

04: Conditional Probability and Bayes

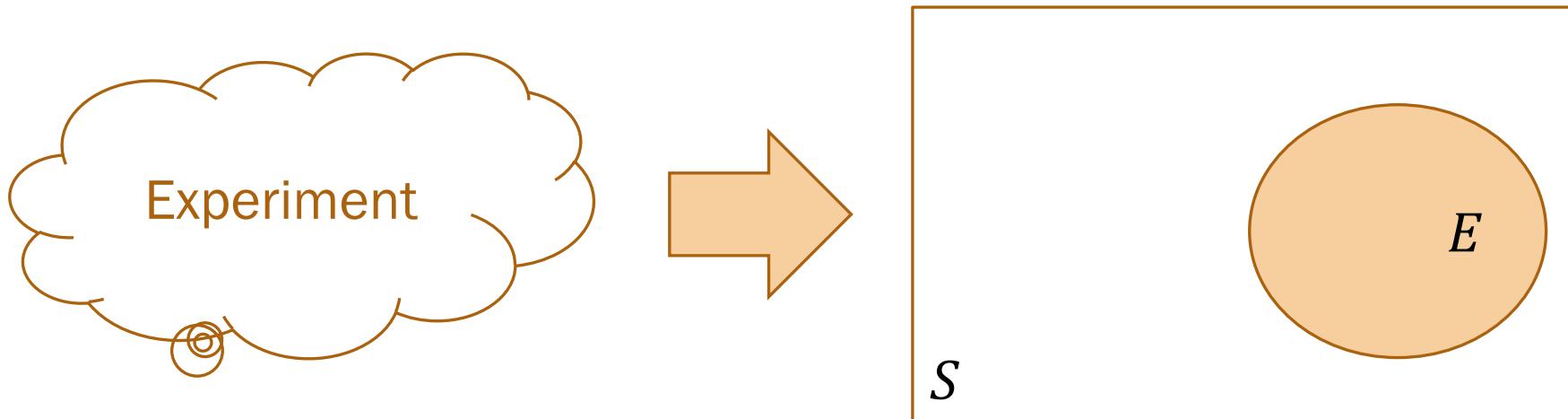
Lisa Yan

September 30, 2019

Key definitions

Review

An experiment in probability:



Sample Space, S : The set of all possible outcomes of an experiment

Event, E : Some subset of S ($E \subseteq S$).

We have the power to redesign our experiment,
provided we can recreate the set of outcomes!

Card Flipping

$$P(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$$
 Equally likely outcomes

In a 52 card deck, cards are flipped one at a time.

After the first ace (of any suit) appears, consider the next card.

Is $P(\text{next card} = \text{Ace Spades}) < P(\text{next card} = \text{2 Clubs})$?

Sample space $S = 52$ in-order cards (shuffle deck)

Event

E_{AS} , next card
is Ace Spades

1. Take out Ace of Spades.
2. Shuffle leftover 51 cards.
3. Add Ace Spades after first ace.

$$|E_{AS}| = 51! \cdot 1$$

E_{2C} , next card
is 2 Clubs

1. Take out 2 Clubs.
2. Shuffle leftover 51 cards.
3. Add 2 Clubs after first ace.

$$|E_{2C}| = 51! \cdot 1$$

$$P(E_{AS}) = P(E_{2C})$$

Today's plan

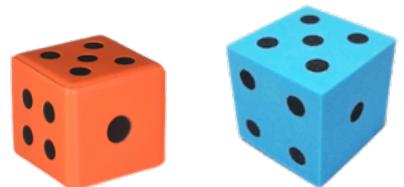
→ Conditional Probability and Chain Rule

Law of Total Probability

Bayes' Theorem

Dice, our misunderstood friends

Roll two 6-sided dice, yielding values D_1 and D_2 .



Let E be event: $D_1 + D_2 = 4$.

Let F be event: $D_1 = 2$.

What is $P(E)$?

What is $P(E, \text{given } F \text{ already observed})$?

$$|S| = 36$$

$$E = \{(1,3), (2,2), (3,1)\}$$

$$P(E) = 3/36 = 1/12$$

$$S = \{(2,1), (2,2), (2,3), (2,4), (2,5), (2,6)\}$$

$$E = \{(2,2)\}$$

$$P(E, \text{given } F \text{ already observed}) = 1/6$$

Conditional Probability

The **conditional probability** of E given F is the probability that E occurs given that F has already occurred. This is known as conditioning on F.

Written as:

$$P(E|F)$$

Means:

“ $P(E$, given F already observed)”

Sample space →

all possible outcomes consistent with F (i.e. $S \cap F$)

Event space →

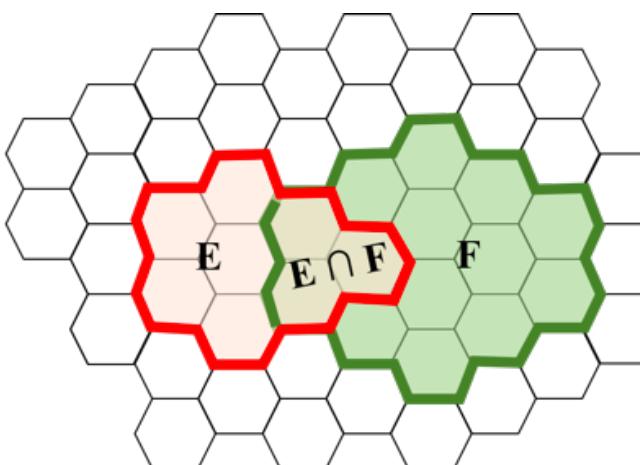
all outcomes in E consistent with F (i.e. $E \cap F$)

Conditional Probability, equally likely outcomes

The **conditional probability** of E given F is the probability that E occurs given that F has already occurred. This is known as conditioning on F.

With **equally likely outcomes**:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{\text{\# of outcomes in } E \text{ consistent with } F}{\text{\# of outcomes in } S \text{ consistent with } F} = \frac{|E \cap F|}{|S \cap F|}$$
$$= \frac{|EF|}{|F|}$$



$$P(E) = \frac{8}{50} \approx 0.16$$

$$P(E|F) = \frac{3}{14} \approx 0.21$$

Slicing up the spam

$$P(E|F) = \frac{|EF|}{|F|}$$

Equally likely outcomes

24 emails are sent, 6 each to 4 users.

- 10 of the 24 emails are spam.
- All possible outcomes are equally likely.

Let E = user 1 receives 3 spam emails.

What is $P(E)$?

$$P(E) = \frac{\binom{10}{3} \binom{14}{3}}{\binom{24}{6}}$$
$$\approx 0.3245$$

Let F = user 2 receives 6 spam emails.

What is $P(E|F)$?

$$P(E|F) = \frac{\binom{4}{3} \binom{14}{3}}{\binom{18}{6}}$$
$$\approx 0.0784$$

Let G = user 3 receives 5 spam emails.

What is $P(G|F)$?

⚠ $P(G|F) = \frac{\binom{4}{5} \binom{14}{1}}{\binom{18}{6}}$

$$= 0$$

No way to choose 5 spam from 4 remaining spam emails!

Quick check

You have a flowering plant.

Let
 E = Flowers bloom
 F = It gets watered
 G = It gets sun

In English, how do you interpret $P(E|FG)$?



The probability that...

- A. ...flowers bloom given the probability that it gets water and it gets sun
- B. ...flowers bloom given it gets watered given it gets sun
- C. ...flowers bloom given (it gets watered and it gets sun)
- D. All/none/other



Quick check

You have a flowering plant.

Let E = Flowers bloom
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In English, how do you interpret $P(E|FG)$?



The probability that...

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- C. ...flowers bloom given (it gets watered and it gets sun)
- D. All/none/other



Conditional probability in general

General **definition** of conditional probability:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$

The **Chain Rule** (aka Product rule):

$$P(EF) = P(F)P(E|F)$$



These properties hold even when outcomes are not equally likely.

NETFLIX

and Learn

Netflix and Learn

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$
 Definition of Cond. Probability

Let E = a user watches Life is Beautiful.

