

Answer on Question #38660 – Math – Statistics and Probability

A chartered accountant applies for a job in two firms X and Y. He estimates that the probability of his being selected in firm X is 0.7 and being rejected in Y is 0.5 and the probability that at least one of his applications is rejected is 0.6. What is the probability that he will be selected in one of the firms?

	Rejected	Accepted
Firm X	$1-0.7=0.3$	0.7
Firm Y	0.5	$1-0.5=0.5$
	0.6	0.4

A="selected in firm X", B="selected in firm Y", C="selected at least in one of the firms",

$D = (\bar{A} \cap B) \cup (A \cap \bar{B}) \cup (\bar{A} \cap \bar{B})$ = "at least one of his applications is rejected".

By assignment statement, $\Pr(D) = 0.6$. Then

$$\Pr(A \cap B) = 1 - \Pr(D) = 1 - 0.6 = 0.4$$

Probability that at least one of applications will be selected:

$$\Pr(C) = \Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A \cap B) = 0.7 + 0.5 - 0.4 = 0.8$$

Probability that exactly one of application will be selected

$$\Pr(E) = \Pr((A \cap \bar{B}) \cup (\bar{A} \cap B)) = \Pr(A \cap \bar{B}) + \Pr(\bar{A} \cap B) = \Pr(A/\bar{B})\Pr(\bar{B}) + \Pr(\bar{A}/B)\Pr(B)$$

We cannot calculate this probability without additional assumptions. If we assume that events A and B are independent, then $\Pr(A/\bar{B}) = \Pr(A)$, $\Pr(\bar{A}/B) = \Pr(\bar{A})$.

Finally, with additional assumption we have that probability that exactly one of application will be selected

$$\Pr(E) = \Pr(A/\bar{B})\Pr(\bar{B}) + \Pr(\bar{A}/B)\Pr(B) = \Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(\bar{B}) + \Pr(\bar{A}) \cdot \Pr(B) = 0.7 \cdot 0.5 + 0.3 \cdot 0.5 = 0.5$$