

Lecture 17

Naïve Bayes

DSC 40A, Summer 2024

Announcements

- Homework 8, the final homework, is due tomorrow.
 - It's short: only two questions.

The Final Exam is on Friday, September 6th!

- The Final Exam is on **Friday, September 6th** from **11:30AM-2:30PM** in WLH 2113.
- 180 minutes, on paper, no calculators or electronics.
 - You are allowed to bring two double-sided index cards (4 inches by 6 inches) of notes that you write by hand (no iPad).
- Content: All lectures (including this week), homeworks (including HW 8), and groupworks.
- Prepare by practicing with old exam problems at practice.dsc40a.com.
 - There are tons of past probability exams, searchable by topic.
 - Check out the [advice page](#) for study strategies.
- No formal review session but lots of office hours this week - come through!

Agenda

- Classification.
- Classification and conditional independence.
- Naïve Bayes.

Recap: Bayes' Theorem, independence, and conditional independence

- Bayes' Theorem describes how to update the probability of one event, given that another event has occurred.

$$\mathbb{P}(B|A) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A|B)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}$$

- A and B are **independent** if:

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(B)$$

- A and B are **conditionally independent** given C if:

$$\mathbb{P}((A \cap B)|C) = \mathbb{P}(A|C) \cdot \mathbb{P}(B|C)$$

- In general, there is no relationship between independence and conditional independence.

Question 🤔

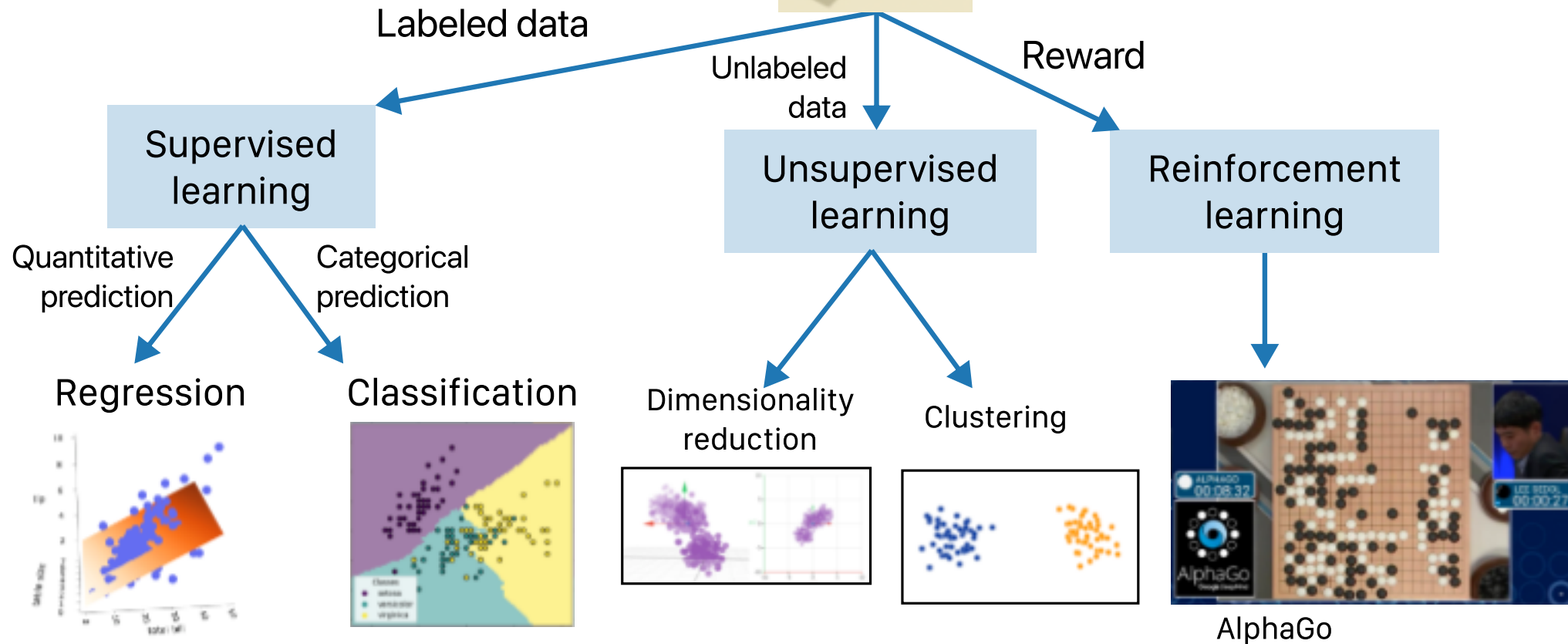
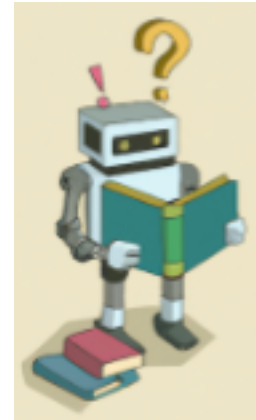
Answer at q.dsc40a.com

