***COURSERA: STATS W/ R SPECIALIZATION***

***COURSE 1 - Introduction to Probability and Data***

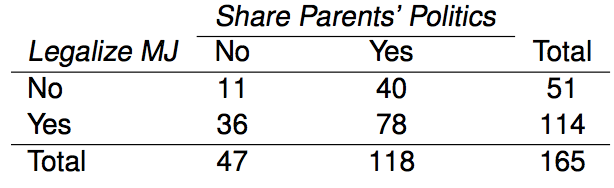
**WEEK 3 - Introduction to Probability**

***Defining Probability***

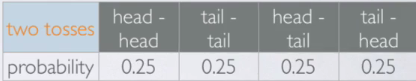
* **Random process** 🡪 know what outcomes *could* happen but not which particular one *will* happen
* Ex: coin toss, die roll, shuffle on music player, stock market
* Sometime helpful to model process as random even if it truly isn’t so
* P(A) = probability of event A
* Several interpretations of probability, but almost all agree on mathematical rule: 0 <= P(A) <= 1
* **Frequentist interpretation =** a **relative frequency =** proportion of times an outcome would occur if we ran the process an infinity number of times
* **Bayesian interpretation** = **subject degree of belief** = for same event, 2 people could have different viewpoints + as such assign different probabilities to it
* Allows for prior info to be integrated into the inferential framework
* Largely popularized by revolutionary advances in computation technology + methods in past 20 years
* **Law of Large Numbers =** as more observations are collected, proportion of occurrences of a particular outcome converges to the probability of that outcome (1/2 for coin toss, 1/6 for die roll)
* More surprising to see 3 heads in 100 coin flips compared to 10, + even more so for 1k flips
* **Independence** 🡪 coin toss P(H on toss 10) = P(H on toss 11) 🡪 coin is not **due** a heads
* Common misunderstanding of law of large numbers = **Law of Averages (Gambler’s fallacy:** random processes are supposed to compensate for what happened in the past (I’m due a good roll/hand/spin, etc.)
* But say you get 100’s of heads in a row on a coin flip, coin is most likely not fair

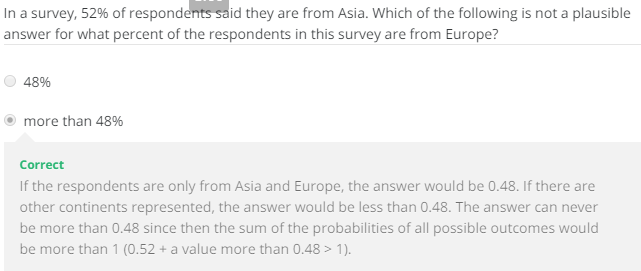
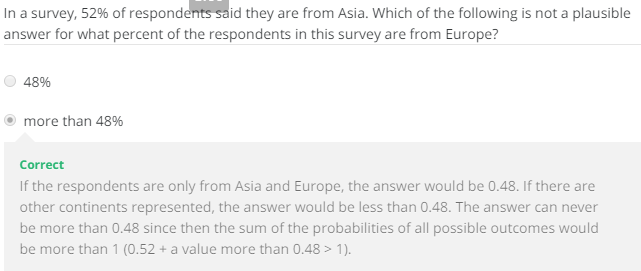
**Disjoint Events + General Addition Rule**

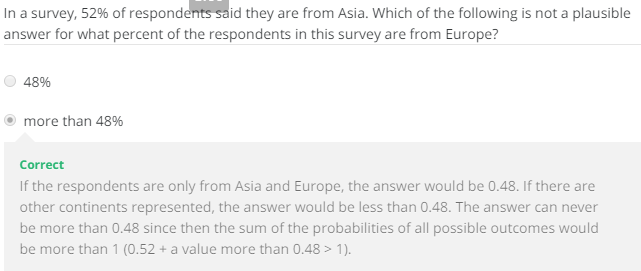
* **Disjoint events =** mutually exclusive = both events cannot happen (coin toss cannot be H AND T)
* P(A and B) = 0 🡺 P(A U B) = 0
* **Non-disjoint events** CAN happen at the same time (get an A in stats + in economics
* P(A and B) != 0 🡺 P(A U B) != 0 🡪 some # between 0 and 1
* **Union** of DISJOINT events 🡪 Probability of one event happening or the other happening?
* Drawing a Jack or a 3 from a deck? 🡪 P(J or 3) = P(J) + P(3) = 4/52 + 4/52 = 2/13
* So for disjoint events, **P(A OR B) = P(A) + P(B)**
* **Union** of NON-disjoint events:
* Probability of drawing Jack or red (could red jack) 🡪 **P(J or Red) = P(J) + P(Red) – P(J U Red)**  = 4/52 + 26/52 – 2/52 = 28/52 = 14/26 = 7/13
* So for NON-disjoint events, **P(A OR B) = P(A) + P(B) – P(A U B)**
* *Note that they can be the same formula b/c for disjoint events P(A U B) = 0*
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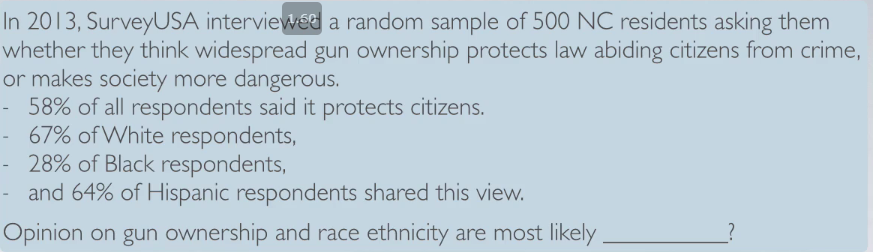
* NON-disjoint 🡪 P(M) + P(P) – P(M U P)
* 114/165 + 118/165 – 78/165 = **(114 + 118 – 78) / 156**
* The above encapsulates the **General Addition Rule**
* **Sample space (SS) =** all possible outcomes of a trial/experiment
* Couple has 2 kids 🡪 SS of genders = **S = {MM, FF, MF, FM}**
* **Probability distribution** = lists out all possible outcomes in a SS + probabilities w/ which they occur

