# Lecture 6: Independence and Probability Calculation 

Ye Tian<br>Department of Statistics, Columbia University<br>Calculus-based Introduction to Statistics (S1201)

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## Recap: conditional probability

Definition: Conditional probability of $A$ given $B$ is defined as

$$
\mathbb{P}(A \mid B)=\frac{\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}
$$

## Multiplication rule:

- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B \mid A)$
- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B \cap C)=\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B \mid A) \mathbb{P}(C \mid A \cap B)$

Rule of total probability: If $\Omega=A_{1} \cup A_{2} \cup \cdots \cup A_{k}$ and $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{k}$ are mutually exclusive (such $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{k}$ are called a partition of the sample space), then for any event $B$,

$$
\mathbb{P}(B)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(B \mid A_{1}\right)+\mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(B \mid A_{2}\right)+\ldots+\mathbb{P}\left(A_{k}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(B \mid A_{k}\right)
$$

## Recap: Bayes' Theorem

Bayes' Theorem: If $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{k}$ are a partition of sample space $\Omega$, then for any event $B$,

$$
\mathbb{P}\left(A_{j} \mid B\right)=\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(A_{j} \cap B\right)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}=\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(B \mid A_{j}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{j}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} \mathbb{P}\left(B \mid A_{i}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{i}\right)}, \quad j=1, \ldots, k
$$

Tree diagram:


## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem

You're given the choice of three doors: Behind one door is an iPhone 13; behind the others, goats.
You randomly pick a door, say No.1, and the host, who knows what's behind the doors, opens another door, say No.3, which has a goat. He then says to you, "Do you want to pick door No.2?"

Question: Would you switch your choice?


## Underlying assumptions:

- If the iPhone is behind the door we pick, then the host randomly picks one door from the remaining two to open.
- Otherwise, the host opens the door of goat.


## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem

## Solution (by Bayes Theorem):

- $\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ is behind door $i)=1 / 3, i=1,2,3$

Then
$\mathbb{P}($ win iPhone by staying with \#1)
$=\mathbb{P}($ iPhone behind $\# 1 \mid$ host opens $\# 3$ and see a goat $)$
$=\frac{\mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \text { iPhone behind } \# 1) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 1)}{\sum_{i=1}^{3} \mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i)}$
$=\frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+1 \times \frac{1}{3}+0 \times \frac{1}{3}}$
$=\frac{1}{3}$.

## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem

## Solution (by Bayes Theorem):

- $\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ is behind door $i)=1 / 3, i=1,2,3$

Then
$\mathbb{P}$ (win iPhone after switching to \#2)
$=\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ behind $\# 2 \mid$ host opens $\# 3$ and see a goat $)$
$=\frac{\mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 2) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 2)}{\sum_{i=1}^{3} \mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i)}$
$=\frac{1 \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+1 \times \frac{1}{3}+0 \times \frac{1}{3}}$
$=\frac{2}{3}>\frac{1}{3} \Longrightarrow$ We should switch $!$

## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem (modified)

You randomly pick a door, say No.1, and the host, who doesn't know what's behind the doors, randomly opens another door among the remaining two, say No.3, which has a goat. He then says to you, "Do you want to pick door No.2?"

Question: Would you switch your choice?


## Underlying assumptions:

- No matter which one you originally pick, the host always randomly picks one door from the remaining two to open.


## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem (modified)

## Solution (by Bayes Theorem):

- $\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ is behind door $i)=1 / 3, i=1,2,3$

Then
$\mathbb{P}$ (win iPhone by staying with $\# 1$ )
$=\mathbb{P}($ iPhone behind $\# 1 \mid$ host opens $\# 3$ and see a goat $)$
$=\frac{\mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 1) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 1)}{\sum_{i=1}^{3} \mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i)}$
$=\frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+0 \times \frac{1}{3}}$
$=\frac{1}{2}$.

## Last lecture: Monty Hall problem (modified)

## Solution (by Bayes Theorem):

- $\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ is behind door $i)=1 / 3, i=1,2,3$

Then
$\mathbb{P}$ (win iPhone after switching to \#2)
$=\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone}$ behind $\# 2$ and see a goat|host opens \#3)
$=\frac{\mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 2) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# 2)}{\sum_{i=1}^{3} \mathbb{P}(\text { host opens } \# 3 \text { and see a goat } \mid \mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i) \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{iPhone} \text { behind } \# i)}$
$=\frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}+0 \times \frac{1}{3}}$
$=\frac{1}{2} \quad \Longrightarrow$ It doesn't matter!!

