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# Lecture 11

## Bayesian Inference

**CS 180 – Intelligent Systems**

Dr. Victor Chen

# Review on Probability Theory

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# Random variables

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- We use **random variables** to describe uncertain state. **Random variables** take on values in a *domain*.
  - **R**: *Is it raining?*
  - **R** in {True, False}
  - **W**: *What's the weather?*
  - **W** in {Sunny, Cloudy, Rainy, Snow}
  - **D**: *What is the outcome of rolling two dice?*
  - **D** in {(1,1), (1,2), ... (6,6)}
  - **S**: *What is the speed of my car (in MPH)?*
  - **S** in [0, 200]

# Events

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***Event:*** a complete assignment of *values* to all random variables

E.g., if two Boolean variables *Cavity* and *Toothache*,

Then there are four distinct events:

*Cavity = false ^ Toothache = false*  
*Cavity = false ^ Toothache = true*  
*Cavity = true ^ Toothache = false*  
*Cavity = true ^ Toothache = true*

# Joint probability

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A **joint probability**  $P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n)$  refers to the probability of an event.

Atomic events	P
$Cavity = false \wedge Toothache = false$	0.8
$Cavity = false \wedge Toothache = true$	0.1
$Cavity = true \wedge Toothache = false$	0.05
$Cavity = true \wedge Toothache = true$	0.05

The joint probabilities of all the events **must sum to 1**

# Marginal (prior) probability

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If you sum the joints of all events where  $X = x$ , you get the **marginal (prior) probability**  $P(X = x)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x) &= P((X = x \wedge Y = y_1) \vee \dots \vee (X = x \wedge Y = y_n)) \\ &= P((x, y_1) \vee \dots \vee (x, y_n)) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(x, y_i) \end{aligned}$$

# Derive marginal from joint

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<b>P(Cavity, Toothache)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.8
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.1
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.05
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.05

<b>P(Cavity)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false</i>	?
<i>Cavity = true</i>	?

<b>P(Toothache)</b>	
<i>Toothache = false</i>	?
<i>Toothache = true</i>	?

# Derive marginal from joint

---

<b>P(Cavity, Toothache)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.8
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.1
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.05
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.05

<b>P(Cavity)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false</i>	0.9
<i>Cavity = true</i>	0.1

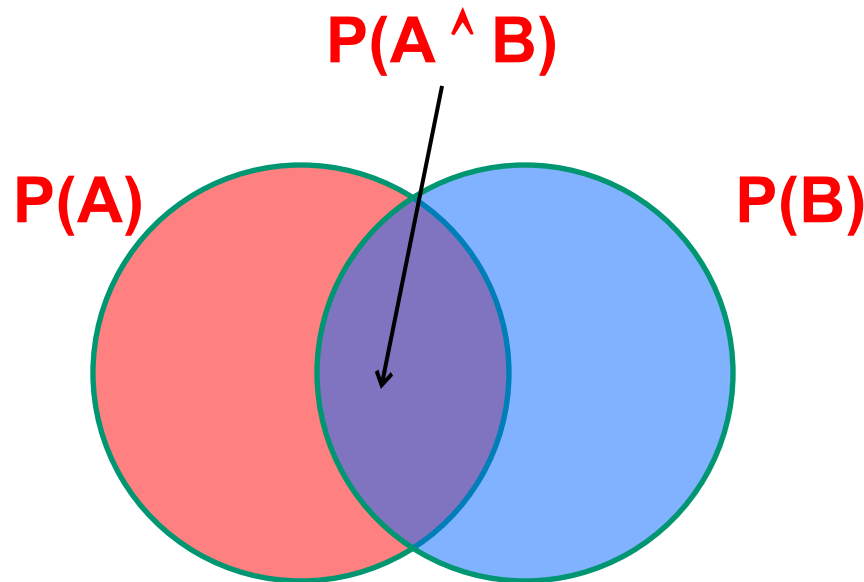
<b>P(Toothache)</b>	
<i>Toothache = false</i>	0.85
<i>Toothache = true</i>	0.15



# Conditional probability (likelihood)

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For any two events A and B,  $P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A, B)}{P(B)}$



# Derive conditional from joint

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<b>P(Cavity, Toothache)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.8
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.1
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.05
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.05

<b>P(Cavity)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false</i>	0.9
<i>Cavity = true</i>	0.1

<b>P(Toothache)</b>	
<i>Toothache = false</i>	0.85
<i>Toothache = true</i>	0.15

What is  $P(\text{Cavity} = \text{true} \mid \text{Toothache} = \text{false})$ ?

$$P(\text{Cavity} = \text{true} \wedge \text{Toothache} = \text{false}) / P(\text{Toothache} = \text{false}) = 0.05 / 0.85 = 0.059$$