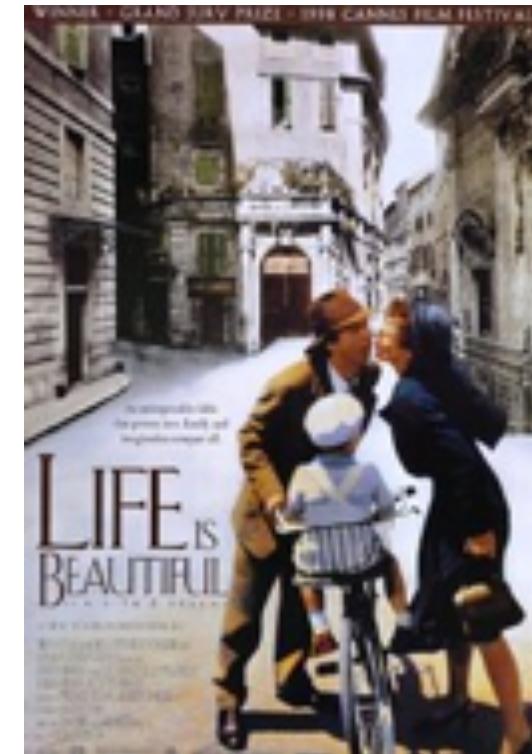
What is $P(E)$?

✗ Equally likely outcomes?

$S = \{\text{watch, not watch}\}$

$E = \{\text{watch}\}$

$P(E) = 1/2 ?$



$$P(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n} \approx \frac{\# \text{ people who have watched movie}}{\# \text{ people on Netflix}}$$
$$= 10,234,231 / 50,923,123 \approx 0.20$$

Netflix and Learn

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$
 Definition of Cond. Probability

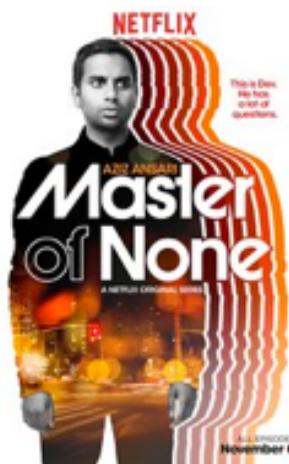
Let E be the event that a user watches the given movie.



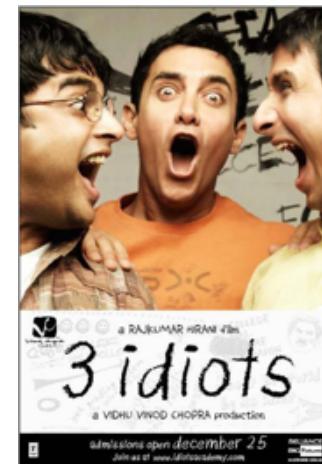
$$P(E) = 0.19$$



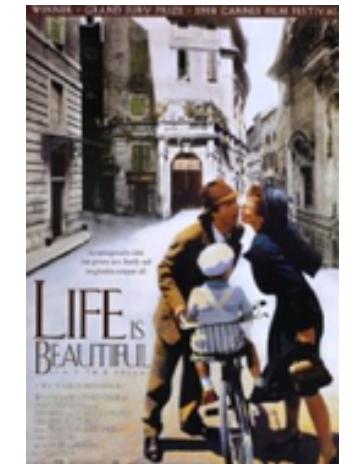
$$P(E) = 0.32$$



$$P(E) = 0.20$$



$$P(E) = 0.09$$



$$P(E) = 0.20$$

Netflix and Learn

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$
 Definition of Cond. Probability

Let E = a user watches Life is Beautiful.

Let F = a user watches Amelie.

What is the probability that a user watches Life is Beautiful, given they watched Amelie?

$$P(E|F)$$



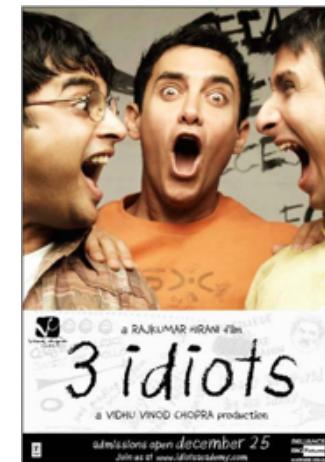
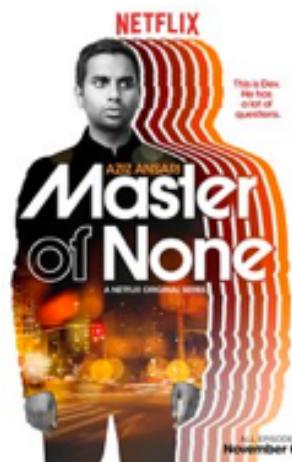
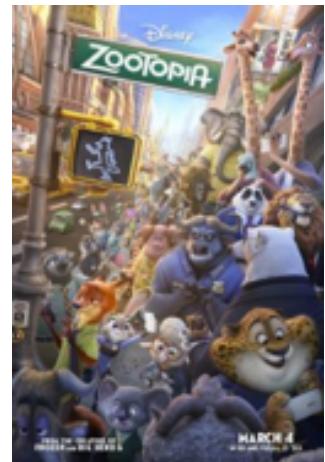
$$\begin{aligned} P(E|F) &= \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} = \frac{\frac{\# \text{ people who have watched both}}{\# \text{ people on Netflix}}}{\frac{\# \text{ people who have watched Amelie}}{\# \text{ people on Netflix}}} \\ &= \frac{\# \text{ people who have watched both}}{\# \text{ people who have watched Amelie}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\approx 0.42$$

Netflix and Learn

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$
 Definition of Cond. Probability

Let E be the event that a user watches the given movie.
Let F be the event that the same user watches Amelie.



