

Question 4 Bayes' theorem for rainy day

Bayes theorem tells us that

$$\text{posterior} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \cdot \text{prior}}{\text{evidence}}$$

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

$$P(\text{rain} | \text{rain announced}) = \frac{P(\text{rain announced} | \text{rain}) P(\text{rain})}{P(\text{rain announced})}$$

where what we want is the posterior

$$\underline{P(\text{rain} | \text{rain announced})} = ?$$

$$\underline{P(\text{rain})} \text{ is given to us: } \frac{5 \text{ days}}{365 \text{ days}} \approx 0.0137$$

$$\underline{P(\text{rain announced} | \text{rain})} = 90\% = \frac{90}{100} = 0.9$$

$$\underline{P(\text{rain announced})} = P(\text{rain announced} | \text{rain}) P(\text{rain}) + (P(\text{rain announced} | \text{no rain}) \cdot P(\text{no rain}))$$

where $P(\text{no rain}) = 1 - P(\text{rain})$ and

$$P(\text{rain announced} | \text{no rain}) = 10\% = 0.1$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{P(\text{rain announced})} &= (0.9 \cdot 0.0137) + ((1 - 0.0137) \cdot 0.1) \\ &= 0.01233 + 0.09863 \\ &\approx 0.1106 \end{aligned}$$

so

$$P(\text{rain} | \text{rain announced}) = \frac{0.0137 \cdot 0.9}{0.1106} \approx 0.11$$

This is 11% chance of rain | pretty low |