

Inductive probability  
relies on combinatorics  
or the art of counting  
combinations

How many ways to choose a sample of  $K$  objects out of a population of  $n$  objects

	Order matters	Order does not matter
replace	$n \times n \times n \times \dots \times n$ $= n^K$	<del> <math display="block">\frac{n^K}{K!}</math> </del> <p style="color: red; margin-left: 100px;">not all objects are different</p>
Do not replace	$n \times (n-1) \times$ $\times (n-2) \times \dots \times$ $(n-K+1) =$ $= \frac{n!}{(n-K)!}$	<p>All objects are different <math>\rightarrow</math></p> $\frac{n!}{(n-K)!} \times \frac{1}{K!} = \binom{n}{K}$



How to solve the problem of  $K$  out of  $n$   
with replacement but where order  
does not matter?

Let's solve  $n=2$  problem first:



Object 1



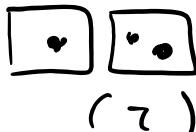
Object 2

$$K = 3$$

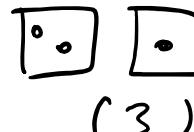
4 possibilities



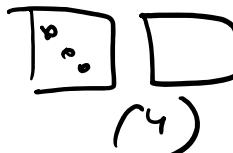
(1)



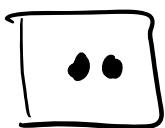
(2)



(3)



(4)



$$n=4, K=2$$

••||•••|••

$K$  dots,  $n-1$  boundaries

$$\binom{K+n-1}{K} = \frac{(K+n-1)!}{K! (n-1)!}$$

ways to distribute

# Sampling table

How many ways to choose a sample of  $k$  objects out of population of  $n$  objects?

	Order matters	Order does not matter
Replacement	$(n)^k$	Difficult: $\binom{n+k-1}{k} = \frac{(n+k-1)!}{(n-1)!k!}$
No replacement	$n(n-1)(n-2)..(n-k+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$	$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$

# Example

- A DNA of 100 bases is characterized by its numbers of 4 nucleotides:  
 $d_A$ ,  $d_C$ ,  $d_G$ , and  $d_T$  ( $d_A+d_C+d_G+d_T=100$ )
- I don't care about the sequence (only about the total numbers of A,C,G, and T)
- How many distinct combinations of  $d_A$ ,  $d_C$ ,  $d_G$ , and  $d_T$  are out there?

# What is $n$ and $k$ in this problem?

- A.  $k=100, n=4$
- B.  $k=4, n=100$
- C.  $k=100, n=4^{100}$
- D.  $k=4^{100}, n=4$
- E. I don't know

Get your i-clickers

# What is $n$ and $k$ in this problem?

- A.  $k=100, n=4$
- B.  $k=4, n=100$
- C.  $k=100, n=4^{100}$
- D.  $k=4^{100}, n=4$
- E. I don't know

# Is it sampling with or without replacement & does order matter?

- A. with replacement, order matters
- B. without replacement, any order
- C. with replacement, any order
- D. without replacement, order matters
- E. I don't know

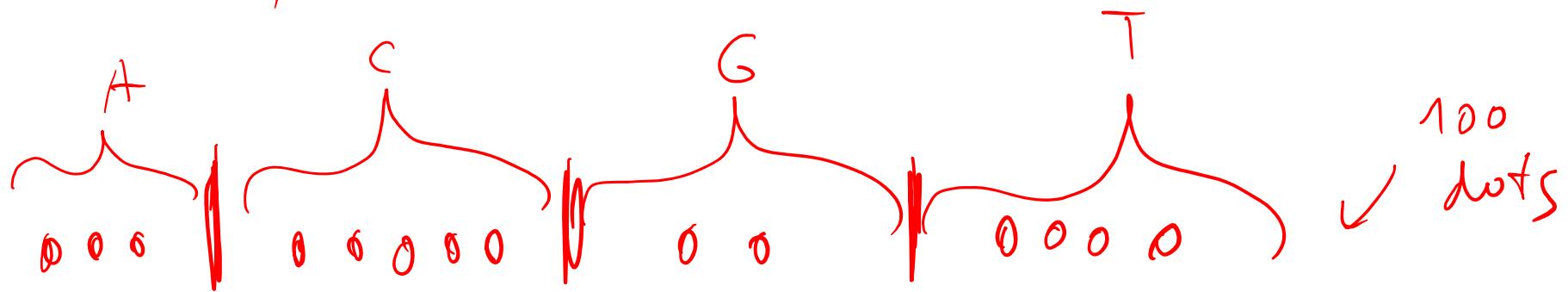
Get your i-clickers

# Is it sampling with or without replacement & does order matter?

- A. with replacement, order matters
- B. without replacement, any order
- C. with replacement, any order
- D. without replacement, order matters
- E. I don't know



$$n = 4, K = 100$$



$$\begin{aligned} \text{\# of possibilities} &= \frac{(100+4-1)!}{(4-1)! \cdot 100!} = \\ &= \frac{103 \cdot 102 \cdot 101}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 176,851 \end{aligned}$$

If order did matter  
 $y^{100} = 2^{200} = 10^{60} \approx \# \text{ atoms in a galaxy}$

Probability Axioms,  
Conditional Probability,  
Statistical (In)dependence,  
Circuit Problems

# Axioms of probability

Probability is a number that is assigned to each member of a collection of events from a random experiment that satisfies the following properties:

If  $S$  is the sample space and  $E$  is any event in a random experiment,

$$(1) \quad P(S) = 1$$

$$(2) \quad 0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$$

$$(3) \quad \text{For two events } E_1 \text{ and } E_2 \text{ with } E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$$

$$P(E_1 \cup E_2) = P(E_1) + P(E_2)$$

$$P(\emptyset) = 0$$

These axioms imply that:

$$P(E') = 1 - P(E)$$

if the event  $E_1$  is contained in the event  $E_2$

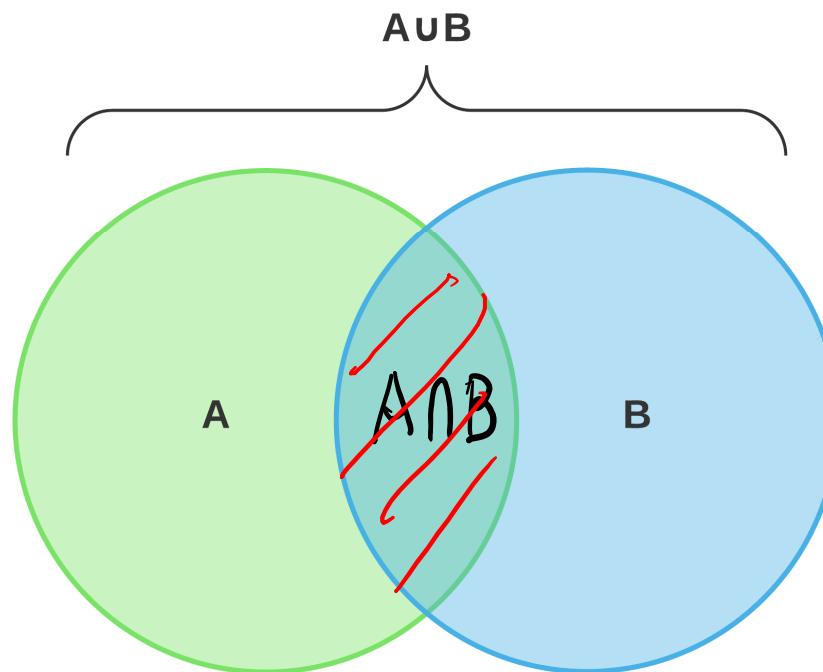
$$P(E_1) \leq P(E_2)$$

# Addition rules following from the Axiom (3)

If  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive events, i.e.  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) \quad (2-2)$$

