

July 11, 2019

(1)

Qn: How might we create new probability measures from old ones?

Ans: Conditional probability.

Recall: Suppose that (S, P) is a probability space. Let A and B be events such that $P(B) > 0$. Suppose that we propose a new probability measure Q and define

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

↑
"given"

ASIDE:
 $(A_2 \cap B) \cap (A_5 \cap B)$
 $= A_2 \cap A_5 \cap B \cap B$
 $= \emptyset \cap B \cap B = \emptyset$

Qn: Is Q a probability measure in its own right? Check the axioms.

Ax. #1: $Q_B(A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$. But, by ax. 1 for P , $P(A \cap B) \geq 0$ and by assumption $P(B) > 0 \Rightarrow P(B) \geq 0$. So,
 $\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \geq 0 \Rightarrow Q_B(A) \geq 0$. ✓

Ax. #2: $Q_B(S) = \frac{P(S \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(B)} = 1$. ✓

Ax. #3: Let A_1, A_2, \dots be a sequence of mutually exclusive events.

$$\begin{aligned} Q_B\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) &= \frac{P\left(\left\{\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right\} \cap B\right)}{P(B)} = \frac{P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \{A_i \cap B\}\right)}{P(B)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i \cap B)}{P(B)} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{P(A_i \cap B)}{P(B)} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_B(A_i) \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

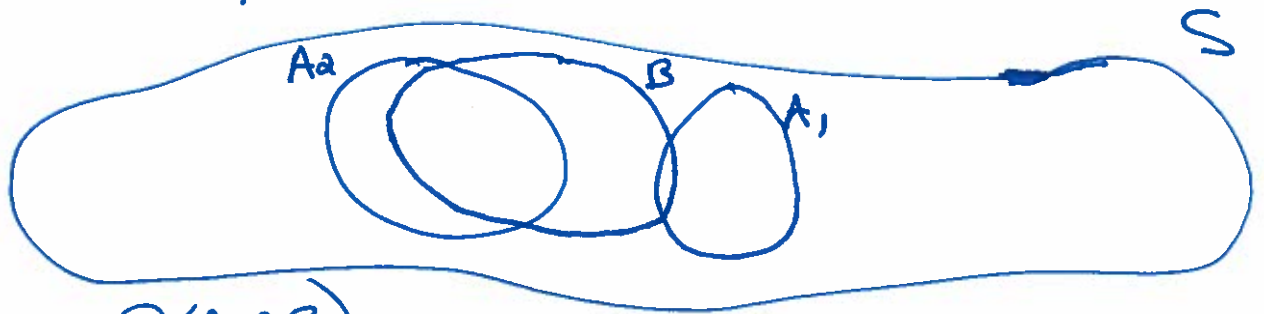
(2)

NOTE: This means that all theorems from last class hold for \mathbb{Q} .

EX: $\mathbb{Q}_B(A) = 1 - \mathbb{Q}_B(A^c) \Leftrightarrow P(A|B) = 1 - P(A^c|B)$

$$P(A \cup B|C) = P(A|C) + P(B|C) - P(A \cap B|C)$$

INTUITION: We want to "assume" that B occurs and then recompute the probabilities (e.g., of A) based on the assumption that it occurs.



$$\mathbb{Q}_B(A_1) = \frac{P(A_1 \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{\text{small}}{\text{relative larger}} \approx \text{small}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_B(A_2) = \frac{P(A_2 \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{\text{relative large part of } B}{\text{relatively large}} \approx \text{relatively larger}$$

NOTE: We often write

$$P(A \cap B) = \underbrace{P(A|B)P(B)}$$

"multiplication rule for conditional probability"

DEF: If A and B are independent, $P(A|B) = P(A)$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = P(A) \Rightarrow \boxed{P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)}$$

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

IDEA: If A and B are positively correlated,
 $P(A|B) > P(A)$.

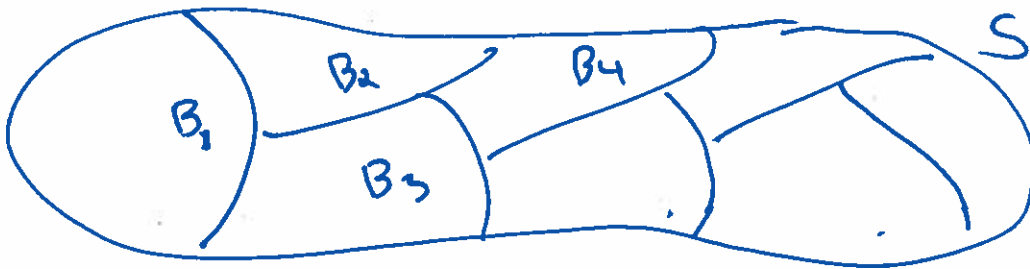
If A and B are negatively correlated,
 $P(A|B) < P(A)$.

