

Bayesian Reasoning

Chapter 13



[Thomas Bayes, 1701-1761](#)

Today's topics

- Review probability theory
- Bayesian inference
 - From the joint distribution
 - Using independence/factoring
 - From sources of evidence
- Naïve Bayes algorithm for inference and classification tasks

Consider

- Your house has an alarm system
- It should go off if a burglar breaks into the house
- It can go off if there is an earthquake
- How can we predict what's happened if the alarm goes off?
 - Someone has broken in!
 - It's a minor earthquake



Probability theory 101

- **Random variables**

- Domain

- **Atomic event:**

- complete

- specification of state

- **Prior probability:**

- degree of belief

- without any other

- evidence or info

- **Joint probability:**

- matrix of combined

- probabilities of set of

- variables

- Alarm, Burglary, Earthquake

- Boolean (like these), discrete, continuous

- Alarm=T \wedge Burglary=T \wedge Earthquake=F

- alarm \wedge burglary \wedge \neg earthquake

- P(Burglary) = 0.1

- P(Alarm) = 0.1

- P(earthquake) = 0.000003

- P(Alarm, Burglary) =

	alarm	\neg alarm
burglary	.09	.01
\neg burglary	.1	.8

Probability theory 101

	alarm	¬alarm
burglary	.09	.01
¬burglary	.1	.8

- **Conditional probability:** prob. of effect given causes
 - **Computing conditional probs:**
 - $P(a | b) = P(a \wedge b) / P(b)$
 - $P(b)$: **normalizing** constant
 - **Product rule:**
 - $P(a \wedge b) = P(a | b) * P(b)$
 - **Marginalizing:**
 - $P(B) = \sum_a P(B, a)$
 - $P(B) = \sum_a P(B | a) P(a)$ (**conditioning**)
- $P(\text{burglary} | \text{alarm}) = .47$
 $P(\text{alarm} | \text{burglary}) = .9$
 - $P(\text{burglary} | \text{alarm}) = P(\text{burglary} \wedge \text{alarm}) / P(\text{alarm}) = .09 / .19 = .47$
 - $P(\text{burglary} \wedge \text{alarm}) = P(\text{burglary} | \text{alarm}) * P(\text{alarm}) = .47 * .19 = .09$
 - $P(\text{alarm}) = P(\text{alarm} \wedge \text{burglary}) + P(\text{alarm} \wedge \neg\text{burglary}) = .09 + .1 = .19$

Example: Inference from the joint

	alarm		¬alarm	
	earthquake	¬earthquake	earthquake	¬earthquake
burglary	.01	.08	.001	.009
¬burglary	.01	.09	.01	.79

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{burglary} \mid \text{alarm}) &= \alpha P(\text{burglary}, \text{alarm}) \\ &= \alpha [P(\text{burglary}, \text{alarm}, \text{earthquake}) + P(\text{burglary}, \text{alarm}, \neg\text{earthquake})] \\ &= \alpha [(.01, .01) + (.08, .09)] \\ &= \alpha [(.09, .1)] \end{aligned}$$

Since $P(\text{burglary} \mid \text{alarm}) + P(\neg\text{burglary} \mid \text{alarm}) = 1$, $\alpha = 1/(\text{.09} + \text{.1}) = 5.26$
(i.e., $P(\text{alarm}) = 1/\alpha = \text{.19}$ – **quizlet**: how can you verify this?)

$$P(\text{burglary} \mid \text{alarm}) = \text{.09} * 5.26 = \text{.474}$$

$$P(\neg\text{burglary} \mid \text{alarm}) = \text{.1} * 5.26 = \text{.526}$$

Consider

- A student has to take an exam
- She might be smart
- She might have studied
- She may be prepared for the exam
- How are these related?



Exercise:

Inference from the joint



$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- What is the prior probability of *study*?
- What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?



Exercise:

Inference from the joint

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
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Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- What is the prior probability of *study*?
- What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?

$$p(\text{smart}) = .432 + .16 + .048 + .16 = \mathbf{0.8}$$

Exercise:

Inference from the joint



$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- **What is the prior probability of *study*?**
- What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?