$$P(E) = 0.19$$

$$P(E) = 0.32$$

$$P(E) = 0.20$$

$$P(E) = 0.09$$

$$P(E) = 0.20$$

$$P(E|F) = 0.14$$

$$P(E|F) = 0.35$$

$$P(E|F) = 0.20$$

$$P(E|F) = 0.72$$

$$P(E|F) = 0.42$$

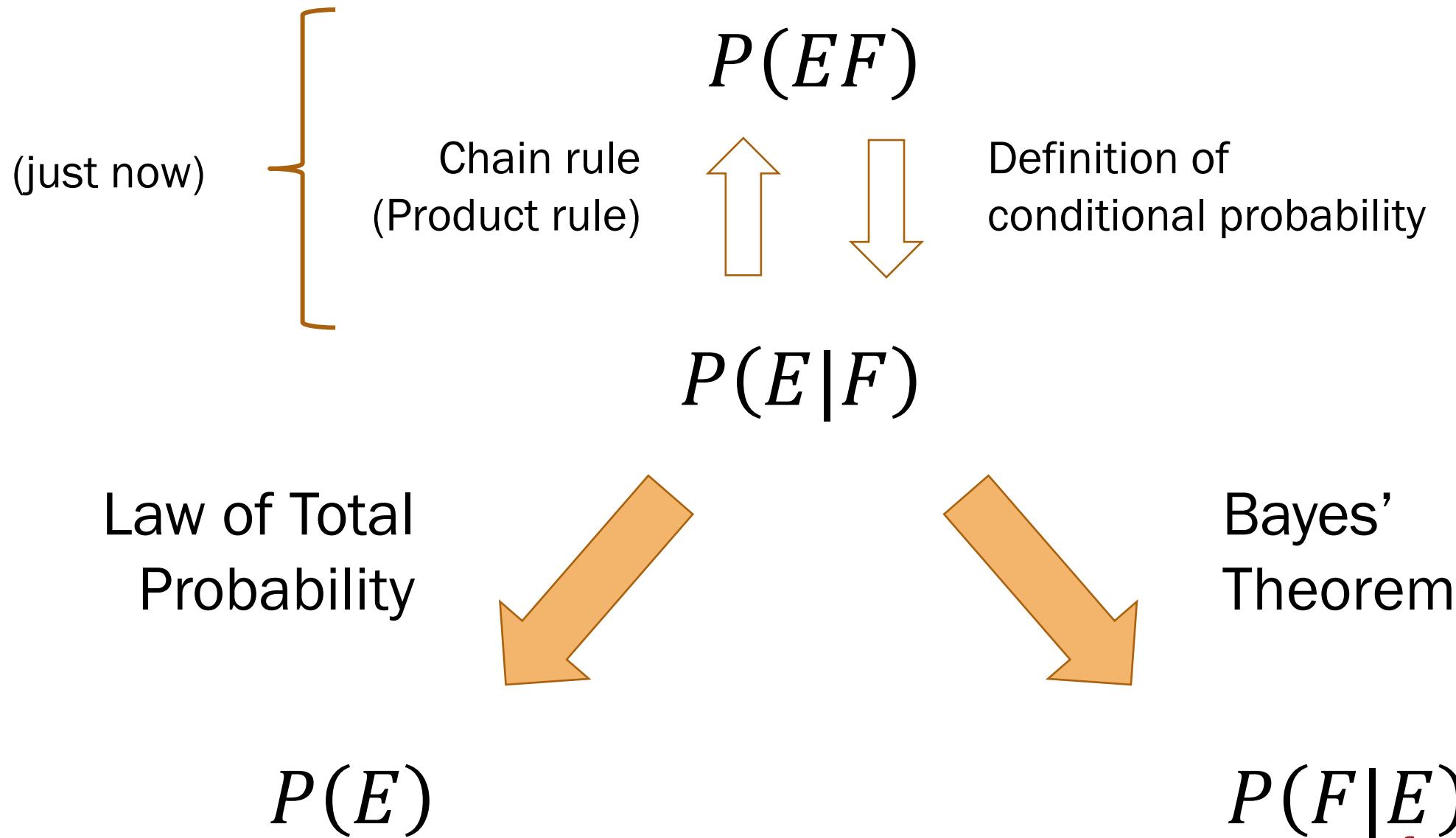
Today's plan

Conditional Probability and Chain Rule

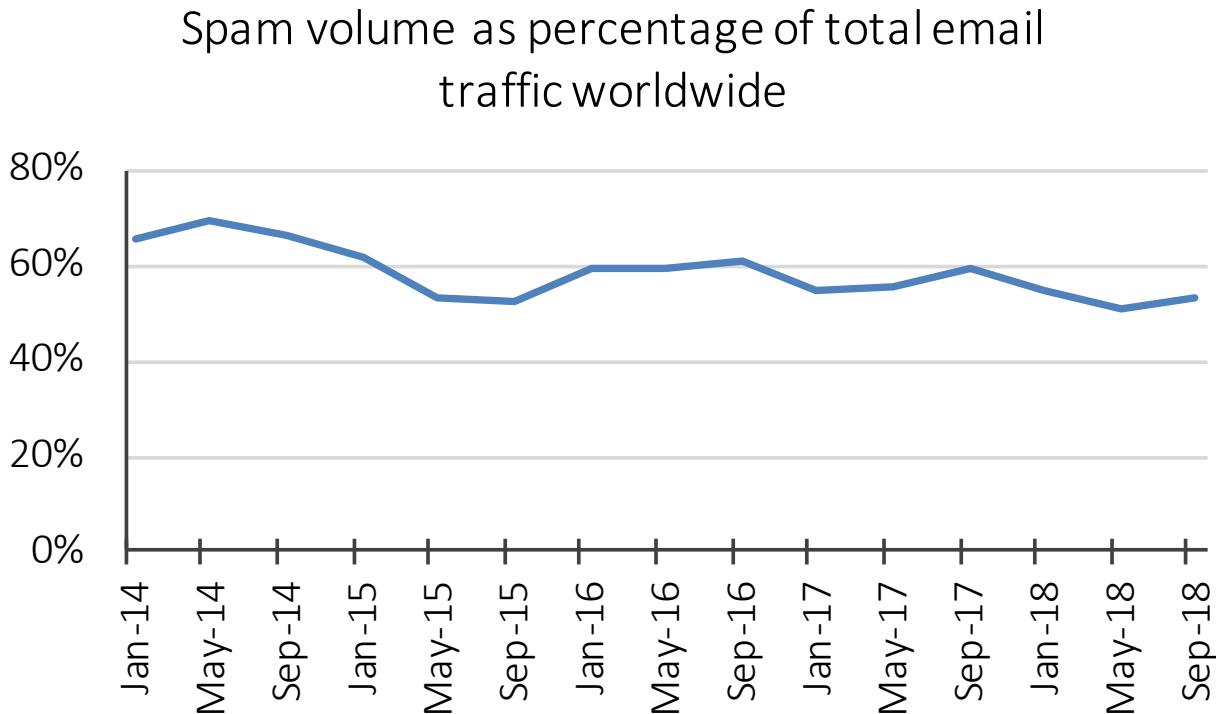
→ Law of Total Probability

Bayes' Theorem

So far

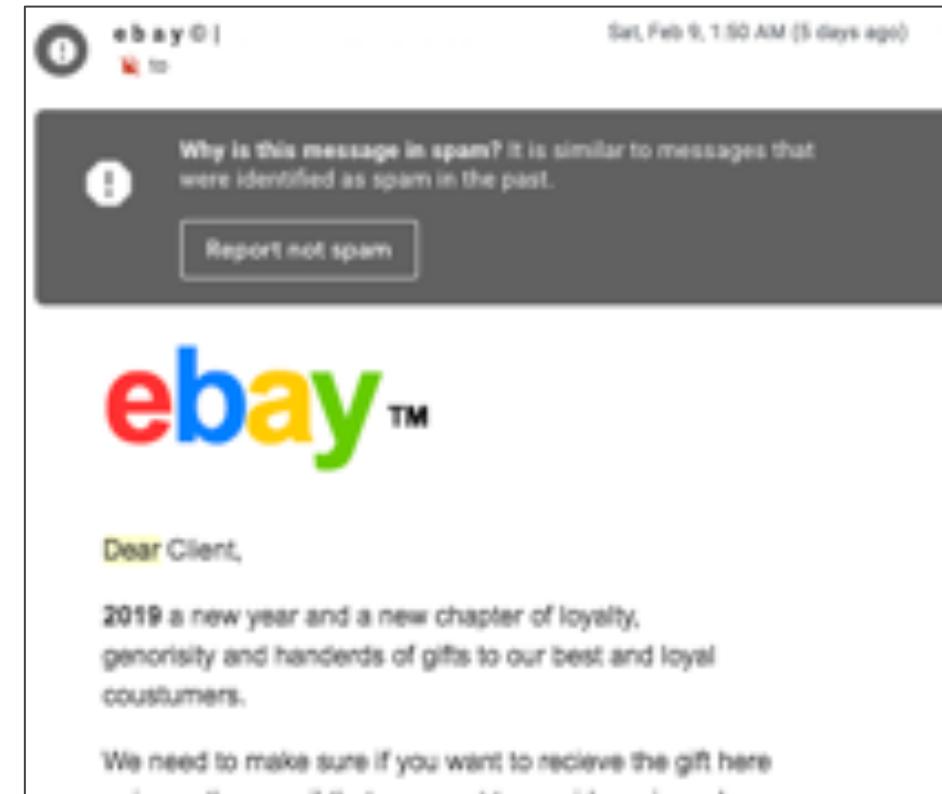


Detecting spam email



We can easily calculate how many spam emails contain “Dear”:

$$P(E|F) = P(\text{“Dear”} \mid \begin{matrix} \text{Spam} \\ \text{email} \end{matrix})$$



But what is the probability that an email containing “Dear” is spam?

$$P(F|E) = P(\begin{matrix} \text{Spam} \\ \text{email} \end{matrix} \mid \text{“Dear”})$$

