Bayesian Reasoning

Lecture 17

Statistics is a tool to aid and organize our reasoning and beliefs about the world Statistics primer for Bayesian thinking

BOOLEAN-VALUED RANDOM VARIABLES

Discrete Boolean-valued random variables

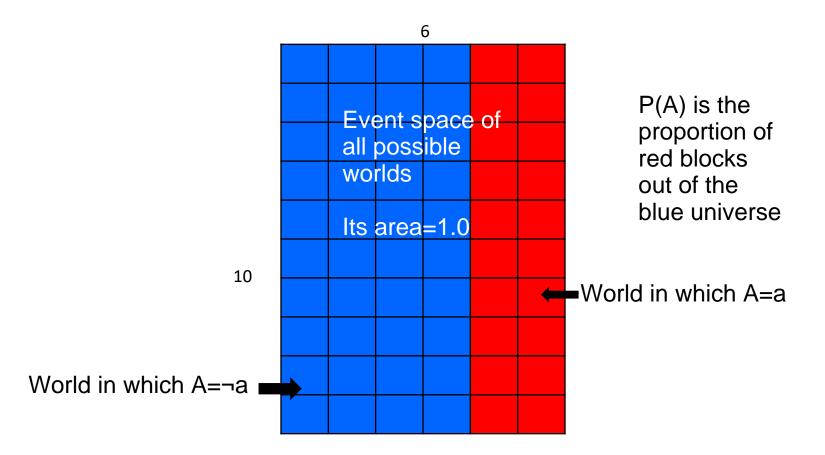
A is a Boolean-valued random variable if A denotes an event, and there is some degree of uncertainty as to whether A occurs or not.

Examples:

- P = True: The US president in 2024 will be male
- P=¬True: The US president will not be a male
- H = True: You wake up tomorrow with a headache
- H=¬True: No headache

Probabilities

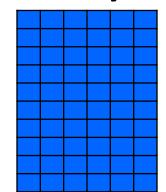
We write P(A=a), or P(A=true) or simple P(A) as "the fraction of possible worlds where A=a is true"

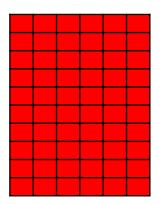


The Axioms of Probability

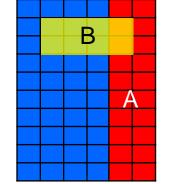
We do not need to prove that:

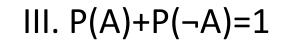
I. 0<= P(A=a)<=1

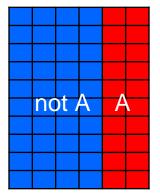




II. P(A or B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A and B)

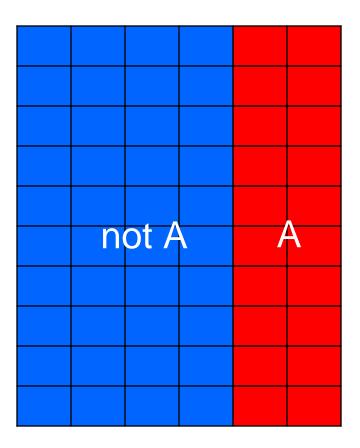






Theorems of Probability: Theorem 1

P(¬A)=1-P(A)

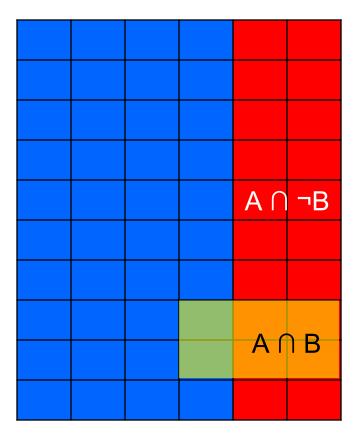


Theorems of Probability: Theorem 2

В

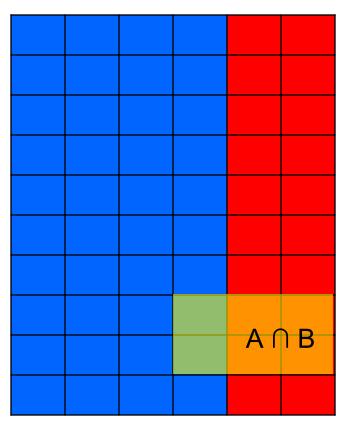
Α

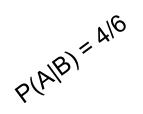
 $P(A)=P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap \neg B)$



Conditional probability: definition

P(A|B) = fraction of worlds in which A is true
 out of all the worlds where B is true

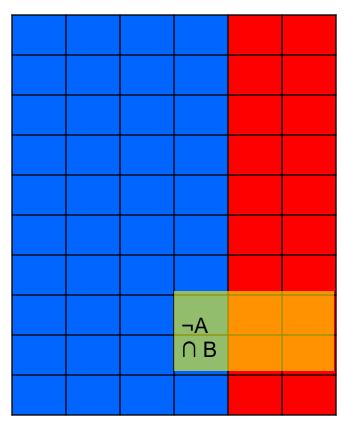




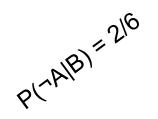
CP definition: $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B) / P(B)$