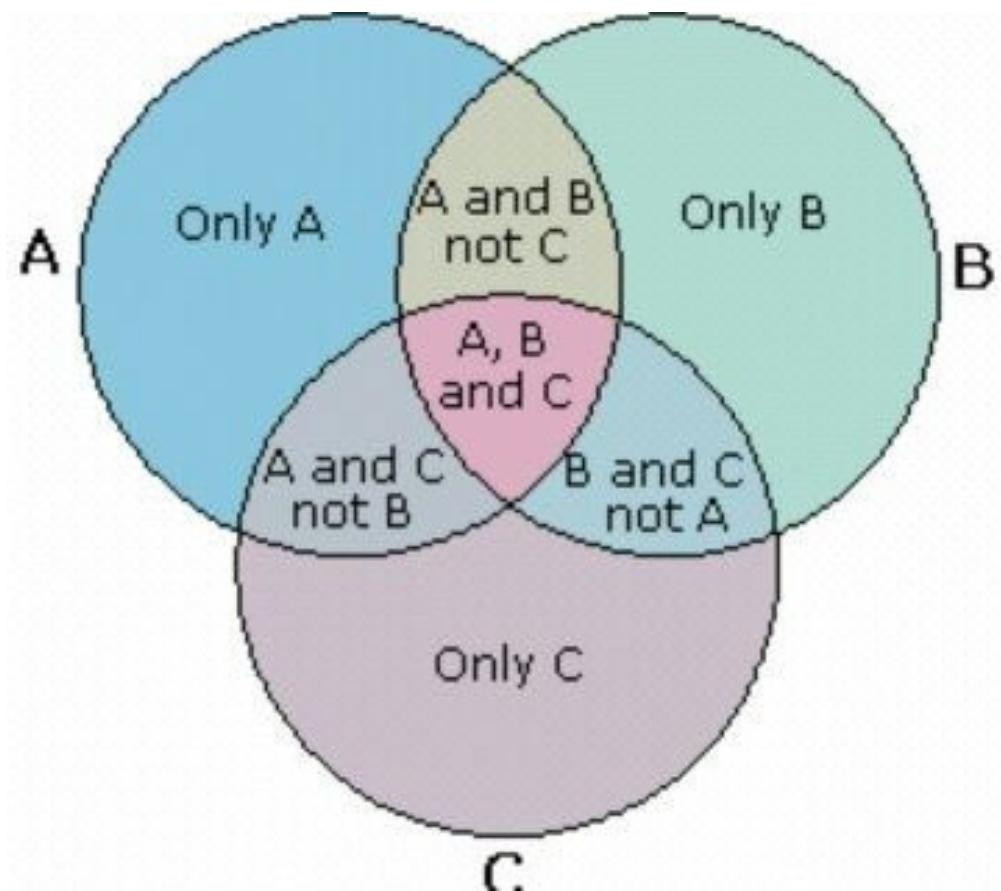
$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) \quad (2-1)$$



$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) -$$

$$- P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) +$$

$$+ P(A \cap B \cap C).$$



# Conditional probability

The **conditional probability** of an event  $B$  given an event  $A$ , denoted as  $P(B|A)$ , is

$$P(B|A) = P(A \cap B)/P(A)$$

for  $P(A) > 0$ .

This definition can be understood in a special case in which all outcomes of a random experiment are equally likely. If there are  $n$  total outcomes,

$$P(A) = (\text{number of outcomes in } A)/n$$

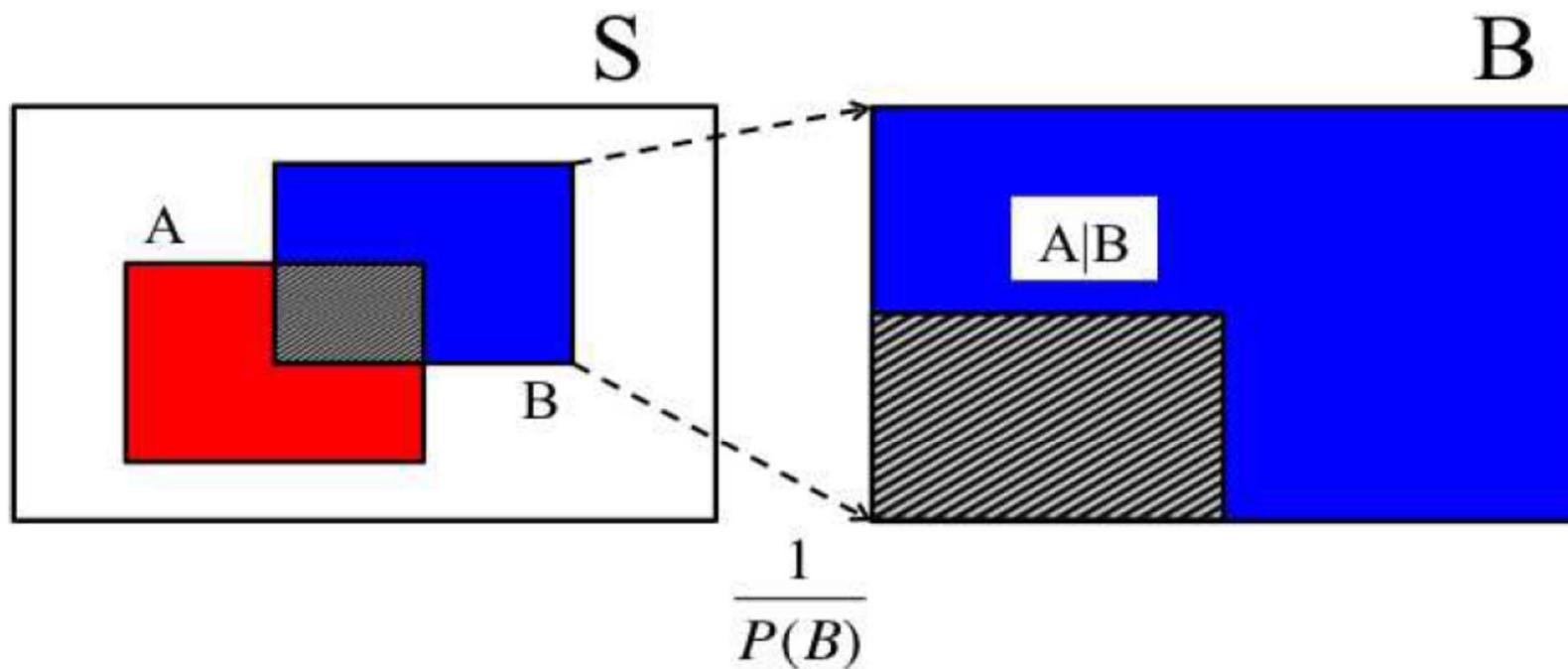
Also,

$$P(A \cap B) = (\text{number of outcomes in } A \cap B)/n$$

Consequently,

$$P(A \cap B)/P(A) = \frac{\text{number of outcomes in } A \cap B}{\text{number of outcomes in } A}$$

Therefore,  $P(B|A)$  can be interpreted as the relative frequency of event  $B$  among the trials that produce an outcome in event  $A$ .