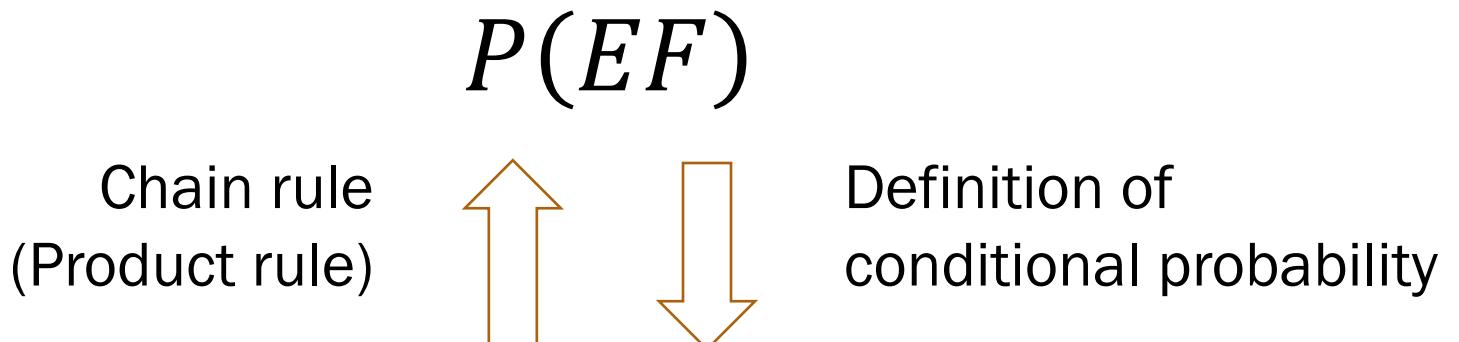
Thomas Bayes

Rev. Thomas Bayes (~1701-1761):
British mathematician and Presbyterian minister



He looked remarkably similar to Charlie Sheen
(but that's not important right now)

Today's tasks



$$P(E|F)$$

Law of Total
Probability

$$P(E)$$

Bayes'
Theorem

$$P(F|E)$$

Law of Total Probability

$$P(E|F) \rightarrow P(E)$$

Thm Let F be an event where $P(F) > 0$. For any event E ,

$$P(E) = P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C) \star$$

Proof

1. F and F^C are disjoint s.t. $F \cup F^C = S$ Def. of complement
2. $E = (EF) \cup (EF^C)$ (see board)
3. $P(E) = P(EF) + P(EF^C)$ Additivity axiom
4. $P(E) = P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)$ Chain rule (product rule)

General Law of Total Probability

Thm For disjoint events F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n s.t. $F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \dots \cup F_n = S$, $P(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(E|F_i)P(F_i)$ \star

Finding $P(E)$ from $P(E|F)$

$$P(E) = P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)$$

Law of Total Probability

- Flip a fair coin.
- If heads: roll a fair 6-sided die.
- Else: roll a fair 3-sided die.

You win if you roll a 6. What is $P(\text{winning})$?



1. Define events
& state goal

Let: E : win, F : flip heads

Want: $P(\text{win})$
 $= P(E)$

2. Identify known
probabilities

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{win}|H) &= P(E|F) &= 1/6 & P(E) = (1/6)(1/2) \\P(H) &= P(F) &= 1/2 & + (0)(1/2) \\P(\text{win}|T) &= P(E|F^C) = 0 && \\P(T) &= P(F^C) = 1 - 1/2 && = \frac{1}{12} \approx 0.083\end{aligned}$$

Break for jokes/
announcements

Announcements

Section sign-ups

Results:

later today
later today

Late signups/changes:

Concept checks

Was due: Today 1:00pm
Now due: Tomorrow 1:00pm
(due Tuesdays from now on)

Problem set 1

Gradescope portal: soon
LaTeX tutorial: online

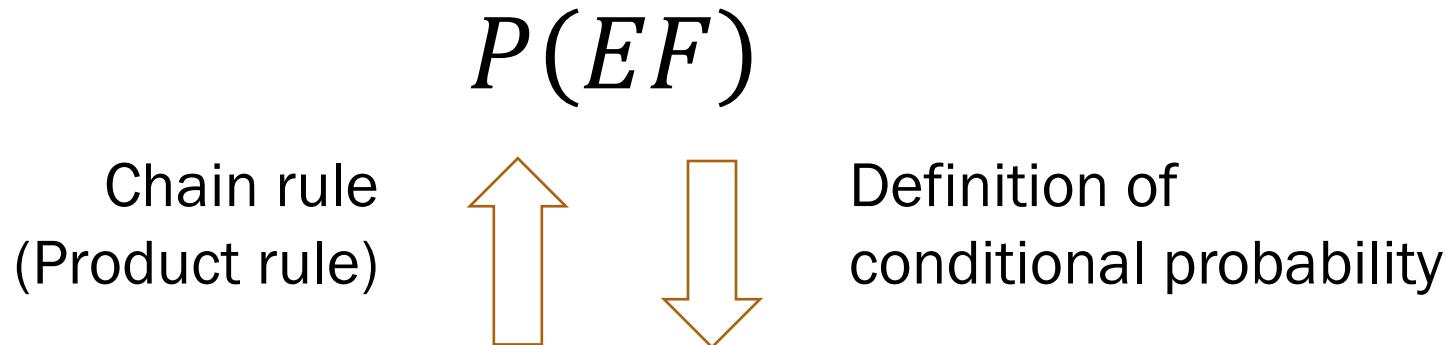
Today's plan

Conditional Probability and Chain Rule

Law of Total Probability

→ Bayes' Theorem

Today's tasks



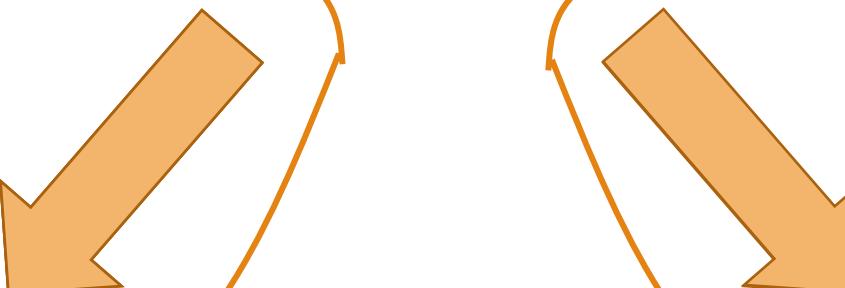
$$P(E|F)$$

Law of Total
Probability

$$P(E)$$

Bayes'
Theorem

$$P(F|E)$$



(silent drumroll)



Bayes' Theorem

$$P(E|F) \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} P(F|E)$$

Thm For any events E and F where $P(E) > 0$ and $P(F) > 0$,

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E)} \quad \star$$

Proof

2 steps! See board

Expanded form:

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)} \quad \star$$

Proof

1 more step! See board



Detecting spam email

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
 Bayes' Theorem

- 60% of all email in 2016 is spam. $P(F)$
- 20% of spam has the word “Dear” $P(E|F)$
- 1% of non-spam (aka ham) has the word “Dear” $P(E|F^C)$

You get an email with the word “Dear” in it.

What is the probability that the email is spam?

Want: $P(F|E)$

1. Define events
& state goal

2. Identify known
probabilities

3. Solve

Let: E : “Dear”, F : spam

$$P(\text{spam}) = 0.60 = P(F)$$

Want: $P(\text{spam} | \text{“Dear”})$

$$P(\text{“Dear”} | \text{spam}) = 0.20 = P(E|F)$$

$$= P(F|E)$$

$$P(\text{“Dear”} | \text{spam}^C) = 0.01 = P(E|F^C)$$

Detecting spam email

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
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You get an email with the word “Dear” in it.

What is the probability that the email is spam?

