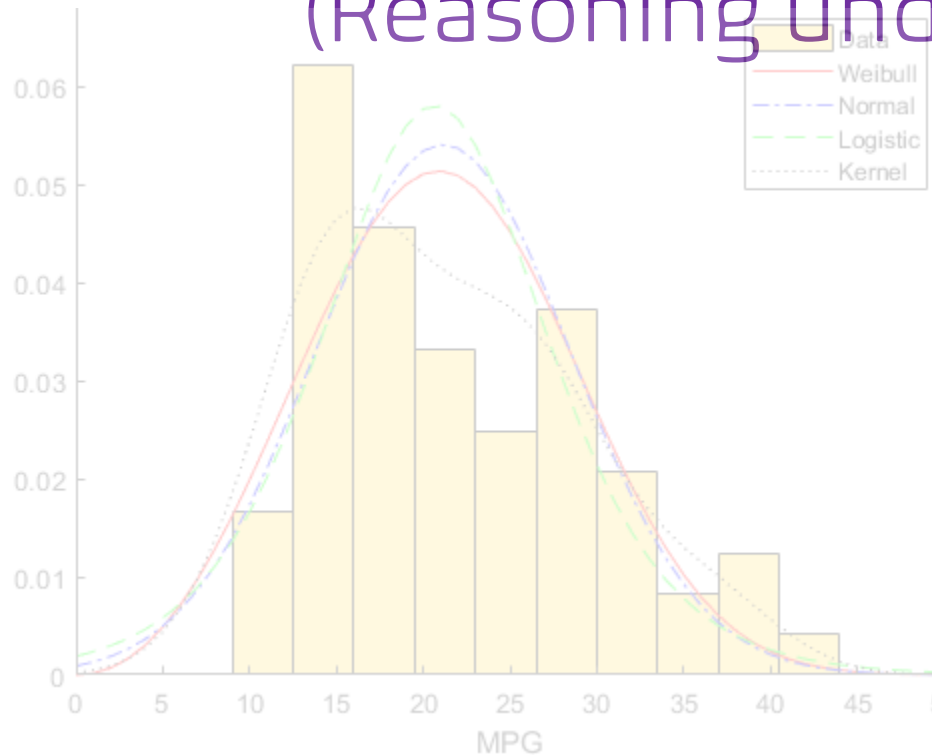


# Probabilistic Reasoning

(Reasoning under uncertainty with Bayesian Nets)



CS417  
R. Hedjam

# Introduction

- **Problem:** suppose we are trying to determine if a patient has pneumonia. The following symptoms are observed:
  - Cough
  - Fever
  - Difficulty of breathing
- **Objective:** determine how likely the patient has pneumonia given the observed symptoms.
- Observing only the symptoms does not confirm 100% that the patient has pneumonia.

# Introduction

- Use a chest X-ray radiography and the result is positive.
- Our belief that the patient has pneumonia is now much higher.
- Thus, the observation affects our belief that the patient has pneumonia.
- This is called reasoning with uncertainty.
- **Bayes theory** and **Bayesian Networks** are great means to reason with uncertainty.