# Multiplication rule

is just definition of conditional probability

$$P(B|A) = P(B \cap A)/P(A) \rightarrow$$

$$P(B \cap A) = P(B|A) \cdot P(A)$$

# Drake equation

$$N = R^* \cdot f_p \cdot n_e \cdot f_l \cdot f_i \cdot f_c \cdot L$$

- N = The number of civilizations in The Milky Way Galaxy whose electromagnetic emissions are detectable.
- R\* = The rate of formation of stars suitable for the development of intelligent life.
- $f_p$  = The fraction of those stars with planetary systems.
- $n_e$  = The number of planets, per solar system, with an environment suitable for life.
- $f_l$  = The fraction of suitable planets on which life actually appears.
- $f_i$  = The fraction of life bearing planets on which intelligent life emerges.
- $f_c$  = The fraction of civilizations that develop a technology that releases detectable signs of their existence into space.
- L = The length of time such civilizations release them

Ms. Perez figures that there is a **5% chance** that her company will set up a **branch in Phoenix**. If it does, she is **10% certain** that she will be **made its manager**. What is the probability that **Perez will be a Phoenix branch office manager?**

- A. 15%
- B. 0.5%**
- C. 50%
- D. 5%
- E. 10%

Get your i-clickers

# Statistically independent events

Always true:  $P(A \cap B) = P(A | B) \cdot P(B) = P(B | A) \cdot P(A)$

## ■ Two events

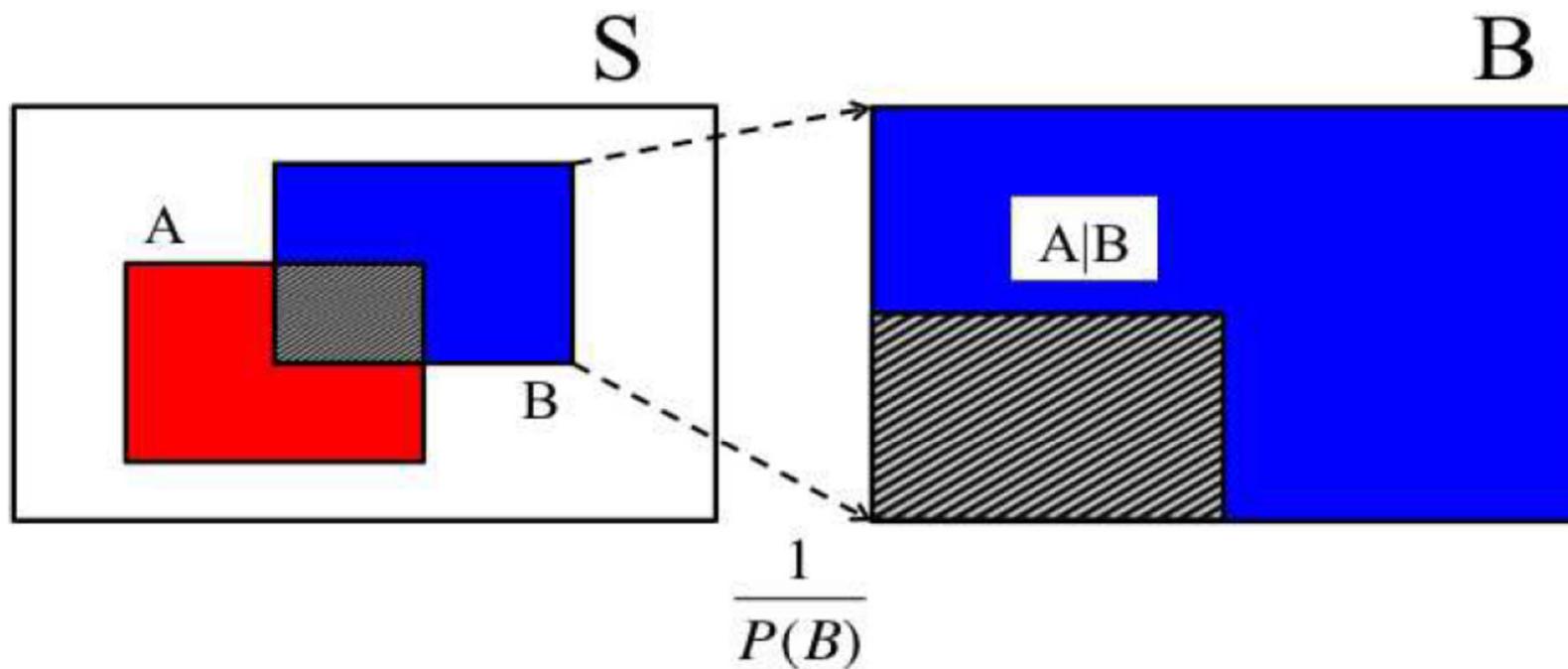
Two events are **independent** if **any one** of the following equivalent statements is true:

- (1)  $P(A | B) = P(A)$
- (2)  $P(B | A) = P(B)$
- (3)  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

## ■ Multiple events

The events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  are independent if and only if for any subset of these events  $E_{i_1}, E_{i_2}, \dots, E_{i_k}$ ,

$$P(E_{i_1} \cap E_{i_2} \cap \cdots \cap E_{i_k}) = P(E_{i_1}) \times P(E_{i_2}) \times \cdots \times P(E_{i_k})$$





*Example 3.10.* Let an experiment consist of drawing a card at random from a standard deck of 52 playing cards. Define events  $A$  and  $B$  as “the card is a ♠” and “the card is a queen.” Are the events  $A$  and  $B$  independent? By definition,  $P(A \cdot B) = P(Q\spadesuit) = \frac{1}{52}$ . This is the product of  $P(\spadesuit) = \frac{13}{52}$  and  $P(Q) = \frac{4}{52}$ , and events  $A$  and  $B$  in question are independent. In this situation, intuition provides no help. Now, pretend that the 2♥ is drawn and excluded from the deck prior to the experiment. Events  $A$  and  $B$  become dependent since

$$\mathbb{P}(A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(B) = \frac{13}{51} \cdot \frac{4}{51} \neq \frac{1}{51} = \mathbb{P}(A \cdot B).$$