Remember, you can always ask questions at q.dsc40a.com!

If the direct link doesn't work, click the "🤔 Lecture Questions"
link in the top right corner of dsc40a.com.

Classification

Taxonomy of machine learning



Classification problems

- Like with regression, we're interested in making predictions based on data (called **training data**) for which we know the value of the response variable.
- The difference is that the response variable is now **categorical**.
- Categories are called **classes**.
- Example classification problems:
 - Deciding whether a patient has kidney disease.
 - Identifying handwritten digits.
 - Determining whether an avocado is ripe.
 - Predicting whether credit card activity is fraudulent.
 - Predicting whether you'll be late to school or not.

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe.

Question: Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe. Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Strategy: Calculate two probabilities:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{green-black})$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{green-black})$$

Then, predict the class with a **larger** probability.

Estimating probabilities

- We would like to determine $\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{green-black})$ and $\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{green-black})$ for all avocados in the universe.
- All we have is a single dataset, which is a **sample** of all avocados in the universe.
- We can estimate these probabilities by using sample proportions.

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{green-black}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ ripe green-black avocados in sample}}{\# \text{ green-black avocados in sample}}$$

- Per the **law of large numbers** in DSC 10, larger samples lead to more reliable estimates of population parameters.

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe. Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{green-black}) =$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{green-black}) =$$

Bayes' Theorem for Classification

- Suppose that A is the event that an avocado has certain features, and B is the event that an avocado belongs to a certain class. Then, by Bayes' Theorem:

$$\mathbb{P}(B|A) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A|B)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}$$

- More generally:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

- What's the point?
 - Usually, it's not possible to estimate $\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features})$ directly.
 - Instead, we often have to estimate $\mathbb{P}(\text{class})$, $\mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})$, and $\mathbb{P}(\text{features})$ separately.

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe. Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe. Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

Example: Avocados

color	ripeness
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓
bright green	unripe ✗
green-black	ripe ✓
purple-black	ripe ✓
green-black	ripe ✓
green-black	unripe ✗
purple-black	ripe ✓

You have a green-black avocado, and want to know if it is ripe. Based on this data, would you predict your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

Shortcut: Both probabilities have the same denominator, so the larger probability is the one with the **larger numerator**.

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{green-black}) =$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{green-black}) =$$

Classification and conditional independence

Example: Avocados, but with more features

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a firm green-black Zutano avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Example: Avocados, but with more features

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a firm green-black Zutano avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Strategy: Calculate $\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{features})$ and $\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{features})$ and choose the class with the **larger** probability.

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$$

Example: Avocados, but with more features

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a firm green-black Zutano avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Strategy: Calculate $\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{features})$ and $\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{features})$ and choose the class with the **larger** probability.

Issue: We have not seen a firm green-black Zutano avocado before, which means that the following probabilities are undefined:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$$
$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$$

A simplifying assumption

- We want to find $\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$, but there are no firm green-black Zutano avocados in our dataset.
- Bayes' Theorem tells us this probability is equal to:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}|\text{ripe})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})}$$

- **Key idea:** Assume that features are **conditionally independent** given a class (e.g. ripe).