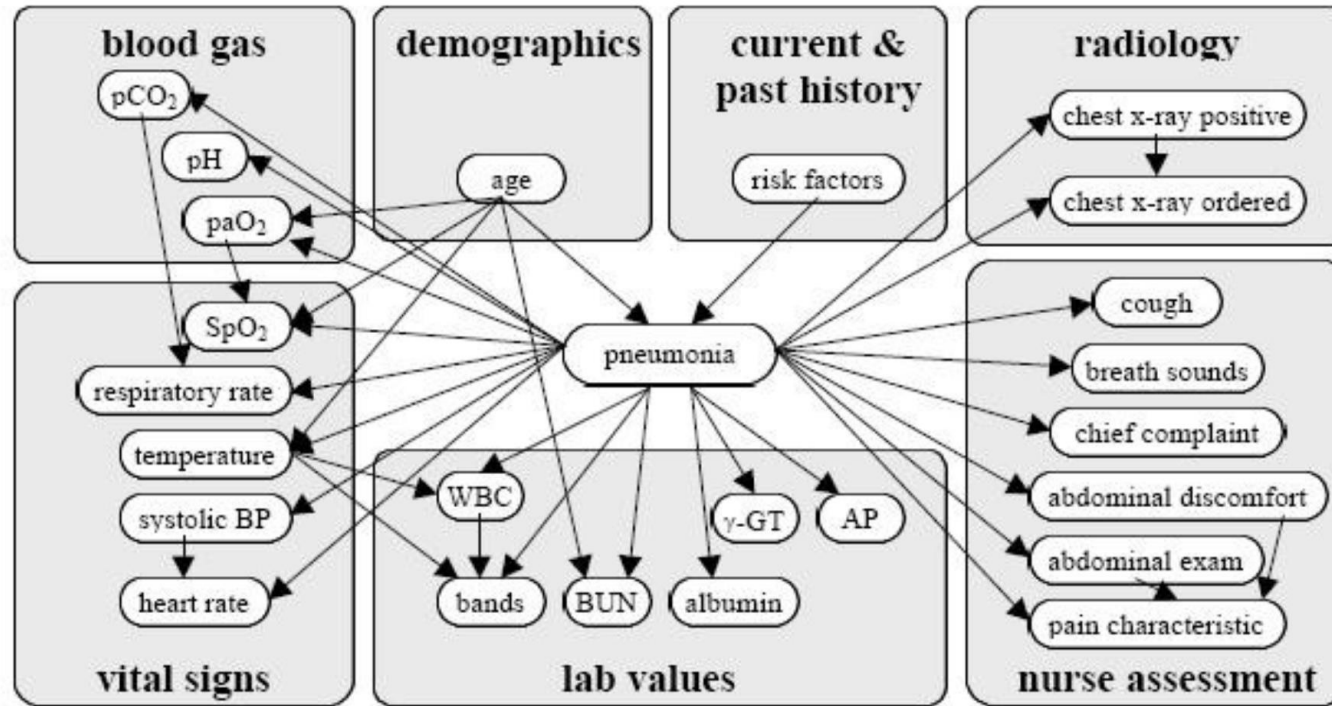
# Introduction

- Bayesian networks are the most significant contribution in AI in the last 10 years.
- Domains of application:
  - Spam filtering / Text mining
  - Speech recognition
  - Robotics
  - Diagnostic systems
  - Syndromic surveillance
- ...



**Judea Pearl** – ACM Turing Award winner, 2011.  
*Championing the probabilistic approach to artificial intelligence and the development of Bayesian networks*

# Bayesian Networks - Example



- From: Aronsky, D. and Haug, P.J., *Diagnosing community-acquired pneumonia with a Bayesian network*, In: *Proceedings of the Fall Symposium of the American Medical Informatics Association*, (1998) 632-636.

# Probability distributions

- For random variables we will discuss:
  - Joint probability distributions
  - Marginal probability distributions
  - Conditional probability distributions
  - Independence of random variables

# Motivating Example

**Experiment:** deploy a smoke detector and see if it works. There could be four outcomes (events):

- $\Omega$ : events
- $\Omega = \{(\text{fire}; \text{smoke}); (\text{no fire}; \text{smoke}); (\text{fire}; \text{no smoke}); (\text{no fire}; \text{no smoke})\}$
- **Example** of one event:  $\{(\text{fire}, \text{smoke})\}$
- Note that these outcomes are mutually exclusive.
- Random variables, Two:  $\text{fire\_nofire}$  (X) and  $\text{smoke\_nosmoke}$  (Y)
- X has two values:  $\{\text{fire}, \text{nofire}\}$
- Y has two values:  $\{\text{smoke}, \text{nosmoke}\}$
- And we may choose:
- $P(\{(\text{fire}; \text{smoke}); (\text{no fire}; \text{smoke})\}) = 0.005$
- $P(\{(\text{fire}; \text{smoke}); (\text{fire}; \text{no smoke})\}) = 0.003$

# Joint Probability distribution

- In general, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are two r.v., the probability distribution that defines their simultaneous behavior is called a *Joint probability distribution (JPD)*.
- **Example:**
- Let  $X$  denotes the r.v. *fire\_nofire* ( $X$ )
  - The possible value of  $X$  are *fire* and *nofire*
- Let  $Y$  denotes the r.v. *smoke\_nosmoke* ( $Y$ )
  - The possible values of  $Y$  are *smoke* and *nosmoke*.
- The table represents the Joint probability distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ . The table cells are the *joint probabilities*.

