



UNIVERSITAT  
POLITÈCNICA  
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# Introduction to Lab Work and Probabilistic Reasoning

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# Formative objectives

- To introduce the lab work
- To apply concepts and techniques from probabilistic reasoning

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# 1 Introduction to lab work: Octave

- Octave is a high-level language for numerical computations
- It can be used interactively or as a batch-oriented language
- Free open-source version of the commercial software Matlab
- Available at <http://www.gnu.org/software/octave>
- [Reference manual](#)
- Introduction to Octave with exercises for probabilistic reasoning
- To start an Octave session run from a terminal: `octave -q`

## 2 Probabilistic representation

The knowledge to diagnose cavity can be probabilistically represented with a joint probability distribution for the random variables.

**Dentist's example:** knowledge to diagnose cavity

Random variables of interest:

*Toothache* :  $T \in \{0, 1\}$

*Catch*<sup>1</sup> :  $H \in \{0, 1\}$

*Cavity* :  $C \in \{0, 1\}$

Representation:

$$P(T = t, H = h, C = c)$$

Table:

$t$	$h$	$c$	$P$
0	0	0	0.576
0	0	1	0.008
0	1	0	0.144
0	1	1	0.072
1	0	0	0.064
1	0	1	0.012
1	1	0	0.016
1	1	1	0.108
Sum:			1.000

<sup>1</sup>The dentist's nasty steel probe catches in my tooth.

# Dentist's table in Octave

<i>t</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>P</i>
0	0	0	0.576
0	0	1	0.008
0	1	0	0.144
0	1	1	0.072
1	0	0	0.064
1	0	1	0.012
1	1	0	0.016
1	1	1	0.108

Introduce Dentist's table in Octave:

```
1 T = [0 0 0 .576; 0 0 1 .008; 0 1 0 .144; 0 1 1 .072;  
2       1 0 0 .064; 1 0 1 .012; 1 1 0 .016; 1 1 1 .108];
```

Element in row 1, column 4:

```
1 T(1,4)
```

```
1 ans = 0.57600
```

Element in row 1, last column:

```
1 T(1,end)
```

```
1 ans = 0.57600
```

Elements from row 1 to 4 in the last column:

```
1 T(1:4,end)
```

```
1 ans = 0.5760000  
2       0.0080000  
3       0.1440000  
4       0.0720000
```

Elements (from all rows) in the last column:

```
1 T(:,end)
```

```
1 ans = 0.5760000  
2       0.0080000  
3       0.1440000  
4       0.0720000  
5       0.0640000  
6       0.0120000  
7       0.0160000  
8       0.1080000
```

Elements from rows 1, 2, 5 y 6 in the last column:

```
1 T([1 2 5 6],end)
```

```
1 ans =  
2 0.5760000  
3 0.0080000  
4 0.0640000  
5 0.0120000
```

<i>t</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>P</i>
0	0	0	0.576
0	0	1	0.008
0	1	0	0.144
0	1	1	0.072
1	0	0	0.064
1	0	1	0.012
1	1	0	0.016
1	1	1	0.108

Sum over all elements in the last column:

```
1 sum(T(:,end))
```

```
1 ans = 1.00000
```

Indicators of rows with null elements in column 3:

```
1 T(:,3)==0
```

```
1 ans =  
2 0  
3 1  
4 0  
5 1  
6 0  
7 1  
8 0
```

Rows with non-null elements in column 2:

```
1 find(T(:,2))
```

```
1 ans =  
2 3  
3 4  
4 7  
5 8
```

Rows with null elements in columns 2 and 3:

```
1 find(T(:,2)==0 & T(:,3)==0)
```

```
1 ans =  
2 5
```

### 3 Probabilistic inference

From a joint probability distribution we can compute the probability of any *event (proposition)* by applying:

**Sum rule:**

$$P(x) = \sum_y P(x, y)$$

**Product rule:**

$$P(x, y) = P(x) P(y \mid x)$$

In general, it is not necessary to know the full joint probability table to compute the probability of a given event.



Elements in last col. from rows with zero in cols. 2 and 3:

```
1 T(find(T(:,2)==0 & T(:,3)==0),end)
```

```
1 ans = 0.576000
2      0.064000
```

<i>t</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>P</i>
0	0	0	0.576
0	0	1	0.008
0	1	0	0.144
0	1	1	0.072
1	0	0	0.064
1	0	1	0.012
1	1	0	0.016
1	1	1	0.108

Prob. of observing catch and cavity at the same time:

$$P(H = 1, C = 1) = \sum_{T=0,1} P(T, H = 1, C = 1) = 0.180$$

```
1 Ph1c1=sum(T(find(T(:,2)==1 & T(:,3)==1),end))
```

```
1 Ph1c1 = 0.18000
```

Probability of observing cavity:

$$P(C = 1) = \sum_{T=0,1} \sum_{H=0,1} P(T, H, C = 1) = 0.200$$

```
1 Pc1=sum(T(find(T(:,3)==1),end))
```

```
1 Pc1 = 0.20000
```

Probability of observing catch after observing cavity:

$$P(H = 1 | C = 1) = \frac{P(H=1,C=1)}{P(C=1)} = \frac{0.180}{0.200} = 0.900$$

```
1 Ph1Gc1 = Ph1c1/Pc1
```

```
1 Ph1Gc1 = 0.90000
```

Probability of observing toothache after observing catch:

$$P(T = 1 | H = 1) = \frac{P(T=1,H=1)}{P(H=1)} = \frac{0.124}{0.340} = 0.365$$

```
1 Pt1h1=sum(T(find(T(:,1)==1 & T(:,2)==1),end))
2 Ph1=sum(T(find(T(:,2)==1),end))
3 Pt1Gh1=Pt1h1/Ph1
```

```
1 Pt1h1 = 0.12400
2 Ph1    = 0.34000
3 Pt1Gh1 = 0.36471
```

## 4 Exercise: applying Bayes' theorem

**Bayes' theorem** allows to update our knowledge on a hypothesis  $y$  after observing a new evidence  $x$ :

$$P(y \mid x) = \frac{P(x, y)}{P(x)} = P(y) \frac{P(x \mid y)}{P(x)}$$

Alternatively:  $P(y \mid x)$  is the probability of the effect  $y$  to happen after observing the cause  $x$ .

**Exercise:** compute the prob. of cavity after observing toothache:

$$P(C = 1 \mid T = 1) = \frac{P(T = 1 \mid C = 1) P(C = 1)}{P(T = 1)}$$