

# Exercise (5 minutes)

## Scenario:

- You have been asked to predict current house prices in the Pittsburgh area based on a labeled dataset with features like number of bedrooms, location, square footage, etc.

## Instructions

- Get into groups of 3-5
- Brainstorm approaches you could use to solve the problem given the different sizes of training data.

| <u>N</u>  | <u>Method</u> |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 Million |               |
| 100,000   |               |
| 10,000    | Random Forest |
| 1,000     |               |
| 100       |               |
| 50        |               |
| 10        |               |
| 0?        |               |

# Reasoning About Data: Applying Bayesian Data Analysis

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Factory Day  
23 February 2024  
CPT Bobby Nelson

# Why Bayesian?

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- Intuitive
- Flexible
- Expressive



# When Bayesian?

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## Machine Learning

- Big data
- Big model
- Few assumptions

**Data does the work**

## Bayesian Analysis

- Small(er) data
- Strongly structured model
- Strong priors

**Model does the work**

# Agenda

- **Introduction**

- Brief History
- Bayes Theorem

- **Simple Problems**

- **Bean Bag Toss Experiment**

- Binomial Process
- Grid Approximation and MCMC

- **Predicting Ice Thickness**

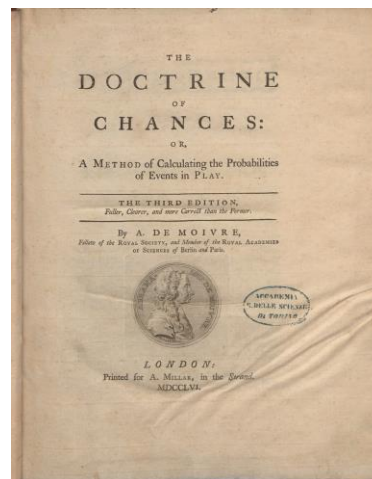
- Linear Mixed Models
- Hierarchical Models