Conditional probability: definition

 P(A|B) = fraction of worlds in which A is true out of all the worlds where B is true



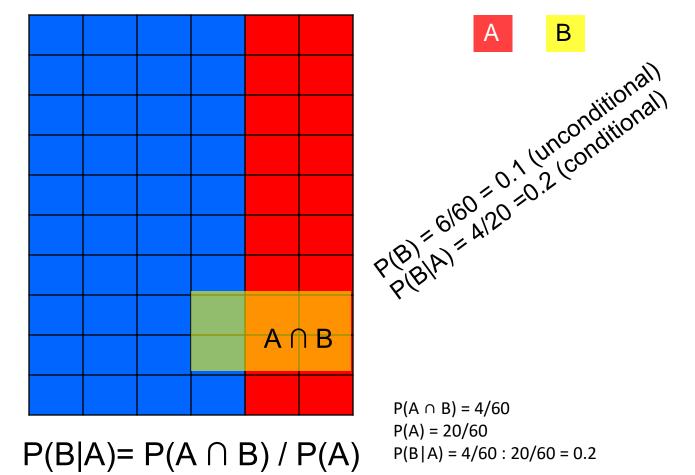




 $P(\neg A|B) = P(\neg A \cap B) / P(B)$

Conditional probability: definition

 P(B|A) = fraction of worlds in which B is true out of all the worlds where A is true



Probabilistic independence

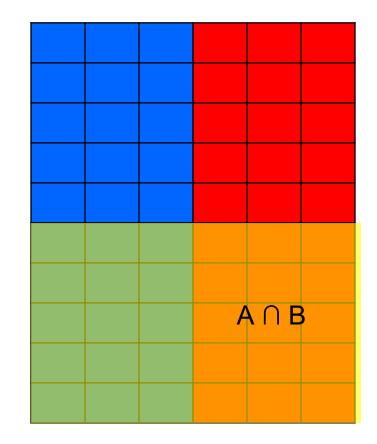
Two random variables A and B are *mutually independent* if

P(A|B) = P(A), which means that:

Knowing that B is true (or false)

does not change the probability of A

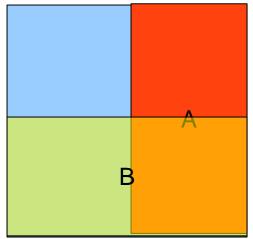
P(A B) = P(A)	15/30 = 30/60
$P(\neg A B) = P(\neg A)$	15/30 = 30/60
$P(A \neg B) = P(A)$	15/30 = 30/60
$P(\neg A \neg B) = P(A)$	15/30 = 30/60



Independent and mutually exclusive events

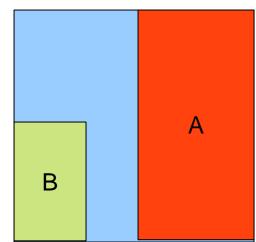
A is *independent* of B: knowing that B is true (or false) does not change the probability of A:

 $\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{A} \,|\, \mathsf{B}) = \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{A})$



A and B are *mutually exclusive* – not independent variables: if A is true then B is false, if A is false then B is true with probability P(B|¬A)

 $P(A \cap B)=0$



Joint probability of two events

From the definition of conditional probabilities:

 $P(A | B) = P(A \cap B) / P(B)$

we can compute $P(A \cap B)$ – that both events happened together:

 $P(A \cap B) = P(A | B)P(B)$

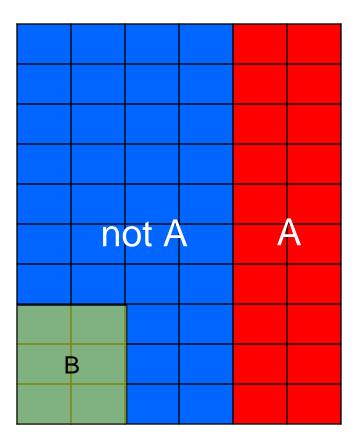
If A and B are *independent* that becomes:

 $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

Probability of two mutually exclusive events

If A and B are mutually exclusive: P(A or B)=P(A)+P(B)-P(A and B)

A and $\neg A$ are mutually exclusive: P(A or $\neg A$)=P(A) + P($\neg A$) = 1



Conditional independence

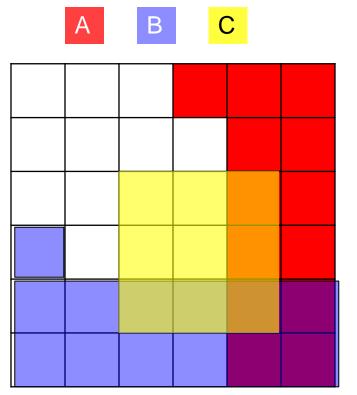
Conditional independence means that once you know the value of 1 random variable, other variables become independent

Example: (Height, Vocabulary) are not independent since very small people tend to be children, known for their more basic vocabularies

But given that two people are 19 years old (i.e., conditional on age) there is no reason to think that one person's vocabulary is larger if we are told that they are taller.

