

Lecture 17: Continuing Probability.

Events, Conditional Probability, Independence, Bayes' Rule

Probability Basics Review

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 - ▶ **Events.**
Event $A \subseteq \Omega$, $Pr[A] = \sum_{\omega \in A} Pr[\omega]$.

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(b) Either induction, or argue over sample points.

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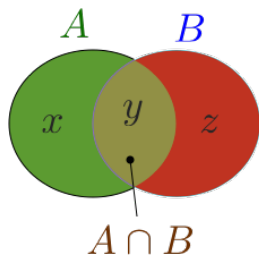
Proofs for (a) and (c)? Next...

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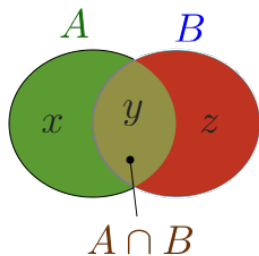
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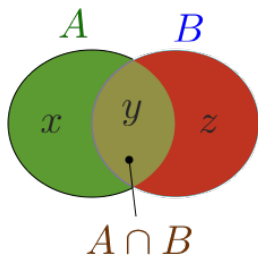
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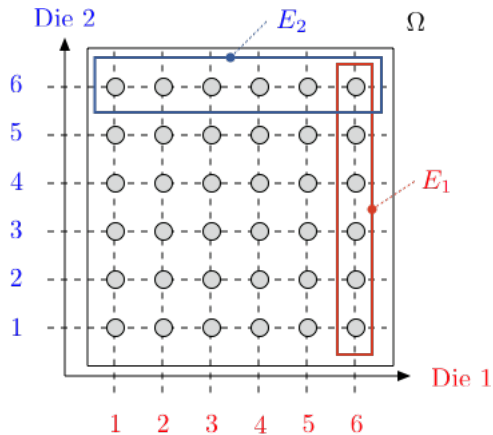
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Another view. Any $\omega \in A \cup B$ is in $A \cap \bar{B}$, $A \cup B$, or $\bar{A} \cap B$. So, add it up.

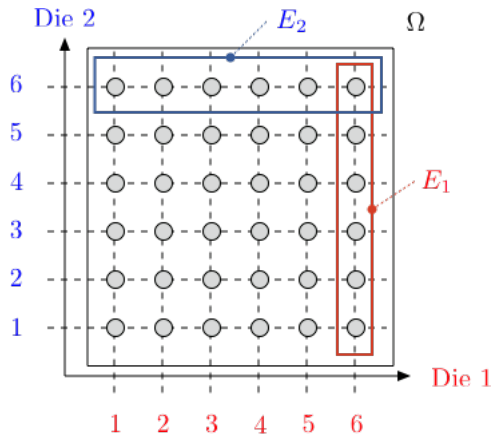
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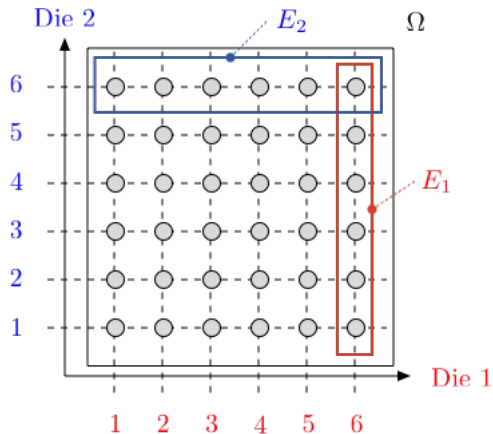
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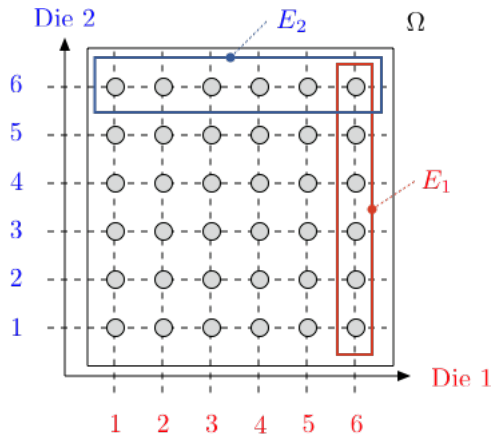
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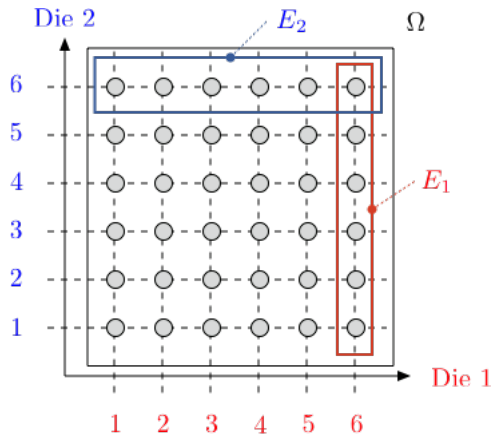