What is  $P(\text{Cavity} = \text{false} \mid \text{Toothache} = \text{true})$ ?

$$P(\text{Cavity} = \text{false} \wedge \text{Toothache} = \text{true}) / P(\text{Toothache} = \text{true}) = 0.1 / 0.15 = 0.667$$

# Derive conditional from joint

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<b>P(Cavity, Toothache)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.8
<i>Cavity = false ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.1
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = false</i>	0.05
<i>Cavity = true ^ Toothache = true</i>	0.05

<b>P(Cavity   Toothache = true)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false</i>	0.667
<i>Cavity = true</i>	0.333

<b>P(Cavity   Toothache = false)</b>	
<i>Cavity = false</i>	0.941
<i>Cavity = true</i>	0.059

<b>P(Toothache   Cavity = true)</b>	
<i>Toothache = false</i>	0.5
<i>Toothache = true</i>	0.5

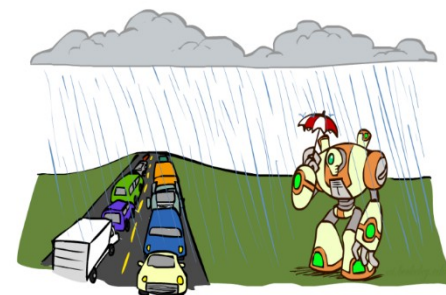
<b>P(Toothache   Cavity = false)</b>	
<i>Toothache = false</i>	0.889
<i>Toothache = true</i>	0.111

# Derive joint from conditional

## **Chain rule:**

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = P(X_1)P(X_2|X_1)P(X_3|X_1, X_2) \dots$$

$$P(\text{Traffic, Rain, Umbrella}) = \\ P(\text{Rain})P(\text{Traffic}|\text{Rain})P(\text{Umbrella}|\text{Rain, Traffic})$$



# Independence

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Two events A and B are *independent* iff

$$P(A, B) = P(A) P(B)$$

- In other words,  $P(A | B) = P(A)$  or  $P(B | A) = P(B)$

**Conditional independence:** A and B are *conditionally independent* given C iff

$$P(A, B | C) = P(A | C) P(B | C)$$

- Equivalently:

$$P(A | B, C) = P(A | C) \text{ or } P(B | A, C) = P(B | C)$$

# Conditional independence: Example

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*Toothache*: if the patient has a toothache

*Cavity*: if the patient has a cavity

*Catch*: if the dentist's probe catches in the cavity

If the patient has a **cavity**, the probability that the probe **catches** in it doesn't depend on whether she has a **toothache**

$$P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$$

Therefore, *Catch* and *Toothache* are **conditionally independent** given *Cavity*

Question: are *Catch* and *Toothache* **independent**?

No since  $P(\text{Catch}, \text{Toothache}) \neq P(\text{Catch}) P(\text{Toothache})$

# Use conditional independence to simplify joint calculation

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According to the chain rule:

$$P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity}) \\ = P(\textit{Cavity}) P(\textit{Catch} \mid \textit{Cavity}) P(\textit{Toothache} \mid \textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity})$$

if conditional independence:

$$= P(\textit{Cavity}) P(\textit{Catch} \mid \textit{Cavity}) P(\textit{Toothache} \mid \textit{Cavity})$$

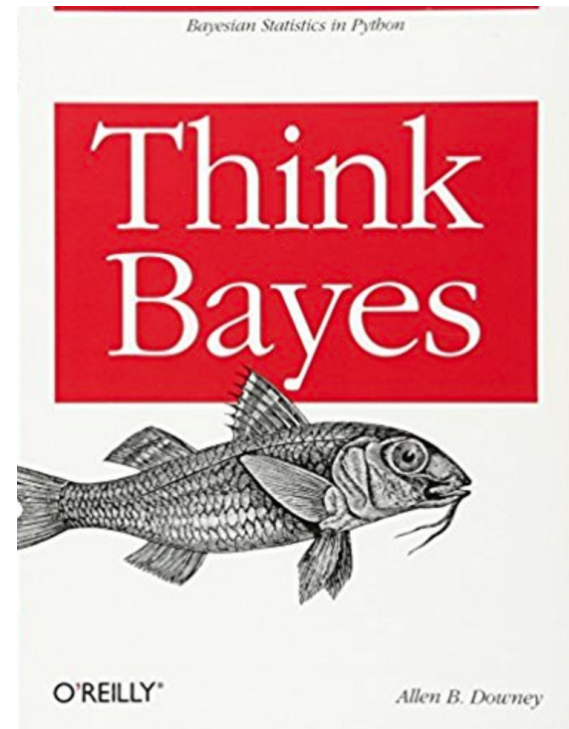
use conditional independence to  
estimate the joint in an easy way