# A Brief History of Bayesian Statistics

# Abraham de Moivre

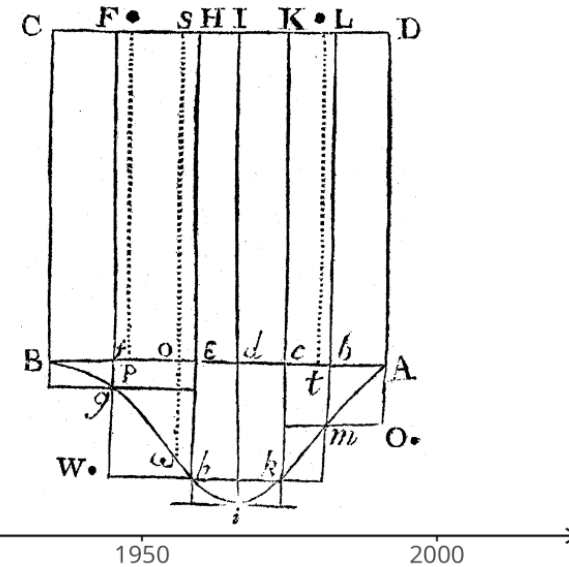
(1718) The Doctrine of Chances



# Reverend Thomas Bayes

(1718) The Doctrine of Chances

(1763) An Essay Towards Solving a Problem in the Doctrine of Chances

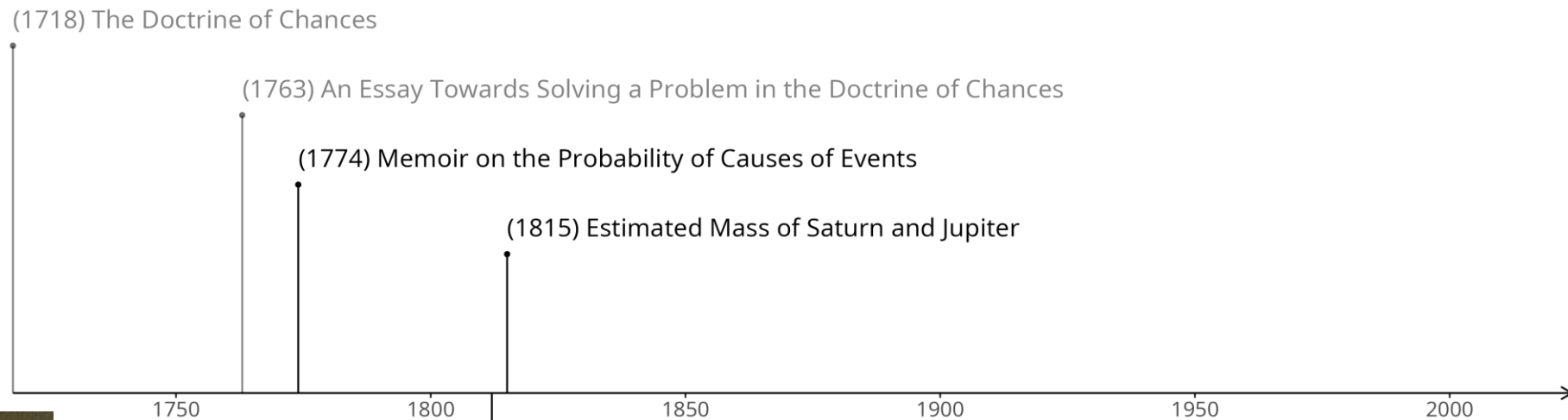


## P R O B L E M.

*Given* the number of times in which an unknown event has happened and failed: *Required* the chance that the probability of its happening in a single trial lies somewhere between any two degrees of probability that can be named.