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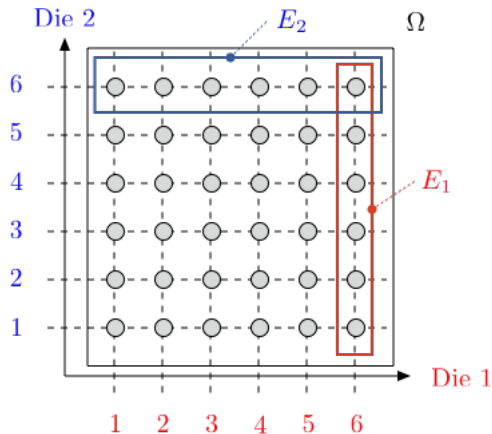
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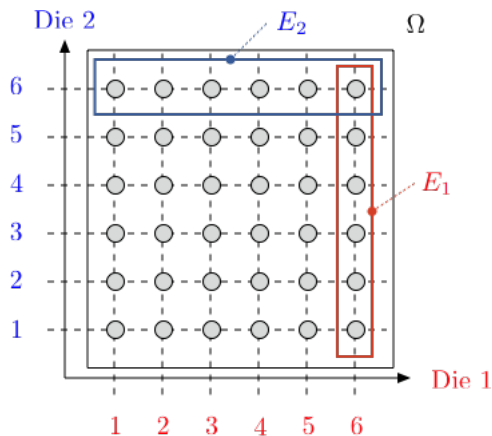
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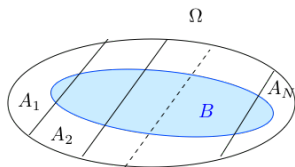
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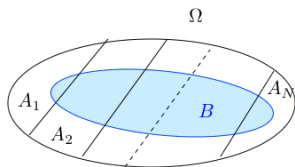
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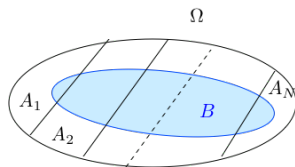


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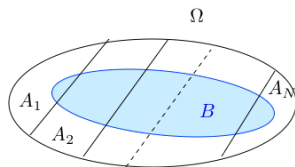
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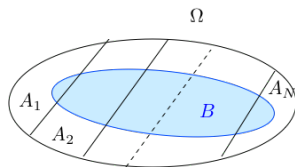
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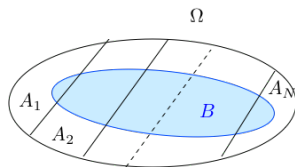
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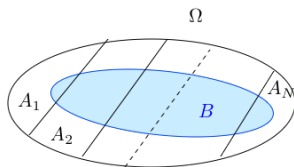
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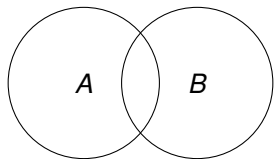
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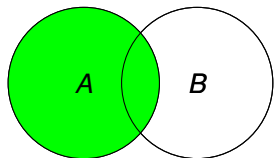
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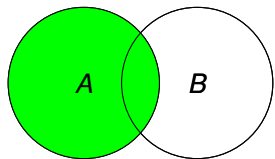


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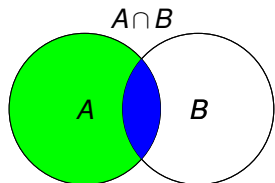


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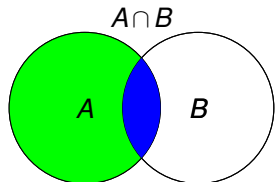


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Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips.

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads.

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

$$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\};$$

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

Event A = first flip is heads:

Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

Event $A =$ first flip is heads: $A = \{HH, HT\}$.

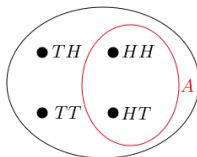
Conditional probability: example.

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Event $A =$ first flip is heads: $A = \{HH, HT\}$.

Ω : uniform



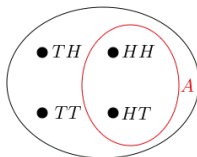
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New sample space: A ;

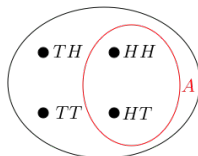
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New sample space: A ; uniform still.

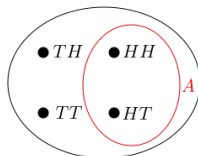
Conditional probability: example.

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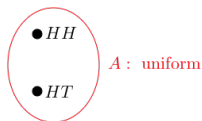
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New sample space: A ; uniform still.



