

QUESTION

You are given the following probabilities relating to two events A and B, $P(A) = 0.5$, $P(B) = 0.7$, $P(A \text{ or } B) = 0.8$. Calculate

(i) $P(A \text{ and } B)$

(ii) $P(A \text{ and not } B)$

(iii) $P(A|B)$

ANSWER

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \text{ and } B) &= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ or } B) \text{ by addition theorem} \\ &= 0.5 + 0.7 - 0.8 = 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) $P(A \text{ and not } B) + P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A)$ (since $(A \text{ and not } B) \text{ or } (A \text{ and } B) = A$, $(A \text{ and not } B) \text{ and } (A \text{ and } B) = \phi$ Therefore
 $P(A \text{ and not } B) = 0.5 - 0.4 = 0.1$

(iii) $P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \text{ and } B)}{P(A)} = \frac{0.4}{0.5} = 0.8$