So given that we know Age, we can calculate joint conditional probability of (Height, Vocabulary) as a simple multiplication.

Conditional independence of 2 variables given the third



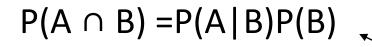
 $P(A \cap B \mid C) = 1/9$ $P(A \cap B) = 4/36 = 1/9$ $P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \cap B)$ $P(A \mid C) = 3/9$ $P(B \mid C) = 3/9$ $P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \mid C) * P(B \mid C)$

A and B are independent in the world where C is True (C is known, it occured)

However, in general A and B are not independent:

 $P(A) = 13/36 \approx 0.36$, and $P(A|B) = 4/13 \approx 0.31 \rightarrow P(A) \neq P(A|B)$

Bayes theorem



On the other hand:

```
    From definition of
    Conditional probability
```

```
P(B \cap A) = P(B|A)P(A)
```

P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)

and we can express conditional probability of A given B through conditional probability of B given A and unconditional probabilities of A and B:

P(A|B) = P(B|A)P(A)/P(B)

Multiple Boolean random variables

All theorems for 2 Boolean-valued random variables can be extended to several random variables $C, E_1, E_2, ..., E_n$.

Let *C*, E_1 , E_2 ,..., E_n be Boolean-valued random variables.

For convenience, we will let *E* denote the n-tuple of random variables $(E_1, E_2, ..., E_n)$ $E_1, E_2, ..., E_n = E$ $P(C \cap E_1 \cap E_2 \cap ... \cap E_n) = P(C, E_1, E_2, ..., E_n) = P(C, E)$ Chain rule:

 $P(C,E)=P(C)P(E_{1}|C,E_{2},...E_{n})P(E_{2}|C,E_{1},E_{3},...,E_{n})x...xP(E_{n}|C,E_{1},...E_{n-1})$

Multiple variables dependent on C

C – condition E – evidence (event)

If E_1, \dots, E_n are mutually *conditionally* independent given C: P(C,E)=P(C)P(E_1|C)P(E_2|C)x...xP(E_n|C)

And from Bayes theorem:

P(C|E)=P(C,E)/P(E)

That gives you a formula of the probability that the unknown condition C was true given a set of known evidences E

Main lecture

Bayesian Reasoning

Outline

- Belief and evidence
- Empirical reasoning: always probabilistic
- Inductive reasoning with probabilities
- Bayes method for updating beliefs
- Naïve Bayes classifier

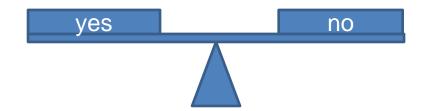
Belief and evidence Inductive reasoning

- Critical thinking: always have good reasons for your beliefs
- Some reasons are 100% true some only probable
- Inductive reasoning with probabilities: you always have a chance of being wrong

http://www.starwars.com/video/never-tell-me-the-odds

In the absence of facts

John will not be at the party



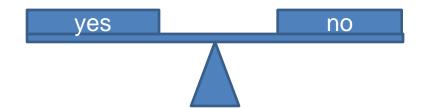
What are the odds?

Invalid (illogical) reasoning

I do not like John

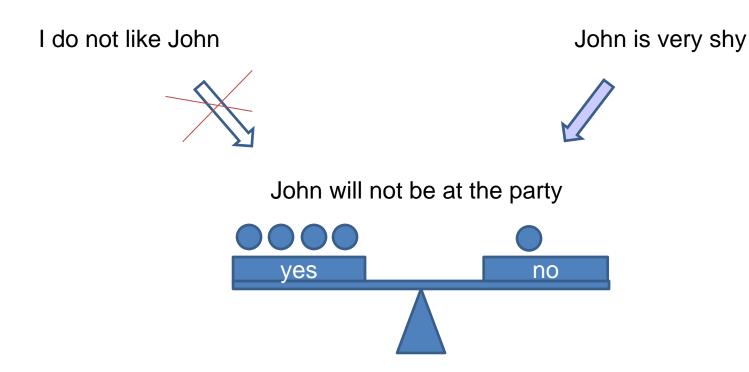


John will not be at the party



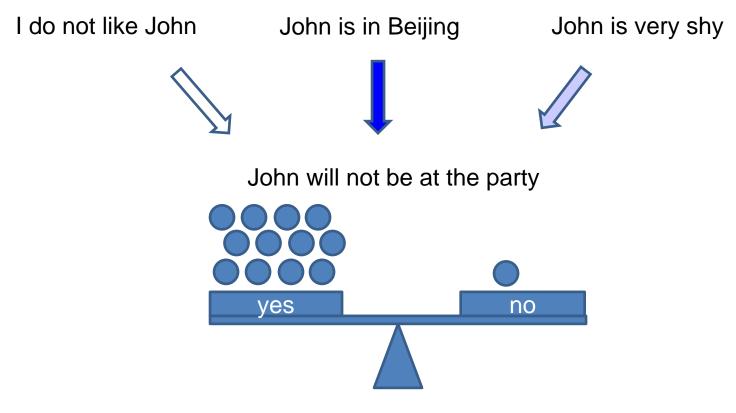
What are the odds?