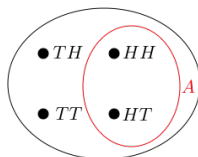
Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

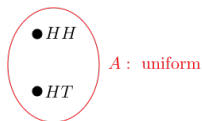
$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

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New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

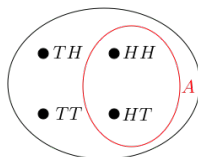
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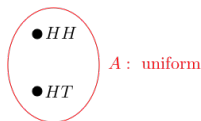
$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

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New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if the first flip is heads.

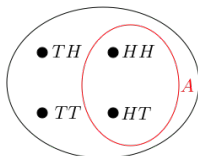
Conditional probability: example.

Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

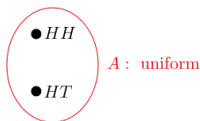
$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

Event $A =$ first flip is heads: $A = \{HH, HT\}$.

Ω : uniform



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if the first flip is heads.

The probability of B given A

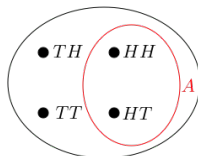
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Two coin flips. First flip is heads. Probability of two heads?

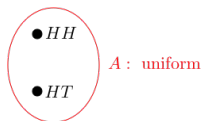
$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; Uniform probability space.

Event $A =$ first flip is heads: $A = \{HH, HT\}$.

Ω : uniform



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if the first flip is heads.

The probability of B given A is $1/2$.

A similar example.

Two coin flips.

A similar example.

Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

A similar example.

Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

→ Probability of two heads?

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Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.

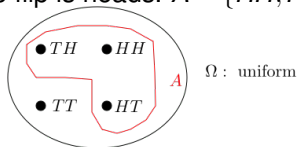
A similar example.

Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

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$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



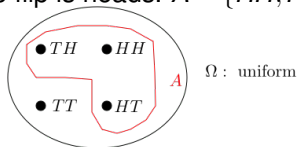
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New sample space: A ;

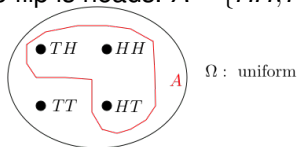
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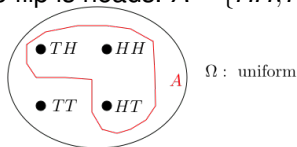
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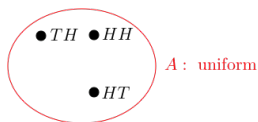
→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



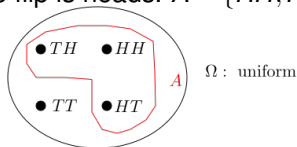
A similar example.

Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

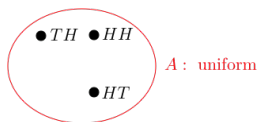
→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event A = at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event B = two heads.

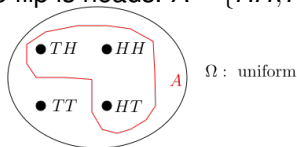
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Two coin flips. At least one of the flips is heads.

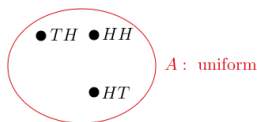
→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if at least one flip is heads.

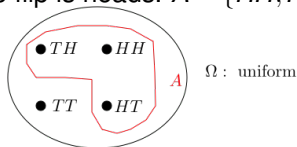
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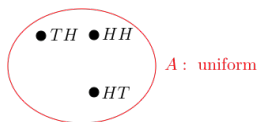
→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if at least one flip is heads.

The probability of B given A

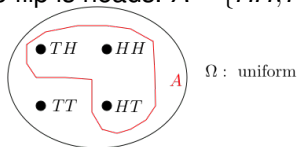
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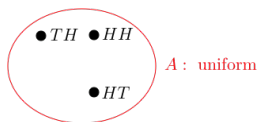
→ Probability of two heads?

$\Omega = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$; uniform.

Event $A =$ at least one flip is heads. $A = \{HH, HT, TH\}$.



New sample space: A ; uniform still.



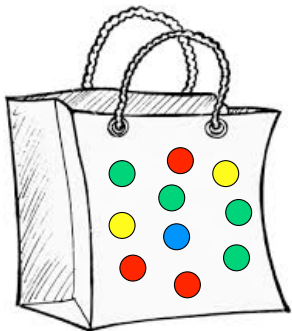
Event $B =$ two heads.

The probability of two heads if at least one flip is heads.

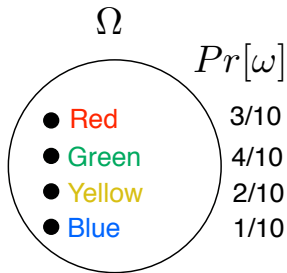
The probability of B given A is $1/3$.

