

DSC 40A

Lecture 14

Conditional Probability

Getting to Campus

- ▶ 100 people were surveyed.
- ▶ How did you get to campus today? Walk, bike, or drive?
- ▶ Were you late or on-time?
- ▶ Results:

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

Example

- What is the probability that a randomly-selected person was late?

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

Example

- What is the probability that a randomly-selected person drove?

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

Getting to Campus

- ▶ Suppose we no longer have this table:

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

- ▶ Instead, we are told only that:
 - ▶ 30% of people walk; 20% of them are late.
 - ▶ 10% of people bike; 30% of them are late.
 - ▶ 60% of people drive; 60% of them are late.
- ▶ Can we recover the table?

Conditional Probabilities

- ▶ Of those who walked, 20% were late.
- ▶ We say the **conditional probability** of being late **given** walking is 20%.
- ▶ Written: $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk}) = 0.20$
- ▶ We saw:

$$P(\text{Walk} \cap \text{Late}) = P(\text{Walk}) \cdot P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk})$$

- ▶ So:

$$P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk}) = \frac{P(\text{Walk} \cap \text{Late})}{P(\text{Walk})}$$

Conditional Probability

- ▶ Let A and B be events, with $P(B) > 0$.
- ▶ The **conditional probability** of A **given** B , written $P(A | B)$, is defined by:

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

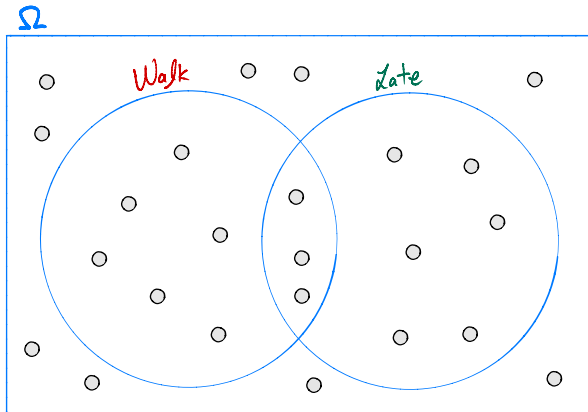
- ▶ Useful: $P(A \cap B) = P(A | B) \cdot P(B)$

Example

- ▶ Suppose someone **tells you** that they walked. What is the probability that they were late?
- ▶ That is, what is $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk})$?

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

Venn Diagram: Late given walk



Conditional Probability

- Use the definition:

$$P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk}) = \frac{P(\text{Late} \cap \text{Walk})}{P(\text{Walk})}$$

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

Discussion Question

The probability of driving is 30%. The probability of being late, given that they drove, is 50%. What is the probability that a randomly-selected person drove **and** was late?

- A) 20%
- B) 30%
- C) 6%
- D) 15%

Tree Diagrams

- ▶ In what ways can a person arrive on campus?
 - ▶ $P(\text{Walk}) = 30\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk}) = 20\%$.
 - ▶ $P(\text{Bike}) = 10\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Bike}) = 30\%$.
 - ▶ $P(\text{Drive}) = 60\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Drive}) = 60\%$.

Law of Total Probability

- What is $P(\text{Late})$?

(Walk, Late)	6%
(Walk, Not Late)	24%
(Bike, Late)	3%
(Bike, Not Late)	7%
(Drive, Late)	36%
(Drive, Not Late)	24%

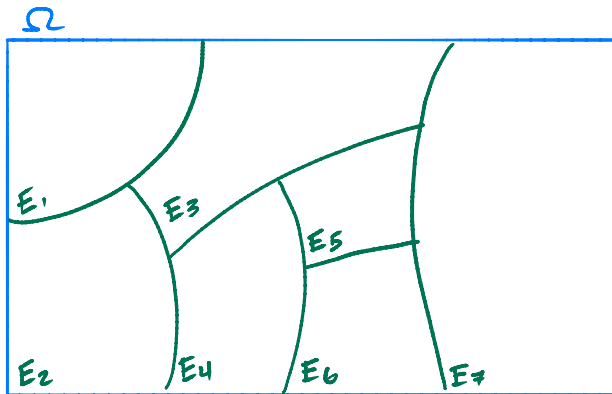
Law of Total Probability

- ▶ What is $P(\text{Late})$?
 - ▶ $P(\text{Walk}) = 30\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Walk}) = 20\%$.
 - ▶ $P(\text{Bike}) = 10\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Bike}) = 30\%$.
 - ▶ $P(\text{Drive}) = 60\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Drive}) = 60\%$.
- ▶ Remember: $P(A \cap B) = P(A \mid B) \cdot P(B)$

