CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES EXAMPLES

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1. COMPUTING CONDITIONAL PROBABILITIES (8:15AM)

3.15 Global warming. A Pew Research poll asked 1,306 Americans "From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?". The table below shows the distribution of responses by party and ideology, where the counts have been replaced with relative frequencies.[40]

		Response			
		Earth is warming	Not warming	Don't Know Refuse	Total
Party and Ideology	Conservative Republican	0.11	0.20	0.02	0.33
	Mod/Lib Republican	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.13
	Mod/Cons Democrat	0.25	0.07	0.02	0.34
	Liberal Democrat	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.20
	Total	0.60	0.34	0.06	1.00

(a) Are believing that the earth is warming and being a liberal Democrat mutually exclusive?

(b) What is the probability that a randomly chosen respondent believes the earth is warming or is a liberal Democrat?

(c) What is the probability that a randomly chosen respondent believes the earth is warming given that he is a liberal Democrat?

(d) What is the probability that a randomly chosen respondent believes the earth is warming given that he is a conservative Republican?

(e) Does it appear that whether or not a respondent believes the earth is warming is independent of their party and ideology? Explain your reasoning.

(f) What is the probability that a randomly chosen respondent is a moderate/liberal Republican given that he does not believe that the earth is warming?

2. Drawing a Tree Diagram (8:30am)

3.21 It's never lupus. Lupus is a medical phenomenon where antibodies that are supposed to attack foreign cells to prevent infections instead see plasma proteins as foreign bodies, leading to a high risk of blood clotting. It is believed that 2% of the population suffer from this disease. The test is 98% accurate if a person actually has the disease. The test is 74% accurate if a person does not have the disease. There is a line from the Fox television show *House* that is often used after a patient tests positive for lupus: "It's never lupus." Do you think there is truth to this statement? Use appropriate probabilities to support your answer.

3. Introduction to Expectation (8:45am)

1. Suppose you have a weighted coin that is twice as likely to land on heads as it is tails. You decide to flip this coin twice and record the number of times the coin lands on heads. Let X represent the possible outcomes of this experiment.

   (a) Find the probability distribution for this experiment. In other words, find $P(X)$ for all possible values of X.

   (b) Find the expected value of X, $E(X)$.