Probabilistic reasoning: valid fact (evidence)



What are the odds given this fact?

More facts – update your beliefs



What are the odds?

Bayesian beliefs

- How do we judge that something is true?
- Can mathematics help make judgments more accurate?
- Bayes: our believes should be updated as new evidence becomes available



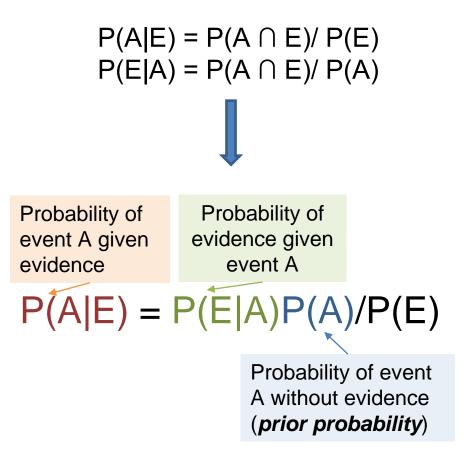
Г. Вацез. 1701 - 1761

Bayes' method for updating beliefs

- There are 2 events: A and not A (B) which you believe occur with probabilities P(A) and P(B). Estimation P(A):P(B) represents *odds* of A vs. B.
- Collect evidence data E.
- Re-estimate P(A|E):P(B|E) and update your beliefs.

Probabilities. Bayes theorem

Bayes theorem (formalized by Laplace)



Inverse probabilities are typically easier to ascertain

Bayes' method with probabilities

- There are 2 events: A and not A (B) which you believe occur with probabilities P(A) and P(B). Estimation P(A):P(B) represents odds of A vs. B.
- Collect evidence data E.
- Re-estimate P(A|E):P(B|E) and update your beliefs.

The updated odds are computed as:

$$\frac{P(A|E)}{P(B|E)} = \frac{P(E|A)P(A)/P(E)}{P(E|B)P(B)/P(E)}$$

Bayes' method with probabilities

- There are 2 events: A and not A (B) which you believe occur with probabilities P(A) and P(B). Estimation P(A):P(B) represents odds of A vs. B.
- Collect evidence data E.
- Re-estimate P(A|E):P(B|E) and update your beliefs.

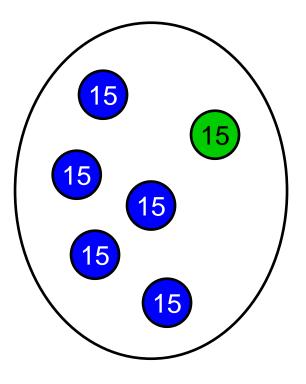
or simply $\frac{P(A|E)}{P(B|E)} = \frac{P(E|A)P(A)}{P(E|B)P(B)}$

Explanation by example: hit-and-run (fictitious)

- Taxicab company has 75 blue cabs (B) and 15 green cabs (G)
- At night when there are no other cars on the street: hit-and-run episode

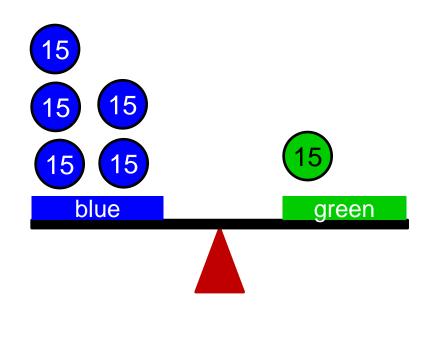
Question: what is more probable:
 B or G

?



Adopted from: The numbers behind NUMB3RS: solving crime with mathematics by Devlin and Lorden.

What is more probable: B or G



P(B):P(G)=5:1

New evidence

- Witness: "I saw a green cab": E_G
- What is the probability that the witness really saw a green car?
- Witness is tested at night conditions: identifies correct color 4 times out of 5

• The eyewitness test shows:

 $P(E_G | G) = 4/5$ (correctly identified)

 $P(E_G | B) = 1/5$ (incorrectly identified)

Updating the odds

• In our case we want to compare:

the car was **G** given a witness testimony E_G : $P(G|E_G)$ vs.

the car was **B** given a witness testimony E_G : $P(B|E_G)$

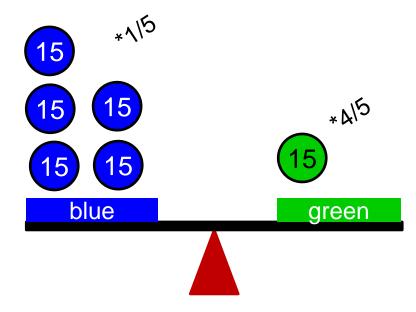
Note: There is no way to know which of 2 was true, we just estimate

Back to hit-and-run

All cabs were on the streets:

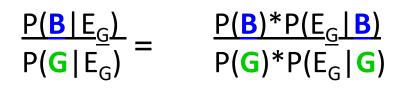
Prior odds ratio: P(B) : P(G) = 5/1

Updated odds ratio: $\frac{P(B|E_G)}{P(G|E_G)} = \frac{P(B)*P(E_G|B)}{P(G)*P(E_G|G)}$

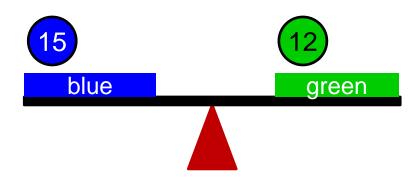


 $P(E_G | G) = 4/5$ (correctly identified) $P(E_G | B) = 1/5$ (incorrectly identified)

New odds



Still 5:4 odds that the car was B!



