

Bayesian Inference and Hypothesis Testing

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- ▶ So we can reverse the order of conditioning, i.e. relate to the probability of A given B to that of B given A.

The cards problem

1. Print out a number of cards, with either $[A|A]$, $[A|B]$ or $[B|B]$ on their sides.
2. If you have an A, what is the probability of an A on the other side?
3. Have the students perform the experiment with:
 - 3.1 Draw a random card.
 - 3.2 Count the number of people with A.
 - 3.3 What is the probability that somebody with an A on one side will have an A on the other?
 - 3.4 Half of the people should have an A?

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The prior and posterior probabilities

A	A	2/6	A observed	2/3
A	B	1/6	A observed	1/3
B	A	1/6		
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- ▶ This is a purely subjective measure!

DNA test

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- ▶ What is your belief **now** that the suspect is guilty?

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- ▶ What is different from before?
- ▶ Who has a positive test?
- ▶ What is your belief that the people with the positive test are guilty?

Explanation

- Prior: $P(H_i)$.

$$P(D) = P(D \cap H_0) + P(D \cap H_1) \quad (1)$$

$$= P(D|H_0)P(H_0) + P(D|H_1)P(H_1) \quad (2)$$

- Posterior: $P(H_0|D) = \frac{P(D|H_0)P(H_0)}{P(D|H_0)P(H_0) + P(D|H_1)P(H_1)}$
- Assuming $P(D|H_1) = 1$, and setting $P(H_0) = q$, this gives

$$P(H_0|D) = \frac{0.1q}{0.1q + 1 - q} = \frac{q}{10 - 9q}$$

- The posterior can always be updated with more data!

Explanation

- ▶ Prior: $P(H_i)$.
- ▶ Likelihood $P(D|H_i)$.

$$P(D) = P(D \cap H_0) + P(D \cap H_1) \quad (1)$$

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- ▶ Marginal probability:

$$P(D) = P(D \cap H_0) + P(D \cap H_1) \quad (1)$$

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Python example

```
def get_posterior(prior, data, likelihood):  
    marginal = prior * likelihood[data][0] + (1 - prior) * likelihood[data][1]  
    posterior = prior * likelihood[data][0] / marginal  
    return posterior  
  
import numpy as np  
prior = 0.9 # Pr(H1)  
likelihood = np.zeros([2, 2])  
likelihood[0][0] = 0.9 # Pr(F|H0)  
likelihood[1][0] = 0.1 # Pr(T|H0)  
likelihood[0][1] = 0 # Pr(F|H1)  
likelihood[1][1] = 1 # Pr(T|H1)  
data = 1  
return get_posterior(prior, data, likelihood)
```

Types of hypothesis testing problems

Simple Hypothesis Test

Example: DNA evidence, Covid tests

- ▶ Two hypotheses H_0, H_1
- ▶ $P(D|H_i)$ is defined for all i

Multiple Hypotheses Test

Example: Model selection

- ▶ H_i : One of many mutually exclusive models
- ▶ $P(D|H_i)$ is defined for all i

Null Hypothesis Test

Example: Are men's and women's heights the same?

- ▶ H_0 : The 'null' hypothesis
- ▶ $P(D|H_0)$ is defined
- ▶ The alternative is **undefined**

Pitfalls

Problem definition

- ▶ Defining the models $P(D|H_i)$ incorrectly.

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The garden of many paths

- ▶ Having a huge hypothesis space

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Problem definition

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The garden of many paths

- ▶ Having a huge hypothesis space
- ▶ Selecting the relevant hypothesis after seeing the data