		$X$	
		fire	nofire
$Y$	smoke	0.002	0.003
	nosmoke	0.001	0.994



# Joint Probability distribution

- The possible value of  $X$  are *fire* and *nofire*
- The possible values of  $Y$  are *smoke* and *nosmoke*.
- Therefore, there are 4 possible pairs  $(X,Y)$ .
- The sum of all the probabilities is 1.0.
- The event with the highest probability is *(nofire, nosmoke)*.
- The event with the lowest probability is *(fire, nosmoke)*
- $P(X=x, Y=y) \geq 0$
- $\sum_x \sum_y P(X=x, Y=y) = 1$

		X	
		fire	nofire
Y	smoke	0.002	0.003
	nosmoke	0.001	0.994

# Marginal probability distribution

- If we are given a joint probability distribution for  $X$  and  $Y$ , we can obtain the individual probability distribution for  $X$  or for  $Y$ , and these are called the *Marginal Probability Distribution (MPD)*.

- Example:**

- $P(X=x) = \sum_y P(X=x, Y=y)$
- $P(Y=y) = \sum_x P(X=x, Y=y)$

		X		
		fire	nofire	P(Y=y)=
Y	smoke	0.002	0.003	0.005
	nosmkoe	0.001	0.994	0.995
P(X=x)=		0.003	0.997	1.00

- The marginal distributions for each variable, formed by summing the joint probability over the other variable.
- Called **marginal** because they are **written in the marginal**.
- In table above, **JDP** is shown in **green**, while the two MPD are shown in **purple**

# Marginal probability distribution

- **Q:** find the probability that the detector fires on.
- **X:**  $P(X = \text{fire}) = P(X=\text{fire}, Y=\text{smoke}) + P(X=\text{fire}, Y=\text{nosmoke})$   
 $= 0.002 + 0.001$   
 $= 0.003$

- **Q:** What is the MPD of **X**?
- **X:** The MPD for X appears in the column totals

<b>x</b>	fire	nofire
<b>P(X=x)</b>	<b>0.003</b>	<b>0.997</b>

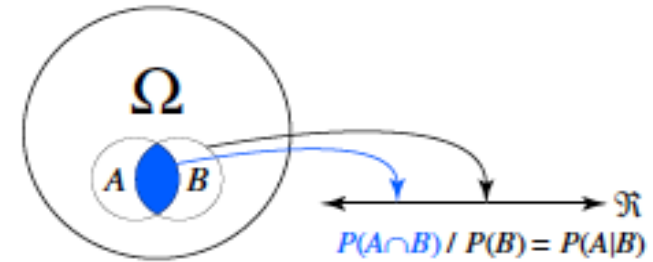
- **Q:** What is the MPD of **Y**?
- **X:** The MPD of Y appears in the row totals

<b>y</b>	smoke	nosmoke
<b>P(Y=x)</b>	<b>0.005</b>	<b>0.995</b>

		<b>x</b>		
		fire	nofire	P(Y=x)
<b>Y</b>	smoke	0.002	0.003	0.005
	nosmkoe	0.001	0.994	0.995
P(X=x)		0.003	0.997	<b>1.00</b>

# Conditional probability (CP)

- Random events:  $A$  and  $B$ .
- $\Omega$ : Sample probability space .
  - *A set of possible outcomes of an experiment*
- Conditional probability allows us to reason with partial information.
- When  $P(B) > 0$ , the conditional probability of  $A$  given  $B$  is defined as



$$P(A|B) \triangleq \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

- This is the probability that  $A$  occurs, given we have observed  $B$ , i.e., that we know the experiment's actual outcome will be in  $B$ . It is the fraction of probability mass in  $B$  that also belongs to  $A$ .
- $P(B)$  is called the *priori* (or prior) probability of  $B$  and  $P(A|B)$  is called the *a posteriori* probability of  $A$  given  $B$ .