Exercise:

Inference from the joint



$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- **What is the prior probability of *study*?**
- What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?

$$p(\text{study}) = .432 + .048 + .084 + .036 = 0.6$$

Exercise:

Inference from the joint



$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- What is the prior probability of *study*?
- **What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?**

Exercise:

Inference from the joint



$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- What is the prior probability of *smart*?
- What is the prior probability of *study*?
- **What is the conditional probability of *prepared*, given *study* and *smart*?**

$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{prepared} | \text{smart}, \text{study}) &= p(\text{prepared}, \text{smart}, \text{study}) / p(\text{smart}, \text{study}) \\ &= .432 / (.432 + .048) \\ &= \mathbf{0.9} \end{aligned}$$

Independence



- When variables don't affect each others' probabilities, they are **independent**; we can easily compute their joint & conditional probability:

$$\text{Independent}(A, B) \rightarrow P(A \wedge B) = P(A) * P(B) \text{ or } P(A|B) = P(A)$$

- {moonPhase, lightLevel} *might* be independent of {burglary, alarm, earthquake}
 - Maybe not: burglars may be more active during a new moon because darkness hides their activity
 - But if we know light level, moon phase doesn't affect whether we are burglarized
 - If burglarized, light level doesn't affect if alarm goes off
- Need a more complex notion of independence and methods for reasoning about the relationships



Exercise: Independence

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Queries:

- Q1: Is *smart* independent of *study*?
- Q2: Is *prepared* independent of *study*?

How can we tell?



Exercise: Independence

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Q1: Is *smart* independent of *study*?

- You might have some intuitive beliefs based on your experience
- You can also check the data

Which way to answer this is better?



Exercise: Independence

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		$\neg\text{smart}$	
	study	$\neg\text{study}$	study	$\neg\text{study}$
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
$\neg\text{prepared}$.048	.16	.036	.072

Q1: Is *smart* independent of *study*?

Q1 true iff $p(\text{smart} | \text{study}) == p(\text{smart})$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{smart} | \text{study}) &= p(\text{smart}, \text{study}) / p(\text{study}) \\ &= (.432 + .048) / .6 = 0.8 \end{aligned}$$

$0.8 == 0.8$, so *smart* is independent of *study*



Exercise: Independence

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		$\neg\text{smart}$	
	study	$\neg\text{study}$	study	$\neg\text{study}$
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
$\neg\text{prepared}$.048	.16	.036	.072

Q2: Is *prepared* independent of *study*?

- What is prepared?
- Q2 true iff



Exercise: Independence

$p(\text{smart} \wedge \text{study} \wedge \text{prep})$	smart		\neg smart	
	study	\neg study	study	\neg study
prepared	.432	.16	.084	.008
\neg prepared	.048	.16	.036	.072

Q2: Is *prepared* independent of *study*?

Q2 true iff $p(\text{prepared} | \text{study}) = p(\text{prepared})$
 $p(\text{prepared} | \text{study}) = p(\text{prepared}, \text{study}) / p(\text{study})$
 $= (.432 + .084) / .6 = .86$

$0.86 \neq 0.8$, so prepared not independent of study

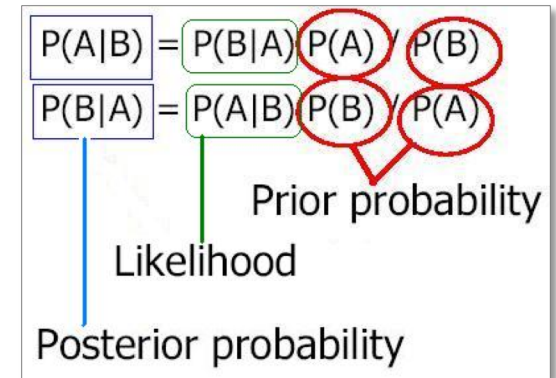
Bayes' rule

Derived from the product rule:

- $P(A, B) = P(A | B) * P(B)$ *# from definition of conditional probability*
- $P(B, A) = P(B | A) * P(A)$ *# from definition of conditional probability*
- $P(A, B) = P(B, A)$ *# since order is not important*

So...

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



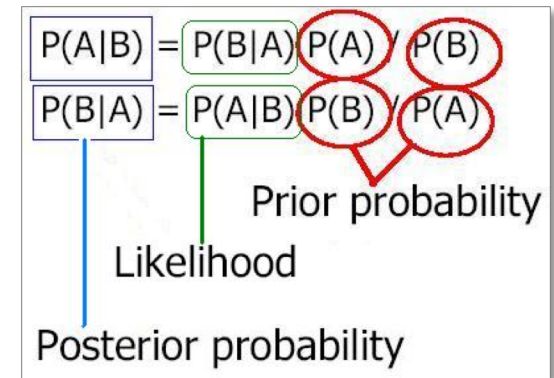
Useful for diagnosis!

