1 Boy or Girl Paradox

You know Mr. Smith has two children, at least one of whom is a boy. Assume that gender is independent and uniformly distributed, so for any child, the probability that they are a boy is the same as the probability they are a girl, which is $1/2$.

(a) What is the probability that both children are boys?

(b) Now suppose you knock on Mr. Smith's front door and you are greeted by a boy who you correctly deduce to be Mr. Smith's older child. What is the probability that he has two boys? Compare your answer to the answer in part (a).

2 Lie Detector

A lie detector is known to be $4/5$ reliable when the person is guilty and $9/10$ reliable when the person is innocent. If a suspect is chosen from a group of suspects of which only $1/100$ have ever committed a crime, and the test indicates that the person is guilty, what is the probability that he is innocent?

3 Pairwise Independence

The events A_1, A_2, A_3 are *pairwise independent* if, for all $i \neq j$, A_i is independent of A_j. However, pairwise independence is a weaker statement than *mutual independence*, which requires the additional condition that $\mathbb{P}(A_1, A_2, A_3) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A_2)\mathbb{P}(A_3)$.

Try to construct an example where three events are pairwise independent but not mutually independent.

Here is one potential starting point: Let A_1, A_2 be the respective results of flipping two fair coins. Can you come up with an event A_3 that works?

4 Mutually Independent Events

There are three mutually independent events: A, B, and C. The probability that event A occurs is 0.4, the probability that event B occurs is 0.6, and the probability that event C occurs is 0.3. Calculate the following.

(a) $Pr[A|B]$.

(b) $Pr[A \cap B]$.

(c) $Pr[A \cup C]$.

(d) $Pr[B \cap C]$.

(e) $Pr[A \cap B \cap C]$.

(f) $Pr[A \cup B \cup C]$.