

# 187 - Day 10

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

9:34 AM

## Day 10 – Breaking Rectangular Transposition

### Conditional Probability

**Definition 1.** The **conditional probability** of an event  $B$  is the probability that this event will occur, given the knowledge that another event  $A$  has already occurred.

$$\mathbb{P}(B|A) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)},$$

assuming that  $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$ .

b/c  $A$  has occurred, it will block some of the outcomes

**Example.** Two women state the following:

- A: "I have two children, the eldest is a girl."
- B: "I also have two children, and one of them is a girl."

Which of them is more likely to have two girls?

2 children: Sample space = set of all outcomes  
 $\{BB, BG, GB, GG\}$ .

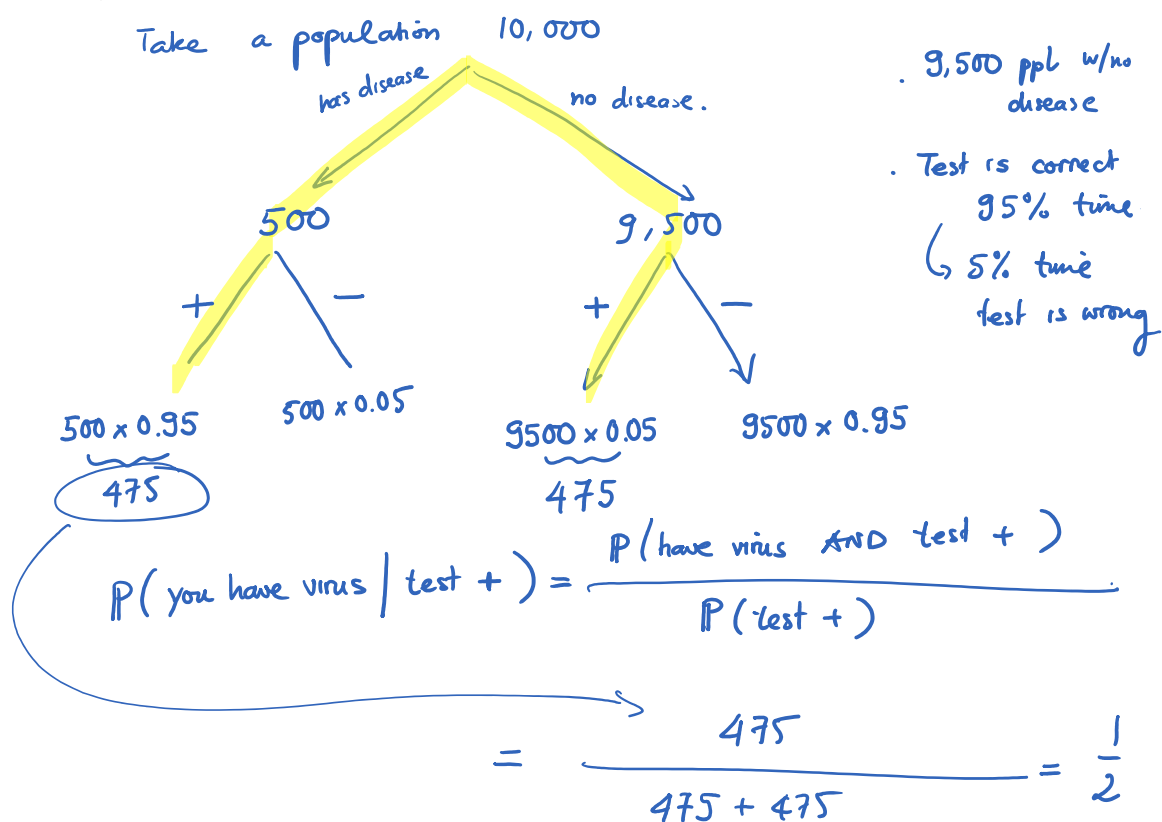
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{A} \\ & \text{New sample space } \{GB, GG\} \\ & \mathbb{P}(2G's \mid 1^{st} = G) = \frac{1}{2} \\ & = \frac{\mathbb{P}(2G's \text{ and } 1^{st} = G)}{\mathbb{P}(1^{st} = G)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(GG)} \\ & = \frac{1/4}{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{B} \\ & \text{New sample space} = \{BG, GB, GG\} \\ & \mathbb{P}(2G's \mid \text{at least 1 is a G}) = \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Example.

- The Z-virus is a rare disease that hits about 5% of the population.
- Meanwhile, Umbrella Corporation claim that they have a test that can detect Z-virus with 95% accuracy. → 95% it will get the correct result.