Want: $P(F|E)$

1. Define events
& state goal

2. Identify known
probabilities

3. Solve

Let: E : “Dear”, F : spam

Want: $P(\text{spam} | \text{“Dear”})$
 $= P(F|E)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(F|E) &= \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)} \\ &= \frac{(0.20)(0.6)}{(0.20)(0.6) + (0.01)(0.4)} \approx 0.967 \end{aligned}$$

Spam \cap “Dear” Spam C \cap “Dear”

Bayes' Theorem terminology

- 60% of all email in 2016 is spam. $P(F)$ prior

- 20% of spam has the word “Dear” $P(E|F)$ likelihood

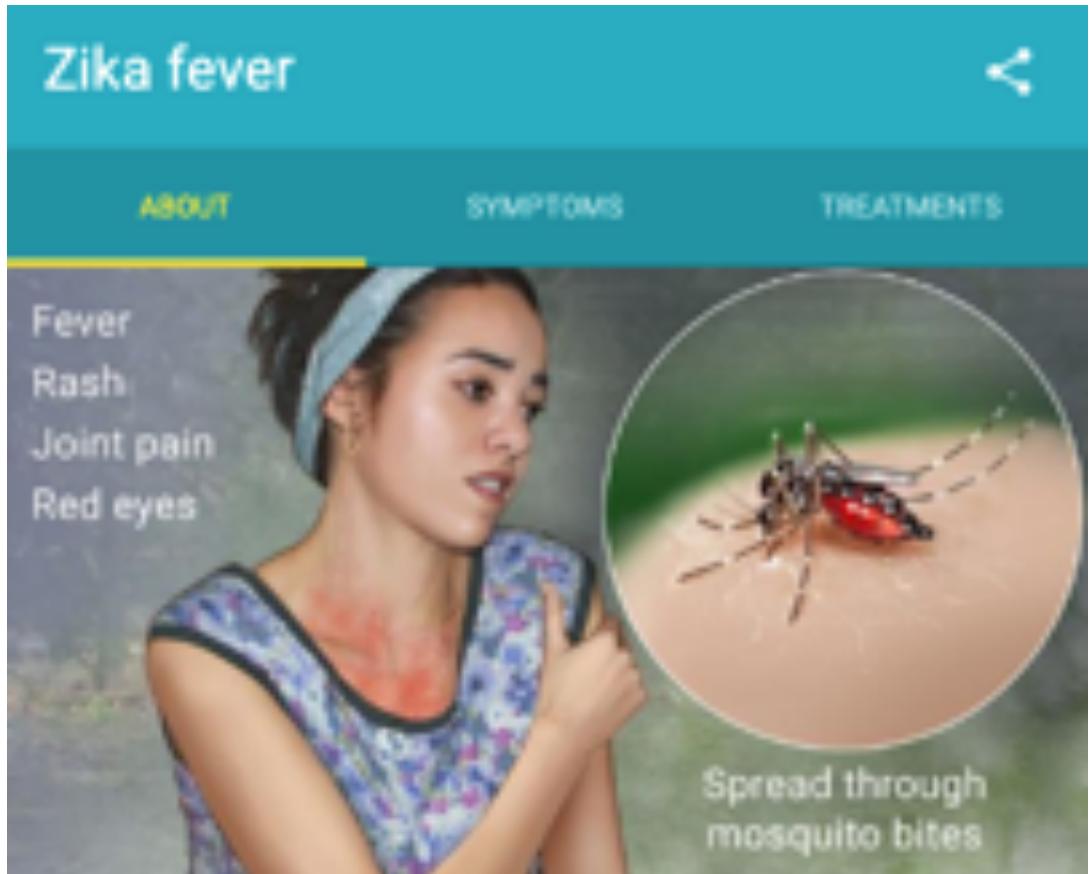
- 1% of non-spam (aka ham) has the word “Dear” $P(E|F^C)$

You get an email with the word “Dear” in it.

What is the probability that the email is spam? Want: $P(F|E)$ posterior

$$P(F|E) = \frac{\text{likelihood} \quad \text{prior}}{\text{normalization constant}}$$
$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E)}$$

Zika, an autoimmune disease



A disease spread through mosquito bites.
Usually no symptoms; worst case paralysis. During pregnancy: may cause birth defects



Ziika Forest, Uganda



Rhesus monkeys

If a test returns positive,
what is the likelihood
you have the disease?

Taking tests: Confusion matrix



Fact, F
or F^C

Has disease
No disease

Evidence, E
or E^C

Test positive
Test negative

		Fact	
		F , disease +	F^C , disease -
Evidence	E , Test +	True positive $P(E F)$	False positive $P(E F^C)$
	E^C , Test -	False negative $P(E^C F)$	True negative $P(E^C F^C)$

If a test returns positive,
what is the likelihood
you have the disease?

Taking tests: Confusion matrix



Take
test



Fact, F Has disease
or F^C No disease

Evidence, E Test positive
or E^C Test negative

		Fact	
		F , disease +	F^C , disease -
Evidence	E , Test +	True positive $P(E F)$	False positive $P(E F^C)$
	E^C , Test -	False negative $P(E^C F)$	True negative $P(E^C F^C)$

If a test returns positive,
what is the likelihood
you have the disease?

Zika Testing

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
 Bayes' Theorem

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”).
- However, the test has a “false positive” rate of 1%.
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika.

What is the likelihood you have Zika if you test positive? **Want:** $P(F|E)$

1. Define events
& state goal

Let:
 E = you test positive
 F = you actually have
the disease

Want:
 $P(\text{disease} | \text{test+})$
 $= P(F|E)$

2. Identify known
probabilities

A. $P(E|F)$ B. $P(F|E)$ C. $P(E|F)$
 $P(E^C|F)$ $P(F^C|E)$ $P(E|F^C)$
 $P(F)$ $P(F)$ $P(F)$



Zika Testing

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
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- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”).
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What is the likelihood you have Zika if you test positive? **Want:** $P(F|E)$

1. Define events & state goal

Let: E = you test positive
 F = you actually have the disease

Want:
 $P(\text{disease} | \text{test+})$
 $= P(F|E)$

2. Identify known probabilities

A. $P(E|F)$
 $P(E^C|F)$
 $P(F)$

B. $P(F|E)$
 $P(F^C|E)$
 $P(F)$

3. Solve

C. $P(E|F)$
 $P(E|F^C)$
 $P(F)$



Zika Testing

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
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What is the likelihood you have Zika if you test positive? Want: $P(F|E)$

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$$\begin{aligned} P(F|E) &= \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)} \\ &= \frac{(0.98)(0.005)}{(0.98)(0.005) + (0.01)(1 - 0.005)} \approx 0.330 \end{aligned}$$

Bayes' Theorem intuition

Original question:

What is the likelihood
you have Zika if you
test positive for the
disease?



