

Bayes' Rule for Single Event

- single hypothesis H , single event E

$$P(H|E) = (P(E|H) * P(H)) / P(E)$$

or

- $$P(H|E) = (P(E|H) * P(H) / (P(E|H) * P(H) + P(E|\neg H) * P(\neg H))$$

Bayes Example: Diagnosing Meningitis

- Suppose we know that
 - Stiff neck is a symptom in 50% of meningitis cases
 - Meningitis (m) occurs in 1/50,000 patients
 - Stiff neck (s) occurs in 1/20 patients
- Then
 - $P(s|m) = 0.5$, $P(m) = 1/50000$, $P(s) = 1/20$
 - $P(m|s) = (P(s|m) P(m))/P(s)$
 $= (0.5 \times 1/50000) / 1/20 = .0002$
- So we expect that one in 5000 patients with a stiff neck to have meningitis.