# Conditional probability (CP)

- Given 2 r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  with joint probability  $P(X=x, Y=y)$ , the conditional probability of  $Y=y$  given  $X=x$  is:  
$$P(Y=y \mid X = x) = P(X=x, Y=y)/P(X=x) \quad \text{for } P(X=x) > 0$$
- The conditional probability can be stated as the joint probability over the marginal probability.
- **Note:** we use the subscript  $X \mid y$  for clarity to denote that this is a conditional distribution.

# Example of conditional probability

- If  $P$  is defined by

	<i>fire</i>	<i>no fire</i>
<i>smoke</i>	0.002	0.003
<i>no smoke</i>	0.001	0.994

- Then

$$\begin{aligned} & P(\{(fire, smoke)\} \mid \{(fire, smoke), (no fire, smoke)\}) \\ &= \frac{P(\{(fire, smoke)\} \cap \{(fire, smoke), (no fire, smoke)\})}{P(\{(fire, smoke), (no fire, smoke)\})} \\ &= \frac{P(\{(fire, smoke)\})}{P(\{(fire, smoke), (no fire, smoke)\})} \\ &= \frac{0.002}{0.005} = 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

# Example of conditional probability

- **Q:** Find the probability that there is a smoke given that there is no fire.
- **X:**  $P(Y=\text{smoke} \mid X=\text{nofire}) = P(Y=\text{smoke}, X=\text{nofire})/P(X=\text{nofire})$   
 $= 0.003/0.997 = 0.003$
- **Q:** Find the probability that there is no fire given that there is a smoke.
- **X:**  $P(X=\text{nofire} \mid Y=\text{smoke}) = P(X=\text{nofire}, Y=\text{smoke})/P(Y=\text{smoke})$   
 $= 0.003/0.005 = 0.6$
- **Q:** Find the probability that there is fire given that there is a smoke.
- **X:**  $P(X=\text{fire} \mid Y=\text{smoke}) = P(X=\text{fire}, Y=\text{smoke})/P(Y=\text{smoke})$   
 $= 0.002/0.005 = 0.4$

		X		
		fire	nofire	$P(Y=y)=$
Y	smoke	0.002	0.003	0.005
	nosmkoe	0.001	0.994	0.995
$P(X=x)=$		0.003	0.997	1.00

# Example of conditional probability

- **Q:** Find the conditional distribution of **X** given **Y = smoke**.
- **X:**  $P(X=\text{fire} \mid Y=\text{smoke}) = 0.002/0.005 = 0.4$
- $P(X=\text{nofire} \mid Y=\text{smoke}) = 0.003/0.005 = 0.6$
- $P(X \mid Y=\text{smoke}) = \{0.4, 0.6\}$
- The sum of these probabilities is 1, and it is a legitimate probability distribution

		X		P(Y=y)
		fire	nofire	
Y	smoke	0.002	0.003	0.005
	nosmkoe	0.001	0.994	0.995
P(X=x)		0.003	0.997	1.00

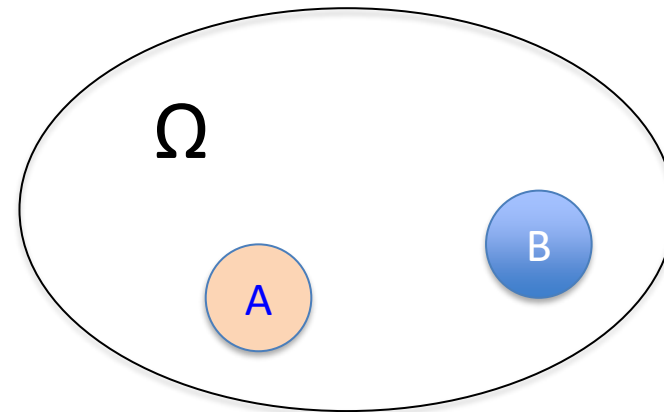


# Properties of conditional probability

- $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete r.v.
- $P(Y=y|X=x) = P(X=x, Y=y)/P(X=x)$  for  $P(X=x) > 0$ 
  1.  $P(Y=y|X=x) \geq 0$
  2.  $\sum_y P(Y=y|X=x) = 1$

