

Unions, Intersections, Independence, Conditioning, Bayes' Formula

Outline

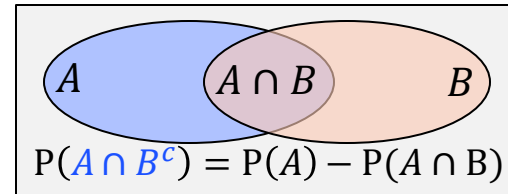
- ◆ Unions, Intersections
- ◆ Independence
- ◆ Conditioning
- ◆ Bayes' Formula

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Unions, Intersections, Complements

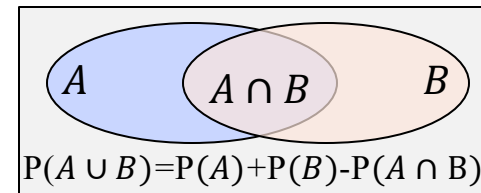
- ◆ A probability model is a triplet $(\Omega, \mathfrak{S}, P)$
 - Ω : sample space
 - \mathfrak{S} : a σ -field (an appropriate collection of subsets of Ω)
 - » Includes Ω , closed under complement $(\cdot)^c$ and countable union operations \cup_1^∞
 - P : a probability measure that maps sets in \mathfrak{S} to real numbers in $[0,1]$
- ◆ Two events A and B can be thought as two sets $A, B \in \Omega$
 - The new event that happens “when either A or B happens” corresponds to union $A \cup B$
 - The new event that happens “when both A and B happens” corresponds to intersection $A \cap B$
 - » Note that $A \cap B = (A^c \cup B^c)^c \in \mathfrak{S}$ if $A, B \in \mathfrak{S}$.
- ◆ The new event that happens “when A does but B does not happen” corresponds to $A \cap B^c$

- $A \cap B^c = A \setminus (A \cap B)$
- Set as a union $A = (A \cap B^c) \cup (A \cap B)$
- Countable additivity $P(A) = P(A \cap B^c) + P(A \cap B)$
- $P(A \cap B^c) = P(A) - P(A \cap B)$



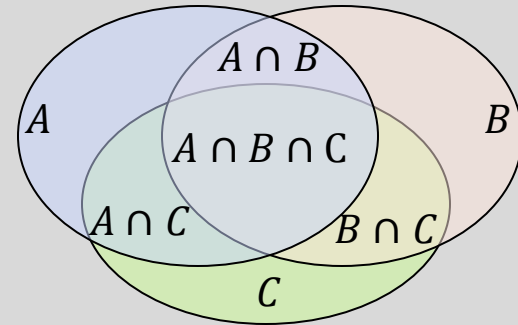
- ◆ Relating union to intersection

- Set as a union $A \cup B = (A \cap B^c) \cup (A \cap B) \cup (B \cap A^c)$
- Countable additivity $P(A \cup B) = P(A \cap B^c) + P(A \cap B) + P(B \cap A^c)$
- $= P(A) - P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B) + P(B) - P(B \cap A)$
- $= P(A) - P(A \cap B) + P(B)$



Unions and Intersections

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) \\ - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) \\ + P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

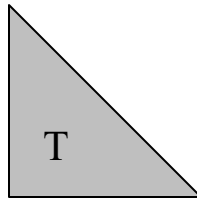
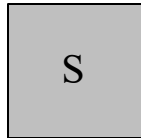


$$P(A \cup B \cup C \cup D) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) + P(D) \\ - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(A \cap D) - P(B \cap C) - P(B \cap D) - P(C \cap D) \\ + P(A \cap B \cap C) + P(A \cap B \cap D) + P(A \cap C \cap D) + P(B \cap C \cap D) \\ - P(A \cap B \cap C \cap D)$$