Conditional Probability: A non-uniform example

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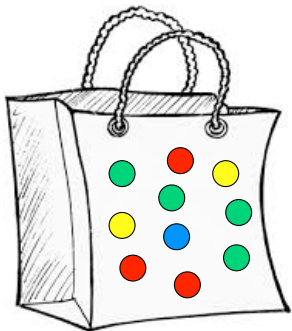


Physical experiment

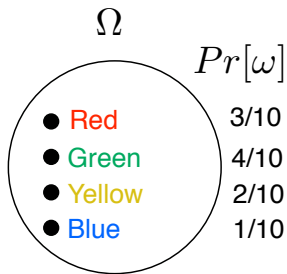


Probability model

Conditional Probability: A non-uniform example



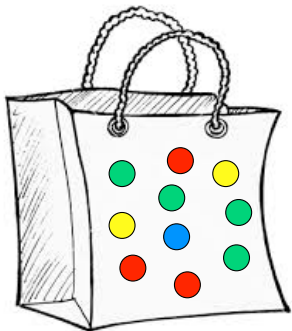
Physical experiment



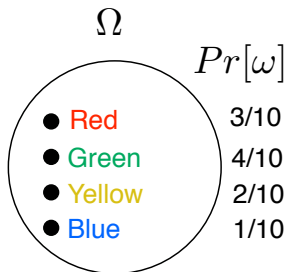
Probability model

$$\Omega = \{\text{Red, Green, Yellow, Blue}\}$$

Conditional Probability: A non-uniform example



Physical experiment

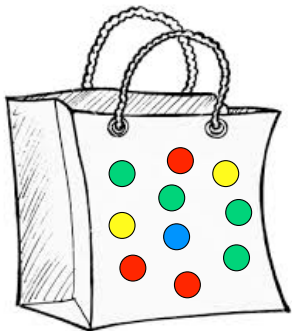


Probability model

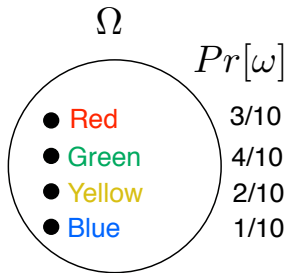
$$\Omega = \{\text{Red, Green, Yellow, Blue}\}$$

$$Pr[\text{Red} | \text{Red or Green}] =$$

Conditional Probability: A non-uniform example



Physical experiment

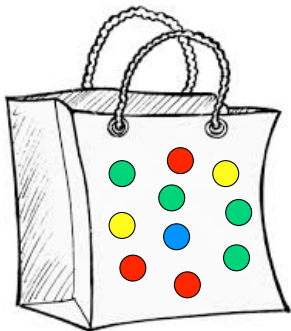


Probability model

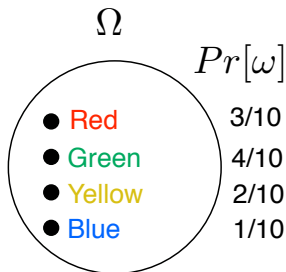
$$\Omega = \{\text{Red, Green, Yellow, Blue}\}$$

$$Pr[\text{Red} | \text{Red or Green}] = \frac{3}{7} =$$

Conditional Probability: A non-uniform example



Physical experiment



Probability model

$$\Omega = \{\text{Red, Green, Yellow, Blue}\}$$
$$Pr[\text{Red} | \text{Red or Green}] = \frac{3}{7} = \frac{Pr[\text{Red} \cap (\text{Red or Green})]}{Pr[\text{Red or Green}]}$$

Another non-uniform example

Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

Another non-uniform example

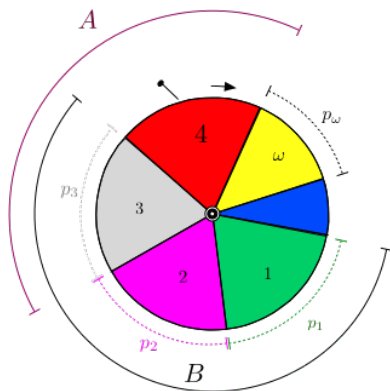
Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

Let $A = \{3, 4\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$.

Another non-uniform example

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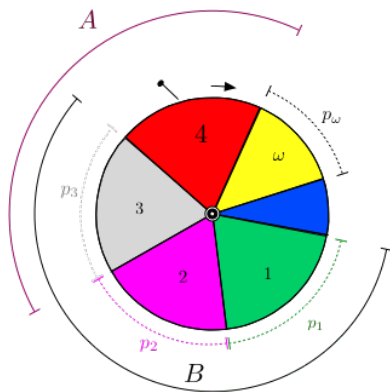
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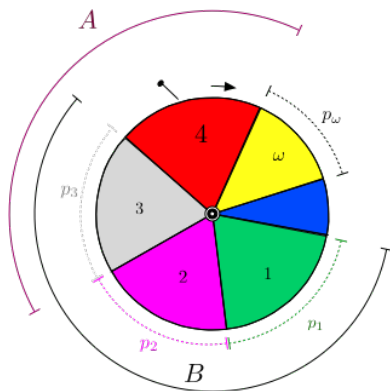


$$Pr[A|B] =$$

Another non-uniform example

Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

Let $A = \{3, 4\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$.



