Biostatistics Week IV

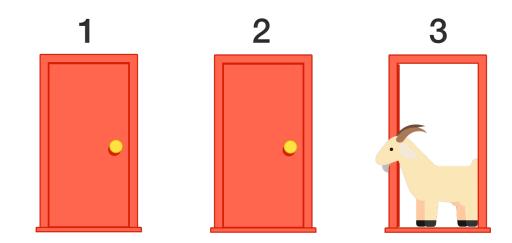
Ege Ülgen, MD, PhD

27 October 2022



Monty Hall Problem

- Suppose there are three doors,
 - behind one there is a car,
 - behind the others: goats
- You select one door without knowing what's behind
- Then, one of the doors behind which is a goat is opened
- In the end, there are two closed doors, behind one is a car, behind the other is a goat
- Would you
 - stick to the door you selected previously, or
 - **switch** to the other door?

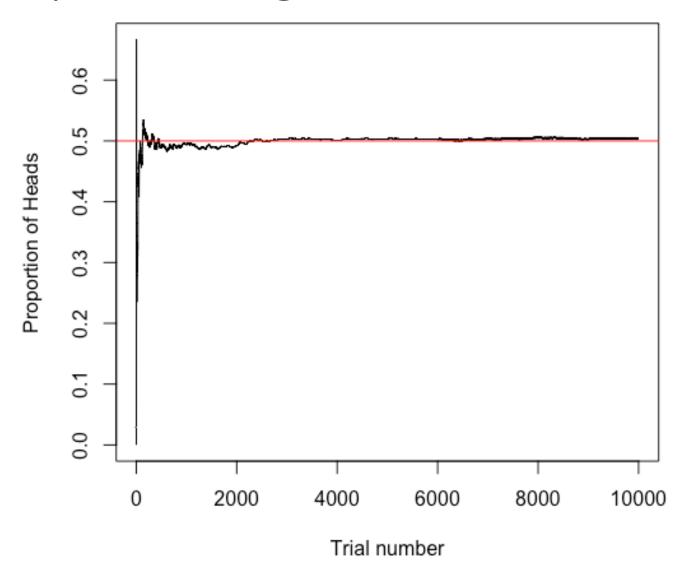


Probability

$$P(E) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n}$$

- P(E): probability of event E,
 - e.g., head in tossing a coin
- n(E): number of times event E occurs (out of n)
- n: number of trials

Probability – Tossing a (fair) coin



Probability - Definitions

- Experiment: a process that produces an outcome/outcomes Sample Space (Ω) : the set of all possible outcomes from an experiment
- Event: any set of outcomes of an experiment

Probability- Definitions

- Experiment: flipping a coin and rolling a die at the same time
- Sample Space:

```
\Omega = \{(H, 1), (H, 2), (H, 3), (H, 4), (H, 5), (H, 6), (T, 1), (T, 2), (T, 3), (T, 4), (T, 5), (T, 6), \}
```

• Event:

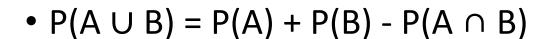
A: {rolling an even number} P(A) = 6 / 12

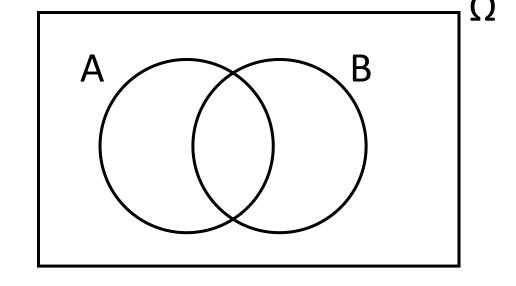
B: {getting heads and an odd number} P(B) = 3 / 12

Probability - Properties

•
$$P(\Omega) = 1$$

- $0 \le P(A) \le 1$
- $P(A^c) = 1 P(A)$





• If A ∩ B is an empty set (i.e., if A and B do not occur at the same time), A and B are called disjoint (mutually-exclusive)

Conditional Probability

- P(birth weight > 3500 g)
- P(birth weight > 3500 g | Male)
- P(birth weight > 3500 g | Female)

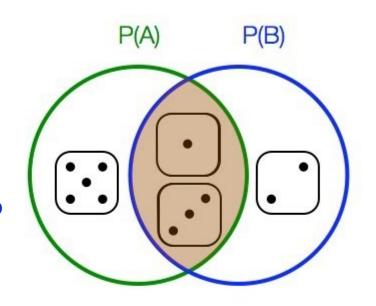
Conditional Probability

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

We're rolling a fair die

- Given that the value is odd
- What is the probability that the value is less than 4?