- ◆ Inclusion-exclusion identity for 2, 3, 4, ..., n sets
 - Proof for n sets is by induction – a matter of getting indices right, see the notes
- ◆ Ex: $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$, from
 - $1 = P(\Omega) = P(A) + P(A^c) - P(A \cap A^c) = P(A) + P(A^c)$
- ◆ Ex: $A \subseteq B$ implies $P(A) \leq P(B)$, from
 - $P(B) = P(A \cup (B \cap A^c)) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c) \geq P(A)$

Limit of a Measure vs Measure of the Limit

- ◆ Let $S = \{(x, y): 0 \leq x, y \leq 1\}$ and $T = \{(x, y): 0 \leq x, y \leq 2, x + y \leq \sqrt{2}\}$

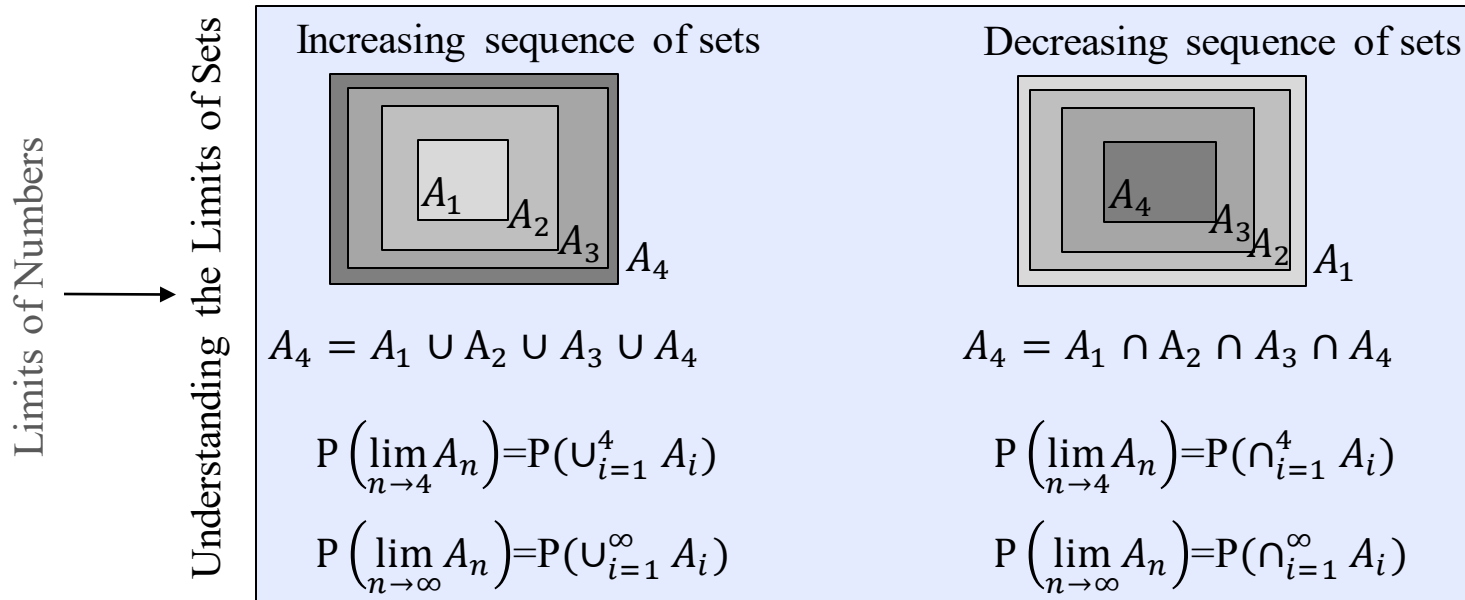


- ◆ $A_n = 1_{n \text{ is odd}}S + 1_{n \text{ is even}}T$, i.e., an alternating sequence of **S**quares and **T**riangles
 - **Limit of a Measure:** $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Area}(A_n) = \text{Area}(S) = \text{Area}(T) = 1$
 - **Measure of a Limit:** $\text{Area}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right)$ does **not exist**
- ◆ Measure and Limit operations are not interchangeable!

