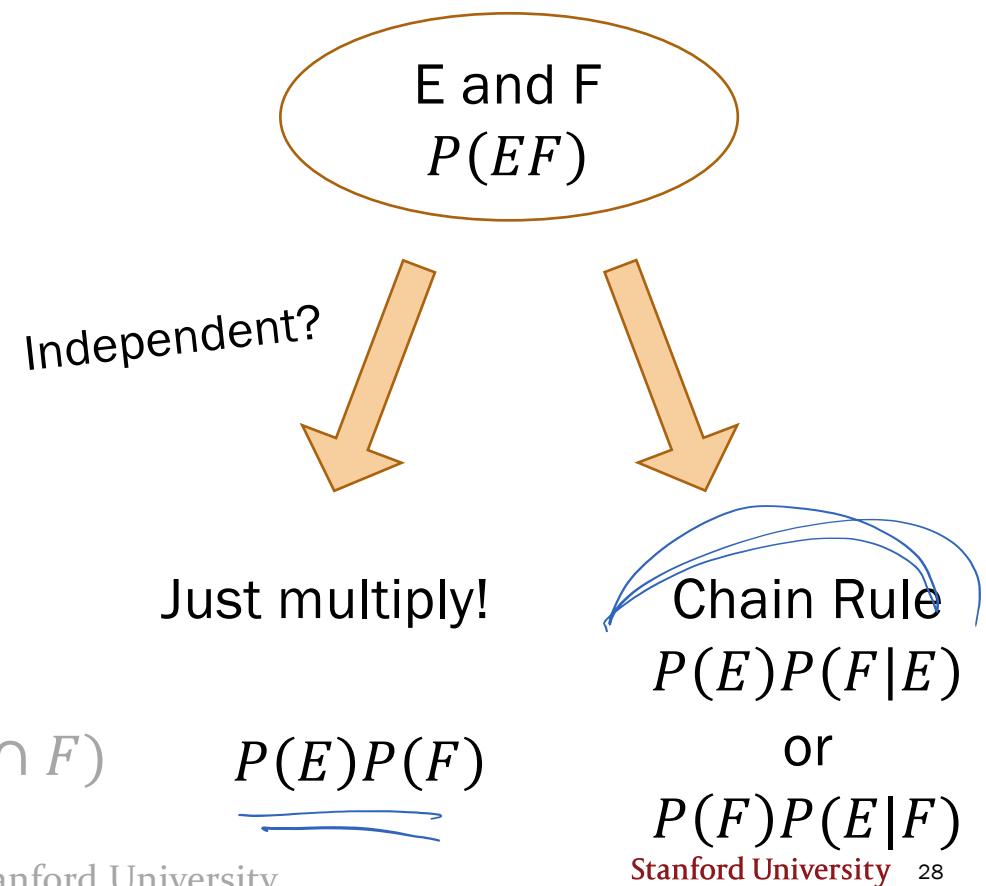
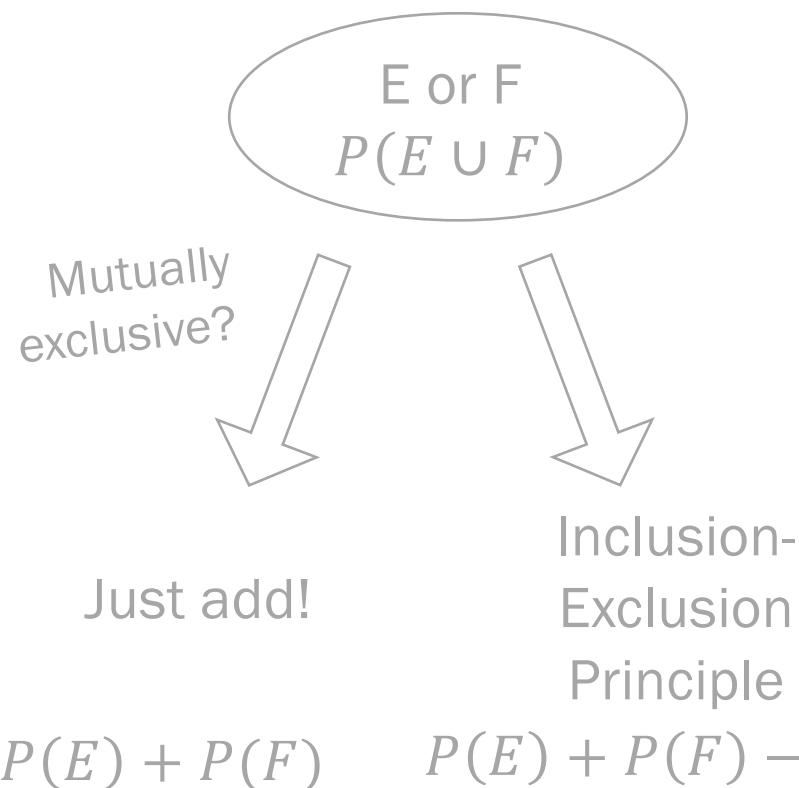
*P(a particular outcome's
 k heads on n coin flips)*

Make sure you understand #4! It will come up again.