Bayes' Theorem intuition

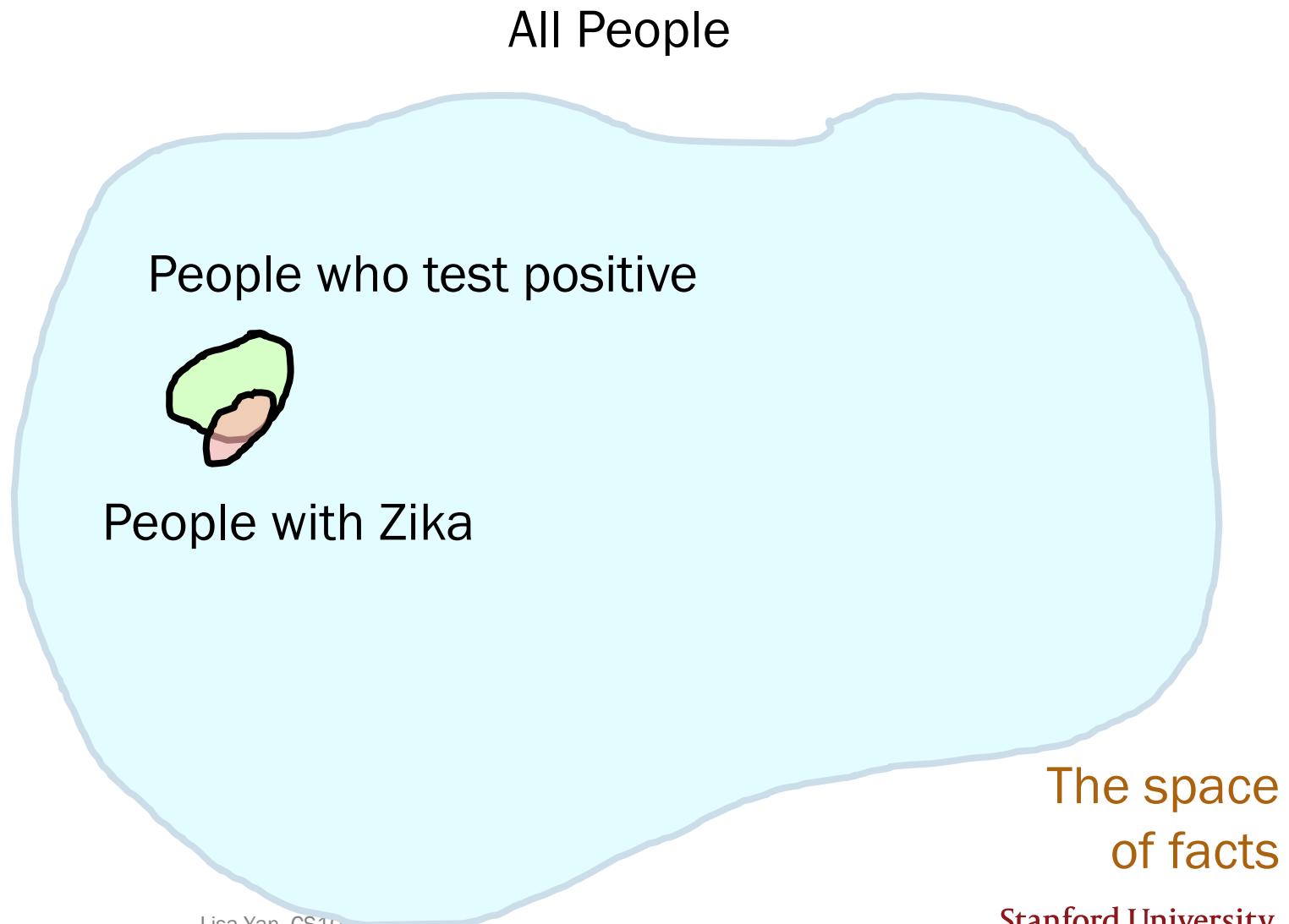
Original question:

What is the likelihood
you have Zika if you
test positive for the
disease?

Interpret

Interpretation:

Of the people who test
positive, how many
actually have Zika?



Bayes' Theorem intuition

Original question:

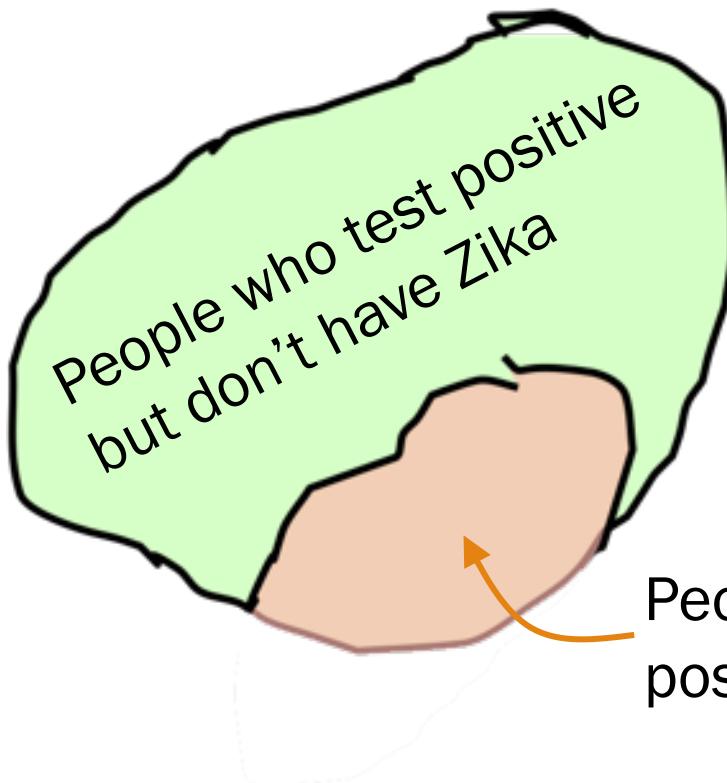
What is the likelihood
you have Zika if you
test positive for the
disease?

Interpret

Interpretation:

Of the people who test
positive, how many actually
have Zika?

People who test positive



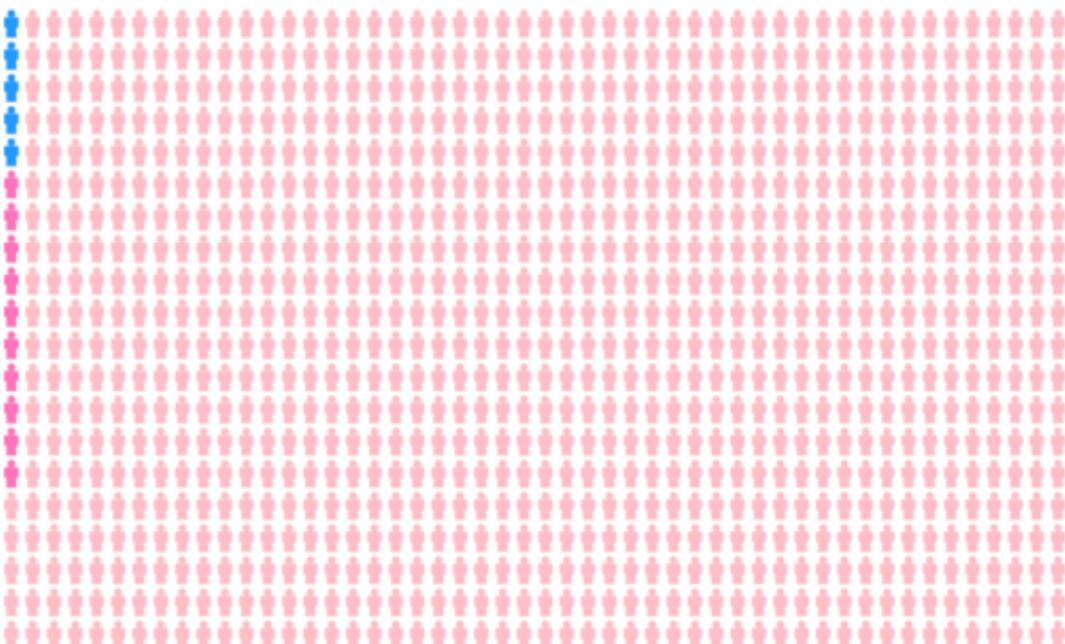
People who test positive and have Zika
**The space of facts,
conditioned on a positive test result**

Zika Testing

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”).
- However, the test has a “false positive” rate of 1%.
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika.

What is the likelihood you have Zika if you test positive?

Say we have 1000 people:



5 have Zika
and test positive
985 do not have Zika
and test negative.
10 do not have Zika
and test positive.
 ≈ 0.333

Why is Bayes' so important?

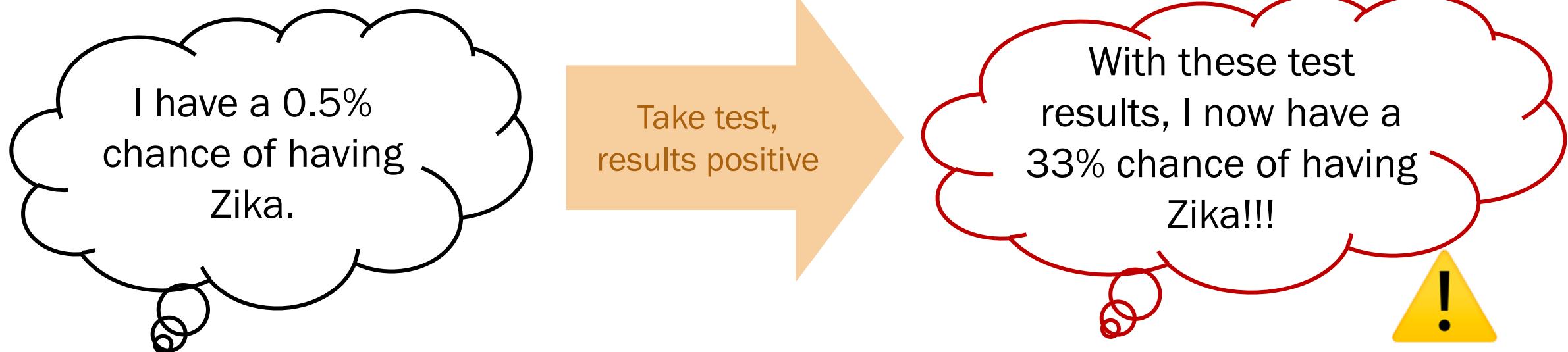


It links **belief** to **evidence** in probability!