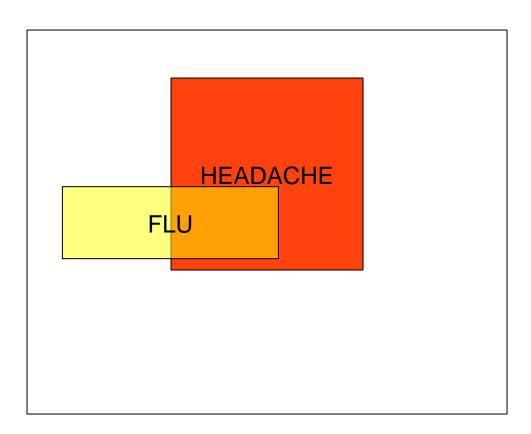
Hit-and-run: full calculation

P(B) = 5/6, P(G) = 1/6 $P(E_G | G) = 4/5 P(E_G | B) = 1/5$

- Probability that car was green given the evidence E_G : P(G|E_G)= P(G)* P(E_G|G) /P(E_G) = [1/6 * 4/5] / P(E_G) =4/30P(E_G) //- 4 parts of 30P(X_G)
- Probability that car was **blue** given the evidence X_G : $P(B|E_G) = P(B)*P(E_G|B)/P(E_G) = [5/6 * 1/5]/P(E_G) = 5/30P(E_G)$ //- 5 parts of $30P(X_G)$

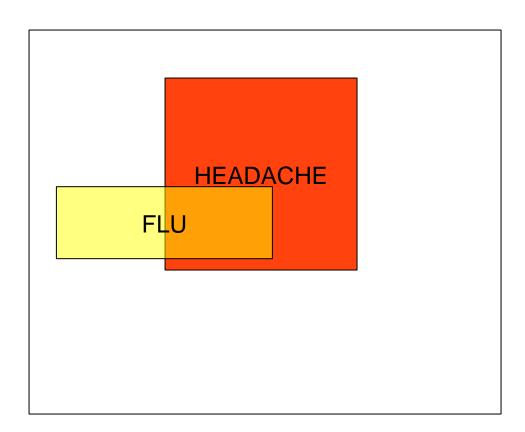
P(H)=1/10 P(F)=1/40 P(H|F)=1/2

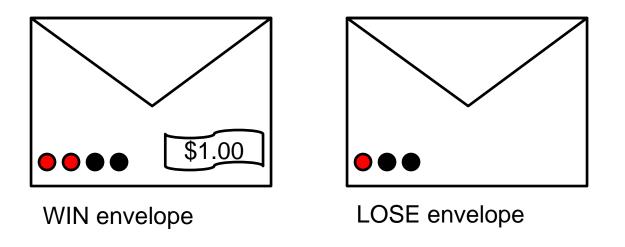
P(F|H) =?



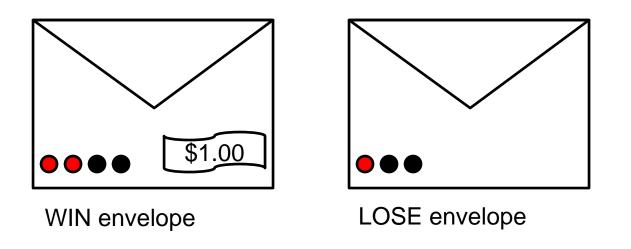
P(H)=1/10 P(F)=1/40 P(H|F)=1/2

P(F|H) =P(H|F)P(F)/P(H) =1/2*1/40 *10=1/8

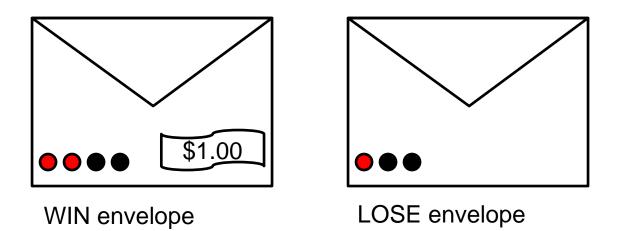




Someone draws an envelope at random and offers to sell it to you. How much should you pay? The probability to win is 1:1. Pay no more than 50c.



Variant: before deciding, you are allowed to see one bead drawn from the envelope. Suppose it's black: How much should you pay? Suppose it's red: How much should you pay?



Variant: before deciding, you are allowed to see one bead drawn from the envelope.