$$Pr[A|B] = \frac{p_3}{p_1 + p_2 + p_3} = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[B]}.$$

Yet another non-uniform example

Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

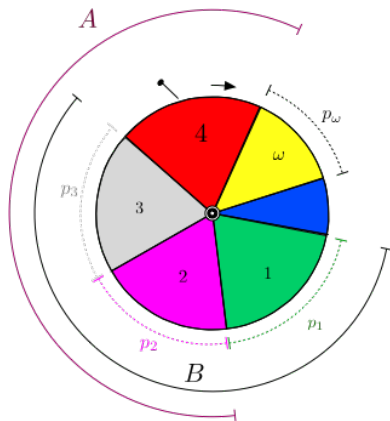
Yet another non-uniform example

Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

Let $A = \{2, 3, 4\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$.

Yet another non-uniform example

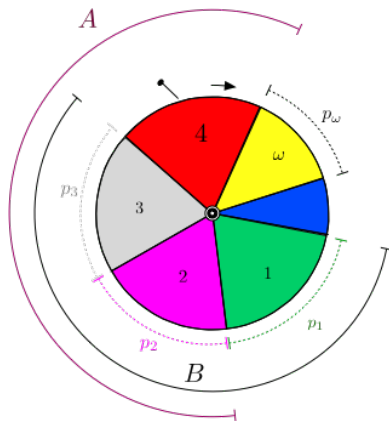
Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.
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Yet another non-uniform example

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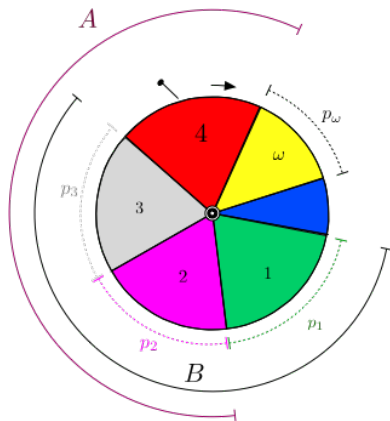


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Yet another non-uniform example

Consider $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $Pr[n] = p_n$.

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$$Pr[A|B] = \frac{p_2 + p_3}{p_1 + p_2 + p_3} = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[B]}.$$

More fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 4,

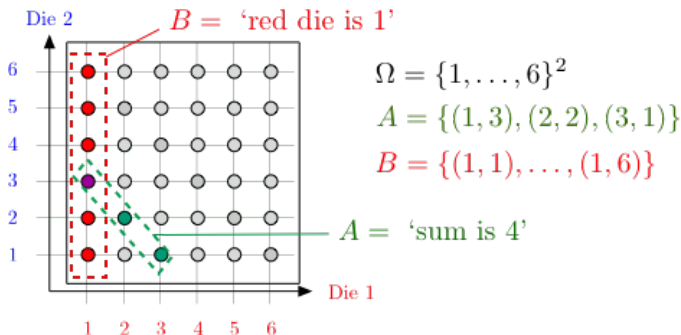
More fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 4,
What is probability that red is 1?

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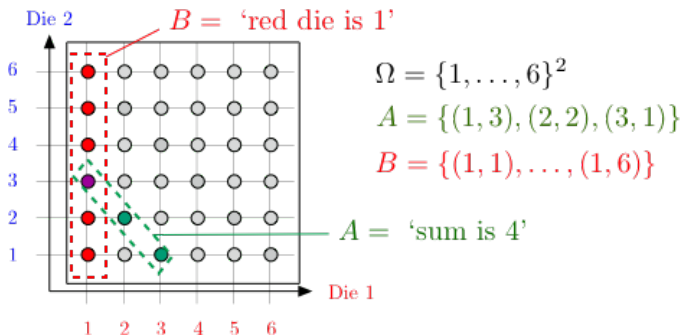
Ω : Uniform



More fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 4,
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Ω : Uniform