Continuity of Probability Measure

◆ Ex: Exchangeability of limit & probability \equiv Probability measure P is continuous, only for specific events

- i) Inner (from left): For **increasing** sequence of events A_n , $P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$.
- ii) Outer (from right): For **decreasing** sequence of events A_n , $P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$.



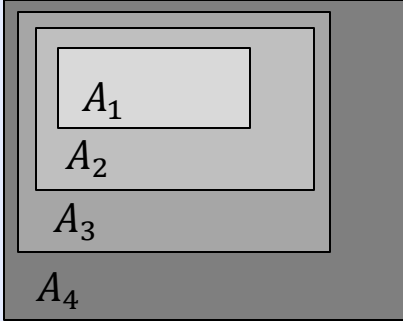
Union of **finite number** of closed sets is closed.

From topology:
A closed set includes its limiting points

Intersection of **any number** of closed sets is closed.

Inner Continuity of Probability Measure

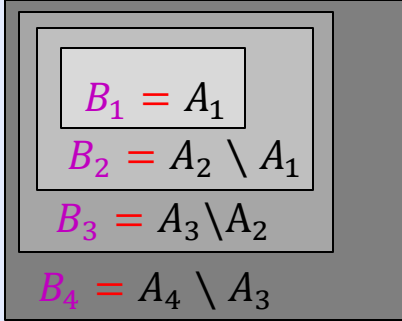
- ◆ For increasing sequence of events A_n , $P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$.



$A_4 = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup A_4$

$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right)$

$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right)$



$A_4 = B_1 \cup B_2 \cup B_3 \cup B_4$ and B_i 's disjoint

$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i\right)$

$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i)$

$$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n P(B_i) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$$

Insight: New sets B_i 's are disjoint and allow us to use countable additivity of the probability measure. This takes the **limit outside of the probability measure**.

- ◆ For decreasing sequence of events A_n , $P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$. Use the **previous result**

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) &= P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i^c\right) = 1 - P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n^c\right) = 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n^c) = 1 - \left(1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)\right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n). \end{aligned}$$

Independence

- ◆ Events A and B are independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.
- ◆ Ex: If A and B are independent, so are their complements: $P(A^c \cap B^c) = P(A^c)P(B^c)$ if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(A^c \cap B^c) &= P((A \cup B)^c) = 1 - P(A \cup B) = 1 - P(A) - P(B) + P(A \cap B) \\
 &= 1 - P(A) - P(B) - P(A)P(B) = (1 - P(A))(1 - P(B)) \\
 &= P(A^c)P(B^c)
 \end{aligned}$$

- ◆ In repeated experiments, each experiment is often independent. Such repeated experiments include dice rolls, coin tosses, picking a number from $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$ with repetition.
- ◆ Independence is **generally assumed**
 - Sometimes with statistical justification. See independence hypothesis tests.
 - Other times with a verbal, intuitive, managerial argument
 - In a few times, for convenience without any justification
 - » Independence really holds
 - » Independence fails
 - ◆ Probability of each one of two engines of a plane to simultaneously hit a bird
 - ◆ Probability of a hurricane & the electricity grid failure at the same location and hour
 - ◆ Probability of tuberculosis cases in New York City
 - ◆ Probability of two bank bankruptcies: Lehman Brother and Bear Stearns
 - Bear Stearns → JP Morgan Chase

Independence: Urn Example

- ◆ An urn contains 3 White and 2 Black balls. 3 balls are drawn without replacement one after another.
- ◆ Let A_i be the event that ball i is White for $i=1,2,3$. Are A_1, A_2, A_3 independent?

This experiment creates sequences of ball colors of the form WWW , WWB , etc. Since 3 balls are drawn and each ball can potentially take 2 colors, the sample space has $8=2^3$ elements. Note BBB is considered as an outcome with no probability. Table below shows all the outcomes and their probabilities.