Suppose it's black: How much should you pay? P(W|b)=P(b|W)P(W)/P(b) = (1/2*1/2)/P(b)=1/4*1/P(b) P(L|b)=P(b|L)P(L)/P(b)=(2/3*1/2)/P(b) = 1/3*1/P(b)Probability to win is now 3:4 – pay not more than \$(3/7)

Suppose it's red: How much should you pay? - the same logic

When you want to:

- <u>Determine the probability of having a medical</u> <u>condition after positive test results</u>
- Find out a probable outcome of political elections
- Improve machine-learning performance
- Even to <u>"prove"</u> or <u>"disprove"</u> the existence of God

Use Bayesian Reasoning

Mathematical *predictions*

- We can 'predict' where the spacecraft will be at noon in 2 months from now
- We cannot predict where you will be tomorrow at noon
- But, based on numerous observations (evidence), we can estimate the probability

Outline

- Belief and evidence
- Empirical reasoning: always probabilistic
- Inductive reasoning with probabilities
- Bayes method for updating beliefs
- Naïve Bayes classifier

Need for probabilistic learners

- Given the evidence (data),
 can we certainly derive
 the diagnostic classification rule:
 if Toothache=true then Cavity=true ?
- This rule isn't right always.
 - Not all patients with toothache have cavities some of them have gum disease, an abscess, etc.
- We could try an inverted association rule:

if Cavity=true then Toothache=true

 But this rule isn't necessarily right either: not all cavities cause pain.

Name	Name Toothache		Cavity	
Smith	Smith true		true	
Mike	Mike true		true	
Mary false		•••	true	
Quincy	true	•••	false	
•••	•••	•••		

Historical data

Certainty and Probability

- The connection between toothaches and cavities is not a certain logical consequence in either direction.
- However, we can provide a **probability** that given an evidence (toothache) the patient has cavity.
- For this we need to know:
 - Prior probability of having cavity: how many times dentist patients had cavities: P(cavity)
 - The number of times that the evidence (toothache) was observed among all cavity patients: P(toothache|cavity)

Bayes' Rule for diagnostic probability

Bayes' rule:

P(A|B)=P(A)*P(B|A)/P(B)

Useful for assessing diagnostic probability from symptomatic probability as:

P(Cause | Symptom) = P(Symptom | Cause) P(Cause) / P(Symptom)

 Bayes's rule is useful in practice because there are many cases where we do have good probability estimates for these three numbers and need to compute the fourth

Classifier based on Bayes rule

- Given data evidence we can build a classifier which will classify a new record as class C (yes or no) by comparing probabilities of yes and of no
- In this case all the attributes except *C* are evidences *E*
- The machine learning task is to evaluate P(E|C) from historical data and based on P(E|C) and prior probabilities P(C=Yes) and P(C=No) compare P(C=Yes|E) and P(C=No|E) using Bayes rule.

Single-evidence classifier: priors

event (class)

Humidity	Play	
High	No	
High	No	
High	Yes	
High	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	No	
Normal	Yes	
High	No	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
High	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
High	No	

Prior probabilities:

P(Play=yes)=9/14, P(play=no)=5/14

From recording only 'play'/'not play' we have
5:9 odds for play to be canceled today

Single-evidence classifier: humidity

event

evidence (class)

Humidity	Play	
High	No	
High	No	
High	Yes	
High	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	No Yes	
Normal		
High	No	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
High	Yes	
Normal	Yes	
High	No	

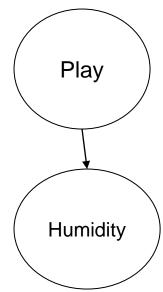
- Priors: P(Play=yes)=9/14, P(play=no)=5/14
- After adding evidence about Humidity we have:

How many times Humidity=normal out of all 9 Yes's: P(normal|yes)=6/9

How many times Humidity=normal out of all 5 No's:

P(normal|no)=1/5

Similarly:
 P(high|yes)=3/9
 P(high|no)=4/5



Single-evidence classifier: prediction

event

evidence (class)

• • • • • • • • • • •	(Clubb)		
Humidity	Play		
High	No		
High	No		
High	Yes		
High	Yes		
Normal	Yes		
Normal	No Yes		
Normal			
High	No		
Normal	Yes		
Normal	Yes		
Normal	Yes		
High	Yes		
Normal	Yes		
High	No		

- P(yes)=9/14, P(no)=5/14
- P(high|yes)=3/9
- P(high|no)=4/5

Today is a high humidity day, what is the probability to play?

- P(yes|high)=P(yes)*P(high|yes)/P(high)
- P(no|high)=P(no)*P(high|no)/P(high)

Single-evidence classifier: prediction

event

evidence (class)

Humidity	Play
High	No
High	No
High	Yes
High	Yes
Normal	Yes
Normal	No
Normal	Yes
High	No
Normal	Yes
Normal	Yes
Normal	Yes
High	Yes
Normal	Yes
High	No

P(yes)=9/14, P(no)=5/14 P(high|yes)=3/9 P(high|no)=4/5

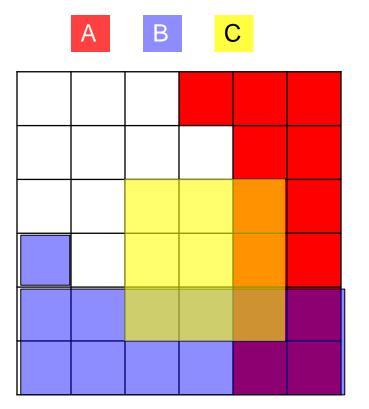
Today is a high humidity day, what is the probability to play?