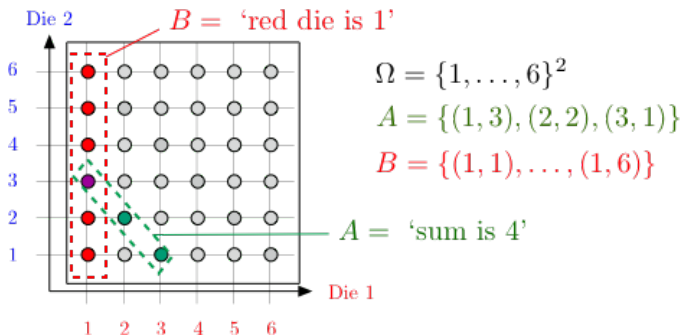


$$\Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{3};$$

More fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 4,
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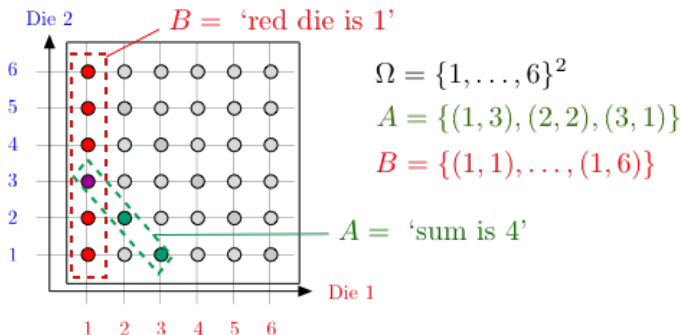


$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{3}; \text{ versus } Pr[B] = 1/6.$$

More fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 4,
What is probability that red is 1?

Ω : Uniform



$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{3}; \text{ versus } Pr[B] = 1/6.$$

B is more likely given A .

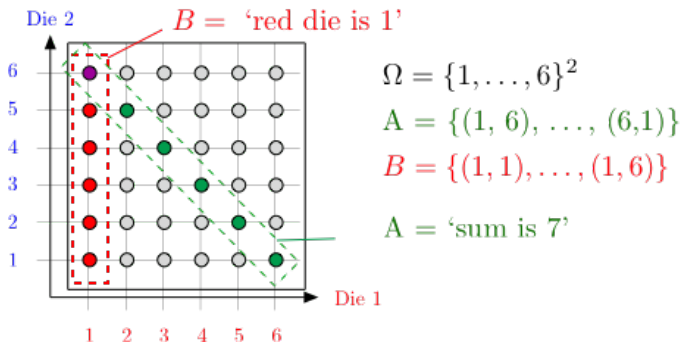
Yet more fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 7,
what is probability that red is 1?

Yet more fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 7,
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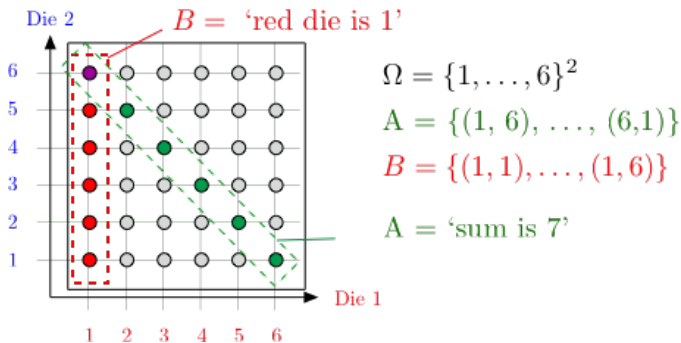
Ω : Uniform



Yet more fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 7,
what is probability that red is 1?

Ω : Uniform



$$\Omega = \{1, \dots, 6\}^2$$

$$A = \{(1, 6), \dots, (6, 1)\}$$

$$B = \{(1, 1), \dots, (1, 6)\}$$

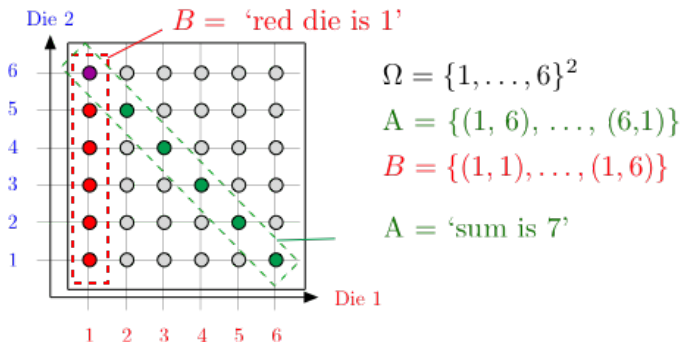
$$A = \text{'sum is 7'}$$

$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{6};$$

Yet more fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 7,
what is probability that red is 1?

Ω : Uniform

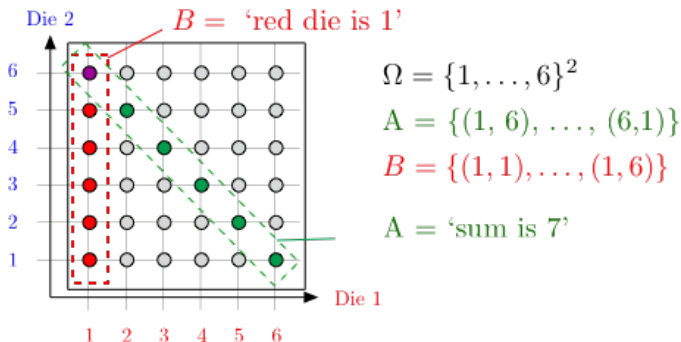


$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{6}; \text{ versus } Pr[B] = \frac{1}{6}.$$

Yet more fun with conditional probability.