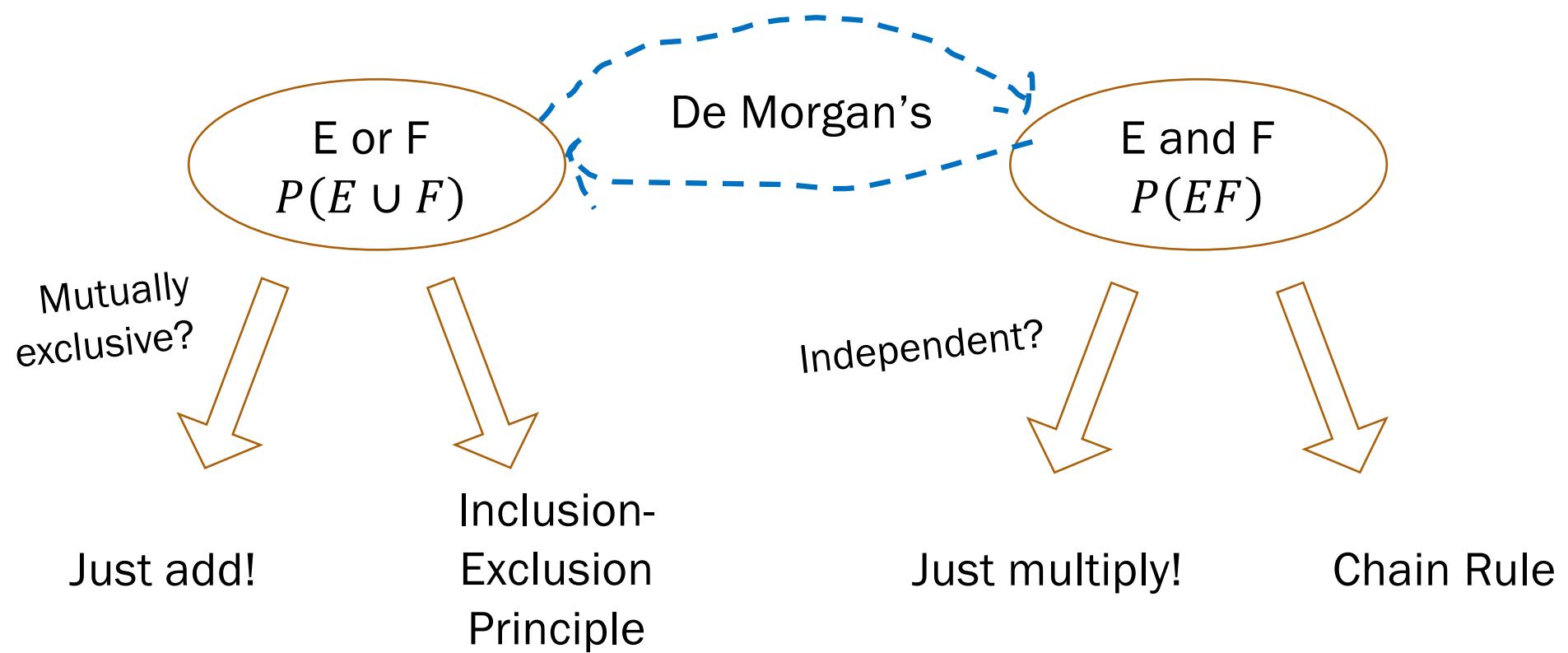
Probability of events



Probability of events

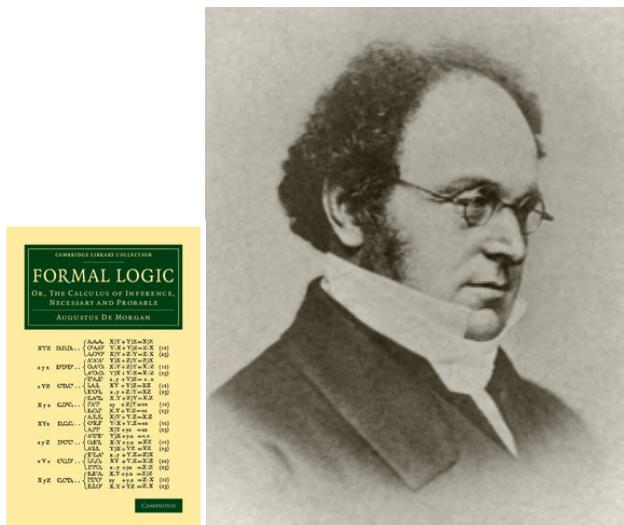


Probability of events



Augustus De Morgan

Augustus De Morgan (1806–1871):
British mathematician who wrote the book *Formal Logic* (1847).



