

Re: adding probabilities

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Predictor wrote:

- > *Given no more information than provided in your original*
- > *message, one*
- > *can only infer that the probability of A, by either*
- > *mechanism is "at*
- > *least 0.9".*
- >
- > *The other information needed is the relationship between*
- > *mechanisms 1*
- > *and 2 (their "correlation"). It is possible that*
- > *mechanism 2 only*
- > *causes event A when mechanism 1 already has, which would*
- > *result in a*
- > *probability of 0.9.*
- >
- > *If it is the case that mechanism 2 generates event A in*
- > *all cases when*
- > *mechnism 1 does not, then the probability is 1.0.*
- >
- > *If the outcome of mechanisms 1 and 2 are uncorrelated,*
- > *then the*
- > *formula you derived is correct, although it is usually*
- > *re-arranged*
- > *algebraically as (using your notation):*
- >
- > $P1 + P2 - (P1 * P2)$
- >

In a more general situation, please search Google for
Dempster-Shaeffer theory.

pac

- >
- > -Will Dwinnell
- > <http://will.dwinnell.com>