

## Conditional Probability

CS 70, Summer 2019

Lecture 16, 7/22/19

## Review of Last Thursday

- Proceed **methodically**.
  - What are the possible outcomes?
  - What is the probability for each outcome?
  - Is the sample space uniform or non-uniform?
- For **uniform** probability spaces, boils down to **counting!**
  - Use the same techniques: First Rule, Second Rule, complements, set theory, symmetry, etc.
  - Be consistent between your numerator and denominator

## Making Use of Information I

**Let's play a game.** We have a full, standard deck of cards. I flip the top card and if it's red, I win. If it's black, you win.

What is your probability of winning?  $\frac{1}{2}$

Now, you swipe 6 cards from the bottom of the deck when I'm not looking. **Four are black, and two are red.**

Do you still want to play the game?

46 cards  
22 black.  $P[\text{win}] = \frac{22}{46} = \frac{11}{23} < \frac{1}{2}$

## Making Use of Information II

I flip 3 fair coins. What is the probability of exactly 2 heads?  
Recall: uniform probability space on **8 outcomes**.

HHH TTH  
HHT THT  
HTH HTT  
THH TTT

$$P[2 \text{ heads}] = \frac{3}{8}$$

I flip my first coin, and it is a **head**.

Now, what is the probability I get exactly 2 heads?

HHH ~~TTH~~  
HHT ~~THT~~  
HTH HTT  
~~THH~~ ~~TTT~~

$$P[2 \text{ heads} \mid \text{coin \#1 head}] = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

↑  
"given"

## Multiple Tosses

n coins

1st H

$$P[3 \text{ H total} \mid 1st \text{ H}]$$

H

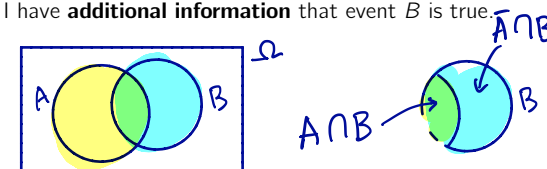
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$n-1, 2H, (n-3)T$

ways to get 2H,  
(n-3)T  $\Leftrightarrow$  Anagrams of

## Conditional Probability

I want to find the probability of event A, in sample space  $\Omega$ .  
I have **additional information** that event B is true.



We need a new sample space,  $\Omega' = B$

$$P[A|B] = \frac{P[A \cap B]}{P[B]}$$

## Sanity Check!

What is  $\mathbb{P}[B|A]$ ?

$$\mathbb{P}[B|A] = \frac{\mathbb{P}[B \cap A]}{\mathbb{P}[A]}$$

List two different ways to write  $\mathbb{P}[A \cap B]$ .

$$\mathbb{P}[A \cap B] = \mathbb{P}[B|A] \cdot \mathbb{P}[A] = \mathbb{P}[A|B] \cdot \mathbb{P}[B]$$

If we know  $\mathbb{P}[A|B]$ , how do we find  $\mathbb{P}[\bar{A}|B]$ ?

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{A}|B] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[A|B]$$

What is  $\mathbb{P}[A|B]$  if  $A, B$  are **disjoint**?

$$\mathbb{P}[A|B] = 0$$

## Pocket Aces

(From notes.) I deal two cards. What is the probability that the second is an ace, given the first is also an ace?

$A = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ card } A$

$B = 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ card } A$

$$\mathbb{P}[B|A] = \frac{\mathbb{P}[B \cap A]}{\mathbb{P}[A]}$$

$$\mathbb{P}[B \cap A] = \frac{4 \times 3}{52 \times 51}$$

$$\mathbb{P}[A] = \frac{4}{52} = \frac{1}{13}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}[B|A] = \frac{\frac{4 \times 3}{52 \times 51}}{\frac{4}{52}} = \frac{3}{51} = \frac{1}{17}$$

"Intuitive way"  
After 1st A  
51 left, 3 aces

$$\mathbb{P}[2^{\text{nd}} A | 1^{\text{st}} A] = \frac{3}{51} = \frac{1}{17}$$

## Dice Roll

I roll a red die and a blue die. Both are fair.

If I know they sum to 6, then what is the probability that the red die is odd?

$A = \text{dice sum to } 6$

$B = \text{red one is odd}$

Goal: compute  $\mathbb{P}[B|A] = \frac{\mathbb{P}[B \cap A]}{\mathbb{P}[A]}$

$$A = \begin{Bmatrix} 15 \\ 24 \\ 33 \\ 42 \\ 51 \end{Bmatrix} \quad B \cap A = \begin{Bmatrix} 15 \\ 33 \\ 51 \end{Bmatrix} \quad \mathbb{P}[B|A] = \frac{3}{5}$$

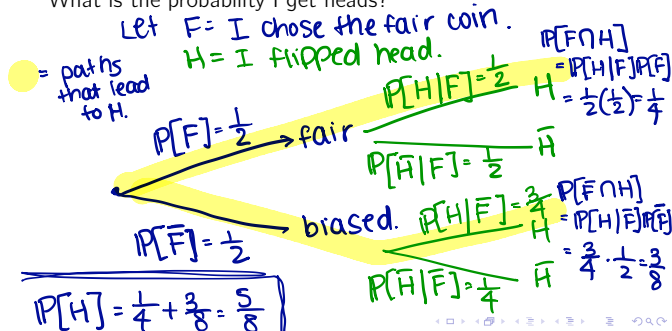
## Probability by Disjoint Cases I

I have two coins: **one fair, one biased**.