# Bayesian inference

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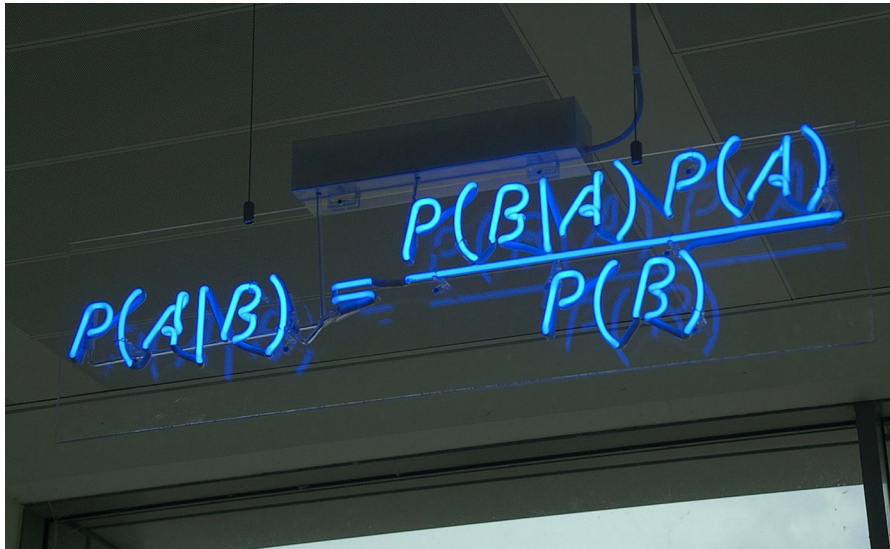
A inference tool that  
uses conditional  
independence to  
simplify the  
calculation of joint  
probabilities.





# Bayes Rule

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A photograph of a whiteboard with the Bayes Rule formula written in blue marker. The formula is  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$ . The whiteboard is mounted on a wall, and the lighting is somewhat dim, with the blue marker standing out against the white surface.

$$\text{Posterior} = \frac{\text{Likelihood} * \text{Prior}}{\text{Normalization}}$$

Why is this useful?

- Posterior is proportional to likelihood  $\times$  prior
- $P(A)$  is the prior and  $P(A|B)$  is the posterior
- $P(B|A)$  is the likelihood
- $P(B)$  is the marginal
- Theoretical foundation of Bayesian inference

# Bayes Rule example

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Marie is getting married tomorrow, at an outdoor ceremony in the desert. In recent years, it has rained only 5 days each year ( $5/365 = 0.014$ ). Unfortunately, the weatherman has predicted rain for tomorrow. When it actually rains, the weatherman correctly predicts rain 90% of the time. When it doesn't rain, he incorrectly predicts rain 10% of the time. What is the probability that it will rain on Marie's wedding?

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{rain} \mid \text{predict}) &= \frac{P(\text{predict} \mid \text{rain})P(\text{rain})}{P(\text{predict})} \\ &= \frac{P(\text{predict} \mid \text{rain})P(\text{rain})}{P(\text{predict} \mid \text{rain})P(\text{rain}) + P(\text{predict} \mid \neg\text{rain})P(\neg\text{rain})} \\ &= \frac{0.9 \times 0.014}{0.9 \times 0.014 + 0.1 \times 0.986} = \frac{0.0126}{0.0126 + 0.0986} = 0.111 \end{aligned}$$

# Bayes rule: Example

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1% of women at age 40 who take routine screening test have breast cancer. 80% of women with breast cancer will get positive test result. 9.6% of women without breast cancer will also get positive test result. Suppose a woman in this age group had a positive test result in a routine screening. What is the probability that she actually has breast cancer?

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{cancer} \mid \text{positive}) &= \frac{P(\text{positive} \mid \text{cancer})P(\text{cancer})}{P(\text{positive})} \\&= \frac{P(\text{positive} \mid \text{cancer})P(\text{cancer})}{P(\text{positive} \mid \text{cancer})P(\text{cancer}) + P(\text{positive} \mid \neg \text{cancer})P(\neg \text{cancer})} \\&= \frac{0.8 \times 0.01}{0.8 \times 0.01 + 0.096 \times 0.99} = \frac{0.008}{0.008 + 0.095} = 0.0776\end{aligned}$$

# Bayesian inference

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Before we move on to Bayesian inference, let's take on a look at what **inference** is.