DEF: Suppose that we have a sequence of events
 B_1, \dots, B_n (finite) or B_1, B_2, \dots (infinite)
on a probability space (S, P) and it satisfies:

① $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i \neq j$ (mutually exclusive)

② $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n \text{ or } \infty} B_i = S$ (covering property)

③ $P(B_i) > 0$ (non-triviality)



We call such a sequence a partition or decomposition or covering of S .

(4)

THE LAW OF TOTAL PROBABILITY: If B_1, \dots, B_n is a partition of S and A is any event, then $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A|B_i)P(B_i)$.

PROOF: ~~NOTE~~ $\sum_{i=1}^n P(A|B_i)P(B_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{P(A \cap B_i)}{P(B_i)} P(B_i)$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A \cap B_i) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n \{A \cap B_i\}\right)$$

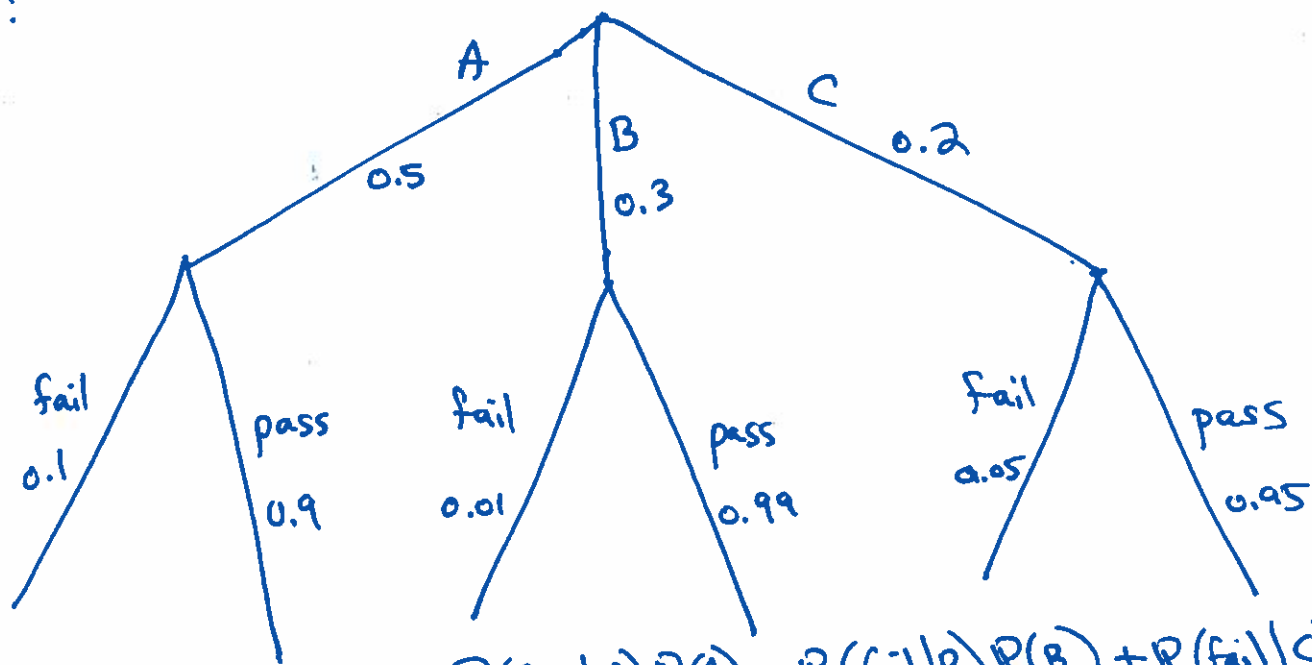
↑
finite additivity

NOTE: $A \cap B_i$'s mutually exclusive

↑
element-wise argument

$$= P(A)$$

EX:



$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{widget fails} | QA) &= P(\text{fail} | A)P(A) + P(\text{fail} | B)P(B) + P(\text{fail} | C)P(C) \\
 &= (0.1)(0.5) + (0.01)(0.3) + (0.05)(0.2) \\
 &= 0.05 + 0.003 + 0.01 \\
 &= 0.063
 \end{aligned}$$