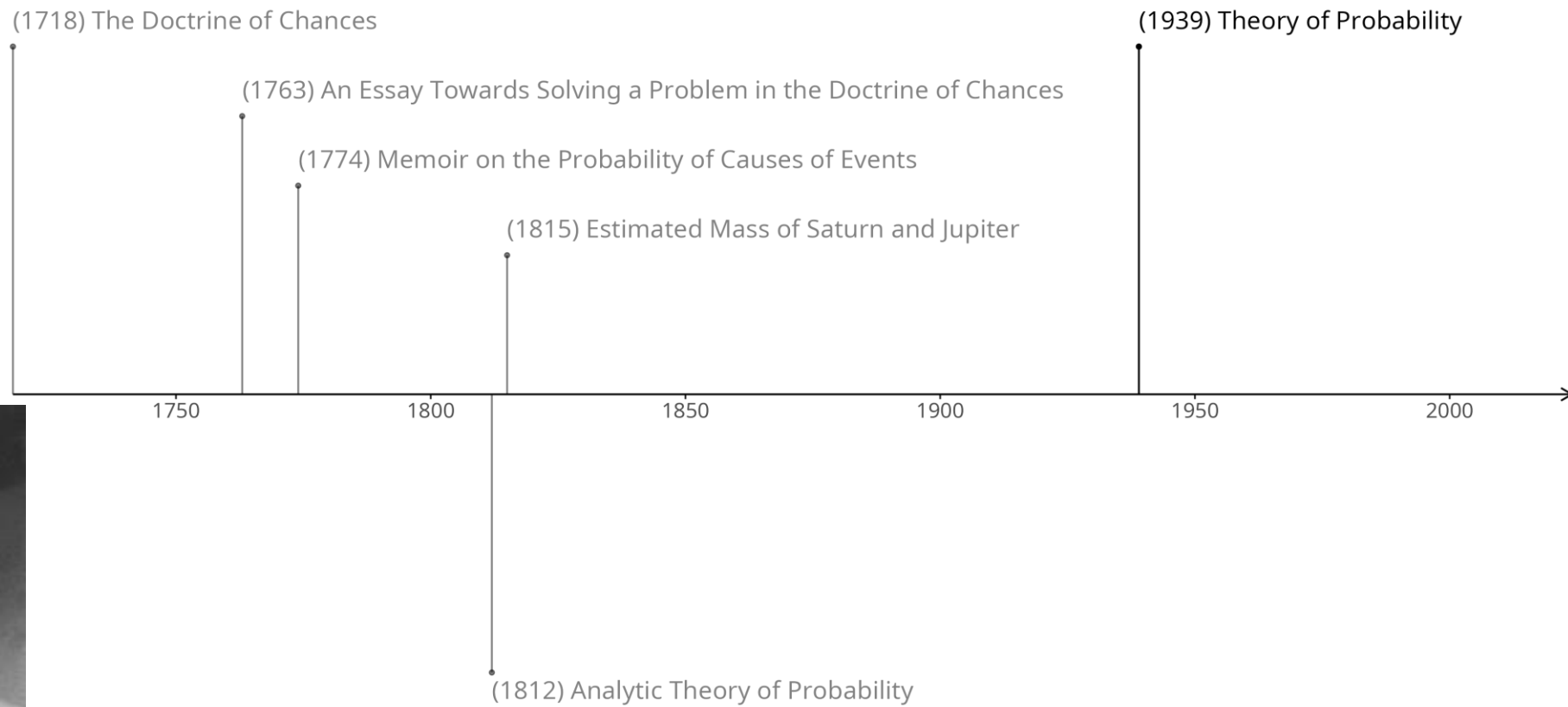
# Pierre Simon Laplace



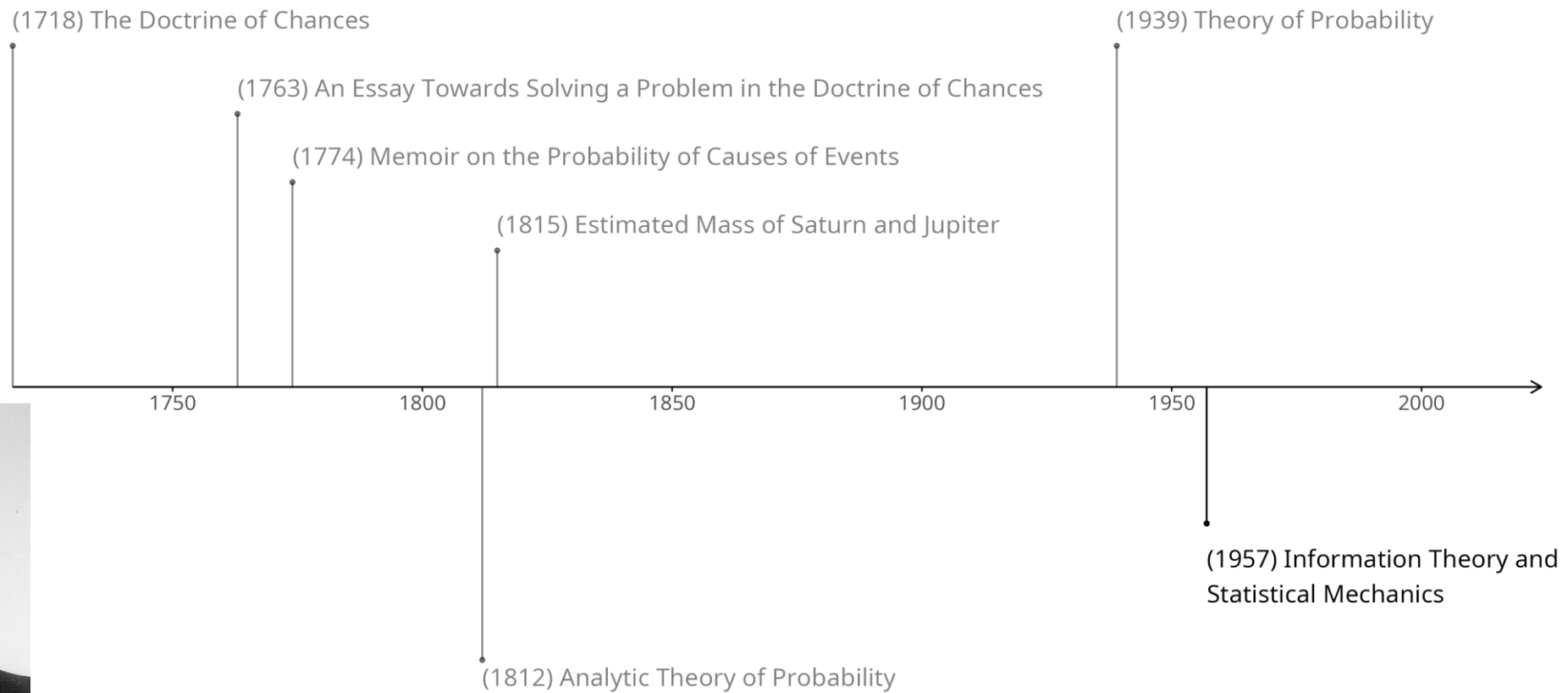
(1812) Analytic Theory of Probability

“The theory of probabilities is basically just common sense reduced to calculus...”

# Harold Jeffreys



# Edwin Jaynes



“Probability theory as extended logic”

# Bayes' Theorem

$$P(H \mid E) = \frac{P(H)P(E \mid H)}{P(E)}$$

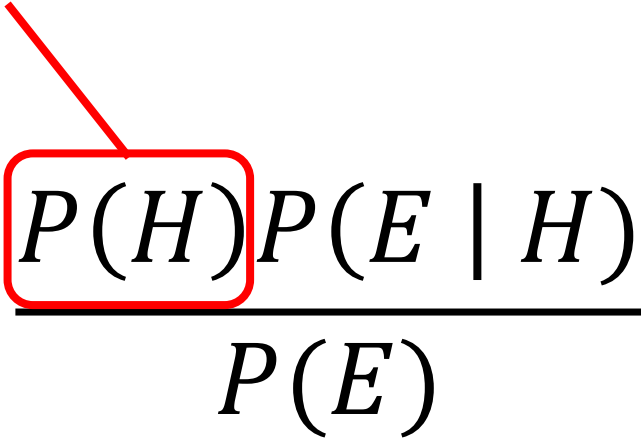
# Bayes' Theorem

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

Posterior Probability

# Bayes' Theorem


Prior Probability

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$


# Bayes' Theorem

Sampling Probability

(proportional to) Likelihood

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$


# Bayes' Theorem

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

Model Evidence

Probability of the evidence averaged  
over the prior



# Bayes' Theorem

Diagram illustrating Bayes' Theorem with labels for each term:

- Posterior Probability**:  $P(H | E)$
- Prior Probability**:  $P(H)$
- (proportional to) Likelihood**:  $P(E | H)$
- Model Evidence**:  $P(E)$
- Sampling Probability**: (proportional to) Likelihood
- Probability of the evidence averaged over the prior**:  $P(E)$

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$



# Simple Inferential Probability

- MREs
- Boy or Girl Paradox
- Monte Hall

# Picking MREs



You have two boxes of MREs with different proportions of veggie omelet and buffalo chicken given by the following table.

What is the probability that you get a veggie omelet at random?

|       | Veggie Omelet | Buffalo Chicken |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|
| Box 1 | 4             | 8               |
| Box 2 | 7             | 5               |

# Picking MREs

You have two boxes of MREs with different proportions of veggie omelet and buffalo chicken given by the following table.

What is the probability that you get a veggie omelet at random?

$$\begin{aligned}P(V) &= P(V \mid \text{Box 1})P(\text{Box 1}) + P(V \mid \text{Box 2})P(\text{Box 2}) \\&= \frac{4}{12} \times \frac{1}{2} + \frac{7}{12} \times \frac{1}{2} \\&= \frac{11}{24}\end{aligned}$$

# Picking MREs

Your friend opens one of the boxes and pulls out a veggie omelet.

What is the probability that the opened box is Box 1?

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>P(H) | Sampling<br>Probability<br>P(E   H) | Plausibility<br>P(H)P(E   H) | Posterior<br>Probability<br>P(H   E) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Box 1             |               |                                     |                              |                                      |
| Box 2             |               |                                     |                              |                                      |

# Picking MREs

Your friend opens one of the boxes and pulls out a veggie omelet.

What is the probability that the opened box is Box 1?

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>P(H) | Sampling<br>Probability<br>P(E   H) | Plausibility<br>P(H)P(E   H) | Posterior<br>Probability<br>P(H   E) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Box 1             | 1/2           | 4/12                                | 4/24                         | 4/11                                 |
| Box 2             | 1/2           | 7/12                                | 7/24                         | 7/11                                 |

# Picking MREs

Your other friend pulls a buffalo chicken MRE out of the open box.

What is the probability that the opened box is Box 1?

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>P(H) | Sampling<br>Probability<br>P(E   H) | Plausibility<br>P(H)P(E   H) | Posterior<br>Probability<br>P(H   E) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Box 1             |               |                                     |                              |                                      |
| Box 2             |               |                                     |                              |                                      |

# Picking MREs

Your other friend pulls a buffalo chicken MRE out of the open box.

What is the probability that the opened box is Box 1?

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(H)P(E | H)}{P(E)}$$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>P(H) | Sampling<br>Probability<br>P(E   H) | Plausibility<br>P(H)P(E   H) | Posterior<br>Probability<br>P(H   E) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Box 1             | 4 / 11        | 8 / 11                              | 32 / 121                     | 32 / 67                              |
| Box 2             | 7 / 11        | 5 / 11                              | 35 / 121                     | 35 / 67                              |



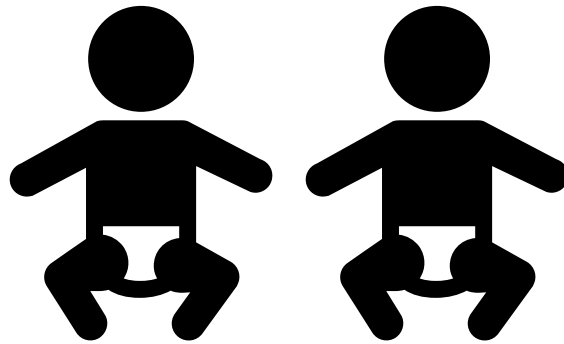
# Picking MREs

After your two observations, what is the probability that you get a veggie omelet at random from the open box?

$$\begin{aligned}P(V) &= P(V \mid \text{Box 1})P(\text{Box 1}) + P(V \mid \text{Box 2})P(\text{Box 2}) \\&= \frac{3}{10} \times \frac{32}{67} + \frac{6}{10} \times \frac{35}{67} \\&= \frac{306}{670} \\&\approx 0.457\end{aligned}$$

# Boy or Girl?

Mr. Jones has two children. The older child is a girl. What is the probability that both children are girls?