Suppose that you are **tested positive** for having Z-virus (by Umbrella's test), what is the probability that you actually carry the deadly disease?



μ   λ

**Example.** Given an English text. What is the probability that a randomly chosen letter  $\lambda$  is A?

$$P(\lambda = "A") = p_A = 0.08399 \text{ (from table on Day 09)}$$

Now suppose that we also know about the letter  $\mu$  that is immediately to the left of  $\lambda$ . What is the probability that  $\lambda = "A"$  given that

- $\mu = "Q"$ ?

Q   A?

only letter after Q  
is U

$$P(\lambda = A | \mu = Q) = \frac{P(\lambda = A \text{ and } \mu = Q)}{P(\mu = Q)} = \frac{0}{P(\mu = Q)} = 0.$$

E   A?

- $\mu = "E"$ ?

$$P(\lambda = A | \mu = E) = \frac{P(\mu\lambda = EA)}{P(\mu = E)} = \frac{110/10,000}{1237/10,000} = \frac{110}{1237}$$

# in cell EA  
↓  
Σ of E-row.

- $\mu = "L"$ ?

$$P(\lambda = A | \mu = L) = \frac{P(\mu\lambda = LA)}{P(\mu = L)} = \frac{40}{391}$$

( Now suppose that  $\mu$  and  $\lambda$  are far apart. What is the probability that  $\mu = "L"$  and  $\lambda = "A"$ ?

L   A

If the letters are far apart.  
↳ they're independent.

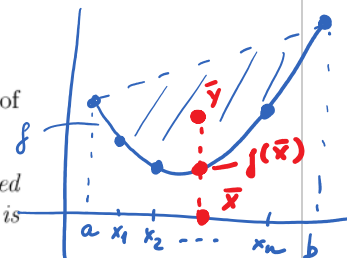
$$\begin{aligned} P(\lambda = A \text{ and } \mu = L) &= P(\mu = L) \cdot P(\lambda = A) \\ &= p_L \cdot p_A \\ &\text{from Day 09 Table.} \end{aligned}$$

## Breaking Rectangular Transposition

Some remarks:

1. Single letter frequencies are useless here
2. Not all pairs of adjacent English letters are equally probable
3. Table of bi-letter frequencies should reveal which pairs of letters of ciphertext were adjacent in the plaintext

**Definition 2.** A function  $y = f(x)$  is **convex** on an interval  $[a, b]$  provided that  $f''(x) \geq 0$  for all  $a \leq x \leq b$ . In particular, the first derivative  $f'(x)$  is increasing on the interval  $[a, b]$ .



**Theorem 1.** Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in [a, b]$  and let  $\overbrace{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n}^{\text{weights}}$  be real numbers such that  $p_1 + \dots + p_n = 1$ . If  $f$  is **convex** on  $[a, b]$  then

$$f(\underbrace{p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + \dots + p_n x_n}_{\bar{x}}) \leq p_1 f(x_1) + p_2 f(x_2) + \dots + p_n f(x_n).$$

Here, equality occurs if and only if  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n$ .

$$f(\bar{x}) \leq \bar{y}$$

$$\text{average for } f(x_i) = \bar{y}$$

**Corollary 1.1.** Let  $f(x) = \log\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$  in the above theorem to obtain

$$\log\left(\frac{1}{p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + \dots + p_n x_n}\right) \leq p_1 \log\left(\frac{1}{x_1}\right) + \dots + p_n \log\left(\frac{1}{x_n}\right)$$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  be probabilities with  $p_1 + \dots + p_n = 1$ . Then for any set of probabilities  $q_1, \dots, q_n$  such that  $q_1 + \dots + q_n = 1$ , we have

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log(q_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log(p_i) \right)$$

key to break rec. trans.

To prove this, use Corollary 1.1 with  $x_i = q_i/p_i$ .

