

# A variation on the theme of independence: conditional independence

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# Conditionally independent events

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## Definition

We say that events  $A$  and  $B$  in a probability space are **conditionally independent** given an event  $C$  if

$$\mathbf{P}(A \cap B \mid C) = \mathbf{P}(A \mid C) \times \mathbf{P}(B \mid C).$$



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$A$  and  $B$  are not (unconditionally) independent.



## Slogan

Conditional independence does not imply (unconditional) independence, or vice versa.