WHY DO WHALES JUMP  
WHY ARE WITCHES GREEN  
WHY ARE THERE MIRRORS ABOVE BEDS  
**WHY DO I SAY UH**  
**WHY IS SEA SALT BETTER**  
WHY ARE THERE TREES IN THE MIDDLE OF FIELDS  
WHY IS THERE NOT A POKEMON MMO  
WHY IS THERE LAUGHING IN TV SHOWS  
WHY ARE THERE DOORS ON THE FREEWAY  
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY SVCHOST.EXE RUNNING  
WHY AREN'T THERE ANY COUNTRIES IN ANTARCTICA  
WHY ARE THERE SCARY SOUNDS IN MINECRAFT  
**WHY IS THERE KICKING IN MY STOMACH**  
WHY ARE THERE TWO SLASHES AFTER HTTP  
**WHY ARE THERE CELESTITES**

WHY ARE THERE CELEBRITIES  
WHY DO SNAKES EXIST  
WHY DO OYSTERS HAVE PEARLS  
WHY ARE DUCKS CALLED DUCKS  
WHY DO THEY CALL IT THE CLAP  
WHY ARE KYLE AND CARTMAN FRIENDS  
WHY IS THERE AN ARROW ON AANG'S HEAD  
WHY ARE TEXT MESSAGES BLUE  
WHY ARE THERE MUSTACHES ON CLOTHES  
WHY ARE THERE MUSTACHES ON CARS  
WHY ARE THERE MUSTACHES EVERYWHERE  
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY BIRDS IN OHIO  
WHY IS THERE SO MUCH RAIN IN OHIO  
WHY IS OHIO WEATHER SO WEIRD

# WHY ARE THERE MALE AND FEMALE BIKES?

WHY ARE THERE BRIDESMAIDS  
WHY DO DYING PEOPLE REACH UP  
WHY AREN'T THERE VARICOSE ARTERIES  
WHY ARE OLD KLINGONS DIFFERENT

## WHY ARE THERE SQUIRRELS

1

1

1

WHY IS PROGRAMMING SO HARD?  
WHY IS THERE A 0 OHM RESISTOR?  
WHY DO SQUIRRELS HAVE CLAWS?

WHY DO AMERICANS HATE SOCCER  
WHY DO RHYMES SOUND GOOD  
**WHY DO TREES DIE**

WHY IS THERE NO SOUND ON CNN?  
WHY AREN'T POKEMON REAL?  
WHY AREN'T BULLETS SHARP?

WHY DO DREAMS SEEM SO REAL?

Credit: XKCD  
comics

# QUESTIONS FOUND IN GOOGLE AUTOCOMPLETE

# WHY ARE THERE SLAVES IN THE BIBLE

WHY DO TWINS HAVE DIFFERENT FINGERPRINTS ↗ WHY IS HTTPS CROSSED OUT IN RED  
WHY ARE AMERICANS AFRAID OF DRAGONS ↗ WHY IS THERE A LINE THROUGH HTTPS  
↗ WHY IS THERE A RED LINE THROUGH HTTPS ON FACEBOOK  
↗ WHY IS HTTPS IMPORTANT

# WHY IS HTTPS IMPORTANT?

A simple black and white line drawing of a stick figure. The figure has a large circular head and a small body. Two curved lines extend from the top of the head, representing arms. The figure's legs are also drawn as simple lines. It appears to be looking towards the right side of the frame with a neutral or slightly confused expression.

WHY AREN'T ECONOMISTS RICH  
WHY DO AMERICANS CALL IT SOCCER  
**WHY ARE MY EARS RINGING**  
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY AVENGERS  
WHY ARE THE AVENGERS FIGHTING THE X MEN  
WHY IS WOLVERINE NOT IN THE AVENGERS  
WHY ARE THERE SWARMS OF GNATS  
WHY IS THERE PHLEGM  
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY CROWS IN ROCHESTER, MN  
**WHY IS PSYCHIC WEAK TO BUG**  
WHY DO CHILDREN GET CANCER  
WHY IS POSEIDON ANGRY WITH ODYSSEUS  
**WHY IS THERE ICE IN SPACE**

# WHY ARE THERE ANTS IN MY LAPTOP<sup>5</sup>

WHY IS EARTH TILTED  
WHY IS SPACE BLACK  
WHY IS OUTER SPACE SO COLD  
WHY ARE THERE PYRAMIDS ON THE MOON  
WHY IS NASA SHUTTING DOWN  
WHY ARE THERE GHOSTS  
WHY IS THERE AN OWL IN MY BACKYARD  
WHY IS THERE AN OWL OUTSIDE MY WINDOW  
WHY IS THERE AN OWL ON THE DOLLAR BILL  
WHY IS THERE A DOG ON THE COIN  
WHY IS THERE A CAT ON THE COIN  
WHY IS THERE A GIRL ON THE COIN  
WHY IS THERE A BOY ON THE COIN

FEMALE BIKES  
SPIDERS IN MY HOUSE

Y SPIDERS IN MY HOUSE  
ERS COME INSIDE  WHY ARE AIRPLANE SO EXPENSIVE   
WHY ARE THERE HELICOPTERS CIRCLING MY HOUSE 

GE SPIDERS IN MY HOUSE  
OF SPIDERS IN MY HOUSE    EREE  
WHY ARE THERE GODS    EEE  
WHY ARE THERE TWO SPOCKS    EEE  
WHY ARE CIGARETTES LEGAL  
WHY ARE TEARS NEVER WASHED AWAY  
KIM RAIN

SPIDERS IN MY ROOM WHY IS MT VESUVIUS THERE WHY ARE THERE DUCKS IN MY POOL  
MANY SPIDERS IN MY ROOM WHY IS JESUS WHITE WHY IS THERE LIQUID IN MY EAR

DER BITES ITCH IN WHY DO THEY SAY I MINUS LIM OF  
WHY IS THAT LIQUID IN IT IN WHY DO Q TIPS FEEL GOOD IN  
WHY ARE THERE SPLEENIC IN WHY DO GOOD PEOPLE DIE IN

WHY ARE THERE OBELISKS?  
WHY ARE WRESTLERS ALWAYS WET?

WHY IS SEX SO IMPORTANT WHY ARE OCEANS BECOMING MORE ACIDIC THERE GUNS IN HARRY POTTER

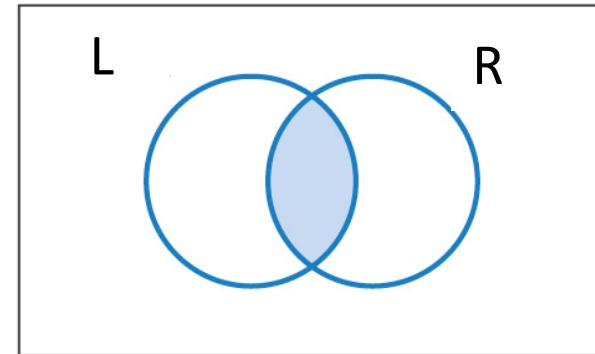
~WHY IS ARWEN DYING  
3. WHY AREN'T MY CHAIL LOVING EGGG

WHY AREN'T MY QUAIL EGGS HATCHING

DOODA | A | WHY AREN'T THERE ANY FOREIGN MILITARY BASES IN AMERICA | CH

# Series Circuit

This circuit operates only if there is **at least one path of functional devices** from left to right. The **probability** that **each device functions** is shown on the graph. Assume that the **devices fail independently**. What is the probability that the circuit operates?

