

Conditional Probability: Intermediate: Takeaways



by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020

Concepts

- Given events A and B :
 - $P(A)$ means finding the probability of A
 - $P(A|B)$ means finding the conditional probability of A (given that B occurs)
 - $P(A \cap B)$ means finding the probability that both A and B occur
 - $P(A \cup B)$ means finding the probability that either A occurs or B occurs
- For any events A and B , it's true that:
 - $P(A \cap B) \leq P(A)$
 - $P(A \cap B) \leq P(B)$
 - $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$
- Knowing what the condition and the event are is important, since $P(A|B)$ is different $P(B|A)$.
- If event A occurs and the probability of B remains unchanged (and vice versa), then events A and B are said to be **independent**. Mathematically, independence between A and B implies that:
 - $P(A|B) = P(A)$
 - $P(B|A) = P(B)$
 - $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$
- If events A and B are dependent, it means that the occurrence of event A changes the probability of event B and vice versa. In mathematical terms, this means that one of the three equations given above for independence will not hold.

- If three events A, B, C are **mutually independent**, then two conditions must hold: they should be pairwise independent, but also independent together. If any of these two conditions doesn't hold, then the events are not mutually independent.
- The multiplication rule for dependent events:
- The multiplication rule for independent events:

Resources

- [An intuitive approach to understanding independent events](#)
- [An easy intro to some basic conditional probability concepts](#)
- [A brief reminder on set complements](#)



Takeaways by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020