ω with $\geq 2 W$	$P(\omega)$	ω with $\leq 1 W$	$P(\omega)$
WWW	$(3/5)(2/4)(1/3)=0.1$	WBB	$(3/5)(2/4)(1/3)=0.1$
WWB	$(3/5)(2/4)(2/3)=0.2$	BWB	$(2/5)(3/4)(1/3)=0.1$
WBW	$(3/5)(2/4)(2/3)=0.2$	BBW	$(2/5)(1/4)(3/3)=0.1$
BWW	$(2/5)(3/4)(2/3)=0.2$	BBB	$(2/5)(1/4)(0/3)=0.0$

$$P(A_1) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB \text{ or } WBW \text{ or } WBB) = 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.2 + 0.1 = 0.6.$$

$$P(A_2) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB \text{ or } BWW \text{ or } BWB) = 0.6.$$

$$P(A_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } WBW \text{ or } BWW \text{ or } BBW) = 0.6.$$

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB) = 0.1 + 0.2 = 0.3.$$

$$P(A_1 \cap A_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } WBW) = 0.3.$$

$$P(A_2 \cap A_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } BWW) = 0.3.$$

$P(A_1 \cap A_2) = 0.3 \neq 0.36 = P(A_1)P(A_2)$. Events are not independent.

$P(A_2 \cap A_3) = 0.3 \neq 0.36 = P(A_2)P(A_3)$. Events are not independent.

$P(A_1 \cap A_3) = 0.3 \neq 0.36 = P(A_1)P(A_3)$. Events are not independent.

Replacements can induce independence

- ◆ An urn has 3 White and 2 Black balls. 3 balls are drawn ~~without~~ with replacement one after another.
- ◆ Let B_i be the event that ball i is White for $i=1,2,3$. Are B_1, B_2, B_3 independent?

This experiment creates sequences of ball colors WWW, WWB, etc. The sample space has $8=2^3$ elements. Table below shows all the outcomes and their probabilities.

ω with $\geq 2 W$	$P(\omega)$	ω with $\leq 1 W$	$P(\omega)$
WWW	$(3/5)(3/5)(3/5)=27/125$	WBB	$(3/5)(2/5)(2/5)=12/125$
WWB	$(3/5)(3/5)(2/5)=18/125$	BWB	$(2/5)(3/5)(2/5)=12/125$
WBW	$(3/5)(2/5)(3/5)=18/125$	BBW	$(2/5)(2/5)(3/5)=12/125$
BWW	$(2/5)(3/5)(3/5)=18/125$	BBB	$(2/5)(2/5)(2/5)=8/125$

$$P(B_1) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB \text{ or } WBW \text{ or } WBB) = \frac{27+18+18+12}{125} = \frac{3}{5}.$$

$$P(B_2) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB \text{ or } BWW \text{ or } BWB) = 3/5.$$

$$P(B_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } WBW \text{ or } BWW \text{ or } BBW) = 3/5$$

$$P(B_1 \cap B_2) = P(WWW \text{ or } WWB) = \frac{27+18}{125} = \frac{9}{25}.$$

$$P(B_1 \cap B_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } WBW) = 9/25.$$

$$P(B_2 \cap B_3) = P(WWW \text{ or } BWW) = 9/25.$$

$$P(B_1 \cap B_2 \cap B_3) = P(WWW) = \frac{27}{125}.$$

$P(B_1 \cap B_2) = P(B_2 \cap B_3) = P(B_1 \cap B_3) = 9/25 = P(B_1)P(B_2) = P(B_2)P(B_3) = P(B_1)P(B_3)$.
 Events are pairwise independent even when they are not disjoint.

$P(B_1 \cap B_2 \cap B_3) = 27/125 = P(B_1)P(B_2)P(B_3)$. Three events are independent.