# Boy or Girl?

## Given:

- 2 children
- Older child is a girl

## Question:

- $P(G, G)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| B, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |

# Boy or Girl?

## Given:

- 2 children
- Older child is a girl

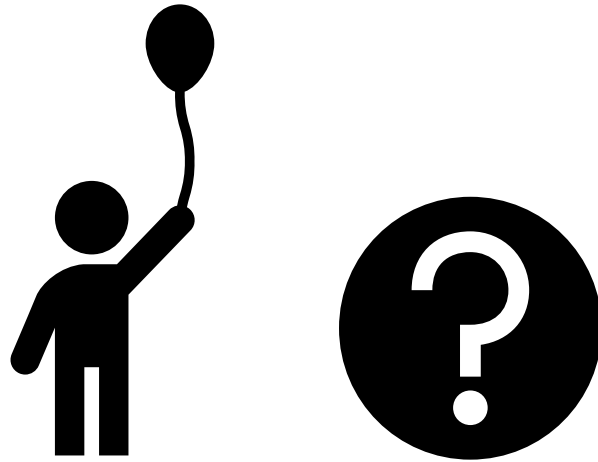
## Question:

- $P(G, G)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              | 1 / 4           | 0                                     | 0                              | 0                                      |
| B, G              | 1 / 4           | 0                                     | 0                              | 0                                      |
| G, B              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 2                                  |
| G, G              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 2                                  |

# Boy or Girl?

Mr. Smith has two children. At least one of them is a boy.  
What is the probability that both children are boys?



# Boy or Girl?

Given:

- 2 children
- At least 1 is a boy

Question:

- $P(B, B)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| B, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |

# Boy or Girl?

## Given:

- 2 children
- At least 1 is a boy

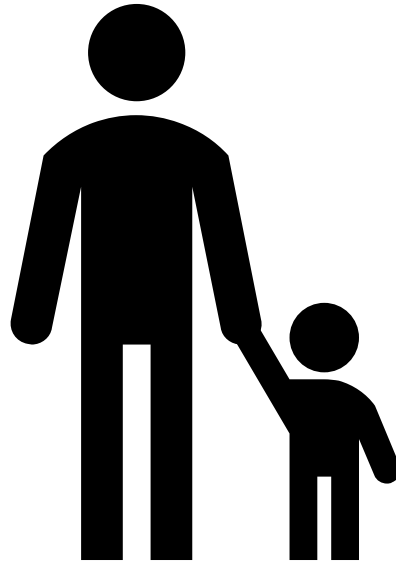
## Question:

- $P(B, B)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 3                                  |
| B, G              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 3                                  |
| G, B              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 3                                  |
| G, G              | 1 / 4           | 0                                     | 0                              | 0                                      |

# Boy or Girl?

Mr. Smith has two children. You see him walk to a parent-teacher conference with a boy. What is the probability that both children are boys?





# Boy or Girl?

## Given:

- 2 children
- You observe one child is a boy

## Question:

- $P(B, B)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| B, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, B              |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| G, G              |                 |                                       |                                |  |

# Boy or Girl?

## Given:

- 2 children
- You observe one child is a boy

## Question:

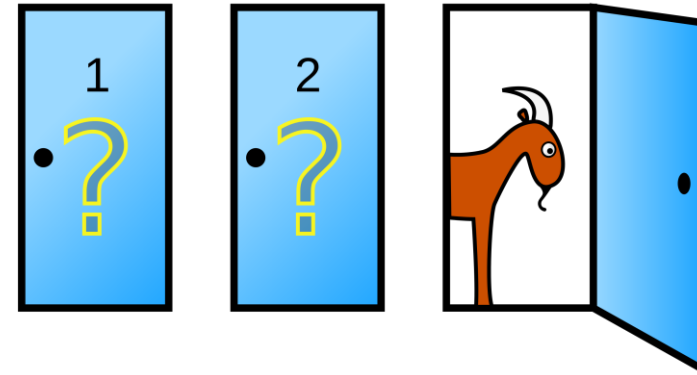
- $P(B, B)$

| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| B, B              | 1 / 4           | 1                                     | 1 / 4                          | 1 / 2                                  |
| B, G              | 1 / 4           | 1 / 2                                 | 1 / 8                          | 1 / 4                                  |
| G, B              | 1 / 4           | 1 / 2                                 | 1 / 8                          | 1 / 4                                  |
| G, G              | 1 / 4           | 0                                     | 0                              | 0                                      |