$$P(B|A) = \frac{2/6}{3/6} = \frac{2}{3}$$



Independence

• If knowing that event A occurred doesn't change the probability of event B, A and B are **independent** events

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \times P(B)$$
$$P(A|B) = P(A)$$
$$P(B|A) = P(B)$$

• Independence does not necessarily indicate $P(A \cap B) = \emptyset$

Independence - Example

- Suppose that we roll a pair of fair dice, so each of the 36 possible outcomes is equally likely
 - Let A denote the event that the first die lands on 3
 - Let B be the event that the sum of the dice is 8, and
 - Let C be the event that the sum of the dice is 7
- Are A and B independent?
- Are A and C independent?

Independence - Example

```
A: \{(3,1), (3,2), (3,3), (3,4), (3,5), (3,6)\}

B: \{(2,6), (6,2), (3,5), (5,3), (4,4)\}

C: \{(3,4), (4,3), (2,5), (5,2), (1,6), (6,1)\}

P(A) = 6/36, P(B) = 5/36, P(C) = 6/36

P(A \cap B) = 1/36, P(A \cap C) = 1/36

P(A \cap B) \neq P(A)P(B), P(A \cap C) = P(A)P(C)
```

Bayes' Theorem

 A formula that describes how to update the probabilities of hypotheses (H) when given evidence (E)

$$P(H \mid E) = \frac{P(E \mid H)P(H)}{P(E)}$$

 It can be used to powerfully reason about a wide range of problems involving belief updates

Bayes' Theorem

$$P(H \mid E) = \frac{P(E \mid H)P(H)}{P(E)}$$

- *P*(*H*) is the **prior probability**
- $P(H \mid E)$ is the **posterior probability**
- P(E|H) is the likelihood ratio
 P(E) is the evidence

Bayes' Theorem

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

$$= \frac{P(B|A) P(A)}{P(B|A) P(A) + P(B|A^c) P(A^c)}$$

Bayes' Theorem – Example

- Given the following statistics, what is the probability that a woman over 50 has cancer if she has a positive mammogram result?
 - One percent of women over 50 have breast cancer
 - Ninety percent of women who have breast cancer test positive on mammograms
 - Eight percent of women will have false positives

Bayes' Theorem – Example

• C: breast cancer, H: healthy, M+: positive mammogram result

$$P(C) = 0.01$$

 $P(H) = 0.99$
 $P(M^{+}|C) = 0.9$
 $P(M^{+}|H) = 0.08$

$$P(C|M^{+}) = \frac{P(M^{+}|C)P(C)}{P(M^{+}|C)P(C) + P(M^{+}|H)P(H)}$$
$$= \frac{0.9 \times 0.01}{0.9 \times 0.01 + 0.08 \times 0.99} \approx 0.1$$

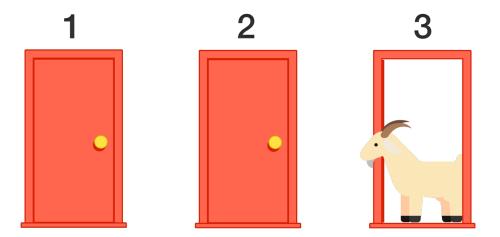
Monty Hall Problem Revisited

- A: prize is behind the **selected** door
- B: prize is behind the **opened** door
- C: prize is behind the **remaining** door
- H_B: host opens door B

$$P(A) = P(B) = P(C) = \frac{1}{3}$$

We can also conclude that:

$$P(H_B|A) = \frac{1}{2}$$
 $P(H_B|B) = 0$ $P(H_B|C) = 1$



Monty Hall Problem Revisited

$$P(A) = P(B) = P(C) = \frac{1}{3}$$

 $P(H_B|A) = \frac{1}{2}$ $P(H_B|B) = 0$ $P(H_B|C) = 1$

$$P(A|H_B) = \frac{P(H_B|A)P(A)}{P(H_B|A)P(A) + P(H_B|B)P(B) + P(H_B|C)P(C)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(C|H_B) = \frac{P(H_B|C)P(C)}{P(H_B|A)P(A) + P(H_B|B)P(B) + P(H_B|C)P(C)} = \frac{1 \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Therefore, it is probabilistically advantageous to SWITCH

Brief Summary

- Probability can be defined as the extent to which an event is likely to occur
 - measured by the ratio of the favorable cases to the whole number of cases possible
- Conditional probability allows one to update of the probability of an event based on new information
- Bayes' theorem is a simple formula for determining conditional probability