

# Stat 88: Probability and Statistics in Data Science

```
int getRandomNumber()
{
    return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.
               // guaranteed to be random.
}
```

<https://xkcd.com/221/>

Lecture 2: 1/20/2022  
Basics, Axioms of Probability, Intersections  
1.2, 1.3, 2.1

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# Agenda

- Review the basics (probabilities as proportions)
- Go over exercises from Tuesday
- De Méré's paradox
- Section 1.2: Exact Calculation or Bound (go over the FB example from the text)
- Section 1.3: Fundamental Rules (Axioms)
- Section 2.1: The chance of an intersection

$$\Omega = \{H, T\}$$
$$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$$

Set theory

Universal set

element

subset

empty set  $\emptyset$

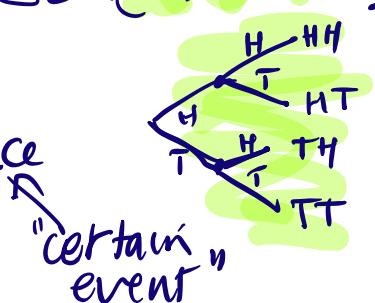
Probability

Sample space

outcome

event

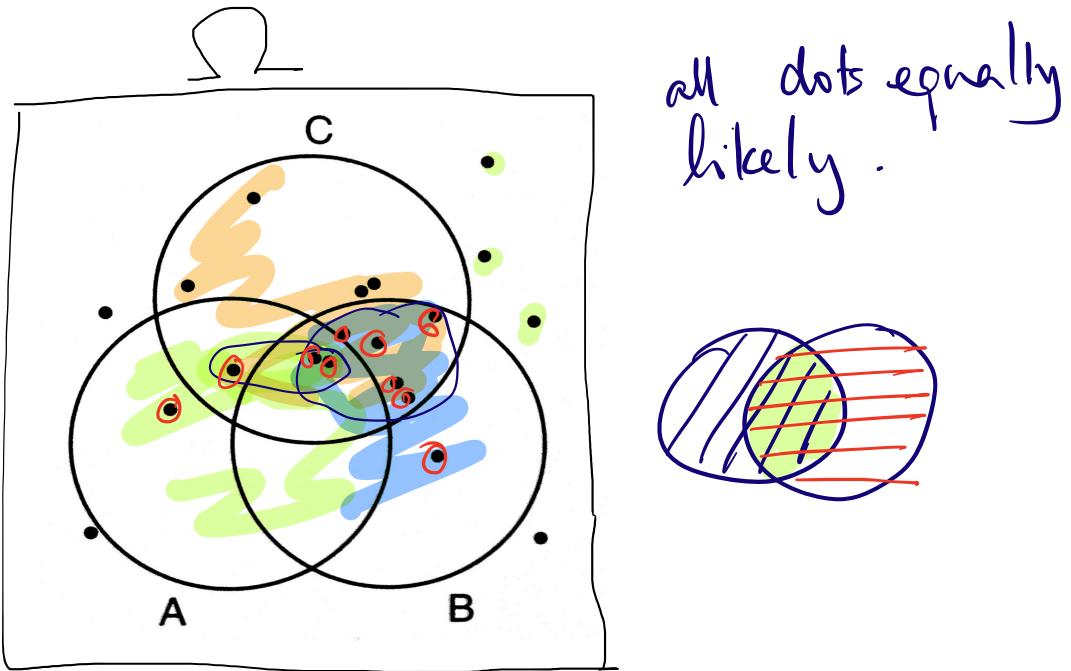
impossible event



## So far:

- Defined *random experiments*, and their *outcomes*
- A collection of all possible outcomes of an action is called a *sample space* or an *outcome space*. Usually denoted by  $\Omega$  (sometimes also by  $S$ ).
- An *event* is a collection of outcomes, so a subset of  $\Omega$ .
- If all the possible outcomes are *equally likely*, then each outcome has probability  $1/n$ , where  $n = \#(\Omega)$  (number of outcomes in the sample space)
- Let  $A \subseteq \Omega$   $P(A) = \frac{\#(A)}{\#(\Omega)}$
- Defined probabilities as *proportions*

## Venn Diagrams



Consider the Venn diagram above. (The sample space consists of all the dots.) What is the probability of A? What about A or B? A or B or C?

