

Independence?

Independent events E and F \iff $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
 $P(E|F) = P(E)$

assume $P(E), P(F) > 0$

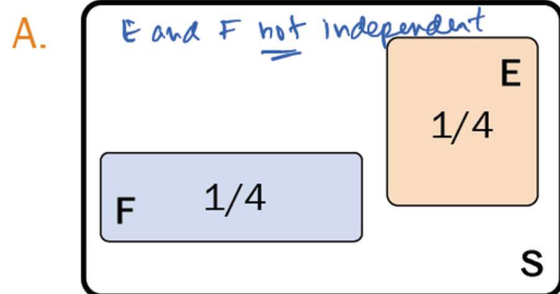
1. True or False? Two events E and F are independent if:

A. ^m Knowing that F happens means that E can't happen. $P(E|F) = 0 \neq P(E)$

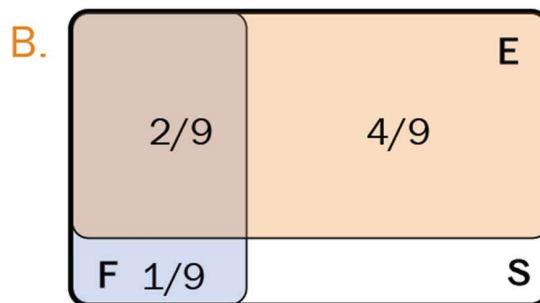
B. ^y Knowing that F happens doesn't change probability that E happened. $P(E|F) = P(E)$

definition of independence

2. Are E and F independent in the following pictures?



$EF \neq \emptyset$ $P(E) = 1/4$
 $P(EF) = 0$ $P(F) = 1/4$
 product of the two = $1/16 \neq 0$



$P(E) = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{4}{9} = \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$ $P(EF) = \frac{2}{9}$
 $P(F) = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{9} = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$ $P(E) \cdot P(F) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$

E and F are independent!



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(biased) Coin Flips

Suppose we flip a coin n times. Each coin flip is an independent trial with probability p of coming up heads. Write an expression for the following:

1. $P(n \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

n consecutive heads $\frac{HHHH \dots H}{p p p p \dots p} \Rightarrow p^n$

2. $P(n \text{ tails on } n \text{ coin flips})$

n consecutive tails $\frac{TTT \dots T}{1-p \ 1-p \ 1-p \ 1-p} \Rightarrow (1-p)^n = q^n$ where $q = 1-p$

3. $P(\text{first } k \text{ heads, then } n - k \text{ tails})$

$\frac{HH \dots H \ TTT \dots T}{p^k (1-p)^{n-k}} \Rightarrow p^k (1-p)^{n-k} = p^k q^{n-k}$

4. $P(\text{exactly } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

any single sequence of n flips with k heads somewhere is $p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$

$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$

of mutually exclusive outcomes $P(\text{a particular outcome's } k \text{ heads on } n \text{ coin flips})$

there are $\binom{n}{k}$ such sequences
 total probability is $\binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$

Make sure you understand #4! It will come up again.