# Monte Hall

## Given:

- You pick door 1
- Monte Hall opens door 3 showing a goat

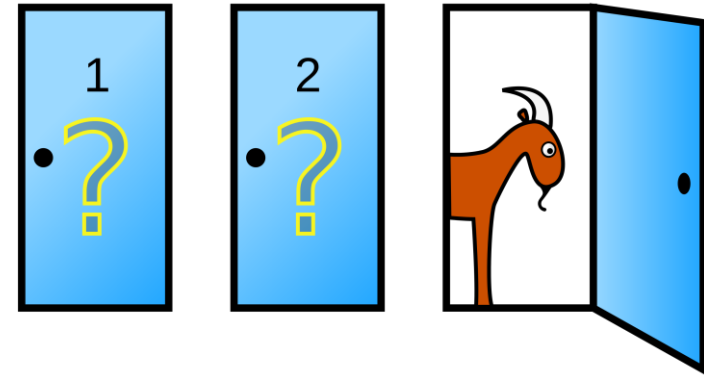


## Assumptions:

- Monte Hall always offers a switch
- Monte Hall always opens a door with a goat behind it

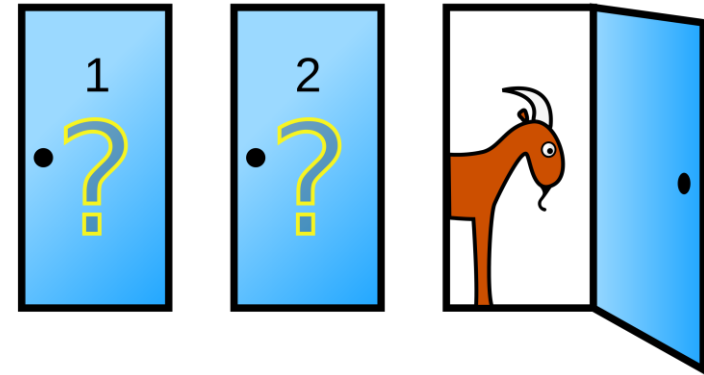
What are the probabilities that the car is behind each door?C

# Monte Hall



| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Car in Door 1     |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| Car in Door 2     |                 |                                       |                                |  |
| Car in Door 3     |                 |                                       |                                |  |

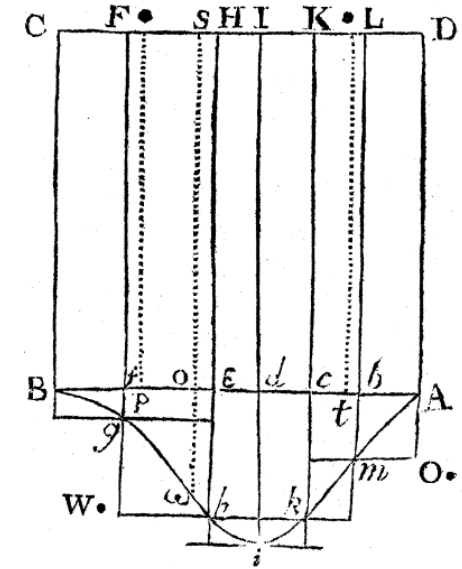
# Monte Hall



| Hypothesis<br>(H) | Prior<br>$P(H)$ | Sampling<br>Probability<br>$P(E   H)$ | Plausibility<br>$P(H)P(E   H)$ | Posterior<br>Probability<br>$P(H   E)$ |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Car in Door 1     | 1 / 3           | 1 / 2                                 | 1 / 6                          | 1 / 3                                  |
| Car in Door 2     | 1 / 3           | 1                                     | 1 / 3                          | 2 / 3                                  |
| Car in Door 3     | 1 / 3           | 0                                     | 0                              | 0                                      |

# Bayes' Table

First known application of Bayes' Theorem!



## PROBLEM.

*Given* the number of times in which an unknown event has happened and failed: *Required* the chance that the probability of its happening in a single trial lies somewhere between any two degrees of probability that can be named.

# Bayes' Table

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## Process:

- Throw a ball on a table and mark its position
- Throw a second ball repeatedly and measure if it landed to the left or right of the mark
- Calculate the probability of the position of the first ball

# Bayes' Table – Experiment

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## Instructions:

- On my command, throw a single bag
- Throw backwards with your non-dominant hand
- After throwing all four bags, collect them and throw from the other set of chairs

## While waiting:

- Clone the factory day repo from AI2C GitHub
- Set up a python virtual environment based on the requirements file



