

## Lesson 3: Independence

## Introduction

**METIS** 

## **Lecture Overview:**



#### Goals of the lecture:

1. Understand the concepts of independence and conditional independence

# Independence

**METIS** 

## Independence



#### **Definition:**

When events are independent (e.g. the occurrence of one event does not influence the occurrence of another event), the probabilities can be multiplied.

$$\mathbb{P}(A,B) = \mathbb{P}(A) \times \mathbb{P}(B)$$

#### Example 1:



Probability of throwing a coin three times and getting exactly HTH

$$\mathbb{P}(HTH) = \mathbb{P}(H) \times \mathbb{P}(T) \times \mathbb{P}(H) = 1/2 \times 1/2 \times 1/2 = 1/8$$



#### Problem 1:

What is the probability of throwing a die 6 times and getting 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 (in that order)?



#### Solution 1:

$$\mathbb{P}(1,2,3,4,5,6) = \mathbb{P}(1) \times \mathbb{P}(2) \times \mathbb{P}(3) \times \mathbb{P}(4) \times \mathbb{P}(5) \times \mathbb{P}(6) = \frac{1}{66} \frac{1}{666} \frac{1}{666} \frac{1}{666} \frac{1}{666} \frac{1}{66656}$$



#### Problem 2:

The probability of someone blinking on a photograph is 0.1. A picture of five people is being taken.

- 1. What is the probability that no one is blinking?
- 2. What is the probability that at least one person is blinking?
- 3. What is the probability that all are blinking?



#### Solution 2:

For one individual:

$$\mathbb{P}(blink) = 0.1$$

$$\mathbb{P}(no\_blink) = 1 - 0.1 = 0.9$$

For group:

- 1)  $\mathbb{P}(no\_blink) = 0.9^5 = 0.59$
- 2)  $\mathbb{P}(1 \text{ or more blink}) = 1 0.59 = 0.41$
- 3)  $\mathbb{P}(all\_blink) = 0.1^5 = 0.00001$

## **Conditional Probability**



#### **Definition:**

Two events are said to be dependent when the probability of one event occurring influences the likelihood of the other event occurring.

$$\mathbb{P}(A|B) = \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) / \mathbb{P}(B)$$

#### Example 2:

1

If you draw two cards without replacement,

What is the probability that the second card is an Ace if the first card is an Ace?

$$P(A_2|A_1) = 3/51$$

What is the probability that the second card is an Ace if the first card is not an Ace?

$$P(A_2|\text{not }A_1) = 4/51$$



#### Problem 3:

A bag contains 5 red balls, 3 blue balls and 4 green balls. If we chose two balls without replacement, what is the probability that the first ball will be green and the second blue?



#### Solution 3:

R = 5, B = 3, G = 4  

$$\mathbb{P}(B \cap G) = \mathbb{P}(B|G) \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{3}{11} \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{11}$$



#### Problem 4:

I like dogs, they make me happy. Sometimes dogs greet me. What is the probability that I am happy?

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

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$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(H|NG) = \frac{2}{10}$$



#### Solution 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(H|NG) = \frac{2}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(no\ greet) = \mathbb{P}(NG) = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not\ happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(NH|G) = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not \ happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(NH|NG) = \frac{8}{10}$$

P(G)

P(NG)



#### Solution 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(no\ greet) = \mathbb{P}(NG) = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not\ happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(NH|G) = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not\ happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(NH|NG) = \frac{8}{10}$$

P(NH|G)

P(G) P(H|G) P(NG)



#### Solution 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4} \qquad \mathbb{P}(no\ greet) = \mathbb{P}(NG) = \frac{3}{4} \\
\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10} \qquad \mathbb{P}(not\ happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(NH|G) = \frac{1}{10} \\
\mathbb{P}(happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(H|NG) = \frac{2}{10} \qquad \mathbb{P}(not\ happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(NH|NG) = \frac{8}{10}$$

P(NH|G)

P(H|G)

P(H|NG)

P(NG)

P(NH|NG)



#### Solution 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(greet) = \mathbb{P}(G) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(no\ greet) = \mathbb{P}(NG) = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(H|G) = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not\ happy|G) = \mathbb{P}(NH|G) = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(not\ happy|NG) = \mathbb{P}(NH|NG) = \frac{8}{10}$$

P(NH|G)

P(H|G)

P(H|NG)

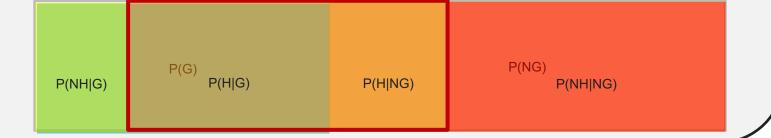
P(NG)

P(NH|NG)



#### Solution 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(H) = \mathbb{P}(H|G)\mathbb{P}(G) + \mathbb{P}(H|NG)\mathbb{P}(NG) = \frac{9}{10}\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{10}\frac{3}{4} = \frac{15}{40} = \frac{3}{8} = 0.375$$



# QUESTIONS?