## Reflection on Monty Hall problem

- Why is the answer so different?
- A more intuitive explanation of the original Monty Hall problem:

| Behind door 1 | Behind door 2 | Behind door 3 | Result if staying at <br> door \#1 | Result if switching <br> to the door offered |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Goat | Goat | iPhone | Wins goat | Wins iPhone |
| Goat | iPhone | Goat | Wins goat | Wins iPhone |
| iPhone | Goat | Goat | Wins iPhone | Wins goat |

The host always helps us kick out a wrong choice in the remaining two!

- But in the modified version, the host selects the door randomly, which doesn't benefit switching.


## Today's goal

- Understand the definition of independence of events
- Know how to decide whether events are independent or not
- Comprehensively use all properties of probability we mentioned before to calculate relative problems

Independence

## Intuition

In previous examples, often $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) \neq \mathbb{P}(A)$, which means the information " B has occurred" resulted in a change in the likelihood of $A$ occurring.

But sometimes, $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B)=\mathbb{P}(A)$, which means the chance that A will occur or has occurred is not affected by knowledge that B has occurred.

Example: A box contains 4 red tickets and 6 white tickets. Pick a ticket at random from the box.


- What is the chance of getting a winning ticket?(5/10)
- If you see that it is a white one, what is the chance of getting a winning ticket?(3/6)


## Independence between two events

Definition: Two events $A$ and $B$ are independent if $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B)=\mathbb{P}(A)$, denoted as $A \Perp B$. They are dependent otherwise, denoted as $A \not \Perp B$.

Question: What can we say about $\emptyset$ and $\Omega$ ?
Equivalent definitions for $A \Perp B$ :

- $\mathbb{P}(B \mid A)=\mathbb{P}(B)$
- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B)$ (very useful!)

Properties: $A$ and $B$ are independent iff (if and only if) any of the following holds:

- $A$ and $B^{c}$ are independent
- $A^{c}$ and $B$ are independent
- $A^{c}$ and $B^{c}$ are independent

You will prove these in HW2!

## Example

Consider a gas station with six pumps numbered $1,2, \ldots, 6$. Suppose that $\mathbb{P}(\{1\})=\mathbb{P}(\{6\})=0.1, \mathbb{P}(\{2\})=\mathbb{P}(\{5\})=0.15, \mathbb{P}(\{3\})=\mathbb{P}(\{4\})=0.25$.

Define events $A=\{2,4,6\}, B=\{1,2,3\}, C=\{2,3,4,5\}$.
Therefore:

- $\mathbb{P}(A)=0.5, \mathbb{P}(B)=0.5, \mathbb{P}(C)=0.8$.
- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=\mathbb{P}(\{2\})=0.15$
- $\mathbb{P}(B \cap C)=\mathbb{P}(\{2,3\})=0.4$
- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap C)=\mathbb{P}(\{2,4\})=0.4$

Hence:

- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \neq \mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B) \Longrightarrow A \not \Perp B$
- $\mathbb{P}(B \cap C)=\mathbb{P}(B) \mathbb{P}(C) \Longrightarrow B \Perp C$
- $\mathbb{P}(A \cap C)=\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(C) \Longrightarrow A \Perp C$


## Independence between multiple events

Definition: Events $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{n}$ are (mutually) independent if for every $k=2,3, \ldots, n$ and every subset of indices $i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{k}$,

$$
\mathbb{P}\left(A_{i_{1}} \cap A_{i_{2}} \cap \ldots \cap A_{i_{k}}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{i_{1}}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{i_{2}}\right) \cdots \mathbb{P}\left(A_{i_{k}}\right)
$$

- When $n=2$ : it reduces to $\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap A_{2}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right)$
- When $n=3$ : it reduces to (all the following conditions have to hold at the same time):

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \triangleright \mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap A_{2}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right) \\
& \triangleright \mathbb{P}\left(A_{2} \cap A_{3}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{3}\right) \\
& \triangleright \mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap A_{3}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{3}\right) \\
& \triangleright \mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap A_{2} \cap A_{3}\right)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{3}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, independence is often an idealistic assumption in practice!