Independence of 3 or more events

- ◆ For independence of 3 events A_1, A_2, A_3 , we need to check

Pairwise independence:

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2) = P(A_1)P(A_2), P(A_1 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_3), P(A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_2)P(A_3).$$

As well as triplet-wise independence:

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1)P(A_2)P(A_3).$$

- ◆ Pairwise independence of 3 or more events does **not** imply independence of all of them.
- ◆ Ex: An urn contains 4 balls numbered as 1,2,3,4, and a ball is drawn randomly. Let A_2 be the event that the drawn ball is either 1 or 2, so $A_2 = \{1,2\}$. Similarly $A_3 = \{1,3\}$ and $A_4 = \{1,4\}$.
 - $P(A_2) = \frac{2}{4} = P(A_3) = P(A_4)$
 - $P(A_2 \cap A_3) = 1/4 = P(A_2)P(A_3)$ and $P(A_2 \cap A_4) = 1/4 = P(A_2)P(A_4)$ and $P(A_3 \cap A_4) = 1/4 = P(A_3)P(A_4)$.
 - However, $P(A_2 \cap A_3 \cap A_4) = 1/4 \neq 1/8 = P(A_2)P(A_3)P(A_4)$.
- ◆ Ex: $|P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B)| \leq 1/4$ for any two events A and B. This difference is zero for independent events and 1/4 for complementary/equally likely events. The difference is a measure of dependence between two events.

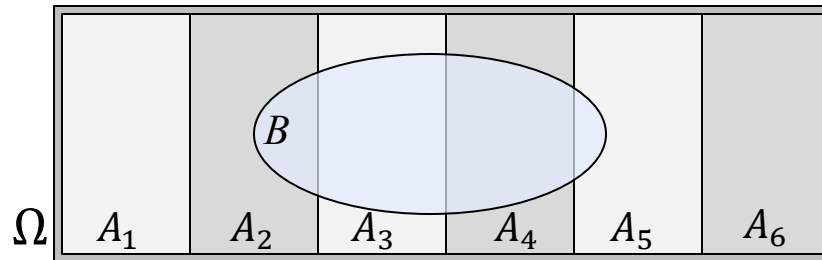
$$\begin{aligned} P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B) &= (P(A) + P(A^c))P(A \cap B) - P(A)(P(A \cap B) + P(A^c \cap B)) \\ &= P(A^c)P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(A^c \cap B) \end{aligned}$$

Let $q = P(A^c)$ then $P(A \cap B) \leq P(A) = 1 - q$.
 $P(A^c)P(A \cap B) \leq q(1 - q) \leq 1/4$ for $0 \leq q \leq 1$.
 Similarly, $P(A)P(A^c \cap B) \leq 1/4$.

Desired quantity is the difference of two nonnegative numbers, each is $\leq 1/4$.
 Absolute value of the difference $\leq 1/4$.

Conditioning

- ◆ The conditional probability of B given A is $P(B|A) = \frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)}$ for $P(A) > 0$.
- ◆ Total probability formula: For a partition A_i of Ω ,



$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B \cap A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B|A_i)P(A_i) \text{ by countable additivity.}$$

- ◆ Ex: An instructor gives 5 questions for homeworks but grades only 2 of them. A student wants to solve only the questions that will be graded so he attempts to guess 2 questions correctly. He discovers that the instructor always asks a numerical question and grades it. Subsequently, he confidently guesses 1 question out of 5 correctly. What is the probability that he guesses 2 questions correctly given that he guesses 1 correctly?
 - Let A_i be the event that he guesses i questions correctly for $i=1,2$.
 - We are asking for $P(A_2|A_1)$. Note that $A_2 \subseteq A_1$, so $P(A_2|A_1) = \frac{P(A_2)}{P(A_1)}$.
 - Inserting $P(A_1) = 2/5$ and $P(A_2) = \frac{1}{C_2^5} = 1/10$, we obtain $P(A_2|A_1) = 1/4$.