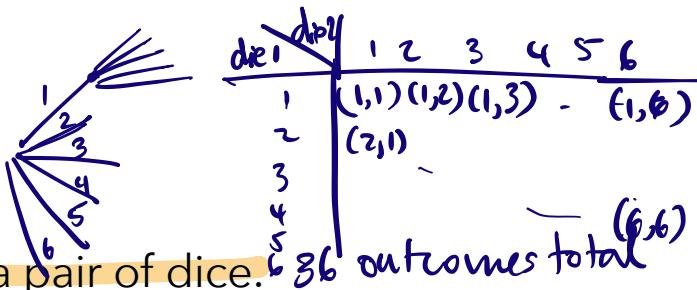
$$P(A) = \frac{\#(A)}{\#(\Omega)} = \frac{4}{20}, \quad P(B) = \frac{8}{20}, \quad P(C) = \frac{12}{20}$$

$$P(A) + P(B) + P(C) = \frac{24}{20}$$

1/19/22

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cap B \cup C) &= \frac{14}{20} \\ &= P(A \cup B \cup C) \end{aligned}$$

## Exercises assigned last lecture



1. Write out  $\Omega$  if the action is rolling a pair of dice.
2. Write out  $\Omega$  if the action is tossing 3 coins.
3. If you have a well-shuffled deck of cards, and deal 1 card from the top, what is the chance of it being the queen of hearts? What is the chance that it is a queen (any suit)?
4. If you deal 2 cards, what is the chance that at least one of them is a queen?
5. De Méré's paradox: Find the probability of at least 1 six in 4 throws of a fair die, and at least a double six in 24 throws of a pair of dice. (postpone computation for a bit, but why would he think it should be the same?)

$$P(Q \vee) = \frac{1}{52}, \quad P(Q) = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{\#(A)}{\#(\Omega)}$$

phataphat!!

A is event of at least 1 Q in 2 cards drawn

$$\frac{\#(A)}{\#(\Omega)} = P(A) = \frac{QQ + Q \cdot \text{not } Q + \text{not } Q \cdot Q}{52 \cdot 51}$$

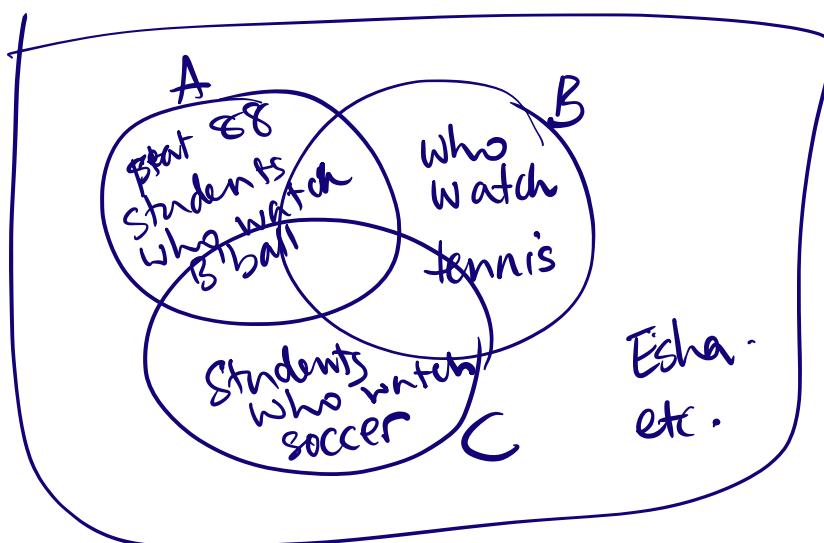
$$\frac{4 \cdot 3 + 4 \cdot 48 + 48 \cdot 4}{52 \cdot 51}$$



52 students who watch shows



$A \cup B \cup C$  consists of those  
students who watch at least  
one of these 3 shows.