## Independence between multiple events

Theorem: If $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{n}$ are mutually independent, then for any index sets
$\left\{i_{1}, \ldots, i_{k}\right\}$ and $\left\{j_{1}, \ldots, j_{r}\right\}$ where $\left\{i_{1}, \ldots, i_{k}\right\} \cap\left\{j_{1}, \ldots, j_{r}\right\}=\emptyset$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { intersections/unions between } A_{i_{1}}, \ldots, A_{i_{k}} \Perp \\
& \text { intersections/unions between } A_{j_{1}}, \ldots, A_{j_{r}} \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

The events $A_{i_{1}}, \ldots, A_{i_{k}}$ and $A_{j_{1}}, \ldots, A_{j_{r}}$ can be replaced by their complements.

For example:

- $\left(A_{1} \cup A_{2}\right) \Perp\left(A_{3} \cap A_{4}\right)$
- $\left(A_{1} \cap A_{2}^{c} \cup A_{5}\right) \Perp\left(A_{3} \cup A_{4}\right)$
- $A_{2} \Perp\left(A_{1}^{c} \cap A_{4} \cap A_{3}\right)$
- ...


## Example: parallel system

A system consists of 5 independent components $C_{1}, \ldots, C_{5}$.
$\mathbb{P}\left(C_{i}\right.$ works properly $)=0.9, i=1, \ldots, 5$. The chance that the system will work properly $=$ ?

$\{$ The whole system works $\}=\left(C_{1} \cup C_{2}\right) \cap\left(C_{3} \cup C_{4} \cup C_{5}\right)$
$\mathbb{P}($ The whole system works $)=\mathbb{P}\left(\left(C_{1} \cup C_{2}\right) \cap\left(C_{3} \cup C_{4} \cup C_{5}\right)\right)$

$$
=\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1} \cup C_{2}\right) \times \mathbb{P}\left(C_{3} \cup C_{4} \cup C_{5}\right)
$$

- $\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1} \cup C_{2}\right)=1-\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}^{c} \cap C_{2}^{c}\right)=1-\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{2}^{c}\right)=0.99$;
- $\mathbb{P}\left(C_{3} \cup C_{4} \cup C_{5}\right)=1-\mathbb{P}\left(C_{3}^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{4}^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{5}^{c}\right)=1-0.1^{3}=0.999$
$\Longrightarrow \mathbb{P}($ The whole system works $)=0.99 \times 0.999=0.989$


## Example: parallel system 2

A system consists of 3 independent components $C_{1}, C_{2}, C_{3}$. $\mathbb{P}\left(C_{i}\right.$ works properly $)=0.7, i=1, \ldots, 3$. The chance that the system will work properly $=$ ?

$\{$ The whole system works $\}=\left(C_{1} \cap C_{2}\right) \cup C_{3}$
$\mathbb{P}($ The whole system works $)=\mathbb{P}\left(\left(C_{1} \cap C_{2}\right) \cup C_{3}\right)$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1} \cap C_{2}\right)+\mathbb{P}\left(C_{3}\right)-\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1} \cap C_{2} \cap C_{3}\right) \\
& =\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{2}\right)+\mathbb{P}\left(C_{3}\right)-\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{2}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{3}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
=0.7^{2}+0.7-0.7^{3}
$$

$$
=0.847
$$

## Example: coffee purchase

The accompanying table gives information on the type of coffee selected by someone purchasing a single cup.

|  | Small | Medium | Large |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Regular | $14 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $26 \%$ |
| Decaf | $20 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $10 \%$ |

Consider randomly selecting such a coffee purchaser.

- Is "buying decaf coffee" independent with "buying medium-size coffee"?
- Are "buying regular coffee", "buying small-size coffee" and "buying medium-size coffee" mutually independent?
$\mathbb{P}($ decaf $\cap$ medium $)=10 \% \neq 40 \% \times 30 \%=\mathbb{P}($ decaf $) \times \mathbb{P}($ medium $)$
$\Rightarrow$ decaf 쑈 medium
Can we claim that $\{$ regular\}, $\{s m a l l\}$ and $\{$ medium $\}$ are NOT mutually independent?

Review: Probability Calculation

## Review: Probability Calculation

$\mathbb{P}(\cdot): A \in$ a set of all events $\rightarrow$ a number $\mathbb{P}(A)$ (a mapping/function which maps an event to a number)

## Three axioms:

- $0 \leq \mathbb{P}(A) \leq 1$ for any event $A \subseteq \Omega$
- $\mathbb{P}(\Omega)=1, \mathbb{P}(\emptyset)=0$
- If $A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}, \ldots, A_{n}$ is a collection of disjoint (mutually exclusive) events, then

$$
\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cup A_{2} \cup \ldots \cup A_{n}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}\left(A_{i}\right)
$$

Theorem: In an experiment consisting of $N$ outcomes with equal probability, for any event $A$,

$$
\mathbb{P}(A)=\frac{N(A)}{N}
$$

where we use counting techniques to calculate $N(A)$ and $N$.

