intro

- foreshadowing/context: under all prob computations are *sample spaces*
- rarely work with sample spaces directly, unless they're simple (heads/tails)
  - (so, we start here)

what is prob?

- objective prob: long run freq of occurrence (eg heads in coin flip)
  - often called frequentist/classical methods.
  - used more often in undergrad CMU
- subjective prob: a possibly informed belief in rate of occurrence of event
  - can called bayesian

set notation

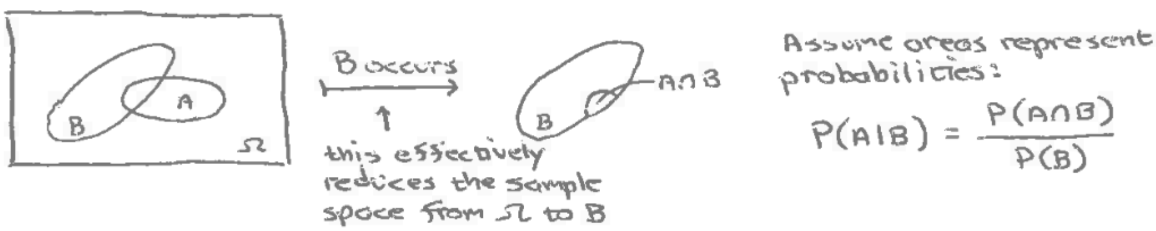
- $A \supset B, A \subset B, A \cup B, A \cap B, \overline{A}$ aka A^C
- let the set of all experimental outcomes $\Omega = A \cup \overline{A}$
- $A \cap B = \emptyset \implies A$ and B are mutually exclusive aka disjoin
- distributive/associative laws
- de morgan's ($\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$, etc)

what are experiments?

- make observations
- passive: just collect data
- active: control setting
- sample space (Ω)
  - two coins tossed? $\Omega = \{\mathrm{HH}, \mathrm{HT}, \mathrm{TH}, \mathrm{TT}\}$
    - HH is simple event
    - TH is compound event ("at least one tail")
  - free throws until miss? $\Omega = \{$M, HM, HHM, ...$\}$
  - relative freqs of above? don't know! need more info

probability

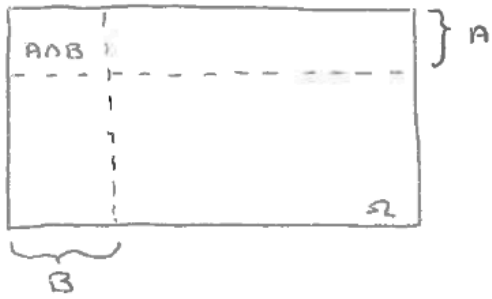
- conditional probability: A, when we know B



- A and B are independent
  - iff $P(A \mid B) = P(A)$
  - iff $P(B \mid A) = P(B)$
  - iff $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

- if there are three events, A and B are *conditionally* independent
  - if $P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \mid C) P(B \mid C)$

The following is an example of independence as rendered on a Venn diagram:



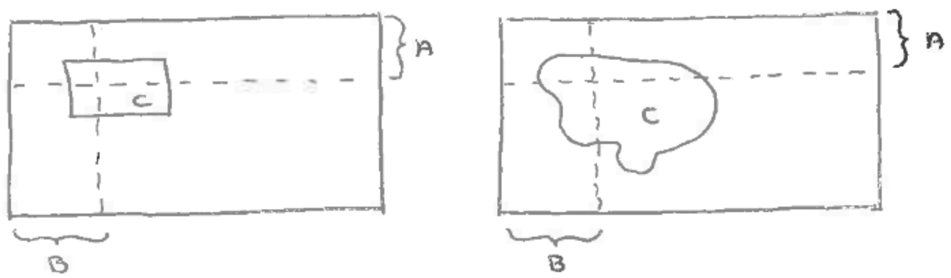
$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(\Omega)} = P(A)$$

area ratios are equal

Let A, B, and C be three separate events in Ω, all of which have non-zero probability of occurring. A and B are *conditionally independent* if

$$P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \mid C) P(B \mid C)$$

The following shows conditional <u>independence</u> and <u>dependence</u> as rendered on a Venn diagram:



- multiplicative law:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cap B) &= P(A)P(B \mid A) = P(B)P(A|B) \\ &= 0 \text{ if } A, B \text{ disjoint} \\ &= P(A)P(B) \text{ if } A, B \text{ independent} \end{aligned}$$

We can generalize this result to n events $\{A_1, \cdots, A_n\}$:

$$\underbrace{P(A_1 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)} = P(A_1 \mid A_2 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)\,\underline{P(A_2 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$P(A_2 \mid A_3 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)\,\underline{P(A_3 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$P(A_3 \mid A_4 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)\,\underline{P(A_4 \cap \cdots \cap A_n)}$$

$$\downarrow$$

etc.

