

## MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty

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Unit overview

Lec. 2: Conditioning and Bayes' rule

Exercises 2 due Feb 17, 2016 at 23:59 UT 🗗

Lec. 3: **Independence** 

Exercises 3 due Feb 17, 2016 at 23:59 UT 🗹

Solved problems

Problem Set 2

Problem Set 2 due Feb 17, 2016 at 23:59 UT 🗗 Exercise: Independence of two events - I (1/1 point)

We have a peculiar coin. When tossed twice, the first toss results in Heads with probability 1/2. However, the second toss always yields the same result as the first toss. Thus, the only possible outcomes for a sequence of 2 tosses are HH and TT, and both have equal probabilities. Are the two events  $A = \{ \text{Heads in the first toss} \}$  and  $B = \{ \text{Heads in the second toss} \}$  independent?

No, they are dependent

✓ Answer: No, they are dependent

Answer:

Intuitively, the occurrence of event A gives us information on whether event B|will occur, and therefore the two events are dependent.

Mathematically,  $\mathbf{P}(A) = \mathbf{P}(B) = \mathbf{P}(A \cap B) = 1/2$ , so that  $\mathbf{P}(A \cap B) \neq \mathbf{P}(A)\mathbf{P}(B)$ .

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