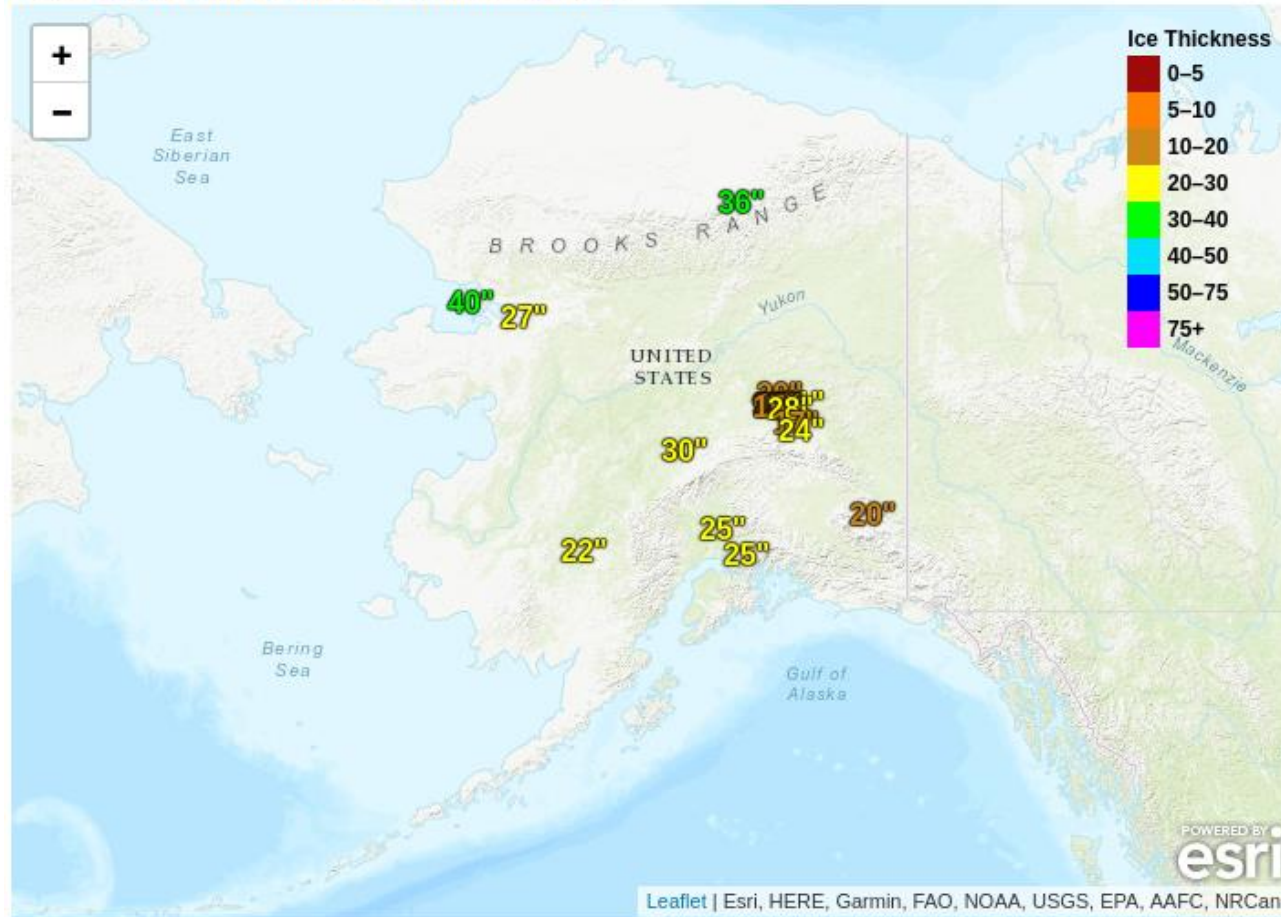
# Predicting Ice Thickness





# Predicting Ice Thickness

Alaska Rivers and Lakes Ice Thickness Map



Feb 2024

☒ Ice Thickness  
☐ Ice Thickness % Avg

☐ Circle Markers

**Ice Links**

- [General ice thickness guidelines](#)
- [US Army Corps of Engineering - Safe Loads on Ice Sheets](#)
- [This YouTube link](#) has good information on what to do if you fall through the ice.

# Predicting Ice Thickness

## Stefan's Equation:

$$h_j^2 - h_k^2 = \alpha^2 \Delta U$$

|   |   |                            |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| CECW-EE                                   | DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY<br>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers<br>Washington, DC 20314-1000 | EM 1110-2-1612<br>Change 4 |
|   |   |                            |
| Manual<br>No. 1110-2-1612                 |   | 31 August 18               |
| Engineering and Design<br>ICE ENGINEERING |   |                            |

