

## Conditional Probability

The **conditional probability** of event  $E$  given event  $F$  is

$$\Pr(E \mid F) = \frac{\Pr(E \cap F)}{\Pr(F)}.$$

***Well defined only if  $\Pr(F) \neq 0$***

## Card dealing

We deal two cards. What is the probability that the second card is an ace, given that the first is an ace?

- A.  $3/52$
- B.  $3/51$
- C.  $4/52$
- D.  $5/52$
- E. None of the answers above are correct.

For any two events  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ,

$$\Pr(E_1 \cap E_2) = \Pr(E_1) \cdot \Pr(E_2|E_1).$$

For all events  $E_1, \dots, E_n$ ,

$$\Pr(\cap_{i=1}^n E_i) = \Pr(E_1) \cdot \Pr(E_2|E_1) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(E_n | \cap_{i=1}^{n-1} E_i)$$

# Law of Total Probability

For any two events  $A$  and  $E$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(A) &= \Pr(A \cap E) + \Pr(A \cap \bar{E}) \\ &= \Pr(A|E) \cdot \Pr(E) + \Pr(A|\bar{E}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{E})\end{aligned}$$

Let  $A$  be an event and let  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  be mutually disjoint events whose union is  $\Omega$ .

$$\Pr(A) = \sum_{i \in [n]} \Pr(A \cap E_i) = \sum_{i \in [n]} \Pr(A | E_i) \cdot \Pr(E_i).$$

For any two events  $A$  and  $E$  with  $\Pr(A) \neq 0$ ,

$$\Pr(E|A) = \frac{\Pr(A|E) \cdot \Pr(E)}{\Pr(A)}$$

Let  $A$  be an event with  $\Pr(A) \neq 0$  and let  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  be mutually disjoint events whose union is  $\Omega$ .

$$\Pr(E_j|A) = \frac{\Pr(E_j \cap A)}{\Pr(A)} = \frac{\Pr(A|E_j) \cdot \Pr(E_j)}{\sum_{i \in [n]} \Pr(A | E_i) \cdot \Pr(E_i)}$$