# Independence

- $\Omega$ : Sample probability space .
  - *A set of possible outcomes of an experiment.*
- Random events: **A** and **B**.
- In some cases an event **A** doesn't tell us anything about the event **B**.
- $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B)/P(B) = P(A)P(B)/P(B) = P(A)$  or
- $P(B|A) = P(A \cap B)/P(A) = P(B)$  or
- Because,  $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$

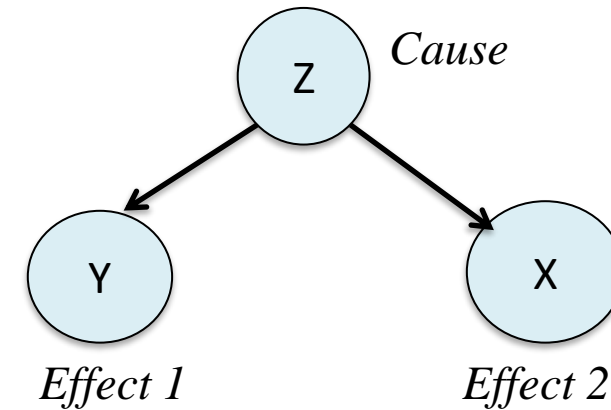


# Independence

- In some cases a r.v.  $X$  doesn't tell us anything about the r.v.  $Y$ .
- Random variable independence means that knowledge of the value of  $X$  does not change any of the probabilities associated with the values of  $Y$ .
- Two r.v. are dependent if the values of one are influenced by the values of the other one.
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then
  - $P(Y=y \mid X=x) = P(Y=y)$  for any  $x$
  - $P(X=x \mid Y=y) = P(X=x)$  for any  $y$
  - Because  $P(X=x, Y=y) = P(X=x).P(Y=y)$  for any  $x$  and  $y$

# Independence

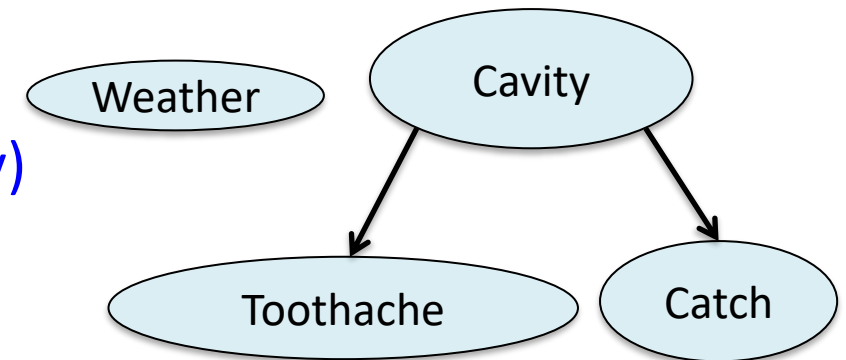
- Variable  $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$  if the following holds:
  - $P(X, Y \mid Z) = P(X \mid Z)P(Y \mid Z)$
  - $P(X \mid Y, Z) = P(X \mid Z)$
  - $P(Y \mid X, Z) = P(Y \mid Z)$



*Knowing  $Z$  tells us everything about  $Y$ . We don't gain anything by knowing  $X$  (either because  $X$  doesn't influence  $Y$  or because knowing  $Z$  provides all the information knowing  $X$  would give)*

# Independence

- Variable **Catch** and **Toothache** are conditionally independent given **Cavity** if the following holds:
- Knowing that there is **Cavity** tells us everything about **Toothache**. We don't gain anything by knowing **Catch** (either because **Catch** doesn't influence **Toothache** or because knowing **Cavity** provides all the information knowing **Catch** would give)
  - $P(\text{Catch}, \text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Toothache})P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity})$
  - $P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$
  - $P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Catch}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity})$



# Independence

- **Q.** I toss a coin twice (*experiment 1*) and define  $X$  to be the number of heads I observe. Then, I toss the coin two more times (*experiment 2*) and define  $Y$  to be the number of heads that I observe this time. Find  $P((X < 2) \text{ and } (Y > 1))$ .