P(yes|high)=P(yes)*P(high|yes)/P(high) = $[9/14*3/9] * 1/P(high) = 3/14 \alpha$

P(no|high)=P(no)*P(high|no)/P(high) = [5/14*4/5]* 1/P(high) = 4/14 α

3:4 odds to play given high humidity (vs. 9:5 before the evidence)

Conditional independence of 2 variables given the third



 $P(A \cap B \mid C) = 1/9$ $P(A \cap B) = 4/36 = 1/9$ $P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \cap B)$ $P(A \mid C) = 3/9$ $P(B \mid C) = 3/9$ $P(A \cap B \mid C) = P(A \mid C) * P(B \mid C)$

A and B are independent in the world where C is True (C is known, it occured)

However, in general A and B are not independent:

 $P(A) = 13/36 \approx 0.36$, and $P(A|B) = 4/13 \approx 0.31 \rightarrow P(A) \neq P(A|B)$

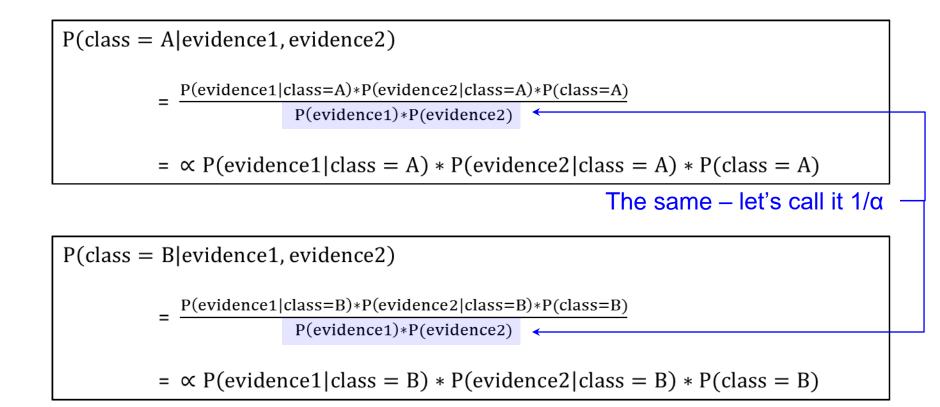
Bayes' rule – two evidences

 $P(class = B|evidence1, evidence2) = \frac{P(evidence1, evidence2|class=B)*P(class=B)}{P(evidence1, evidence2)}$

If evidence1 is conditionally independent of evidence2 given class value:

 $P(class = B|evidence1, evidence2) = \frac{P(evidence1|class=B)*P(evidence2|class=B)P(class=B)}{P(evidence1, evidence2)}$

Comparing probability of 2 classes



This approach only holds if **we assume conditional independence** between evidence1, evidence2

Generalized

for N evidences

P(class = A|evidence1, evidence2, ..., evidenceN)

 $= \frac{P(\text{evidence1}|\text{class}=A) * \dots * P(\text{evidence}N|\text{class}=A) * P(\text{class}=A)}{P(\text{evidence1}) * \dots * P(\text{evidenceN})}$

= \propto P(evidence1|class = A) * ··· * (evidenceN|class = A) * P(class = A)

• Two assumptions:

Attributes (evidences) are:

- equally important
- conditionally independent (given the class value)
- This means that knowledge about the value of a particular attribute doesn't tell us anything about the value of another attribute **given the class value** (inside the same class)

Naïve Bayes classifier

To predict class value for a set of attribute values (evidences) - for each class value A_i compute and compare:

P(class = A|evidence1, evidence2, ..., evidenceN)

 $\underline{P(evidence1|class=A)*\cdots*P(evidenceN|class=A)*P(class=A)}$

P(evidence1)*…*P(evidenceN)

= \propto P(evidence1|class = A) * ··· * (evidenceN|class = A) * P(class = A)

- Naïve because it assumes <u>conditional</u> independence of variables
- Although based on assumptions that are almost never correct, this scheme works well in practice!