The biased coin comes up heads with probability  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

I pick one coin **uniformly at random**.  $\leftarrow$  each prob.  $\frac{1}{2}$

What is the probability I get heads?



## Probability by Disjoint Cases II "with probability"

Each day, the weather in Berkeley is sunny wp 0.7, cloudy wp 0.2, and rainy wp 0.1.

On a sunny day, there is a 0.2 probability I need a jacket.

On a cloudy day, this probability is 0.5.

On a rainy day, this probability is 0.8.

What is the probability that I **don't** need a jacket?

$W_1 = \text{sunny}$

$W_2 = \text{cloudy}$

$W_3 = \text{rainy}$

$J = \text{need jacket}$

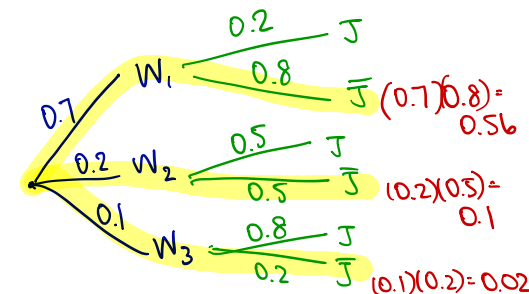
$$\mathbb{P}[W_1] = 0.7 \quad \mathbb{P}[J|W_1] = 0.2$$

$$\mathbb{P}[W_2] = 0.2 \quad \mathbb{P}[J|W_2] = 0.5$$

$$\mathbb{P}[W_3] = 0.1 \quad \mathbb{P}[J|W_3] = 0.8$$

## Probability by Disjoint Cases II

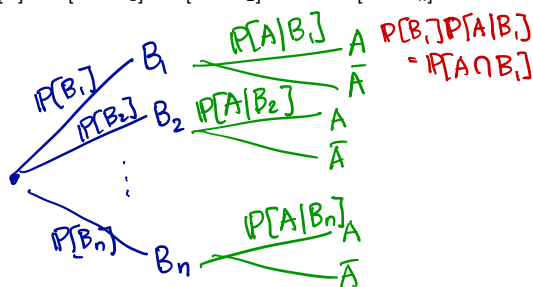
$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{J}] = 0.56 + 0.1 + 0.02 = 0.68$$



## Total Probability Rule: Tree View

Let  $B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n$  be a partition of the space.   
*cases*   
*disjoint from each other*   
*cover the space.*

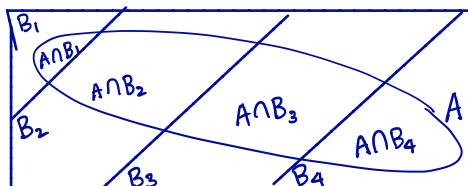
$$\mathbb{P}[A] = \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_1] + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_2] + \dots + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_n]$$



## Total Probability Rule: Set View

Let  $B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n$  be a partition of the space.

$$\mathbb{P}[A] = \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_1] + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_2] + \dots + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_n]$$



## Total Probability Rule: Algebra View

Let  $B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n$  be a partition of the space.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[A] &= \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_1] + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_2] + \dots + \mathbb{P}[A \cap B_n] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[A|B_1]\mathbb{P}[B_1] + \mathbb{P}[A|B_2]\mathbb{P}[B_2] + \dots \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}[A|B_i]\mathbb{P}[B_i] \end{aligned}$$

Two Cases,  $B$  and  $\bar{B}$ :

$$\mathbb{P}[A] = \mathbb{P}[A|B]\mathbb{P}[B] + \mathbb{P}[A|\bar{B}]\mathbb{P}[\bar{B}]$$

## Tip: Label Your Information!

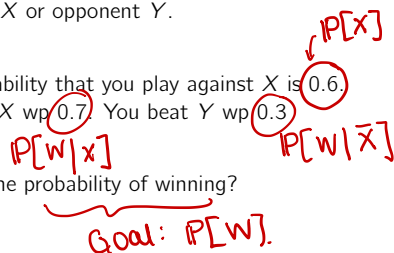
Let  $X$  = we play opponent  $X$   
 $W$  = we win!!

(From notes.) You're slated to play a match against either opponent  $X$  or opponent  $Y$ .

The probability that you play against  $X$  is 0.6.

You beat  $X$  w.p. 0.7. You beat  $Y$  w.p. 0.3.

What is the probability of winning?