Update your beliefs with Bayes' Theorem

E = you test positive for Zika

F = you actually have the disease



$$P(F)$$

$$P(F|E)$$

Why it's still good to get tested

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
 Bayes' Theorem

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”). $P(E|F)$
- However, the test has a “false positive” rate of 1%. $P(E|F^C)$
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika. $P(F)$

Let: E = you test positive
 F = you actually have
the disease

Let: E^C = you test **negative**
for Zika with this test.

What is $P(F|E^C)$?

- Complement: $P(F|E^C) = 1 - P(F|E)$
- Find $P(E^C|F)$, $P(E^C|F^C)$, then do Bayes'
- Calculate $P(E^C|F)/P(E^C)$ directly
- Give up/stay healthy



Why it's still good to get tested

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
 Bayes' Theorem

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”). $P(E|F)$
- However, the test has a “false positive” rate of 1%. $P(E|F^C)$
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika. $P(F)$

Let: E = you test positive
 F = you actually have
the disease

Let: E^C = you test **negative**
for Zika with this test.

What is $P(F|E^C)$?

- A. Complement: $P(F|E^C) = 1 - P(F|E)$ don't do this
- B. Find $P(E^C|F)$, $P(E^C|F^C)$, then do Bayes'
- C. Calculate $P(E^C F)/P(E^C)$ directly ⚠ No $P(E^C F)$
- D. Give up/stay healthy 

Why it's still good to get tested

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E|F)P(F)}{P(E|F)P(F) + P(E|F^C)P(F^C)}$$
 Bayes' Theorem

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”). $P(E|F)$
- However, the test has a “false positive” rate of 1%. $P(E|F^C)$
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika. $P(F)$

Let: E = you test positive
 F = you actually have the disease

Let: E^C = you test **negative** for Zika with this test.

What is $P(F|E^C)$?

	F , disease +	F^C , disease -
E , Test +	True positive $P(E F) = 0.98$	False positive $P(E F^C) = 0.01$

B. Find $P(E^C|F)$, $P(E^C|F^C)$, then do Bayes'

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E , Test +	True positive $P(E F) = 0.98$	False positive $P(E F^C) = 0.01$
E^C , Test -	False negative $P(E^C F) = 0.02$	True negative $P(E^C F^C) = 0.99$

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What is $P(F|E^C)$?

	F , disease +	F^C , disease -
E , Test +	True positive $P(E F) = 0.98$	False positive $P(E F^C) = 0.01$
E^C , Test -	False negative $P(E^C F) = 0.02$	True negative $P(E^C F^C) = 0.99$

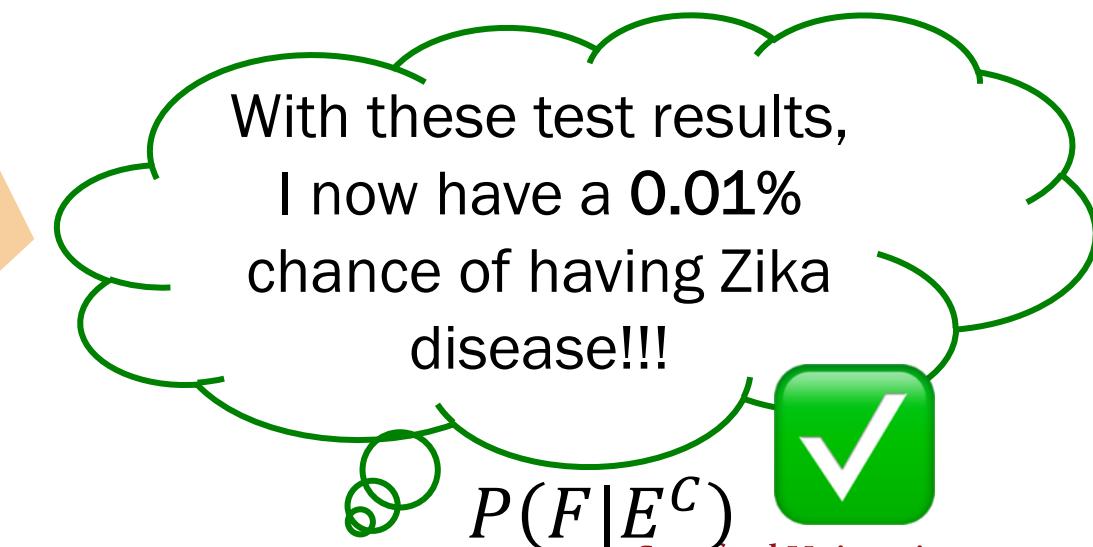
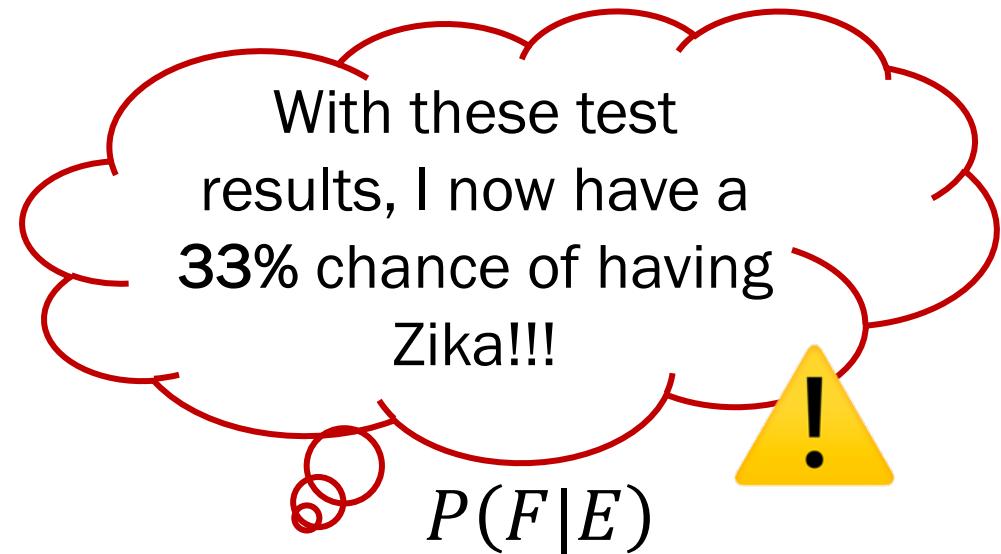
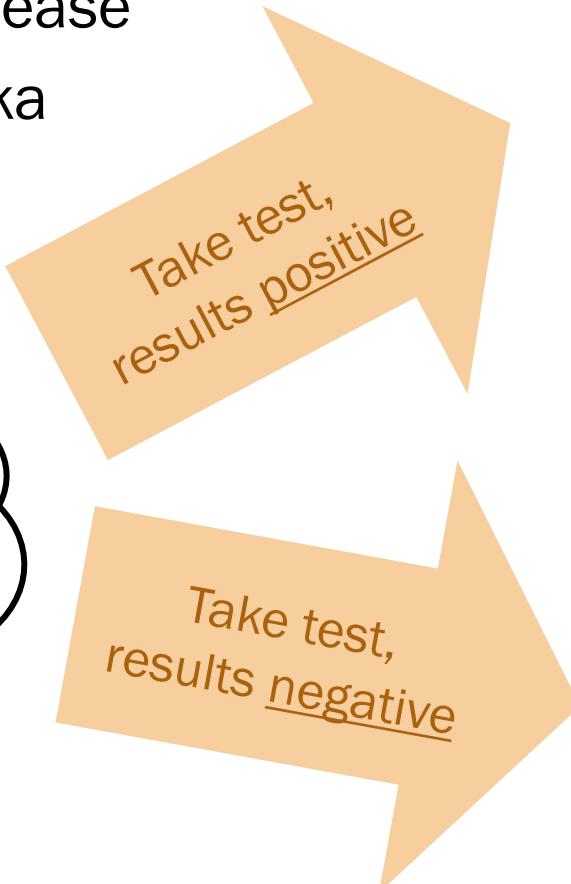
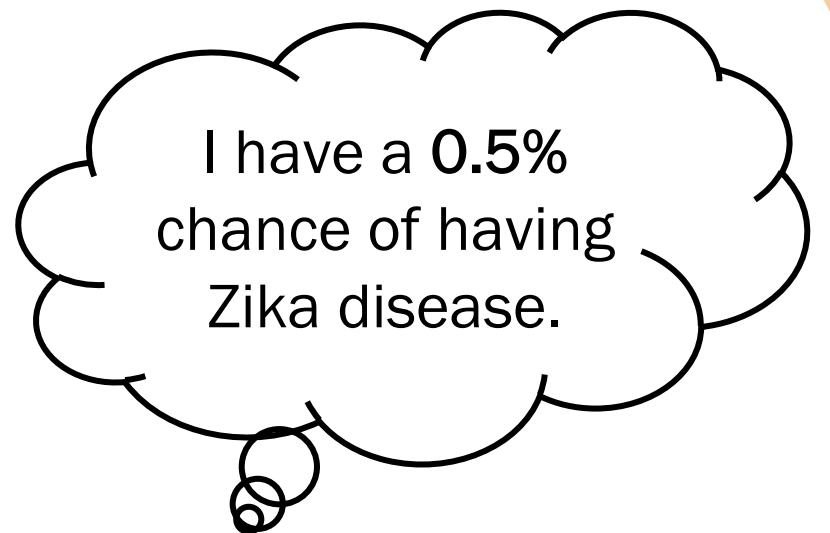
$$P(F|E^C) = \frac{P(E^C|F)P(F)}{P(E^C|F)P(F) + P(E^C|F^C)P(F^C)} = \frac{(0.02)(0.005)}{(0.02)(0.005) + (0.99)(1 - 0.005)} \approx 0.0001$$