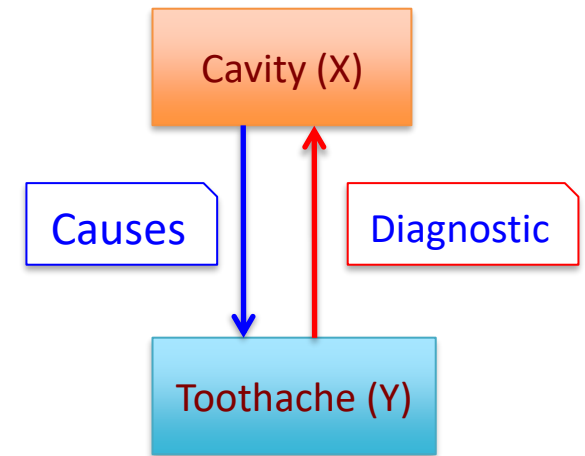
# Independence

- **Q.** I toss a coin twice (*experiment 1*) and define  $X$  to be the number of heads I observe. Then, I toss the coin two more times (*experiment 2*) and define  $Y$  to be the number of heads that I observe this time. Find  $P((X < 2) \text{ and } (Y > 1))$ .
- Event spaces are:
  - $E_1 = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$
  - $E_2 = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$
  - Since  $X$  and  $Y$  are the result of independent experiments, the two r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent. Thus,
  - $$\begin{aligned} P((X < 2) \text{ and } (Y > 1)) &= P(X < 2)P(Y > 1) \\ &= (P_X(0) + P_X(1))P_Y(2) \\ &= (1/4 + 2/4)(1/4) \\ &= 3/16 \end{aligned}$$