BAYES' THEOREM: Suppose that (S, P) is a probability space and B_1, \dots, B_n, \dots is a partition of S .

$$P(B_k|A) = \frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{P(A|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A|B_2)P(B_2) + \dots}$$

this is hard
to compute

finite sum if partition
is finite

$$= \frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A|B_i)P(B_i)}$$

PROOF :

$$\frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A|B_i)P(B_i)} = \frac{\frac{P(A \cap B_k)}{P(B_k)} P(B_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{P(A \cap B_i)}{P(B_i)} P(B_i)}$$

Some textbooks
call this
Bayes' Theorem

$$= \frac{P(A \cap B_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap B_i)}$$

$$= \frac{P(A \cap B_k)}{P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \{A \cap B_i\}\right)}$$

bc B_i 's are
a cover

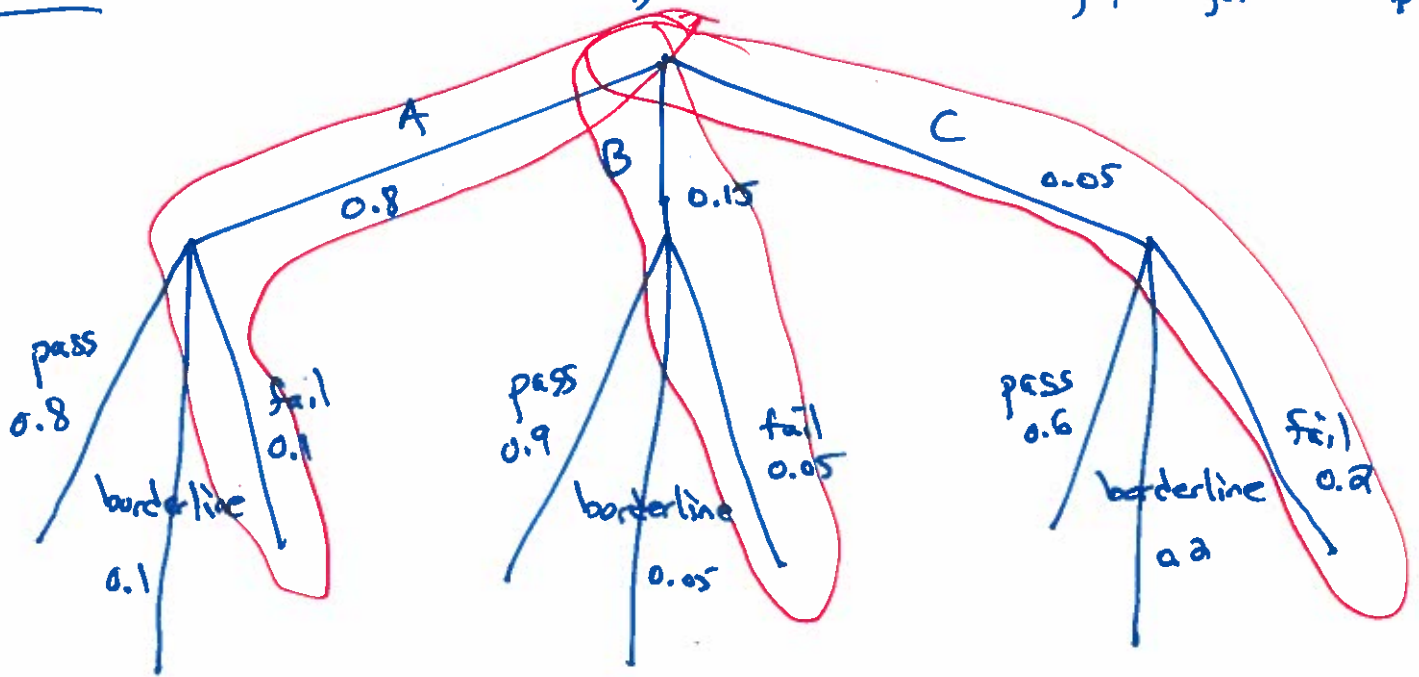
$$= \frac{P(A \cap B_k)}{P(A)}$$

$$= \frac{P(B_k \cap A)}{P(A)}$$

$$= P(B_k|A)$$

(7)

RECALL: A (modified version) of the factory/widget example.

