

Using tables for solving conditional probability problems

1) Page 563 #23

Let D be the event that a child dies by age 10 and let C be the event that a child is from a consanguineous marriage. We are given $P(C) = 0.50$, $P(D \text{ given } C') = 0.16$, and $P(D \text{ given } C) = 0.21$. The four joint probabilities $P(D \cap C)$, $P(D' \cap C)$, $P(D \cap C')$, and $P(D' \cap C')$ are in the table below. Those numbers are used to find $P(D)$ and $P(D')$.

Events	D	D'	Totals
C	0.105 $(.21)(.50)$	0.395 $(0.500 - .105)$	$0.50 = P(C)$
C'	0.080 $(.08)(.50)$	0.420 $(0.500 - 0.080)$	$0.50 = P(C') (1 - 0.50)$
Totals	$0.185 = P(D)$	$0.815 = P(D') (1 - 0.185)$	1.00

All the probabilities in the table result from the compliment rule and multiplication rule.

a) We are asked for $P(D')$. $P(D') = 0.815$, the total of the probabilities of the second column.

b) We are asked for $P(D' | C) = P(D' \text{ given } C)$. $P(D' | C) = \frac{P(D' \cap C)}{P(C)} = \frac{0.395}{0.500} = 0.790$

2) Page 569, Example Two

The table of the joint probabilities and totals is below.

Events	E	E'	Totals
F_1	0.3741	0.0559	0.43
F_2	0.0960	0.1440	0.24
F_3	0.2904	0.0396	0.33
Totals	0.7605	0.2395	1.00

As in the previous problem, each cell is a joint probability or simple probability and the multiplication and compliment rules were used to find them.

We are asked for $P(\text{married given has 1 or more children}) = P(F_1 | E)$.

$$P(F_1 | E) = \frac{P(F_1 \cap E)}{P(E)} = \frac{.3741}{.7605} = .491913 \approx .4919$$