Conditioning: Specifying a Restaurant's Greeting Policy

Not-Well Specified Setting

- ◆ Ex: A restaurant can have 2 waitresses to greet customers, {Young, Experienced}. Sample space for the waiter personnel $\Omega = \{YY, YE, EY, EE\}$, each outcome has equal probability.
 - When you arrive a Young lady waitress greets you and you wonder about the probability of the other waitress to be also a Young lady as opposed to an Experienced lady. What is $P(\text{the other is Y} \mid \text{yours is Y})$?
 - Intuitively, you may answer
 - $1/2$ by thinking that the other waitress is either young or experienced with equal probabilities, or
 - $1/3$ by computing $P(YY)/(P(YY)+P(YE)+P(EY))=(1/4)/(3/4)=1/3$.
- $P(\text{the other is Y} \mid \text{yours is Y})$ can be computed by $P(\text{the other is Y and yours is Y}) / P(\text{yours is Y})$.
 - We can see that $P(\text{the other is Y and yours is Y})=P(YY)=1/4$.
 - Can we say that $P(\text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$? No! This probability is actually
 - 1 if the waitresses are YY,
 - 0 if the waitresses are EE.
- $P(\text{your waitress is Y})$ is to be specified only under YE or EY, in which cases let q denote it.
- $P(\text{your waitress is Y})= P(\text{yours Y under YY}) + P(\text{yours Y under YE}) + P(\text{yours Y under EY}) + P(\text{yours Y under EE})$
$$= 1(1/4) + q(1/4) + q(1/4) + 0(1/4).$$
- Hence, $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=(1/4)/(1/4+q/2)=1/(1+2q)$.
 - Only with $P(\text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$ or $q=1/2$, we have $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$.
 - If the restaurant has a policy of $q=1$, i.e., young waitress greets the customers if available, then
 - $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1/3$.
 - At the other extreme of $q=0$, i.e., experienced waitress greets customers if available,
 - $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1$.
- Depending on the restaurant's policy $q=1, \frac{1}{2}, 0$, the correct answer ranges from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ then to 1.

Variation on Sample Space: Restaurant's Greeting Policy

- ◆ Ex: A restaurant can have 2 waitresses to greet customers, {Young, Experienced}. Sample space for the waiter personnel $\Omega = \{YY, YE, EE\}$ with $P(YY) = P(EE) = P(YE)/2 = 1/4$.
 - When you arrive a Young lady waitress greets you and you wonder about the probability of the other waitress to be also a Young lady as opposed to an Experienced lady. What is $P(\text{the other is Y} \mid \text{yours is Y})$?
 - You may answer
 - 1/2 by thinking that the other waitress is either young or experienced with equal probabilities, or
 - 1/3 by computing $P(YY)/(P(YY)+P(YE))=(1/4)/(3/4)=1/3$.
- $P(\text{the other is Y} \mid \text{yours is Y})$ can be computed by $P(\text{the other is Y and yours is Y}) / P(\text{yours is Y})$.
 - We can see that $P(\text{the other is Y and yours is Y})=P(YY)=1/4$.
 - Can we say that $P(\text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$? No! This probability is actually
 - 1 if the waitresses are YY,
 - 0 if the waitresses are EE.
- $P(\text{your waitress is Y})$ is to be specified only under YE, in which cases let q denote it.
- $P(\text{your waitress is Y})= P(\text{yours Y under YY}) + P(\text{yours Y under YE}) + P(\text{yours Y under EE})$

$$= 1(1/4) + q(1/2) + 0(1/4).$$
- Hence, $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=(1/4)/(1/4+q/2)=1/(1+2q)$.
 - Only with $P(\text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$ or $q=1/2$, we have $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1/2$.
 - If the restaurant has a policy of $q=1$, i.e., young waitress greets the customers if available, then
 - $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1/3$.
 - At the other extreme of $q=0$, i.e., experienced waitress greets customers if available,
 - $P(\text{the other waitress is Y} \mid \text{your waitress is Y})=1$.
- Depending on the restaurant's policy $q= 1, \frac{1}{2}, 0$, the correct answer ranges from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ then to 1.