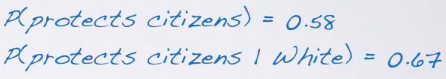
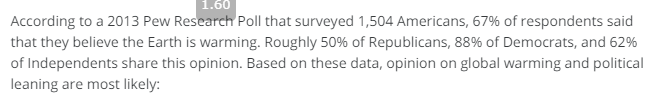
* Can create similar probability distribution for any *discrete* event of interest
* 3 Broad Rules of Probability Distributions
* Events listed must be disjoint
* Each P is between 0-1
* Sum of all probabilities w/in the distribution sum up to 1
* **Complementary events** = 2 disjoint events whose P’s sum to 1 🡪 P(A) + P(A(c)) = 1
* Coin 🡪 P(H(c)) = P(T) b/c tail is the complement of head
* For 2 coins, P(HH(c)) = sum of P(HT) + P(TH) + P(TT) 🡪 sum of all other events to 1st event so that the sum of all events equals 1
* Dividing the SS into 2 such that the sum of the 2 probabilities equals 1 (even though there’s 4 total)
* *Disjoint + Complementary are NOT the same* 🡪 not all disjoint events sum up to 1 (more than 2 events in a SS), while all complementary events sum up to 1
* So, complementary events are always disjoint, while disjoint events are not always complementary
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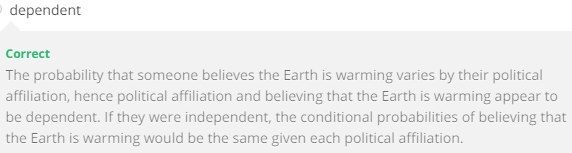


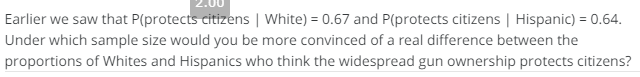
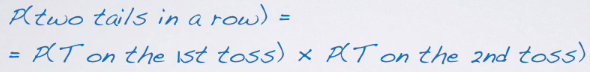
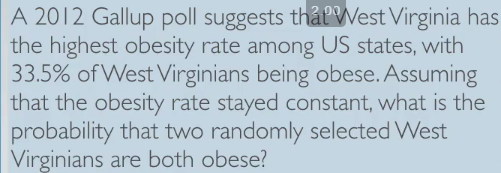
**Independence**

* 2 processes are **independent** if knowing the outcome of 1 provides no useful info about the outcome of the other
* Knowing a coin lands on H does nothing to help us know what they 2nd coin toss will land on
* But knowing 1st card drawn from a deck helps us update P(any other card), if w/out replacement
* Checking for independence rule:
* If probability of Event A happening given Event B happened is the same as the original probability of event A, they are independent 🡪 **P(A | B) = P(A), then** A + B are independent
* Knowing B tells us nothing about A
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* This is b/c knowing P(protects) = 0.58, but knowing their white gives P(protects | w) = 0.67
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* The same goes for Blacks and Hispanics, so the opinions on gun ownership vary greatly by race, so they can be thought to most likely be **dependent**
* Knowing someone’s race may give us helpful info about their opinion on gun ownership
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* Using phrase “most likely” b/c this is all *sample data* + we’re not using inference tools yet
* If we observe a difference between **conditional probability** based on the sample, we can say “the data *suggest* dependence”
* Then the next step would be to conduct a hypothesis test to see if this observed difference was due to change/natural random sampling, or if there’s some real effect/difference in the population
* Can do some speculation based on the size of the observed difference as well as based on the sample size
* If difference is large/varies greatly = stronger evidence difference is real
* If sample size if large = even SMALL difference in conditional probabilities provides strong evidence difference is real
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* Product Rule for Independence
* **If A + B are independent, P(A U B) = P(A) \* P(B)**
*  **= 0.5 \* 0.5 = 0.25**
* Can be expanded to as many independent events as we have
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* Given P(obese) = 0.335
* Given 2 individuals are randomly selected 🡺 they are therefore *independent*
* So, P(obese1 U Pobese2) = P(obese1) \* P(obese2) = P(o) + P(o) = 0.335^2 = 0.11 = 11% chance 2 randomly selected West Virginians are obese
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