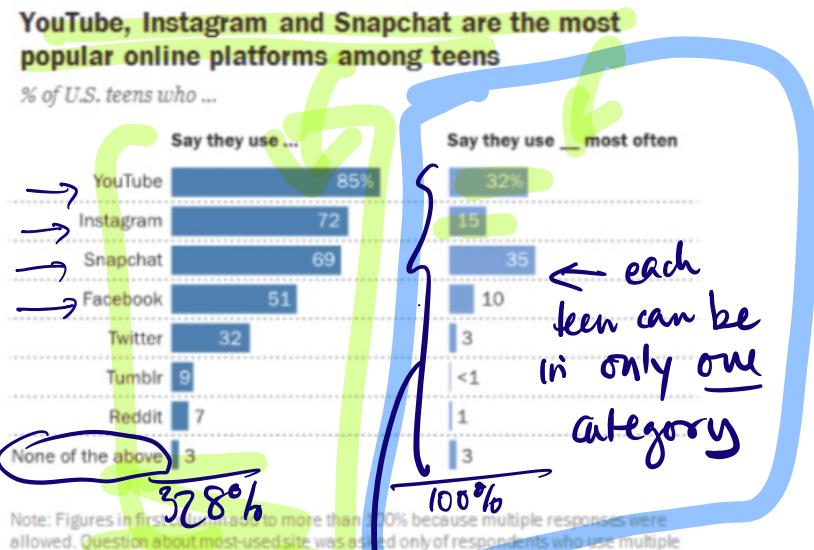
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Another way to see the prob. is to subtract from 52-51, the # of ways to draw 2 cards NOT Q

- What if our assumptions of equally likely outcomes don't hold (as is often true in life, data are messier than nice examples).
- Here is a graphic from Pew Research displaying the results of a 2018 survey of social media use by US teens.



- What is the difference between the 2 charts?
- Why do the % add up to more than 100 in the first graph?
- Second graph gives us a distribution of teens over the different categories

This is called a DISTRIBUTION of the teens over the diff categories<sup>6</sup>

# Not equally likely outcomes

YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat are the most popular online platforms among teens

% of U.S. teens who ...



Note: Figures in first column add to more than 100% because multiple responses were allowed. Question about most-used site was asked only of respondents who use multiple sites; results have been recalculated to include those who use only one site. Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted March 7-April 10, 2018.

"Teens, Social Media & Technology 2018"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Suppose A & B do not overlap.  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

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

1/19/22

$$A \text{ and } B \hookrightarrow A \cap B$$

$A \rightarrow \text{not } A$  is called  
the COMPLEMENT of A  
denoted  $A^c$

- What is the chance that a randomly selected teen uses FB most often?

$$\frac{10}{100} = 10\%$$

- What is the chance that a randomly selected teen did not use FB most often?

$$90\%$$

- What is the chance that FB or Twitter was their favorite?

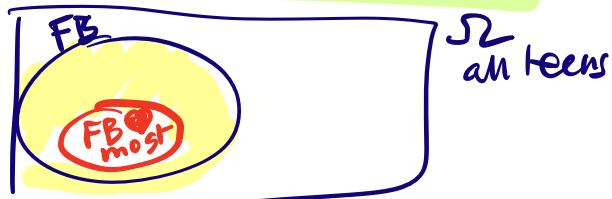
$$10\% + 3\% = 13\%$$

- What is the chance that the teen used FB, just not most often?

$$51\% - 10\% = 41\%$$

$$51 = 41 + 10$$

- Given that the teen used FB, what is the chance that they used it most often?



"intersection"

most ♡ FB

7

$$P(\text{use FB}) = 51\%$$

$$P(\text{use it most often}) = 10\%$$

$$90\% = P(\text{not using FB most})$$

out of 100 teens

10 teens like FB best

→ 51 teens use FB

$\frac{10}{51}$  = proportion of teens using FB that like it best

$\approx 20\%$

Of the teens that use FB, what proportion do not like it best?  $\frac{41}{51}$

We are GIVEN new information  
that reduces our population. So

Recap: we RECOMPUTE our

proportions

$$P(\text{likely FB best} \mid \text{use FB})$$

GIVEN

$$P(A) = \frac{\#(A)}{\#(\Omega_{\text{new}})} = \frac{10}{51} \approx 0.196$$

$\approx 0.2$

↑ teens who use FB

- Sum of the probabilities of all the distinct outcomes should add to 1
- $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1, A \subseteq \Omega$
- A *distribution* of the outcomes over different categories is when each outcome appears in one and only one category.
- Venn diagrams
- When we get some information about the outcome or event whose probability we want to figure out, our outcome space reduces, incorporating that information.