Conditioning

Any First Bidder Advantage in Sequential Bidding?

- ◆ Suppose n suppliers bid for m projects of a buyer for $n \geq m$. The suppliers are to choose their turn to bid and are awarded projects depending on the number of suppliers and projects at the time of their bid.
 - If a supplier is awarded a project, the number of available suppliers and projects both decrease by one. Otherwise, only the number of available suppliers decrease by one.
 - Before the k th bidder, suppose there are n_k available suppliers and m_k projects remaining.
 - » Initially, $n_1 = n$ and $m_1 = m$.
 - The buyer accepts the k th bidder randomly, i.e., with probability m_k/n_k .
 - » Is $m_k > n_k$ possible?
- ◆ Is the first bidder have a higher chance of getting a project than the second or third?

Let A_k be the event that bidder k gets a project.

- ◆ $P(A_1) = m/n$.

- ◆ For $P(A_2)$, we use conditioning,

$$P(A_2) = P(A_1)P(A_2|A_1) + P(A_1^c)P(A_2|A_1^c) = P(A_1 \cap A_2) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2) = \frac{m}{n} \frac{m-1}{n-1} + \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right) \frac{m}{n-1} = \frac{m}{n}$$

- ◆ For $P(A_3)$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_3) &= P(A_1 \cap A_2)P(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2) + P(A_1 \cap A_2^c)P(A_3|A_1 \cap A_2^c) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2)P(A_3|A_1^c \cap A_2) + P(A_1^c \cap A_2^c)P(A_3|A_1^c \cap A_2^c) \\ &= \frac{m}{n} \frac{m-1}{n-1} \frac{m-2}{n-2} + \frac{m}{n} \frac{n-m}{n-1} \frac{m-1}{n-2} + \frac{n-m}{n} \frac{m}{n-1} \frac{m-1}{n-2} + \frac{n-m}{n} \frac{n-1-m}{n-1} \frac{m}{n-2} \\ &= \frac{m}{n} \end{aligned}$$

- Fairness: The first bidder does not have an advantage over the others.
- Does naivety cause fairness?

Bayes' Formula

- ◆ For a partition A_j of Ω ,
$$P(A_j|B) = \frac{P(A_j \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A_j)P(B|A_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)P(B|A_i)}.$$
- ◆ A woman has recently started a friendship with a man. She is generally happy with the friendship.
 - But she expects gifts such as flowers. Common wisdom: **Gifts are indication of affection.**
 - Getting no gifts, she wants to assess whether the man is truly in love or possibly searching for another.
 - Events: N no gifts, L truly in love, S possibly searching.
 - She wants to know $P(L|N)$.
 - Available data:
 - » $P(L)=30\%$ judging from the friendship.
 - » $P(N|L)=40\%$ and $P(N|S)=60\%$ according to magazine surveys, best available data.

$$P(L|N) = \frac{P(N|L)P(L)}{P(N|L)P(L) + P(N|S)P(S)} = \frac{0.4 * 0.3}{0.4 * 0.3 + 0.6 * 0.7} = \frac{12}{54} = 0.2222 < 0.3$$

- Available data change: **A searching man gifts more than others to hide his intentions**
 - » $P(N|L)=60\%$ and $P(N|S)=40\%$ according to **recent** magazine surveys.

$$P(L|N) = \frac{P(N|L)P(L)}{P(N|L)P(L) + P(N|S)P(S)} = \frac{0.6 * 0.3}{0.6 * 0.3 + 0.4 * 0.7} = \frac{18}{46} = 0.3913 > 0.3$$