## Consolidate and Solve!

$$\mathbb{P}[W|X] = 0.7 \quad \mathbb{P}[W|\bar{X}] = 0.3$$

$$\mathbb{P}[X] = 0.6 \quad \mathbb{P}[\bar{X}] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[X] = 0.4$$

USE Total Probability!

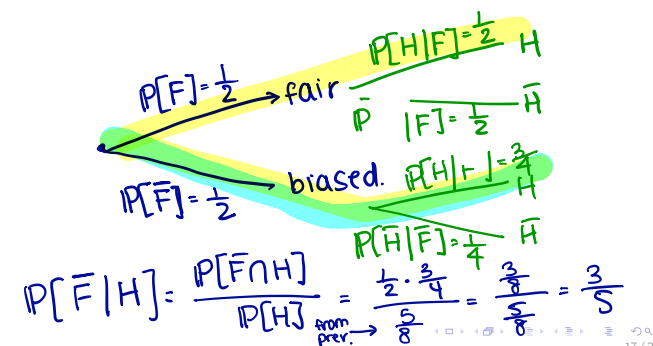
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[W] &= \mathbb{P}[W|X] \cdot \mathbb{P}[X] + \mathbb{P}[W|\bar{X}] \cdot \mathbb{P}[\bar{X}] \\ &= (0.7)(0.6) + (0.3)(0.4) \\ &= 0.42 + 0.12 = 0.54 \end{aligned}$$

## Bayesian Inference

I have two coins: **one fair, one biased.**

The biased coin comes up heads with probability  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

I got a head. What is the probability my coin was biased?



## Bayes' Rule: Two Cases

We **partition** our space into two events,  $B, \bar{B}$ .  
Say we know  $\mathbb{P}[A|B]$ ,  $\mathbb{P}[A|\bar{B}]$ , and  $\mathbb{P}[B]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[B|A] &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[B \cap A]}{\mathbb{P}[A]} && \leftarrow \text{definition.} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[A|B] \mathbb{P}[B]}{\mathbb{P}[A|B] \mathbb{P}[B] + \mathbb{P}[A|\bar{B}] \mathbb{P}[\bar{B}]} && \leftarrow \text{definition} \\ &&& \uparrow \text{Total Prob. Rule.}\end{aligned}$$

## Bayes' Rule: Multiple Cases

We **partition** our space into events,  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$ .  
Say we know  $\mathbb{P}[A|B_i]$  for all  $i$ , and  $\mathbb{P}[B_i]$  for all  $i$ .

$$\mathbb{P}[B|A] =$$

\* NOTES  
\* Same as previous, except diff form of T.P.R.

## Tip: Label Your Information!

(From notes.) A pharmaceutical company is marketing a new test for a certain disease.

$A$  = someone is affected.

$P$  = Test is positive

- When applied to an affected person, the test is positive wp **0.9**. It is negative wp **0.1** (**false negative**).

$$\mathbb{P}[P|A]$$

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{P}|A]$$

- When applied to an unaffected person, the test is negative wp **0.8**. It is positive wp **0.2** (**false positive**).

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{P}|\bar{A}]$$

$$\mathbb{P}[P|\bar{A}]$$

## Tip: Label Your Information!

The disorder affects **5%** of the population.

$\mathbb{P}[A] = 0.05$  "prior" - prob. w/out any observation

What is the probability that a person is affected if they test positive?

$\mathbb{P}[A|P]$  "posterior" prob. w/ observation

## Consolidate and Solve!

$$\mathbb{P}[P|A] = 0.9 \quad \mathbb{P}[P|\bar{A}] = 0.2 \quad \text{Total Prob.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[A] &= 0.05 \quad \mathbb{P}[\bar{A}] = 0.95 \\ \text{Apply Bayes' Rule} \quad \mathbb{P}[A|P] &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[A \cap P]}{\mathbb{P}[P]} = \frac{\mathbb{P}[P|A] \mathbb{P}[A]}{\mathbb{P}[P|A] \mathbb{P}[A] + \mathbb{P}[P|\bar{A}] \mathbb{P}[\bar{A}]} \\ &= \frac{(0.9)(0.05)}{(0.9)(0.05) + (0.2)(0.95)} \\ &= \frac{0.045}{0.045 + 0.19}\end{aligned}$$

## Summary

- The **conditional probability** of  $A$  given  $B$  (i.e.  $\mathbb{P}[A|B]$ ) involves **restricting the sample space** to  $B$

- Lets you compute  $\mathbb{P}[A \cap B]$  as well:

$$\mathbb{P}[A \cap B] = \mathbb{P}[A|B] \mathbb{P}[B] = \mathbb{P}[B|A] \mathbb{P}[A]$$

- "Total probability rule" is a fancy way of saying **probability by disjoint cases**
- "Bayes' Rule" is just an application of the definition of conditional probability and total probability rule.
  - Lets you **"flip"** the conditioning:  
Given information like  $\mathbb{P}[A|B_i]$ , compute  $\mathbb{P}[B_i|A]$ .