The steps for breaking rectangular transposition:

1. Guess a length for the decrypting permutation, says  $k$ .
2. Arrange the ciphertext into  $k$  columns and let  $N$  be the height (i.e. number of rows) of the resulting rectangle.
3. For each pair  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq k$ , extract the columns  $i$  and  $j$  and count the number of occurrence of the pair of letters  $\alpha\beta$  and call this  $n_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)}$ .
4. For each pair  $\alpha\beta$ , let  $p_{\alpha\beta}$  be the probability of the pair  $\alpha\beta$  in the English language (obtain from the table of frequency for letter pairs). Compute

$$C_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha,\beta} p_{\alpha\beta} \log(n_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)}).$$

do this for all pairs  $\alpha\beta$  that appear in these columns  
now repeat for all values  $i, j$  in  $1, 2, \dots, k$  with  $i \neq j$

$k = 10, N = 23, i = 3, j = 7$

$k = 10$

$N = 23$

E	C	T	I	H	N	O	H	G	I
O	K	R	O	B	C	A	O	H	F
E	I	N	S	G	N	N	S	A	A
E	T	C	N	I	I	E	C	N	H
O	A	S	R	E	E	H	C	T	L
H	S	A	A	T	E	I	B	N	E
S	F	N	E	U	C	N	O	E	R
R	E	T	I	U	S	S	S	A	A
R	E	O	C	U	W	S	O	I	F
M	N	D	A	O	D	I	D	V	A
T	E	C	H	E	X	O	T	T	E
H	O	F	E	T	C	E	R	L	A
I	I	A	T	S	O	E	S	M	S
M	S	T	E	I	O	N	K	W	N
N	I	C	S	O	S	F	S	O	T
X	Y	S	T	I	U	H	F	R	O
A	R	E	G	X	S	A	A	E	M
S	M	C	Y	H	L	Z	B	I	O
B	A	E	Y	D	R	I	P	T	A
L	R	C	A	U	R	N	A	A	R
M	N	G	E	E	F	I	T	S	O
T	A	X	R	S	H	A	I	T	G
B	O	N	R	D	N	I	K	L	E

$\Rightarrow$

T	O
R	A
N	N
C	E
S	H
A	I
N	N
T	S
O	S
D	I
C	O
F	E
A	E
T	N
C	F
S	H
E	A
C	Z
E	I
C	N
G	I
X	A
N	I

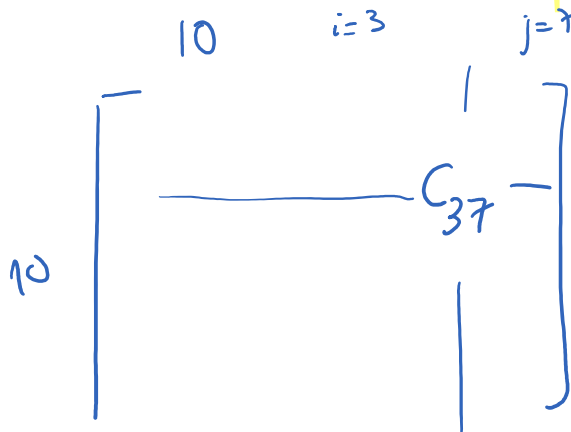
count the pairs  
1 TO, 1 RA  
2 NN, ...

$$\cdot n_{TO}^{(3,7)} = 1$$

$$\cdot n_{RA}^{(3,7)} = 1$$

$$\cdot n_{NN}^{(3,7)} = 2$$

$$C_{37} = P_{TO} \cdot \log \left( n_{TO}^{(3,7)} \right) + P_{RA} \cdot \log \left( n_{RA}^{(3,7)} \right) + P_{NN} \cdot \log \left( n_{NN}^{(3,7)} \right) + \dots$$



Compute all  $C_{i,j}$

If col  $j$  not follow col  $i$   
then  $C_{ij}$  small.

Define  $f_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)} = \frac{n_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)}}{N}$ . When two columns  $i$  and  $j$  were not consecutive in the plaintext, then

$$\begin{aligned} C_{ij} &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} p_{\alpha\beta} \log(N \cdot f_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)}) \\ &= \log(N) + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} p_{\alpha\beta} \log(f_{\alpha\beta}^{(ij)}) \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha,\beta} p_{\alpha\beta} \log(p_{\alpha\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} s & s & 0 & s & s & B & s \end{bmatrix}$$

so  $C_{ij}$  is much smaller comparing to when two columns  $i$  and  $j$  were consecutive in the plaintext.

So if we guessed the correct period then the matrix  $[C_{ij}]_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq k}$  will have a substantially bigger number in each row, except one.

- If  $C_{ij}$  is the substantially big number on row  $i$  then  $j$  follows  $i$  in the decryption permutation.
- If row  $k$  is the only row with no substantially big entry, then  $k$  is the first entry in the decryption permutation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & s & s & B & s \\ s & 0 & B & s & s \\ s & s & 0 & s & s \\ s & s & s & 0 & B \\ s & B & s & s & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

B's cannot be  
on the same row/col.