# Inference problem

Given the value of some **evidence variable**  $E = e$ , find the value  $x$  of **query variable**  $X$  that **maximize the posterior** probability:

**posterior**

$$\hat{x} = \arg \max_x P(X = x \mid E = e)$$

- Examples:

$e$  = image features,  $X = \{\text{tiger, monkey, zebra}\}$ ,



# Bayesian inference (apply Bayes rule )

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$$\hat{x} = \arg \max_x \overset{\text{posterior}}{P(X = x | E = e)} = \frac{\overset{\text{likelihood}}{P(E = e | X = x)} \overset{\text{prior}}{P(X = x)}}{\underset{\text{marginal}}{P(E = e)}}$$

Here we reduce the inference problem to the problem of estimating likelihood and priors

$P(E=e)$  is  $P(E = e | X = x)P(X = x)$   
If we have multiple evidences (features)  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  :

$$\hat{x} = \arg \max_x P(E_1 = e_1, \dots, E_n = e_n | X = x) P(X = x)$$

If we assume that  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  are conditionally independent :

$$\hat{x} = \arg \max_x \prod_{i=1}^n P(E_i = e_i | X = x) P(X = x)$$

# Case study: Text document classification

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**Inference:** assign a document to the class with the highest posterior  $P(\text{class} \mid \text{document})$

Question: What are **evidence variable** and **query variable**?

Goal: estimate **likelihoods**  $P(\text{document} \mid \text{class})$  and **priors**  $P(\text{class})$

Likelihood: ***bag of words*** model

- The document is a sequence of words  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$
- The order of the words in the document is not important
- Each word is independent of the others given document class
- Can be computed as:

$$P(\text{document} \mid \text{class}) = P(w_1, \dots, w_n \mid \text{class}) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i \mid \text{class})$$



**Product of the likelihoods of individual words**

# Parameter estimation

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How do we obtain **likelihoods of individual words**?

- We need **training data** of labeled documents
- Naïve approach:

$$P(\text{word} \mid \text{class}) = \frac{\text{\# of occurrences of this word in this class}}{\text{total \# of words in this class}}$$

- Any problem?



# Parameter estimation

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If training data is not very large, the above method may not work very well.

We need to make sure likelihoods are not zero or too small.

## **Solution: Smoothing:**

- Used to make sure likelihoods are not zero or too small.
- **Laplace smoothing:** mixing true likelihood in training data with uniform distribution

$$P(\text{word} \mid \text{class}) = \frac{\text{\# of occurrences of this word in this class} + 1}{\text{total \# of words in class} + V}$$

(V: total number of unique words)

# Example (Politics or Sports?)

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new doc: **X = “Obama likes basketball”**

Training  
set

Politics

“Obama meets Merkel”  
“Obama elected again”  
“Merkel visits Greece again”

Sports

“OSFP European basketball champion”  
“Miami NBA basketball champion”  
“Greece basketball coach?”

$P(p) = 0.5$

$P(s) = 0.5$

terms

obama:2, meets:1, merkel:2, elected:1,  
again:2, visits:1, greece:1

OSFP:1, european:1, basketball:3, champion:2,  
miami:1, nba:1, greece:1, coach:1

Total # of terms: 10

Total # of terms: 11

Vocabulary  
(distinct terms)  
size: 14

# Example (Politics or Sports?)

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For a document with  $k$  terms, the posterior of class is:

Number of times  
appears in all docs  
belonging to  $c$

Laplace Smoothing

Likelihood of in  $c$

Total number of  
unique words  
(vocabulary size)

Total number of terms in all docs  
belonging to  $c$

# Example (Politics or Sports?)

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Politics

Sports

Documents  
in training

“Obama meets Merkel”  
“Obama elected again”  
“Merkel visits Greece again”

“OSFP European basketball champion”  
“Miami NBA basketball champion”  
“Greece basketball coach?”

$P(p) = 0.5$

$P(s) = 0.5$

terms

obama:2, meets:1, merkel:2, elected:1,  
again:2, visits:1, greece:1

OSFP:1, european:1, basketball:3, champion:2,  
miami:1, nba:1, greece:1, coach:1

Vocabulary  
size: 14

Total # of terms: : 10

Total # of terms: 11

new doc: **X = “Obama likes basketball”**

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Politics}|X) &= P(p) * P(\text{obama}|p) * P(\text{likes}|p) * P(\text{basketball}|p) \\ &= 0.5 * (2+1)/(10+14) * (0+1)/(10+14) * (0+1)/(10+14) = \mathbf{0.000108} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Sports}|X) &= P(s) * P(\text{obama}|s) * P(\text{likes}|s) * P(\text{basketball}|s) \\ &= 0.5 * (0+1)/(11+14) * (0+1)/(11+14) * (3+1)/(11+14) = \mathbf{0.000128} \end{aligned}$$