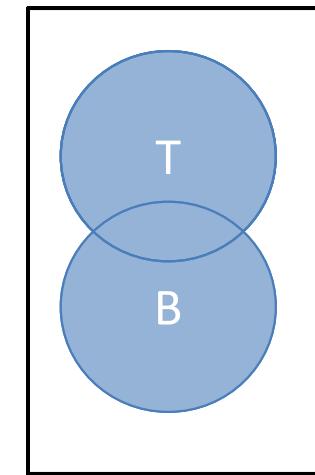
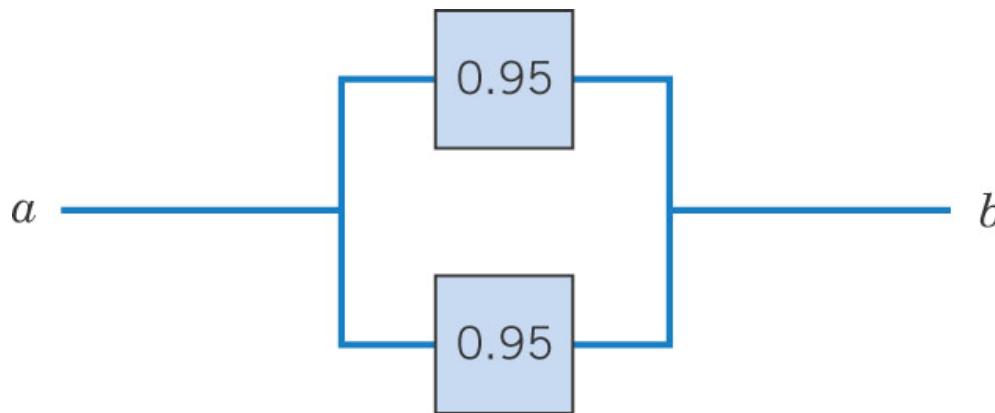


Let  $L$  &  $R$  denote the events that the left and right devices operate. The probability that the circuit operates is:

$$P(L \text{ and } R) = P(L \cap R) = P(L) * P(R) = 0.8 * 0.9 = 0.72.$$

# Parallel Circuit

This circuit operates only if there is a path of functional devices from left to right. The probability that each device functions is shown. Each device fails independently.

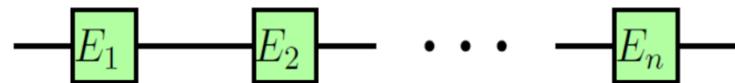


Let  $T$  &  $B$  denote the events that the top and bottom devices operate. The probability that the circuit operates is:

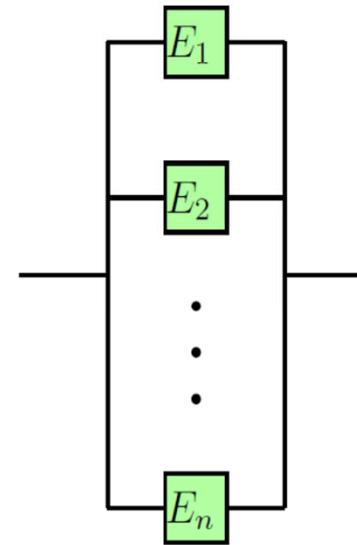
$$P(T \cup B) = 1 - P(T' \cap B') = 1 - P(T') * P(B') = 1 - 0.05^2 = 1 - 0.0025 = 0.9975.$$

# Duality between parallel and series circuits

$$q_i = 1 - p_i.$$



(a)

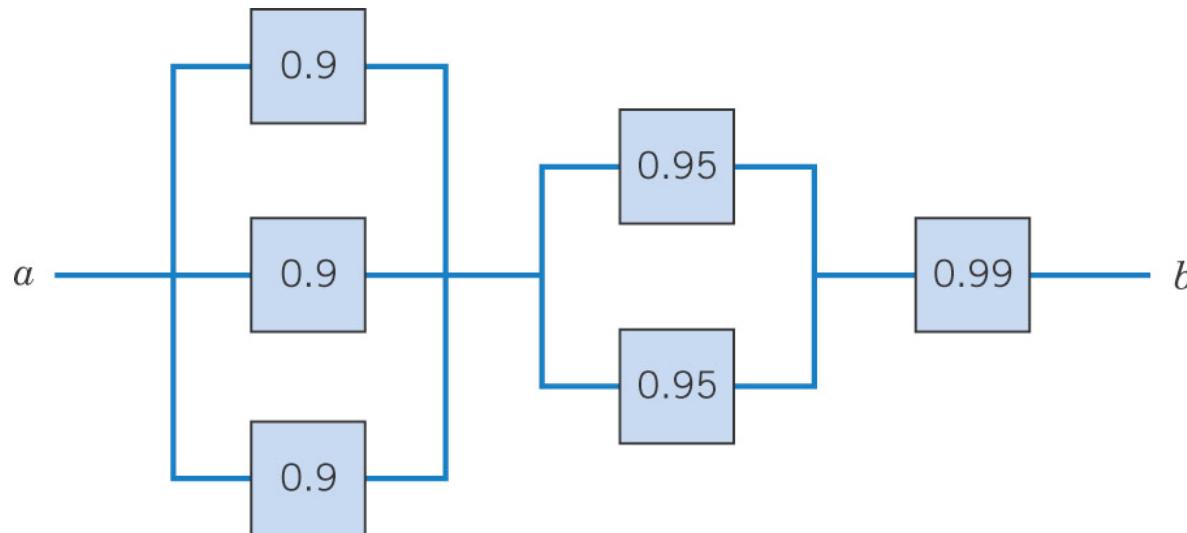


(b)

Connection	Notation	Works with prob	Fails with prob
Serial	$E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \dots \cap E_n$	$p_1 p_2 \dots p_n$	$1 - p_1 p_2 \dots p_n$
Parallel	$E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_n$	$1 - q_1 q_2 \dots q_n$	$q_1 q_2 \dots q_n$