Toss a red and a blue die, sum is 7,
what is probability that red is 1?

Ω : Uniform



$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{|B \cap A|}{|A|} = \frac{1}{6}; \text{ versus } Pr[B] = \frac{1}{6}.$$

Observing A does not change your mind about the likelihood of B .

Emptiness..

Suppose I toss 3 balls into 3 bins.

Emptiness..

Suppose I toss 3 balls into 3 bins.

$A =$ "1st bin empty";

Emptiness..

Suppose I toss 3 balls into 3 bins.

A = "1st bin empty"; B = "2nd bin empty."

Emptiness..

Suppose I toss 3 balls into 3 bins.

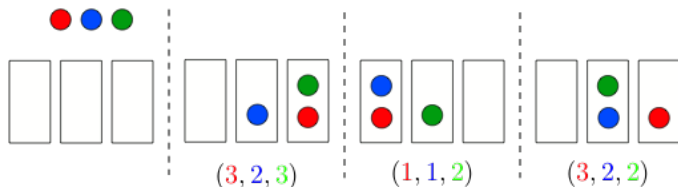
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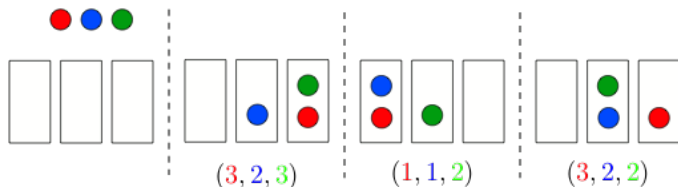
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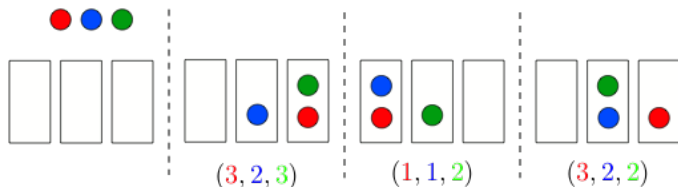
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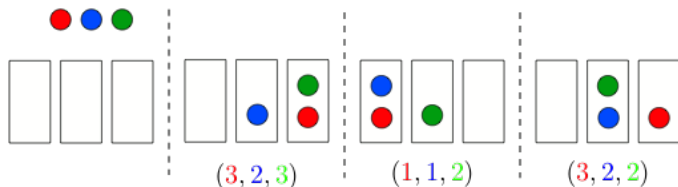
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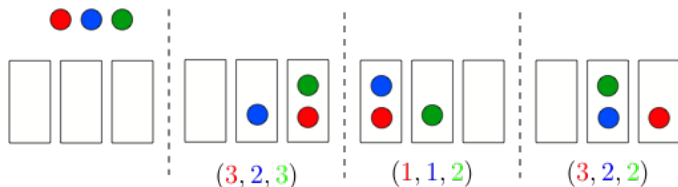
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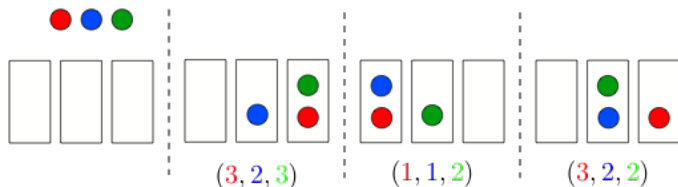
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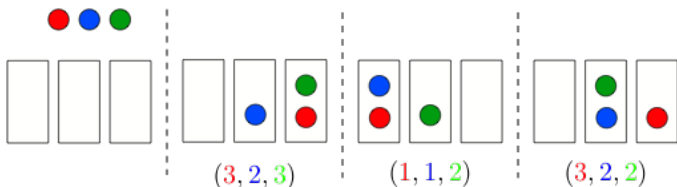
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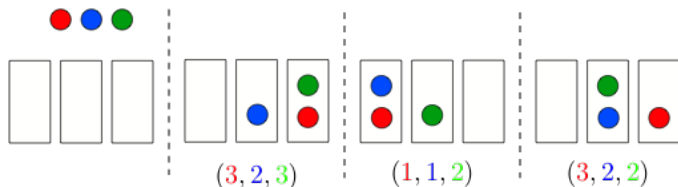
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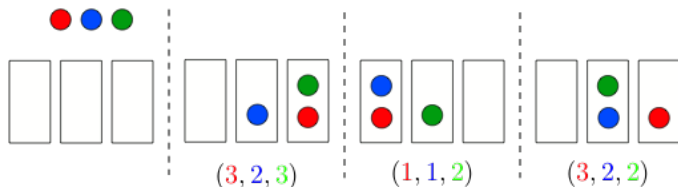
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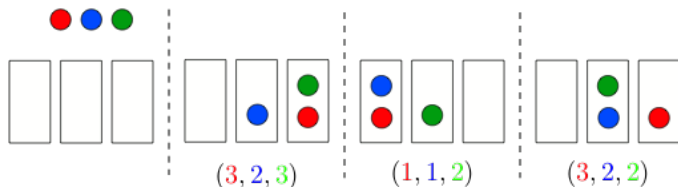
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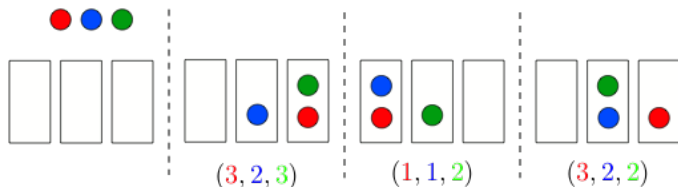
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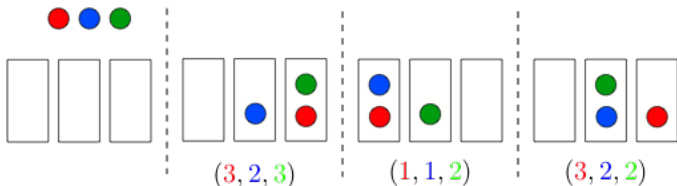
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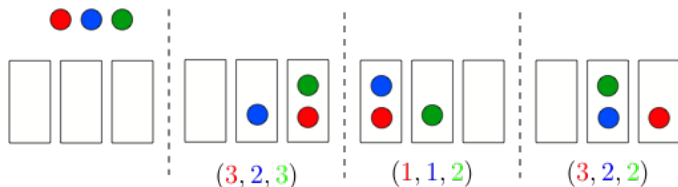
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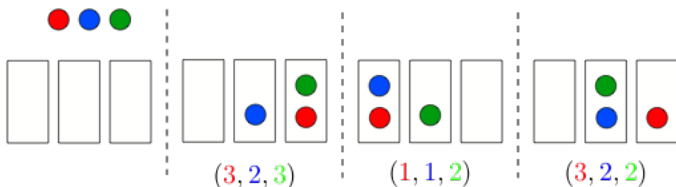
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Flip a fair coin 51 times.