## Conditional probability

- In the last question, we used the information that the teen used FB. We were told the teen used FB, and then asked to compute the chance that FB was their favorite.
- This is called the *conditional probability that the teen used Facebook most often, given that they used Facebook* and denoted by:

$$P(A \mid B) \quad \text{"probability of } A \text{ given that } B \text{ occurs"}$$

$$= \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(B)}, \quad P(B) \neq 0$$

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

$$\left| \begin{aligned} &= \frac{P(\text{liking FB best} \mid \text{use FB})}{P(\text{using FB})} \\ &= \frac{10/100}{51/100} = \frac{10}{51} \end{aligned} \right. \quad 9$$

## Conditional probability

- This probability we computed is called a **conditional probability**. It puts a condition on the teen, and **changes** (restricts) the universe (the sample space) of the next outcome, a teen who likes FB best.
- To compute a conditional probability:
  - First restrict the set of all outcomes as well as the event to **only** the outcomes that **satisfy** the given **condition**
  - **Then** calculate proportions accordingly
- How do the probabilities in #1 and #5 compare?

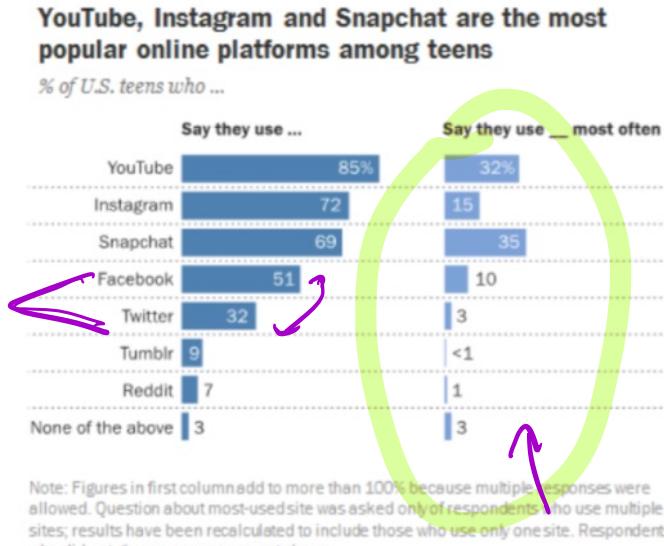
$$\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

10%                       $\approx 20\%$

## Exercise for Tuesday

- A ten-sided fair die is rolled twice:
  - If the first roll lands on 1, what is the chance that the second roll lands on a number bigger than 1?
  - Find the probability that the second number is greater than the **twice** the first number.

## Section 1.2: Exact Calculations, or Bound?



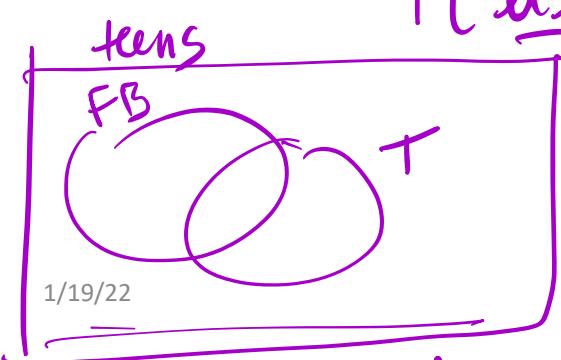
Recall #3 about FB or Twitter (What is the chance that FB or Twitter was a randomly selected teen's favorite?)  
What was the answer? What can you say about the chance that a randomly selected teen **used** FB or Twitter (not necessarily their favorite)?