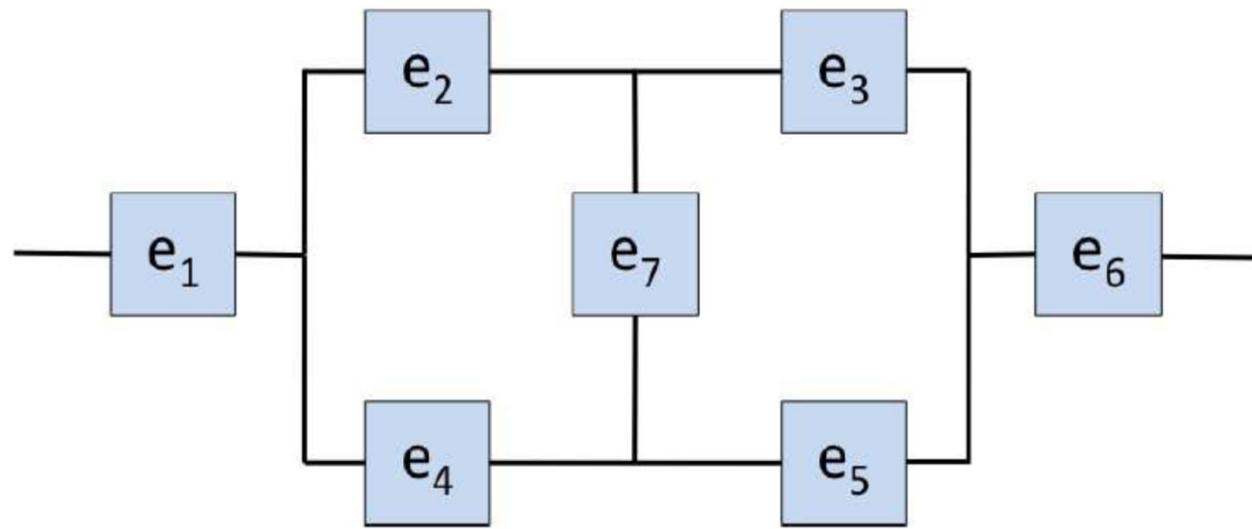
# Advanced Circuit

This circuit operates only if there is a path of functional devices from left to right. The probability that each device functions is shown. Each device fails independently.

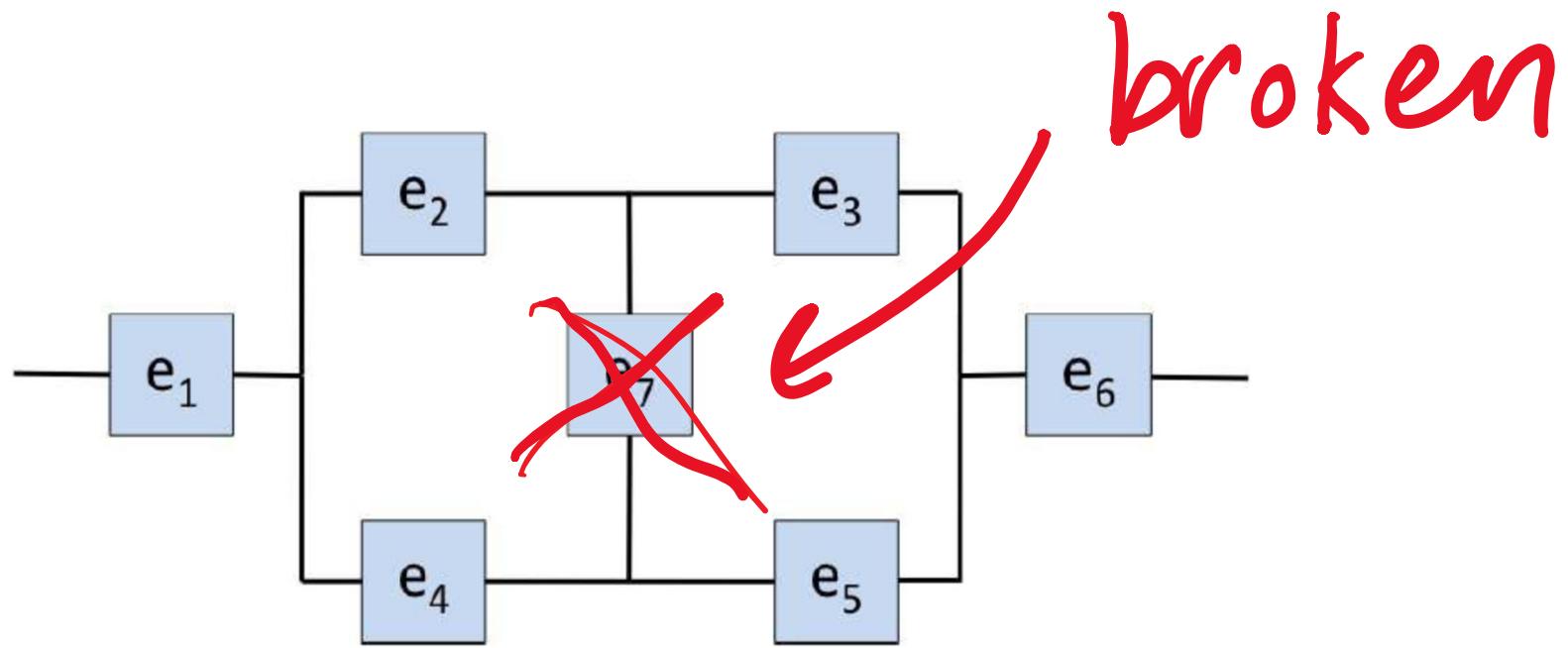


Partition the graph into 3 columns with L & M denoting the left & middle columns.

$P(L) = 1 - 0.1^3$ , and  $P(M) = 1 - 0.05^2$ , so the probability that the circuit operates is:  $(1 - 0.1^3)(1 - 0.05^2)(0.99) = 0.9875$  (this is a series of parallel circuits).



Component	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$	$e_6$	$e_7$
Probability of component working	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4