- *C is a cause, E is an effect:*

- $P(C|E) = P(E|C) * P(C) / P(E)$

- **Useful for diagnosis:**

- E are (observed) effects and C are (hidden) causes,
 - Often have model for how causes lead to effects $P(E|C)$
 - May also have info (based on experience) on frequency of causes ($P(C)$)
 - Which allows us to reason abductively from effects to causes ($P(C|E)$)

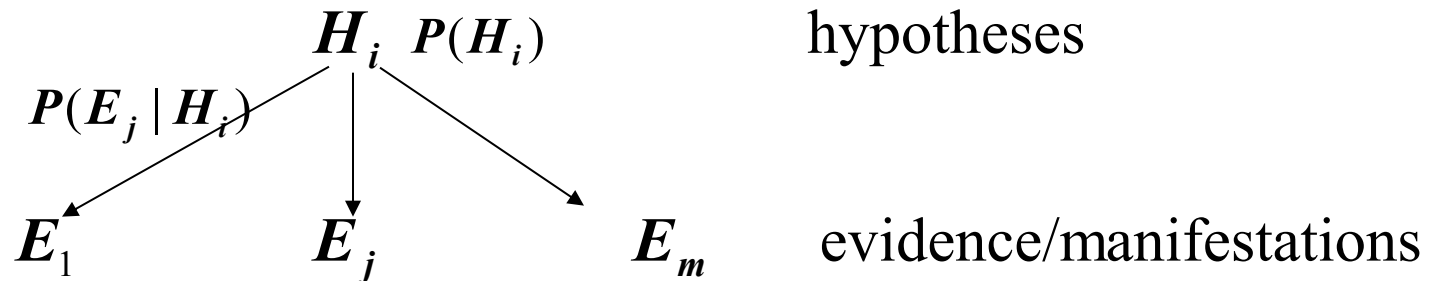


Ex: meningitis and stiff neck

- Meningitis (M) can cause stiff neck (S), though there are other causes too
- Use S as a diagnostic symptom and estimate $p(M|S)$
- Studies can estimate $p(M)$, $p(S)$ & $p(S|M)$, e.g. $p(M)=0.7$, $p(S)=0.01$, $p(S|M)=0.00002$
- Harder to directly gather data on $p(M|S)$
- Applying Bayes' Rule:
$$p(M|S) = p(S|M) * p(M) / p(S) = 0.0014$$

Reasoning from evidence to a cause

- In the setting of diagnostic/evidential reasoning



- Know prior probability of hypothesis $P(H_i)$
- conditional probability $P(E_j | H_i)$
- Want to compute the *posterior probability* $P(H_i | E_j)$

- Bayes' s theorem:

$$P(H_i | E_j) = P(H_i) * P(E_j | H_i) / P(E_j)$$

Simple Bayesian diagnostic reasoning

- Naive Bayes classifier

- Knowledge base:

- Evidence / manifestations: E_1, \dots, E_m

- Hypotheses / disorders: H_1, \dots, H_n

Note: E_j and H_i are **binary**; hypotheses are **mutually exclusive** (non-overlapping) and **exhaustive** (cover all possible cases)

- Conditional probabilities: $P(E_j | H_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$; $j = 1, \dots, m$

- Cases (evidence for a particular instance): E_1, \dots, E_l

- Goal: Find the hypothesis H_i with highest posterior

- $\text{Max}_i P(H_i | E_1, \dots, E_l)$

Simple Bayesian diagnostic reasoning

- Bayes' rule:

$$P(H_i | E_1 \dots E_m) = P(E_1 \dots E_m | H_i) P(H_i) / P(E_1 \dots E_m)$$

- Assume each evidence E_i is conditionally independent of the others, *given* a hypothesis H_i , then:

$$P(E_1 \dots E_m | H_i) = \prod_{j=1}^m P(E_j | H_i)$$

- If only care about relative probabilities for H_i , then:

$$P(H_i | E_1 \dots E_m) = \alpha P(H_i) \prod_{j=1}^m P(E_j | H_i)$$



Limitations

- Can't easily handle **multi-fault situations** or cases where intermediate (hidden) causes exist:
 - Disease D causes syndrome S, which causes correlated manifestations M_1 and M_2
- Consider composite hypothesis $H_1 \wedge H_2$, where H_1 & H_2 independent. What's relative posterior?

$$P(H_1 \wedge H_2 \mid E_1, \dots, E_l) = \alpha P(E_1, \dots, E_l \mid H_1 \wedge H_2) P(H_1 \wedge H_2)$$

$$= \alpha P(E_1, \dots, E_l \mid H_1 \wedge H_2) P(H_1) P(H_2)$$

$$= \alpha \prod_{j=1}^l P(E_j \mid H_1 \wedge H_2) P(H_1) P(H_2)$$

- How do we compute $P(E_j \mid H_1 \wedge H_2)$?



Summary

- Probability a rigorous formalism for uncertain knowledge
- **Joint probability distribution** specifies probability of every **atomic event**
- Answer queries by summing over atomic events
- Must reduce joint size for non-trivial domains
- **Bayes rule**: compute from known conditional probabilities, usually in causal direction
- **Independence & conditional independence** provide tools
- Next: Bayesian belief networks