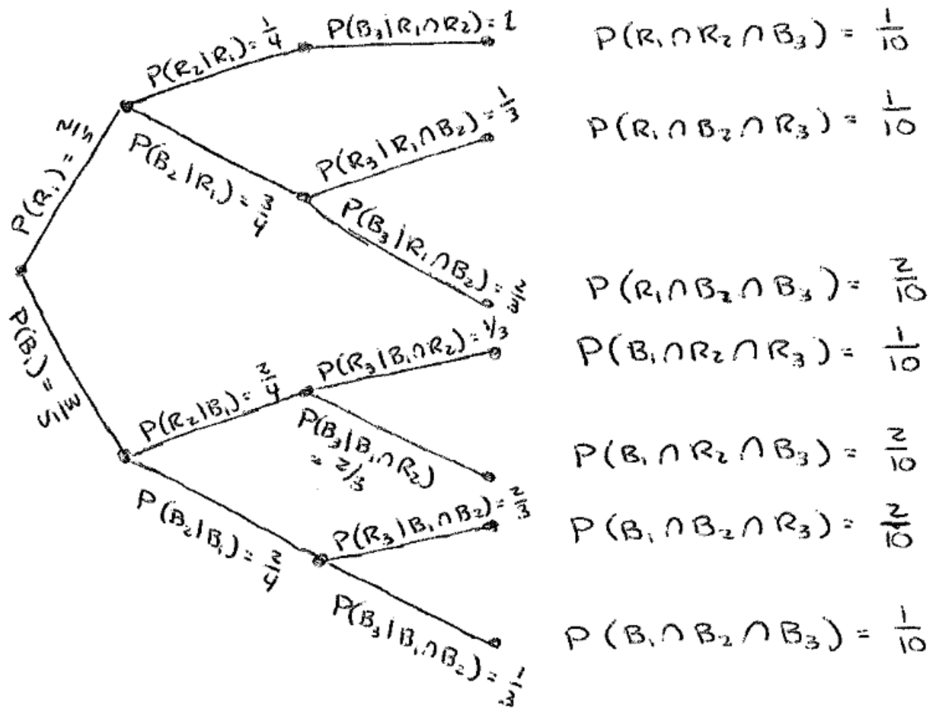
$$= P(A_n) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} P(A_i \mid A_{i+1} \cap \cdots \cap A_n)$$

- additive law:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cup B) &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) \\ &= P(A) + P(B) \text{ if } A, B \text{ disjoint} \\ &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A)P(B) \text{ if } A, B \text{ independent} \end{aligned}$$

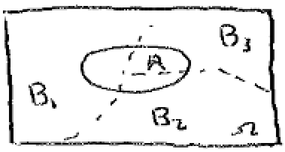
- decision trees: good for when probabilities change
  - eg picking colored balls without replacement, not like probability of heads of fair coin

→ **Example**: you pull three balls out from an urn which has two red and three black balls, without replacement. (a) What is the probability that the second ball drawn is red? (b) What is the probability that the second ball drawn is red, if the third ball drawn is black?



- for these next two, let $\{B_i\}$ be a partition of Ω.
- law of total probability.

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} P(A|B_i)P(B_i)$$



- "probability of B_1. then times the probability that i landed in A, in B_1, etc etc"
- helpful when given conditional probs but not A itself

- Bayes' Rule:

$$P(B_j|A) = \frac{P(A|B_j)P(B_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} P(A|B_i)P(B_i)} = \frac{P(A|B_j)P(B_j)}{P(A)}$$

→ **Example: The Monty Hall Problem.** This problem is named for the long-time host of the game show *Let's Make a Deal.* The simple version goes as follows: you are shown three doors; behind two of the doors are goats and behind the other is a car. You choose a door (say Door #1). Monty Hall then opens, say, Door #3 to reveal a goat, and asks you if you want to switch to Door #2.

So: do you stick with Door #1 or switch to Door #2?

Assume Door #1 has been selected.

O_i = "Monty opens Door i" C_i = "car is behind Door i"

$P(C_i) = \frac{1}{3}$ for all i ← car could be behind any door

$$\Omega = \{ O_2 \cap C_1, \cancel{O_2 \cap C_2}, O_2 \cap C_3, O_3 \cap C_1, O_3 \cap C_2, \cancel{O_3 \cap C_3} \}$$

Monty will <u>not</u> open the door the car is behind.

What is $P(C_2|O_3)$?

$$P(C_2|O_3) = \frac{P(O_3|C_2)P(C_2)}{P(O_3)} = \frac{P(O_3|C_2)P(C_2)}{P(O_3|C_2)P(C_2) + P(O_3|C_1)P(C_1)}$$

$P(O_3|C_2) = 1$ (no choice) $P(O_3|C_1) = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow P(C_2|O_3) = \frac{1 \cdot 1/3}{1 \cdot 1/3 + 1/2 \cdot 1/3} = \boxed{\frac{2}{3}}$$

⇒ change your pick to Door # 2!