## Review: Probability Calculation

## General idea to calculate probability:

(1) Translate the conditions and the event of interest by probability language
(2) Calculate.
$\triangleright$ For equally likely outcomes, consider $\mathbb{P}(A)=\frac{N(A)}{N}$ combined with counting techniques
$\triangleright$ If conditioning probability is easier to calculate or it is given, consider conditional multiplication rule, rule of total probability, and Bayes' Theorem
$\triangleright$ See whether there are independence or not, which may help us to do the calculation

## Example 1

Given $A$ and $B$, such that $\mathbb{P}(A)=\mathbb{P}\left(A^{c} \cap B\right)=0.4$ and $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=0.1$.

- Find $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B)$
- Are $A$ and $B$ independent?
- Venn diagram:


Or:

$$
\triangleright \mathbb{P}(B)=\mathbb{P}\left(A^{c} \cap B\right)+\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=0.4+0.1=0.5
$$

$\triangleright$ Then $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B)=\mathbb{P}(A)+\mathbb{P}(B)-\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$

$$
=0.4+0.5-0.1=0.8
$$

- No,because $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=0.1 \neq 0.4 \times 0.5=\mathbb{P}(A) \times \mathbb{P}(B)$.


## Example 2

5 faculty members ( 3 pro- A and 2 pro- B ) vote for the department chair from candidate $A$ and $B$ one by one in a random order.

The probability that " A remains ahead of B throughout the vote count" = ? (e.g., "AABAB" is OK, but not "ABBAA")

Some observations:

- Permutation problem
- The last one has to vote for $B$. (Why?)
- The first one must vote for $A$. (Why?)
- So it has to be "ABAAB", "AABAB" or "AAABB"
$N(\Omega)=P_{5,5}=5!=120$
$N(\mathrm{~A}$ remains ahead of B$)=3 \times P_{3,3} \times P_{2,2}=36$
$\mathbb{P}(\mathrm{A}$ remains ahead of B$)=\frac{N(\mathrm{~A} \text { remains ahead of } \mathrm{B})}{N(\Omega)}=0.3$


## Example 3

Randomly select a student at Columbia:

- $A=\{$ the selected student has a American Express card $\}$
$B=\{$ the selected student has a Barclays card $\}$
$C=\{$ the selected student has a Chase card $\}$
- $\mathbb{P}(A)=0.6, \mathbb{P}(B)=0.4, \mathbb{P}(C)=0.2$.
$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=0.3, \mathbb{P}(A \cap C)=0.15, \mathbb{P}(B \cap C)=0.1$
$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B \cap C)=0.08$
(1) The probability that the selected student has $\geq 1$ of 3 types of cards=?
(2) $\mathbb{P}(B \mid A)=$ ?, $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B)=$ ?


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \circ \mathbb{P}(A \cup B \cup C)=0.73 \\
& \circ \mathbb{P}(B \mid A)=\frac{\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}=0.5, \\
& \quad \mathbb{P}(A \mid B)=\frac{\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}=0.75
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example 3

Randomly select a student at Columbia:

- $A=\{$ the selected student has a American Express card\}
$B=\{$ the selected student has a Barclays card $\}$
$C=\{$ the selected student has a Chase card $\}$
- $\mathbb{P}(A)=0.6, \mathbb{P}(B)=0.4, \mathbb{P}(C)=0.2$.
$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)=0.3, \mathbb{P}(A \cap C)=0.15, \mathbb{P}(B \cap C)=0.1$
$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B \cap C)=0.08$
(3) Given that the student has an American Express card, what is the probability that she/he has $\geq 1$ of the other two types of cards?


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \circ \mathbb{P}(B \cup C \mid A)=\frac{\mathbb{P}((B \cup C) \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}= \\
& \frac{0.22+0.08+0.07}{0.6}=0.617
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example 4

A system consists of 7 independent components $A_{1}, \ldots, D$.
$\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right.$ works $)=\mathbb{P}\left(A_{2}\right.$ works $)=0.9$
$\mathbb{P}\left(B_{1}\right.$ works $)=\mathbb{P}\left(B_{2}\right.$ works $)=0.8$
$\mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}\right.$ works $)=\mathbb{P}\left(C_{2}\right.$ works $)=0.7, \mathbb{P}(D$ works $)=0.95$
The chance that the system will work properly $=$ ?