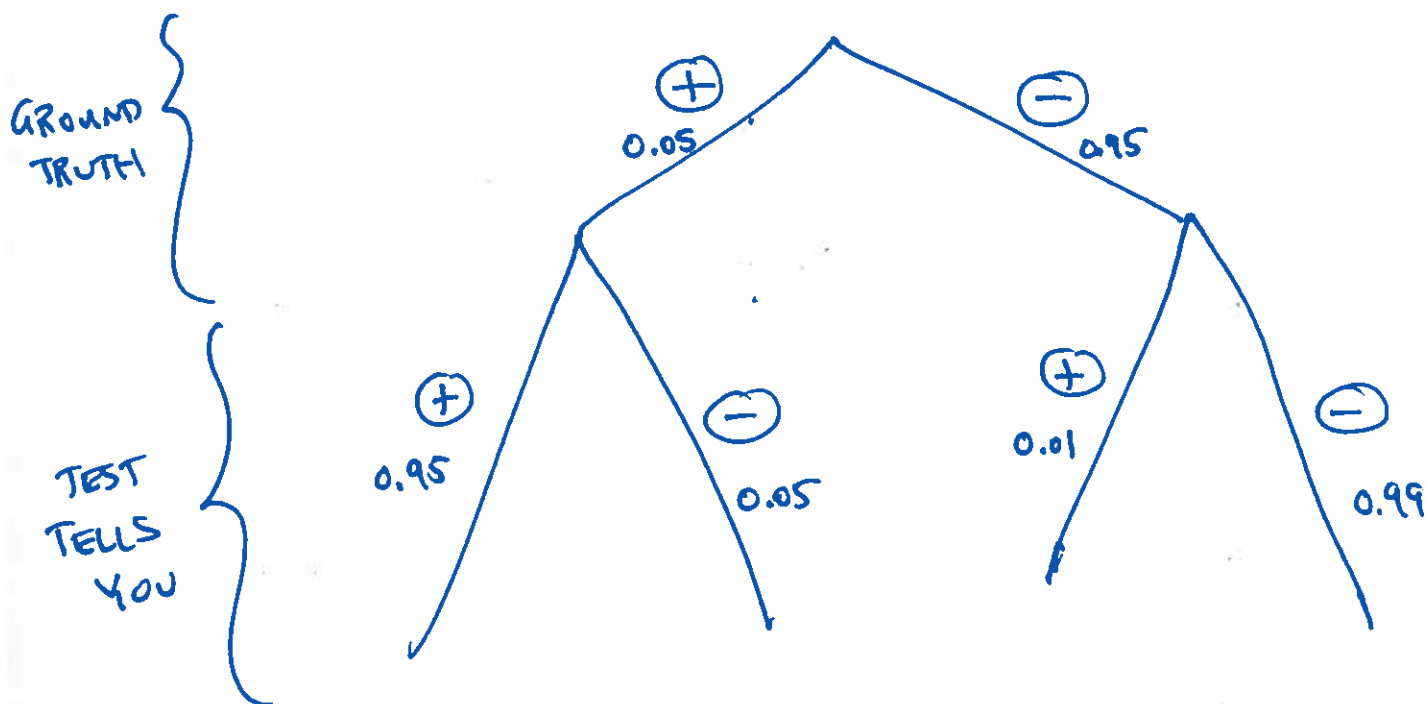


Qn: Given that a pair of underwear has failed, what is the probability that it came from factory C?

Suppose that B_1 = factory A, B_2 = factory B, B_3 = factory C,

D = underwear failure.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(B_3 | D) &= \frac{P(D | B_3) P(B_3)}{P(D | B_1) P(B_1) + P(D | B_2) P(B_2) + P(D | B_3) P(B_3)} \\
 &= \frac{(0.2)(0.05)}{(0.1)(0.8) + (0.05)(0.15) + (0.2)(0.05)} \\
 &= \frac{0.01}{0.08 + 0.0075 + 0.01} \approx 0.1025
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{HIV} \oplus \mid \text{test says } \oplus) &= \frac{P(\text{test says } \oplus \mid \oplus) P(\oplus)}{P(\text{test says } \oplus \mid \oplus) P(\oplus) + P(\text{test says } \oplus \mid \ominus) P(\ominus)} \\
 &= \frac{(0.95)(0.05)}{(0.95)(0.05) + (0.01)(0.95)} \\
 &= \frac{5}{6} \approx 0.83
 \end{aligned}$$