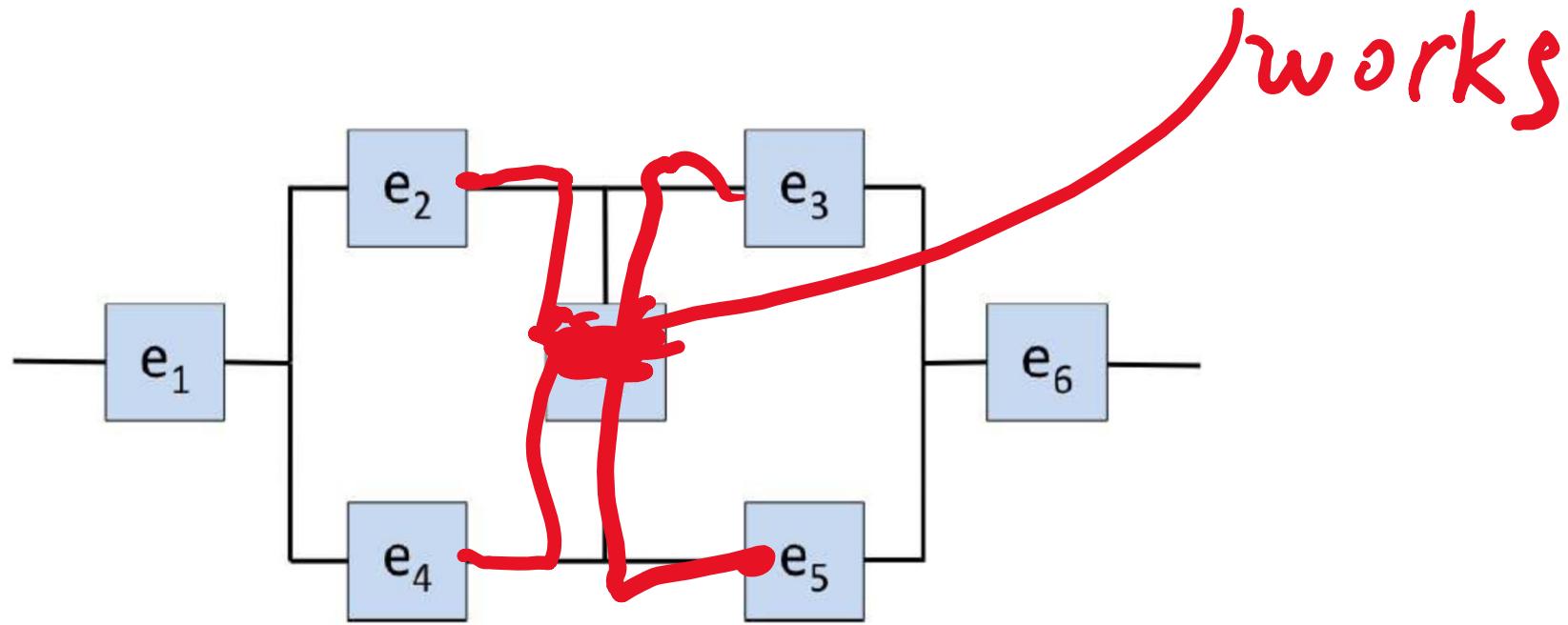


Component	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$	$e_6$	$e_7$
Probability of component working	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{circuit works} \mid e_7 \text{ is broken}) &= P(e_1 \text{ works}) * \\
 &[1 - (1 - P(e_2 \text{ works})) * P(e_3 \text{ works})) * (1 - P(e_4 \text{ works})) * P(e_5 \text{ works})) * \\
 P(e_6 \text{ works}) &= 0.3 * (1 - (1 - 0.8 * 0.2)) * (1 - 0.2 * 0.5)) * 0.6 = 0.0439
 \end{aligned}$$

The contribution to total probability:

$$P(\text{circuit works} \mid e_7 \text{ is broken}) * P(e_7 \text{ is broken}) = 0.6 * 0.0439 = 0.0264$$

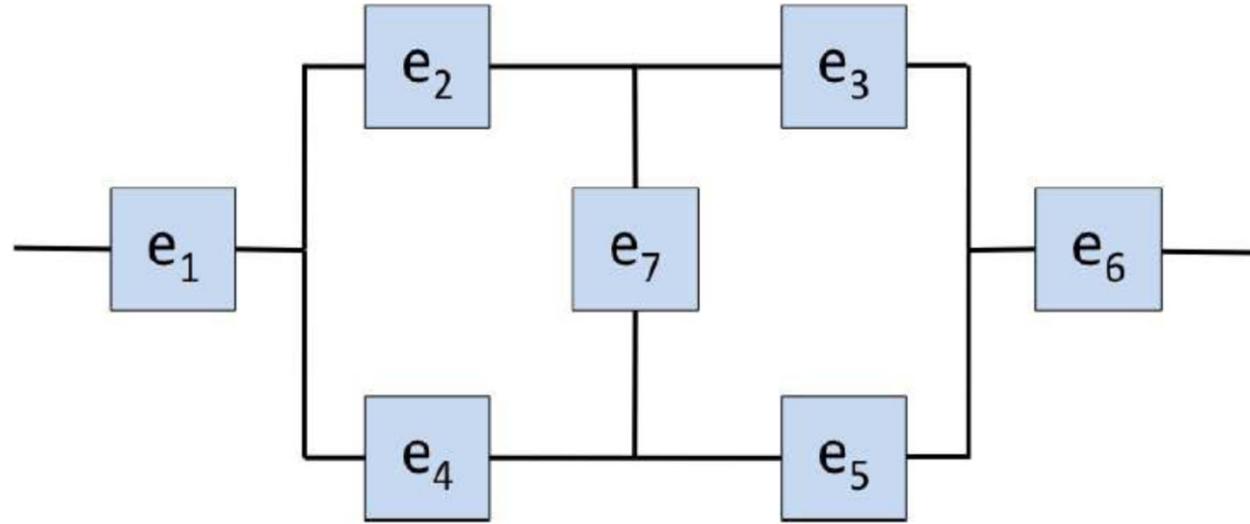


Component	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$	$e_6$	$e_7$
Probability of component working	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{circuit works} | e_7 \text{ works}) &= P(e_1 \text{ works}) * \\
 &[1 - (1 - P(e_2 \text{ works})) * (1 - P(e_3 \text{ works}))] \\
 &*[1 - (1 - P(e_4 \text{ works})) * (1 - P(e_5 \text{ works}))] * \\
 P(e_6 \text{ works}) &= 0.3 * (1 - (1 - 0.8) * (1 - 0.2)) * (1 - (1 - 0.2) * (1 - 0.5)) * 0.6 = 0.0907
 \end{aligned}$$

The contribution to total probability:

$$P(\text{circuit works} | e_7 \text{ works}) * P(e_7 \text{ works}) = 0.4 * 0.0907 = 0.0363$$



Component	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$	$e_6$	$e_7$
Probability of component working	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4

$P(\text{circuit works}) =$

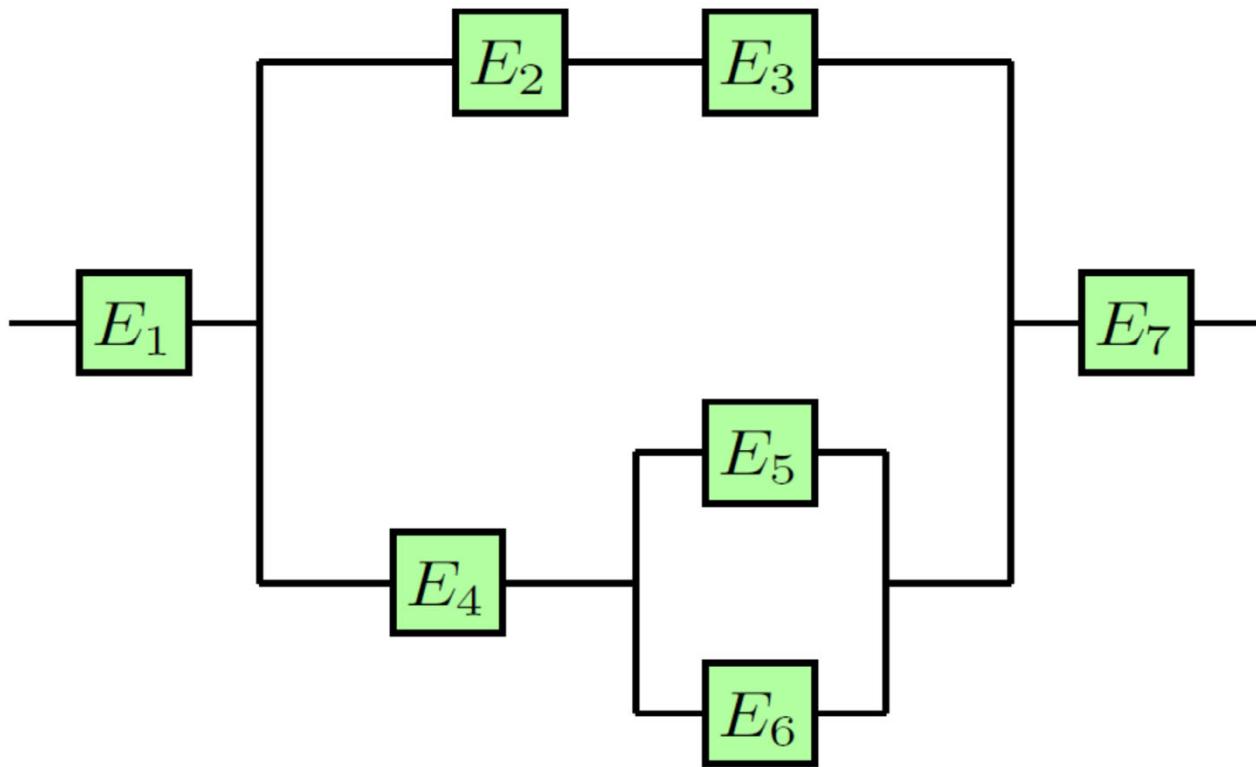
$P(\text{circuit works} | e7 \text{ works}) * P(e7 \text{ works}) +$