$$P(\text{liking either FB or Twitter best}) = 10\% + 3\% = 13\%$$

$$P(\text{using FB or Twitter})$$

$$= 51\% + 32\% = 83\%$$

Candidate

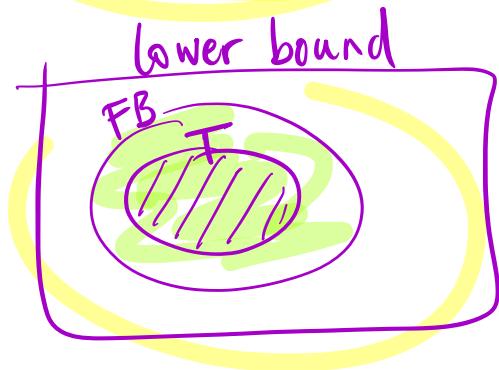




$$P(FB \cup T) = P(FB) + P(T)$$

$$= 51\% + 32\%$$

$$= 83\%$$



$$P(FB \cup T) = P(FB) = 51\%$$

$$51\% \leq P(FB \cup T) \leq 83\%$$

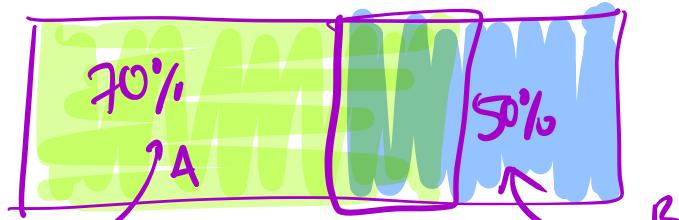
$$0\% \leq P(FB \cap T) \leq 32\%$$

$$= P(FB \cap T)$$

## Example with bounds

- Let A be the event that you catch the bus to class instead of walking,  $P(A) = 70\%$
- Let B be the event that it rains,  $P(B) = 50\%$
- Let C be the event that you are on time to class,  $P(C) = 10\%$
- What is the chance of at least one of these three events happening?

$$P(A \cup B \cup C)$$



- What is the chance of all three of them happening?

If A & B don't overlap then

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - 0.7 + 0.5 = 0.7 + 0.5 = 1.2$$

Exercise complete this

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) \leq P(A) + P(B) + P(C) \{70 + 50 + 10\}\% \\ = 130\%$$

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) \leq 100\%$$

Yellow  
0%  $\leq P(A \cap B \cap C) \leq 10\%$

has to be smaller  
than the smallest  
which is 0

## Rules that we used:

- If all the possible outcomes are *equally likely*, then each outcome has probability  $1/n$ , where  $n$  = number of possible outcomes.
- If an event A contains k possible outcomes, then  $P(A) = k/n$ .
- Probabilities are between 0 and 1
- If two events A and B don't overlap, then the probability of A or B =  $P(A) + P(B)$  (since we can just add the number of outcomes in one and the other, and divide by the number of outcomes in  $\Omega$ )

## Conditional probability

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## Conditional probability

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- To compute a conditional probability:
  - First restrict the set of all outcomes as well as the event to *only* the outcomes that *satisfy* the given **condition**
  - Then calculate proportions accordingly
- How do the probabilities in #1 and #5 compare?

## Section 1.3: Fundamental Rules



- Also called “Axioms of probability”, first laid out by Andrey Kolmogorov in 1933
- Recall  $\Omega$ , the outcome space. Note that  $\Omega$  can be finite or infinite.
- First, some notation:
- Events are denoted (usually) by  $A, B, C \dots$
- Note that  $\Omega$  is itself an event (called the **certain** event) and so is the empty set (denoted  $\emptyset$ , and called the **impossible** event or the **empty set**)
- The **complement** of an event  $A$  is everything **else** in the outcome space (all the outcomes that are *not* in  $A$ ). It is called “not  $A$ ”, or the complement of  $A$ , and denoted by  $A^c$

## Intersections and Unions

- When two events A and B ***both*** happen, we call this the ***intersection*** of A and B and write it as

$$A \text{ and } B = A \cap B$$

- When either A or B happens, we call this the ***union*** of A and B and write it as

$$A \text{ or } B = A \cup B$$

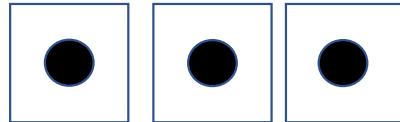
- If two events A and B ***cannot both occur*** at the same time, we say that they are ***mutually exclusive*** or *disjoint*.

$$A \cap B = \emptyset$$

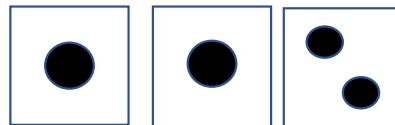
## Example of complements

- Roll a die 3 times, let  $A$  be the event that we roll an ace **each** time.
- $A^C = \text{not } A$ , or not **all** aces. It is **not equal** to "never an ace".

- $A =$



- What about "not  $A$ "? Here is an example of an outcome in that set.



