

## Conditional Probability of Two RVs

We have 2 RVs,  $X$  and  $Y$ , with events  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. The probability of  $Y \in B$  conditional on  $X \in A$  is  $P(Y \in B | X \in A) = \frac{P(X \in A, Y \in B)}{P(X \in A)}$ .

**Case 1:**  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete RVs

The joint PMF:  $P_{XY}(x_j, y_k) = P(X=x_j, Y=y_k)$

The conditional PMF of  $Y$  given  $X=x_j$ :  $P_Y(y_k | x_j) = \frac{P(X=x_j, Y=y_k)}{P(X=x_j)} = \frac{P_{XY}(x_j, y_k)}{P_X(x_j)}$

And if the event  $Y \in B$  includes multiple possible outcomes:  $P(Y \in B | X=x_j) = \sum_{y \in B} P_Y(y_k | x_j)$

Note the following result:  $P_Y(y_k | x_j) = \frac{P_{XY}(x_j, y_k)}{P_X(x_j)} \Rightarrow P_{XY}(x_j, y_k) = P_Y(y_k | x_j) P_X(x_j)$  where the joint PMF can be expressed as the product of a conditional PMF and a marginal PMF.

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $P_Y(y_k | x_j) = P_Y(y_k)$

**Case 2:**  $X$  is discrete and  $Y$  is continuous

**Case 3:**  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous

If  $X$  is continuous, then  $P(X=x) = 0$

$$F_Y(y|x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} F_Y(y | x < X \leq x+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(Y \leq y, x < X \leq x+h)}{P(x < X \leq x+h)}$$