$P(\text{circuit works} | e7 \text{ is broken}) * P(e7 \text{ is broken}) =$

$$= 0.0264 + 0.0363 = 0.0627$$

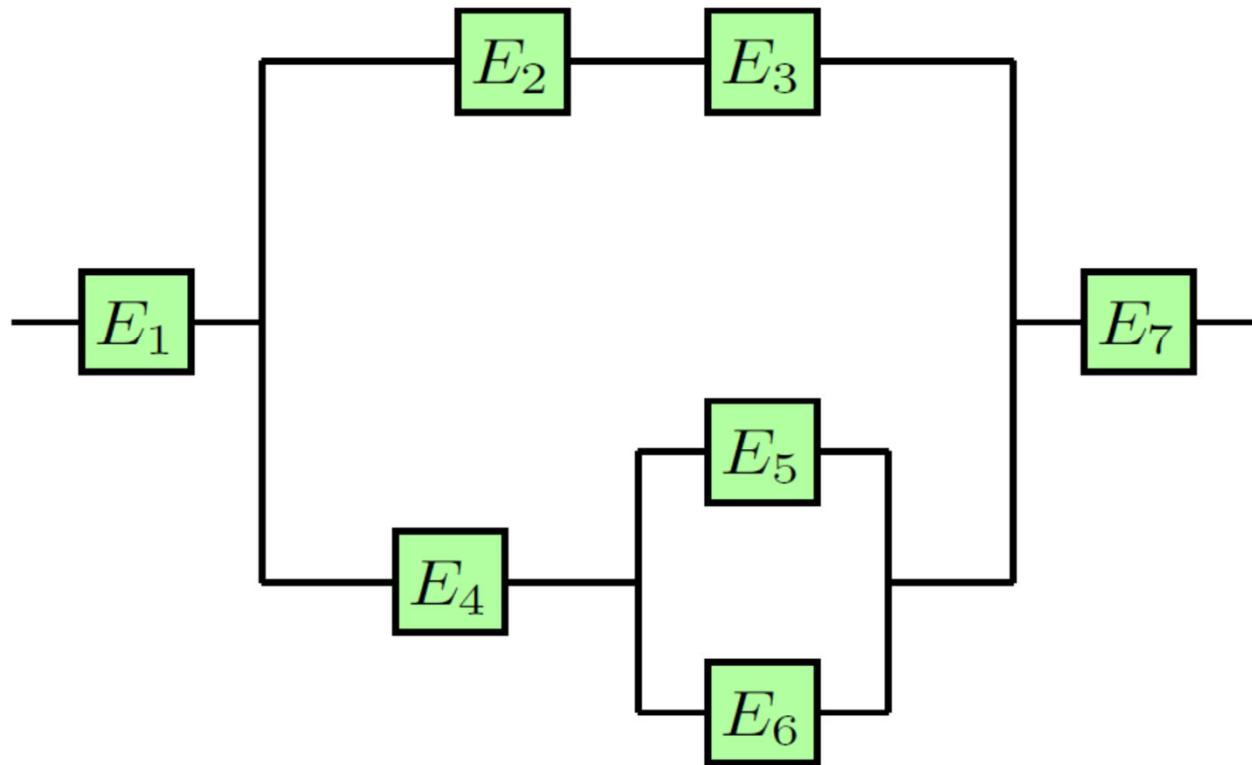
**Answer: 6.27%**

# Circuit → Set equation



Component	$E_1$	$E_2$	$E_3$	$E_4$	$E_5$	$E_6$	$E_7$
Probability of functioning well	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.8

# Circuit → Set equation



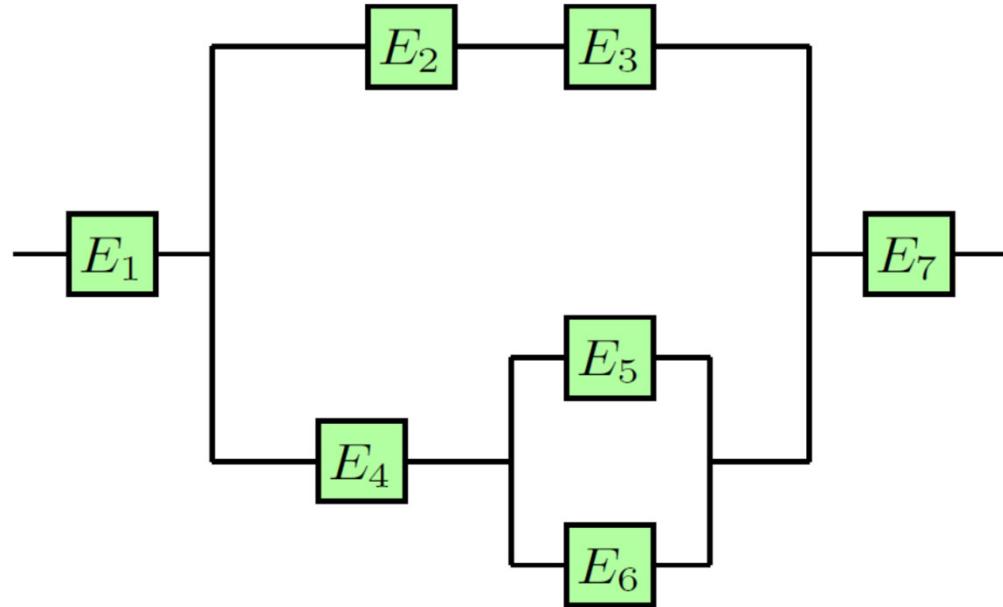
Component	$E_1$	$E_2$	$E_3$	$E_4$	$E_5$	$E_6$	$E_7$
Probability of functioning well	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.8

$$E_1 \cap [(E_2 \cap E_3) \cup (E_4 \cap (E_5 \cup E_6))] \cap E_7.$$

$$P(\text{Works}) = 0.9 \cdot (1 - (1 - 0.5 \cdot 0.3) \cdot (1 - 0.1 \cdot (1 - 0.4 \cdot 0.5))) \cdot 0.8 = 0.15084$$

# Matlab group exercise

- Test our result for this circuit.
- Use `circuit_template.m` on the website



Component	E <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>2</sub>	E <sub>3</sub>	E <sub>4</sub>	E <sub>5</sub>	E <sub>6</sub>	E <sub>7</sub>
Probability of functioning well	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.8