## The Axioms of Probability

Think about probability as a **function** on **events**, so input an event  $A$ , and output a number between 0 and 1, denoted by  $P(A)$ , satisfying the “**axioms**” below.

“subset of”                    “is in”  
Formally:  $A \subseteq \Omega, P(A) \in [0,1]$  such that

1. For every event  $A \subseteq \Omega$ , we have  $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$
2. The outcome space is certain, that is:  $P(\Omega) = 1$

## The Axioms of Probability

3. Addition rule: If two events are mutually exclusive, then the probability of their union is the sum of their probabilities:

$$A \cap B = \emptyset \Rightarrow P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

The third axiom is actually more general and says:

If we have many\* events that are *mutually exclusive* (no pair overlap), then the probability of their union is the sum of their probabilities.

\* Possibly infinitely many

## Example

- Toss a fair coin twice, and write out  $\Omega$ . What is the chance of *both* coins landing the same?

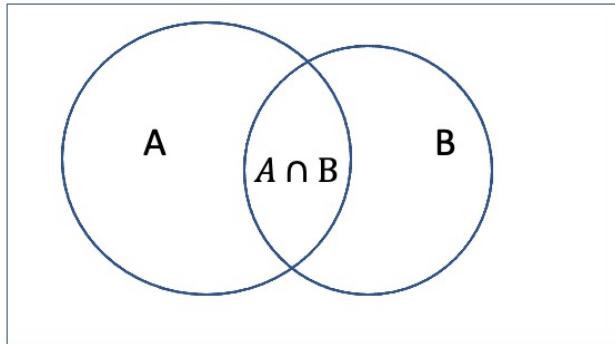
## Consequences of the axioms

1. **Complement rule:**  $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$

What is the probability of **not** rolling a pair of sixes in a roll of a pair of dice?

2. **Difference rule:** If  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $P(A \setminus B) = P(A) - P(B)$  where  $A \setminus B$  refers to the *set difference between A and B*, that is, all the outcomes that are  $A$  but not in  $B$ .
3. **Boole's (and Bonferroni's) inequality:** generalization of the fact that the probability of the union of A and B is at most the sum of the probabilities.

## Exercise



$$P(A) = 0.7, P(B) = 0.5$$

$$\underline{\quad} \leq P(A \cup B) \leq \underline{\quad}$$

$$\underline{\quad} \leq P(A \cap B) \leq \underline{\quad}$$

## De Morgan's Laws

- Exercise: Try to show these using Venn diagrams and shading:

$$1. \quad (A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$$

$$2. \quad (A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$$

## § 2.1: Probability of an intersection

- Say we have three colored balls in an urn (red, blue, green), and we draw two balls without replacement.
  - Find the probability that the first ball is red, and the second is blue
  - Write down the outcome space and compute the probability
- 
- We can also write it down in sequence:  $P(\text{first red, then blue}) = P(\text{first drawing a red ball})P(\text{second ball is blue, given 1st was red})$

## Conditional probability and the multiplication rule

- Conditional probability written as  $P(B|A)$ , read as “the probability of the event  $B$ , given that the event  $A$  has occurred”
- Chance that two things will *both* happen is the chance that the first happens, *multiplied* by the chance that the second will happen *given* that the first has happened.
- Let  $A, B \subseteq \Omega, P(A) > 0, P(B) > 0$
- Multiplication rule:

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

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

## Multiplication rule

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

- Ex.: Draw a card at random, from a standard deck of 52
  - $P(\text{King of hearts}) = ?$
- Draw **2** cards one by one, **without** replacement.
  - $P(\text{1}^{\text{st}} \text{ card is K of hearts}) =$
  - $P(\text{2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ card is Q of hearts} | \text{1}^{\text{st}} \text{ is K of hearts}) =$
  - $P(\text{1}^{\text{st}} \text{ card is K of hearts AND } \text{2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ is Q of hearts}) =$

## De Méré's paradox:

Find the probability of at least 1 six in 4 throws of a fair die, and at least a double six in 24 throws of a pair of dice.

## Addition rule:

- **Addition rule:** If  $A$  and  $B$  are *mutually exclusive* events, then the probability that **at least one** of the events will occur is the sum of their probabilities:

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

- If they are not mutually exclusive, does this still hold?
- How do we write the event that “at least one of the events  $A$  or  $B$  will occur? How do we draw it?