Loves or not

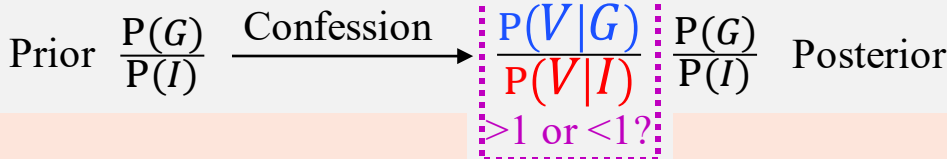
Guilty Verdict After a Confession

- ◆ A person is accused of an offence.
 - Generally, a confession of the offence is treated as a sign that he is guilty.
 - Events: I the person is innocent, G he is guilty, V he verbally confesses.

$$\frac{P(G|V)}{P(I|V)} = \frac{P(G|V)}{P(I|V)} = \frac{\frac{P(V|G)P(G)}{P(V|G)P(G)+P(V|I)P(I)}}{\frac{P(V|I)P(I)}{P(V|G)P(G)+P(V|I)P(I)}} = \frac{P(V|G)}{P(V|I)} \frac{P(G)}{P(I)}$$



Poor use of English:
Double negatives make a positive
& possibly a confession



Can a confession decrease the chances of a guilty verdict?

What does guilty “beyond a reasonable doubt” mean?

Beyond a reasonable doubt holds when **no other explanation** can be derived from the facts except that the accused committed the crime, thereby overcoming the presumption that a person is innocent until proven guilty.

Source: <http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com>

No other explanation $\Rightarrow P(\text{other explanation}) = 0$

Almost certainly no other explanation

Doubt \Rightarrow Uncertainty $\Rightarrow P(\text{other explanation}) > 0$

Inconsistency in interpretation of laws?

- A person, guilty with probability 70%= $P(G)=1-P(I)$, confesses, what is the likelihood of being guilty?
 - If innocent, confesses with 40%. If guilty, confesses with 60%.
 - $P(V|I)=0.4$, $P(V|G)=0.6$, then $P(G|V)/P(I|V) = (0.6/0.4)(0.7/0.3) = 7/2$.
 - Since $P(G|V)+P(I|V)=1$, $P(G|V)=7/9=0.77 > 0.7=P(G)$. Guilty probability \uparrow with a confession.
 - Suppose innocent confesses with $60+\epsilon\% > 60\%$ of a guilty confessing. Everything else is the same.
 - $P(V|I)=0.6+\epsilon$, then $P(G|V)/P(I|V) = (0.6/(0.6+\epsilon))(0.7/0.3) < 7/3$.
 - Hence, $P(G|V) < 0.7=P(G)$. Guilty probability \downarrow with a confession.

Answering a Question Correctly by Chance

- ◆ Ex: In a multiple choice exam, the instructor provides 4 alternatives: a), b), c) and d). A student knows the true answer to a particular question with probability 0.6. If the student does not know the answer, he randomly picks one of the alternatives from a) to d).
- If this question is answered correctly by the student, what is the probability that it is answered correctly by chance?

- Let A_T be the event that the student knows the True answer.
- Let A_C be the event that the student answers the question Correctly.
- We want $P(A_T^c | A_C)$.
- We know $P(A_T) = 1 - P(A_T^c) = 0.6$ and

$$P(A_T^c | A_C) = \frac{P(A_C | A_T^c)P(A_T^c)}{P(A_C | A_T^c)P(A_T^c) + P(A_C | A_T)P(A_T)} = \frac{(0.25)(0.4)}{(0.25)(0.4) + 1(0.6)} = \frac{1}{7} = 0.142$$

- The student guesses the correct answer without knowing the correct answer with 14.2% chance.

Summary

- ◆ **Unions, Intersections**
- ◆ **Independence**
- ◆ **Conditioning**
- ◆ **Bayes' Formula**