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{P}(\{\text { the system works }\})=\mathbb{P}\left(\left(\left(A_{1} \cap B_{1} \cap C_{1}\right) \cup\left(A_{2} \cap B_{2} \cap C_{2}\right)\right) \cap D\right) \\
& =\mathbb{P}\left(\left(A_{1} \cap B_{1} \cap C_{1}\right) \cup\left(A_{2} \cap B_{2} \cap C_{2}\right)\right) \mathbb{P}(D) \\
& =\left[2 \mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap B_{1} \cap C_{1}\right)-\mathbb{P}\left(\left(A_{1} \cap B_{1} \cap C_{1}\right) \cap\left(A_{2} \cap B_{2} \cap C_{2}\right)\right)\right] \mathbb{P}(D) \\
& =\left[2 \mathbb{P}\left(A_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(B_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(C_{1}\right)-\mathbb{P}\left(A_{1} \cap B_{1} \cap C_{1}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(A_{2} \cap B_{2} \cap C_{2}\right)\right] \mathbb{P}(D) \\
& =\left[2 \times 0.9 \times 0.8 \times 0.7-(0.9 \times 0.8 \times 0.7)^{2}\right] \times 0.95 \\
& =0.717
\end{aligned}
$$

## Conditional independence

Independence: Two events $A$ and $B$ are independent if $\overline{\mathbb{P}}(A \cap B)=\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B)$, denoted as $A \Perp B$. They are dependent otherwise, denoted as $A \not \Perp B$.

Conditional independence: Two events $A$ and $B$ are independent conditioning on event $C$ if $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B \mid C)=\mathbb{P}(A \mid C) \mathbb{P}(B \mid C)$, denoted as $(A \Perp B) \mid C$. They are dependent otherwise, denoted as $(A \not \Perp B) \mid C$.

Can be extended to the case of multiple $(\geq 2)$ events too.

## Example 5

- $5 \%$ of the population has a certain disease
- A diagnostic test:
$\triangleright$ correctly detects the presence of the disease $98 \%$ of the time
$\triangleright$ correctly detects the absence of the disease $99 \%$ of the time
- Randomly select an individual -> run tests twice -> Both positive
- The two test results are independent given the presence/absence of the disease on the selected individual

Question: The probability that this individual has the disease $=$ ?

- $P_{i}=\{i$-th test positive $\}, i=1,2$
- $D=\{$ this individual has the disease $\}$
- Goal: $\mathbb{P}\left(D \mid P_{1} \cap P_{2}\right)=$ ?
- What we know:
$\triangleright \mathbb{P}(D)=0.05 . \mathbb{P}\left(P_{i} \mid D\right)=0.98, \mathbb{P}\left(P_{i}^{c} \mid D^{c}\right)=0.99, i=1,2$
$\triangleright P_{1} \Perp P_{2}$ given $D, P_{1} \Perp P_{2}$ given $D^{c}$


## Example 5

- $P_{i}=\{i$-th test positive $\}, i=1,2$
- $D=\{$ this individual has the disease $\}$
- Goal: $\mathbb{P}\left(D \mid P_{1} \cap P_{2}\right)=$ ?
- What we know:
$\triangleright \mathbb{P}(D)=0.05 . \mathbb{P}\left(P_{i} \mid D\right)=0.98, \mathbb{P}\left(P_{i}^{c} \mid D^{c}\right)=0.99, i=1,2$
$\triangleright P_{1} \Perp P_{2}$ given $D, P_{1} \Perp P_{2}$ given $D^{c}$
By Bayes' Theorem,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{P}\left(D \mid P_{1} \cap P_{2}\right)=\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \cap P_{2} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}(D)}{\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \cap P_{2} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}(D)+\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \cap P_{2} \mid D^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(D^{c}\right)} \\
& =\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}\left(P_{2} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}(D)}{\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}\left(P_{2} \mid D\right) \mathbb{P}(D)+\mathbb{P}\left(P_{1} \mid D^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(P_{2} \mid D^{c}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(D^{c}\right)} \\
& =\frac{0.98 \times 0.98 \times 0.05}{0.98 \times 0.98 \times 0.05+0.01 \times 0.01 \times 0.95}=0.998
\end{aligned}
$$

## Reading list (optional)

- "Probability and Statistics for Engineering and the Sciences" (9th edition):
- Chapter 2.5
- "OpenIntro statistics" (4th edition, free online, download [here]):
$\triangleright$ Chapter 3.1.7 and 3.2.6

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