Partitions

- ▶ Suppose events E_1, \dots, E_k are events such that, whatever the outcome, **exactly one** of the events is satisfied.
- ▶ That is:
 - ▶ No two events can happen simultaneously; they are mutually disjoint.
 - ▶ One of the events must happen. $P(E_1) + \dots + P(E_k) = 1$.
- ▶ We say that E_1, \dots, E_k **partition** the outcome space.

Partitions



Example: Partitions

- ▶ Examples of events which partition the outcome space:
 - ▶ In getting to campus, the events Walk, Bike, Drive.
 - ▶ In getting to campus, the events Late, On-Time.
 - ▶ In rolling a die, the events Even, Odd.
 - ▶ In rolling a die, the events ≤ 3 , > 3 .
 - ▶ In drawing a card, the events Spades, Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts.

Law of Total Probability

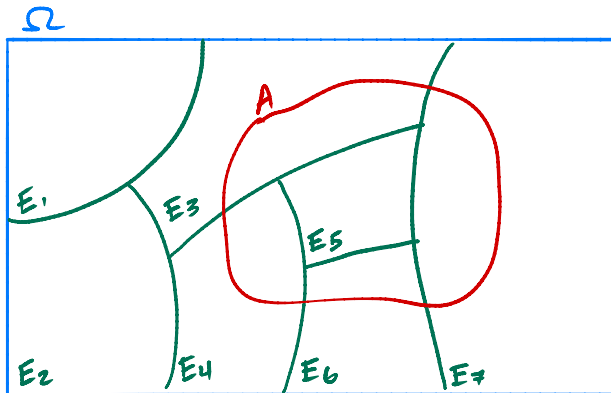
- ▶ Let A be an event, let E_1, \dots, E_k be events partitioning Ω .
- ▶ Then:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(A \cap E_1) + P(A \cap E_2) + \dots + P(A \cap E_k) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k P(A \cap E_i) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ And since $P(A \cap E) = P(A | E) \cdot P(E)$:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(A | E_1) \cdot P(E_1) + \dots + P(A | E_k) \cdot P(E_k) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k P(A | E_i) \cdot P(E_i) \end{aligned}$$

Law of Total Probability



Bayes' Theorem

- ▶ Someone tells you that they were late. What is the probability that they drove to campus?
- ▶ We know: $P(\text{Late}) = 45\%$; $P(\text{Late} \mid \text{Drive}) = 60\%$.
- ▶ We want: $P(\text{Drive} \mid \text{Late})$.
- ▶ Using the definition:

Bayes' Theorem

- ▶ Let A and B be events (with $P(A) > 0$ and $P(B) > 0$).
- ▶ Then:

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

Example

- ▶ A certain disease occurs in only 1% of the population.
- ▶ A test for the disease is 95% accurate.
- ▶ You've tested positive for the disease; what is the probability that you actually have it?

Bayes' Theorem: Alternate Form

- ▶ Let A be an event.
- ▶ Let E_1, \dots, E_k be events partitioning Ω .
- ▶ Then, using the law of total probability:

$$\begin{aligned}P(E_1 | A) &= \frac{P(A | E_1) \cdot P(E_1)}{P(A)} \\&= \frac{P(A | E_1) \cdot P(E_1)}{P(A \cap E_1) + \dots + P(A \cap E_k)} \\&= \frac{P(A | E_1) \cdot P(E_1)}{P(A | E_1) \cdot P(E_1) + \dots + P(A | E_k) \cdot P(E_k)}\end{aligned}$$

Example

In a collection of 65 coins, one has two heads (the rest are fair). You select a coin at random and flip it six times, seeing Heads each time. What is the probability that the coin you selected is Unfair?

Example

A deck of five cards is numbered: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10. Three cards are drawn, one at a time with replacement; the sum of their values is 12. What is the probability that 2 was drawn twice?