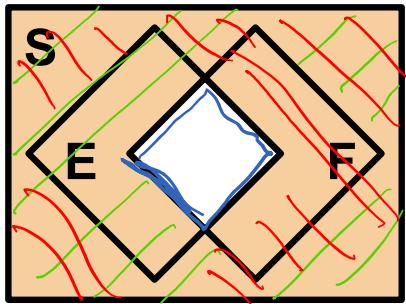
He looks like Jason Alexander (George from Seinfeld)
(but that's not important right now)

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De Morgan's Laws

De Morgan's Law lets you alternate between AND and OR.



$$(E \cap F)^c = E^c \cup F^c$$

$$\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i\right)^c = \bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i^c$$

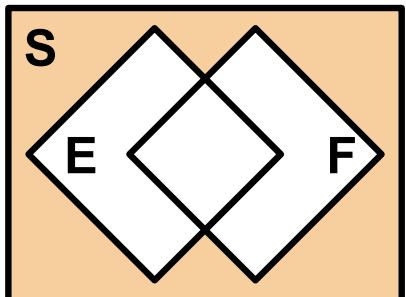
In probability:

$$P(E_1 E_2 \cdots E_n)$$

$$= 1 - P((E_1 E_2 \cdots E_n)^c)$$

$$= 1 - P(E_1^c \cup E_2^c \cup \cdots \cup E_n^c)$$

Great if E_i^c mutually exclusive!



$$(E \cup F)^c = E^c \cap F^c$$

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i\right)^c = \bigcap_{i=1}^n E_i^c$$

In probability:

$$P(E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n)$$

$$= 1 - P((E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n)^c)$$

$$= 1 - P(E_1^c E_2^c \cdots E_n^c)$$

Great if E_i independent!

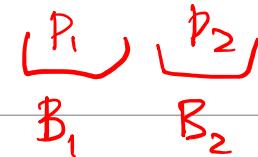
Challenge

Slide 33 presents a few questions exercising your understanding of hash tables, independence, and De Morgan's Law.

With your smarts and Doris's love to guide you, we'll get through it.



Hash table **fun**



- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. E = at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?



Hash table **fun**

- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

Define: S_i = string i hashes to bucket 1
 S_i^C = string i doesn't hash to bucket 1

$$P(S_i) = p_1$$
$$P(S_i^C) = 1 - p_1$$

Hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

WTF (not-real acronym for Want To Find):

$$P(E) = P(S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_m)$$

$$= 1 - P((S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_m)^c) \quad \text{Complement}$$

$$= 1 - P(S_1^c S_2^c \dots S_m^c) \quad \text{De Morgan's Law}$$

$$= 1 - P(S_1^c) P(S_2^c) \dots P(S_m^c) = 1 - (P(S_1^c))^m$$

$$= 1 - (1 - p_1)^m$$

Define: S_i = string i hashes to bucket 1
 S_i^c = string i doesn't hash to bucket 1

$$\downarrow$$
$$P(S_i) = p_1$$
$$P(S_i^c) = 1 - p_1$$

S_i independent trials

More hash table **fun**: Possible approach?

- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an **independent trial** w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. E = **at least 1** of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= P(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k) \\ &= 1 - P((F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k)^c) \\ &= 1 - P(F_1^c F_2^c \dots F_k^c) \\ ? &= 1 - \cancel{P(F_1^c)} \cancel{P(F_2^c)} \dots P(F_k^c) \end{aligned}$$

Define F_i = bucket i has at least one string in it

⚠ F_i bucket events are *dependent*!

So we cannot approach with complement.

More hash table fun

- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. E = at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?

$$P(E) = P(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k)$$

$$= 1 - P((F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_k)^c)$$

$$= 1 - P(F_1^c F_2^c \dots F_k^c)$$

Define F_i = bucket i has at least one string in it

$$\begin{aligned} &= P(\text{buckets 1 to } k \text{ all denied strings}) \\ &= (P(\text{each string hashes to } k+1 \text{ or higher}))^m \\ &= (1 - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_k)^m \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1 - (1 - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_k)^m$$

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The **fun** never stops with hash tables

- m strings are hashed (not uniformly) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it? 
2. E = at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it? 

Looking for a challenge? ☺

The **fun** never stops with hash tables

- m strings are hashed (unequally) into a hash table with n buckets.
- Each string hash is an independent trial w.p. p_i of getting hashed into bucket i .

What is $P(E)$ if

1. E = bucket 1 has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
2. E = at least 1 of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?
3. E = each of buckets 1 to k has ≥ 1 string hashed into it?



Hint: Use Part 2's event definition:

Define F_i = bucket i has at least one string in it

Hint: Try $k = 2$, then $k = 3$, then generalize.