Exper. 1	X	Exper. 2	Y
HH	2	HH	2
TT	0	TT	0
HT	1	HT	1
TH	1	TH	1

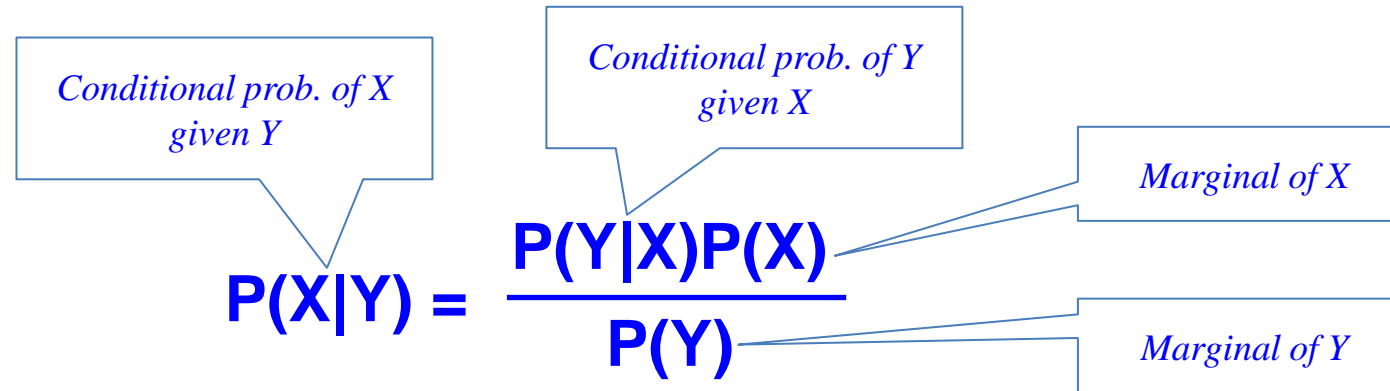
# Bayes' rule

- The product rule gives us two ways to factor a joint probability:  
 $P(X,Y) = P(X|Y)P(Y) = P(Y|X)P(X)$
- Therefore,  
 $P(X | Y) = P(Y | X)P(X)/P(Y)$
- **Example:**
  - $X$ : event that a patient has a disease.
  - $Y$ : event that a patient displays a symptom, then:
  - $P(Y|X)$  describes a causal relationship.
  - $P(X|Y)$  describes a diagnostic one (hard to assess).
  - If  $P(Y|X)$  and  $P(Y)$  can be assessed easily, then we get  $P(X|Y)$  for free.
- Bayes' rule translate causal knowledge into diagnostic knowledge.
  - Can get diagnostic probability  $P(\text{Cavity} | \text{Toothache})$  from causal probability  $P(\text{Toothache} | \text{Cavity})$
  - Can update our beliefs based on evidence
  - Key tool probabilistic inference





# Bayes' rule



The diagram shows the Bayes' rule formula with callouts for each term:

$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(Y|X)P(X)}{P(Y)}$$

- Conditional prob. of X given Y* points to  $P(X|Y)$ .
- Conditional prob. of Y given X* points to  $P(Y|X)$ .
- Marginal of X* points to  $P(X)$ .
- Marginal of Y* points to  $P(Y)$ .

- **$P(X)$** : marginal probability of X or Prior probability of X
- **$P(Y)$** : marginal probability of Y or prior probability of Y or evidence
- **$P(Y|X)$** : conditional probability of Y given X or likelihood.
- **$P(X|Y)$** : conditional probability of X given Y. It is also called *posterior probability* of Y given X.
- Called posterior probability because it is computed after the prior probability is computed.

# Exercise

- Given two binary r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  (Bernoulli variables).
- Given the joint probability of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

	$Y=0$	$Y=1$
$X=0$	$2/6$	$1/6$
$X=1$	$2/6$	$1/6$

- What is the marginal  $P_Y(Y=0)$ ?
  1.  $1/6$
  2.  $2/6$
  3.  $3/6$
  4.  $4/6$
  5. else

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	$Y=0$	$Y=1$
$X=0$	$2/6$	$1/6$
$X=1$	$2/6$	$1/6$

- What is the conditional  $P(X=0 | Y=0)$ ?
  1.  $2/6$
  2.  $1/2$
  3.  $1/6$
  4.  $4/6$
  5. else

# Exercise

- Given two binary r.v. X and Y (Bernoulli variables).
- Given the joint probability of X and Y.

	Y=0	Y=1
X=0	2/6	1/6
X=1	2/6	1/6

- What is the conditional  $P(X=0|Y=0)$ ?

1. 2/6

2.

3. 1/6

4. 4/6

5. else

$$P(X=0|Y=0) = P(X=0, Y=0)/P(Y=0)$$

$$= (2/6)/(4/6) = 2 / 4 = 1/2$$

# Exercise

- Given two binary r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  (Bernoulli variables).
- Given the joint probability of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

	$Y=0$	$Y=1$
$X=0$	$2/6$	$1/6$
$X=1$	$2/6$	$1/6$

- Are they independent?
  1. yes
  2. no
  3. I don't know

# Exercise

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- Given the joint probability of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

	$Y=0$	$Y=1$
$X=0$	$2/6$	$1/6$
$X=1$	$2/6$	$1/6$

- Are they independent?

1. yes

2. no

3. I don't know

*Check if  $P(X=0, Y=0) = P(X=0)P(Y=0)$   
If yes, then  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent  
Else, they are not.*

$$P(X=0, Y=0) = 2/6$$

$$P(X=0)P(Y=0) = 3/6 * 4/6 = 12/36 = 2/6$$

$$P(X=0, Y=0) = P(X=0)P(Y=0)$$

# Exercise

- Given two binary r.v. X and Y (Bernoulli variables).
- Given the joint probability of X and Y.

	Y=0	Y=1
X=0	1/2	0
X=1	0	1/2

- Are they independent?
  1. yes
  2. no
  3. I don't know



# Exercise

- Given two binary r.v. X and Y (Bernoulli variables).
- Given the joint probability of X and Y.

	Y=0	Y=1
X=0	1/2	0
X=1	0	1/2

- Are they independent?

1. yes

2. no

3. I don't know

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