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The likelihood of 51st heads does not depend on the previous flips.

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so that the result holds for $n + 1$. □

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- ▶ People who go to the opera are more likely to have a good career. That does not mean that going to the opera will improve your career.
- ▶ Rabbits eat more carrots and do not wear glasses.

Causality vs. Correlation

Events A and B are **positively correlated** if

$$Pr[A \cap B] > Pr[A]Pr[B].$$

(E.g., smoking and lung cancer.)

A and B being positively correlated does not mean that A causes B or that B causes A .

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- ▶ Tesla owners are more likely to be rich. That does not mean that poor people should buy a Tesla to get rich.
- ▶ People who go to the opera are more likely to have a good career. That does not mean that going to the opera will improve your career.
- ▶ Rabbits eat more carrots and do not wear glasses. Are carrots good for eyesight?

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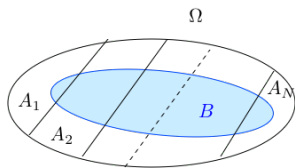
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More about such questions later. For fun, check “N. Taleb: Fooled by randomness.”

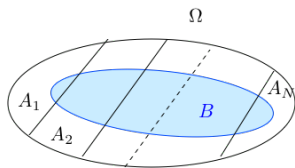
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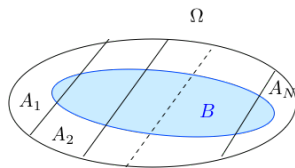


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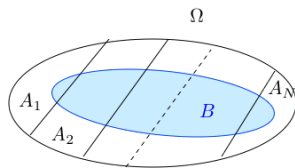
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Indeed, B is the union of the disjoint sets $A_n \cap B$ for $n = 1, \dots, N$.

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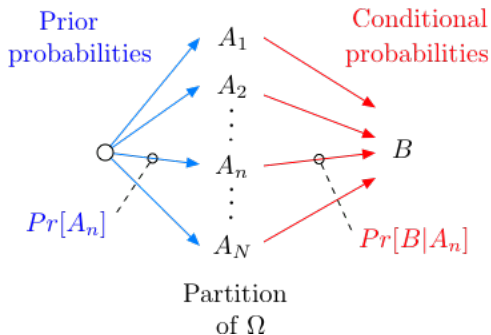
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Lecture basically ended here.