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}|\text{ripe}) = \mathbb{P}(\text{firm}|\text{ripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{green-black}|\text{ripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{Zutano}|\text{ripe})$$

Example: Avocados, but with more features

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a firm green-black Zutano avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}|\text{ripe})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})}$$

Example: Avocados, but with more features

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a firm green-black Zutano avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano}|\text{unripe})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})}$$

Conclusion

- The numerator of $\mathbb{P}(\text{ripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$ is $\frac{6}{539}$.
- The numerator of $\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}|\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$ is $\frac{6}{88}$.
- Both probabilities have the same denominator, $\mathbb{P}(\text{firm, green-black, Zutano})$.
- Since we're just interested in seeing which one is larger, we can ignore the denominator and compare numerators.
- Since the numerator for unripe is **larger** than the numerator for ripe, we **predict that our avocado is unripe** ✗.

Naïve Bayes

The Naïve Bayes classifier

- We want to predict a class, given certain features.
- Using Bayes' Theorem, we write:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

- For each class, we compute the numerator using the **naïve assumption of conditional independence of features given the class**.
- We estimate each term in the numerator based on the training data.
- We predict the class with the largest numerator.
 - Works if we have multiple classes, too!

Dictionary

Definitions from [Oxford Languages](#) · [Learn more](#)



na·ive

/nä'ēv/

adjective

(of a person or action) showing a lack of experience, wisdom, or judgment.

"the rather naive young man had been totally misled"

- (of a person) natural and unaffected; innocent.
"Andy had a sweet, naive look when he smiled"

Similar:

innocent

unsophisticated

artless

ingenuous

inexperienced



- of or denoting art produced in a straightforward style that deliberately rejects sophisticated artistic techniques and has a bold directness resembling a child's work, typically in bright colors with little or no perspective.

Example: Avocados, again

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a soft green-black Hass avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Uh oh!

- There are no soft unripe avocados in the data set.
- The estimate $\mathbb{P}(\text{soft}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ soft unripe avocados}}{\# \text{ unripe avocados}}$ is 0.

- The estimated numerator:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{soft, green-black, Hass}|\text{unripe}) = \mathbb{P}(\text{unripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{soft}|\text{unripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{green-black}|\text{unripe}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{Hass}|\text{unripe})$$

is also 0.

- But just because there isn't a soft unripe avocado in the data set, doesn't mean that it's impossible for one to exist!
- **Idea:** Adjust the numerators and denominators of our estimate so that they're never 0.

Smoothing

- Without smoothing:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{soft}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ soft unripe}}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + \# \text{ medium unripe} + \# \text{ firm unripe}}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{medium}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ medium unripe}}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + \# \text{ medium unripe} + \# \text{ firm unripe}}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{firm}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ firm unripe}}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + \# \text{ medium unripe} + \# \text{ firm unripe}}$$

- With smoothing:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{soft}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ soft unripe} + 1}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ medium unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ firm unripe} + 1}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{medium}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ medium unripe} + 1}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ medium unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ firm unripe} + 1}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{firm}|\text{unripe}) \approx \frac{\# \text{ firm unripe} + 1}{\# \text{ soft unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ medium unripe} + 1 + \# \text{ firm unripe} + 1}$$

- When smoothing, we add 1 to the count of every group whenever we're estimating a conditional probability.

Example: Avocados, with smoothing

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a soft green-black Hass avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Example: Avocados, with smoothing

color	softness	variety	ripeness
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	medium	Hass	ripe
purple-black	firm	Hass	ripe
green-black	medium	Hass	unripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
bright green	firm	Zutano	unripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
purple-black	soft	Hass	ripe
green-black	soft	Zutano	ripe
green-black	firm	Hass	unripe
purple-black	medium	Hass	ripe

You have a soft green-black Hass avocado. Based on this data, would you predict that your avocado is ripe or unripe?

Summary

Summary

- In classification, our goal is to predict a discrete category, called a **class**, given some features.
- The Naïve Bayes classifier uses Bayes' Theorem:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class})}{\mathbb{P}(\text{features})}$$

- And works by estimating the numerator of $\mathbb{P}(\text{class}|\text{features})$ for all possible classes.
- It also uses a simplifying assumption, that features are conditionally independent given a class:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{features}|\text{class}) = \mathbb{P}(\text{feature}_1|\text{class}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\text{feature}_2|\text{class}) \cdot \dots$$