Why it's still good to get tested

E = you test positive for Zika

F = you actually have the disease

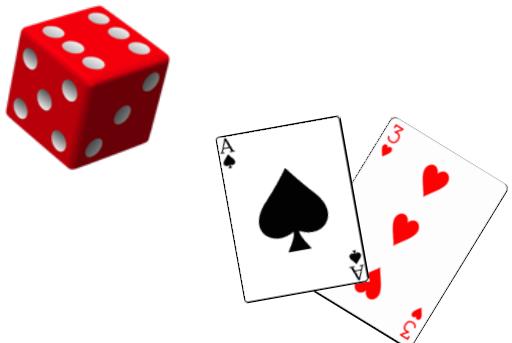
E^C = you test **negative** for Zika



This class going forward

Last week

Equally likely
events



$P(E \cap F)$ $P(E \cup F)$
(counting, combinatorics)

Today and for most of this course

Not equally likely events

$P(E = \text{Evidence} | F = \text{Fact})$

(collected from data)

Bayes'

$P(F = \text{Fact} | E = \text{Evidence})$

(categorize
a new datapoint)

Another conditional probability example

Monty Hall Problem

and Wayne Brady



Monty Hall Problem aka Let's Make a Deal

Behind one door is a prize (equally likely to be any door).

Behind the other two doors is nothing

1. We choose a door
2. Host opens 1 of other 2 doors, revealing nothing
3. We are given an option to change to the other door.

Should we switch?



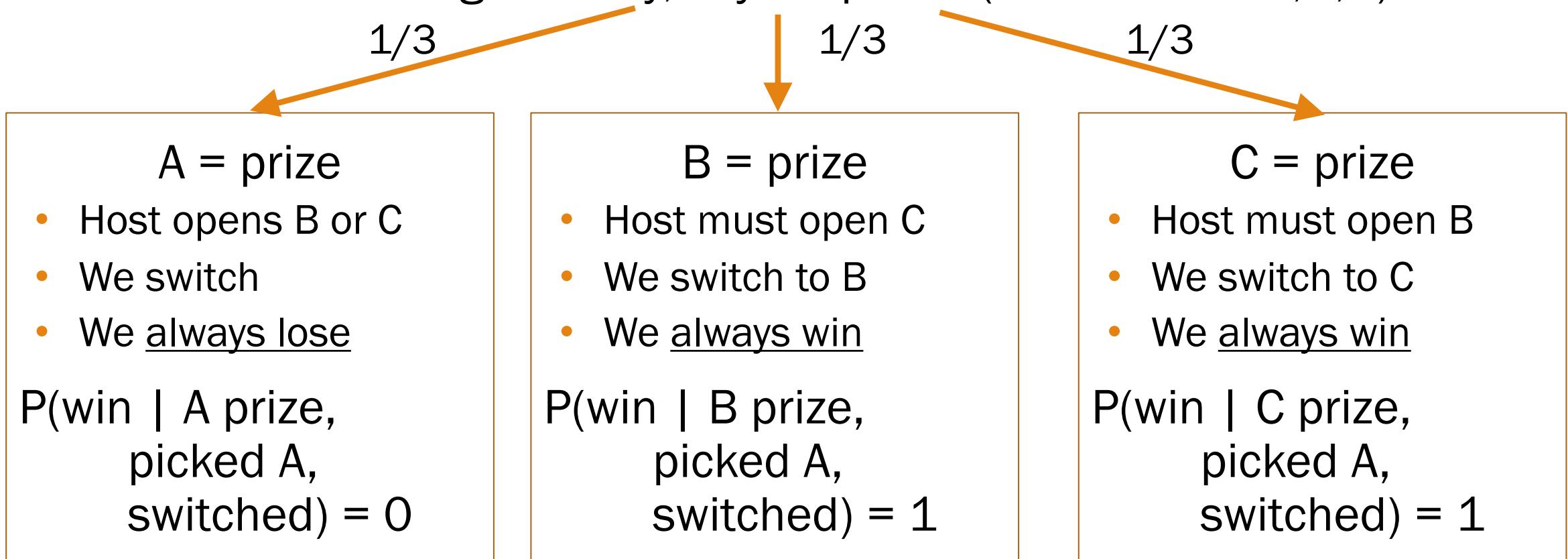
Doors A,B,C

Note: If we don't switch, $P(\text{win}) = 1/3$ (random)

We are comparing $P(\text{win})$ and $P(\text{win} \mid \text{switch})$.

If we switch

Without loss of generality, say we pick A (out of Doors A,B,C).



$$P(\text{win} \mid \text{picked A, switched}) = 1/3 * 0 + 1/3 * 1 + 1/3 * 1 = 2/3$$

You should switch.

Monty Hall, 1000 envelope version

Start with 1000 envelopes
(of which 1 is the prize).

1. You choose 1 envelope.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{1000} = P(\text{envelope is prize}) \\ \frac{999}{1000} = P(\text{other 999 envelopes have prize}) \end{array} \right.$$

2. I open 998 of remaining 999
(showing they are empty).

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{999}{1000} = P(998 \text{ empty envelopes had prize}) \\ \quad + P(\text{last other envelope has prize}) \\ = P(\text{last other envelope has prize}) \end{array} \right.$$

3. Should you switch?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P(\text{you win without switching}) = \frac{1}{\text{original \# envelopes}} \\ P(\text{you win with switching}) = \frac{\text{original \# envelopes} - 1}{\text{original \# envelopes}} \end{array} \right.$$