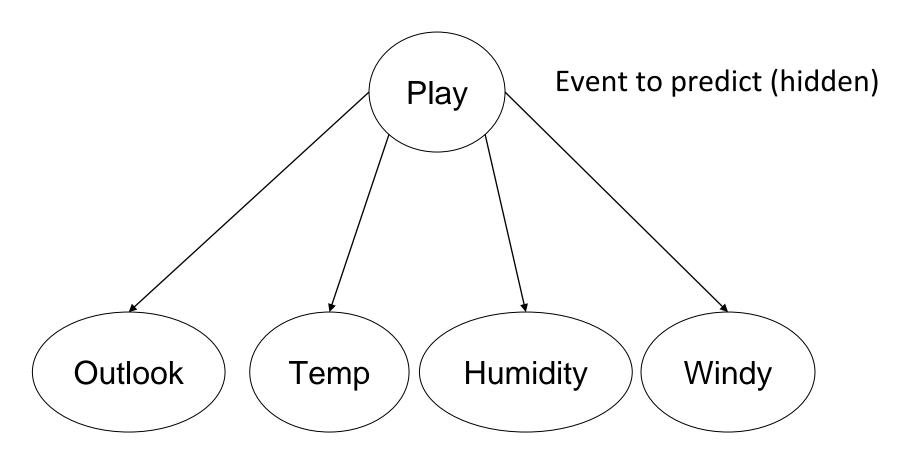
The weather data example

Outlook	Temp.	Humidity Wine		Play
Sunny	Hot	High	False	No
Sunny	Hot	High	True	No
Overcast	Hot	High	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	High	False	Yes
Rainy	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Cool	Normal	True	No
Overcast	Cool	Normal	True	Yes
Sunny	Mild	High	False	No
Sunny	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	Normal	False	Yes
Sunny	Mild	Normal	True	Yes
Overcast	Mild	High	True	Yes
Overcast	Hot	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	High	True	No

A new day:

Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
Sunny	Cool	High	True	?

Multi-evidence classifier



Set of evidences (demonstrate themselves)

The weather data example: probabilities

Outlo	ook Tem	ip. Hum	nidity Windy	/ Play		End			
Sunr	iy Coo	l High	n True	?	•	Evia	ence E		
					Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
					Sunny	Hot	High	False	No
					Sunny	Hot	High	True	No
Play	Sunny	Cool	High humidity	Windy= true	Overcast	Hot	High	False	Yes
	2/0	2/0	•		Rainy	Mild	High	False	Yes
Yes: 9	2/9	3/ 9	3/ 9	3/9	- Rainy	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
No: 5	3/5	1/5	4/5	3/5	Rainy	Cool	Normal	True	No
Total	5	4	7		5 Overcast	Cool	Normal	True	Yes
					Sunny	Mild	High	False	No
					Sunny	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
					Rainy	Mild	Normal	False	Yes
					Sunny	Mild	Normal	True	Yes
					Overcast	Mild	High	True	Yes
					Overcast	Hot	Normal	False	Yes
					Rainy	Mild	High	True	No

The weather data example: yes

Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
Sunny	Cool	High	True	?

— Evidence E

Play	Sunny	Cool	High humidity	Windy= true
Yes: 9	2/9	3/9	3/9	3/9
No: 5	3/5	1/5	4/5	3/5
Total	5	4	7	6

Don't worry about the 1/P(E): It's alpha - the normalization constant.

The weather data example: no

Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
Sunny	Cool	High	True	?

— Evidence E

/1/ / *

Play	Sunny	Cool	High humidity	Windy= true
Yes: 9	2/9	3/9	3/9	3/9
No: 5	3/5	1/5	4/5	3/5
Total	5	4	7	6

The weather data example: decision

Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
Sunny	Cool	High	True	?

P(yes | E) = 0.0053 / P(E) P(no | E) = 0.0206 / P(E)

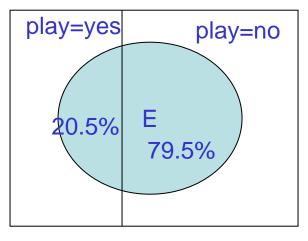
More probable: no.

It would be nice to give the actual probability estimates

Evidence E

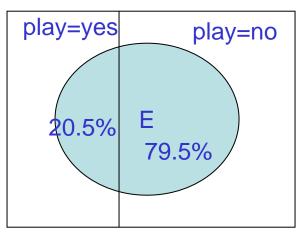
Outlook	Temp.	Humidity	Windy	Play
Sunny	Hot	High	False	No
Sunny	Hot	High	True	No
Overcast	Hot	High	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	High	False	Yes
Rainy	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Cool	Normal	True	No
Overcast	Cool	Normal	True	Yes
Sunny	Mild	High	False	No
Sunny	Cool	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	Normal	False	Yes
Sunny	Mild	Normal	True	Yes
Overcast	Mild	High	True	Yes
Overcast	Hot	Normal	False	Yes
Rainy	Mild	High	True	No

Normalization constant 1/P(E)



```
\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{play=yes} \mid \mathsf{E}) + \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{play=no} \mid \mathsf{E}) = 1 & \text{i.e.} \\ 0.0053 / \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{E}) + 0.0206 / \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{E}) = 1 & \text{i.e.} \\ \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{E}) = 0.0053 + 0.0206 \\ \mathsf{So}, \\ \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{play=yes} \mid \mathsf{E}) = 0.0053 / (0.0053 + 0.0206) = \mathbf{20.5\%} \\ \mathsf{P}(\mathsf{play=no} \mid \mathsf{E}) = 0.0206 / (0.0053 + 0.0206) = \mathbf{79.5\%} \end{array}
```

In other words:



P(play=yes | E) + P(play=no | E) = 1 P(play=yes | E) / P (play=no | E) = 0.0053 : 0.0206 = 0.26

0.26 * P (play=no | E) + P (play=no | E) = 1 P (play=no | E) = 1/1.26 = 79% The remaining goes to yes: P(play=yes |E) = 21%