

Law of Total Probability

Assume that A_1, \dots, A_n form a partition of Ω , with $\mathbb{P}(A_i) > 0$ for all i . Then

$$\mathbb{P}(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E|A_i)\mathbb{P}(A_i).$$

Proof

We proved last time that

$$\mathbb{P}(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E \cap A_i),$$

but this is the same equation!