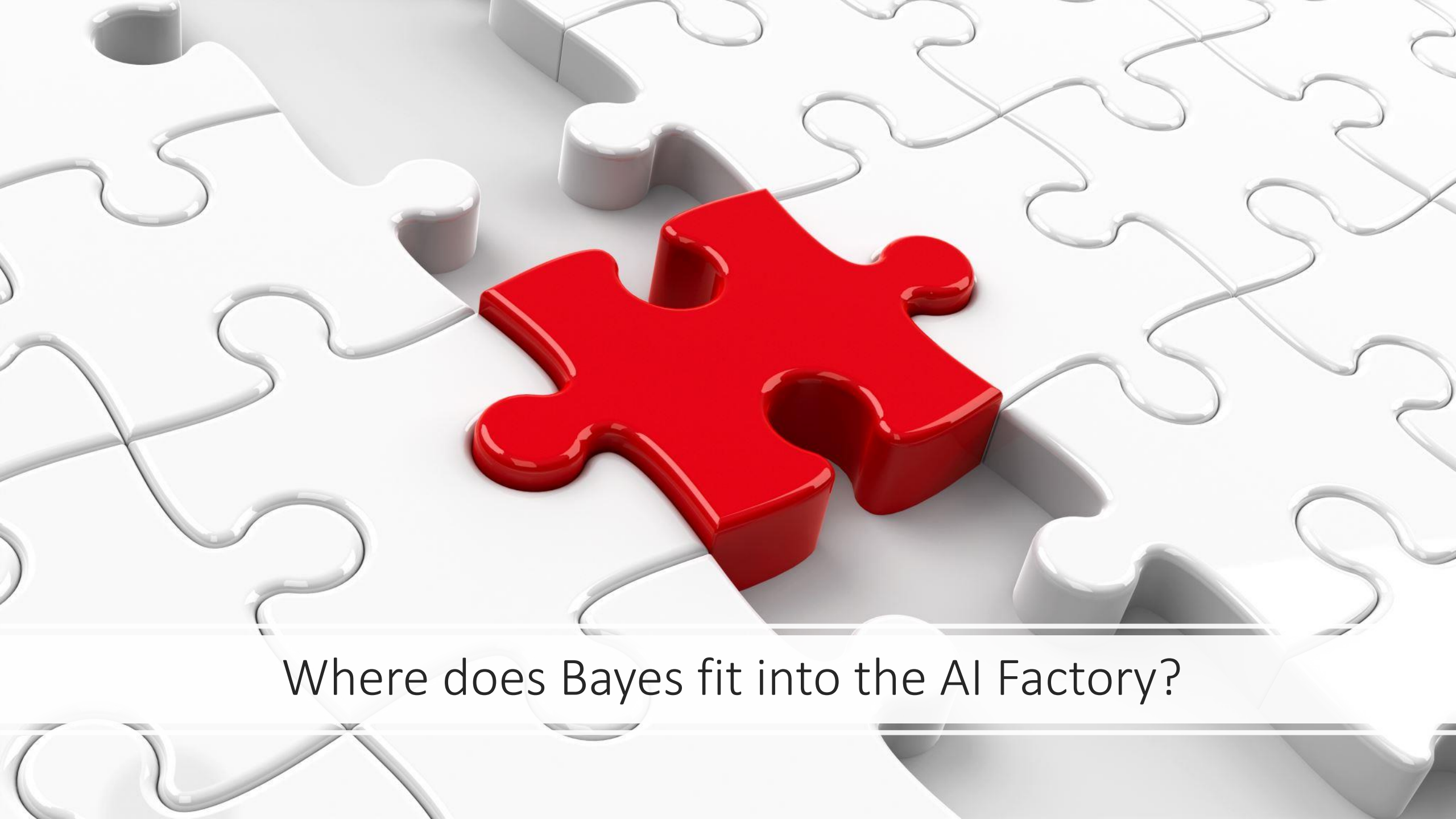
Typical values for  $\alpha$  are presented in Table 2-2. In this case the ice thickness is proportional to the square root of the accumulated freezing degree-days.

**Table 2-2**  
**Typical Values of  $\alpha$  (after Michel 1971)**

| <i>Ice Cover Condition</i> | <i><math>\alpha</math> *</i> | <i><math>\alpha</math> †</i> |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Windy lake w/no snow       | 2.7                          | 0.80                         |
| Average lake with snow     | 1.7–2.4                      | 0.50–0.70                    |
| Average river with snow    | 1.4–1.7                      | 0.40–0.50                    |
| Sheltered small river      | 0.7–1.4                      | 0.20–0.40                    |

\* AFDD calculated using degrees Celsius. The ice thickness is in centimeters.

† AFDD calculated using degrees Fahrenheit. The ice thickness is in inches.



Where does Bayes fit into the AI Factory?

# Books to Read

- Clayton, Aubrey. *Bernoulli's Fallacy: Statistical Illogic and the Crisis of Modern Science*, New York Chichester, West Sussex: Columbia University Press, 2021.  
<https://doi.org/10.7312/clay19994>
- McElreath, R. (2020). *Statistical Rethinking: A Bayesian Course with Examples in R and STAN* (2nd ed.). Chapman and Hall/CRC.  
<https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429029608>
- Gelman, A., Carlin, J.B., Stern, H.S., Dunson, D.B., Vehtari, A., & Rubin, D.B. (2013). *Bayesian Data Analysis* (3rd ed.). Chapman and Hall/CRC.  
<https://doi.org/10.1201/b16018>