

COVID Testing

Suppose I get a positive test for COVID.

What's the chance that I'm sick.

X = sample space = population.

S/W sick vs well

+/- pos/neg test

$(S, +)$ true pos

$(S, -)$ false neg

$(W, +)$ false pos

$(W, -)$ true neg

$$P(S|+) = \frac{P(S, +)}{P(+)}$$

$$P(+|W) = .005$$

$$P(-|W) = .995$$

$$P(-|S) = .25$$

$$P(+|S) = .75$$

$$P(S|+) = \frac{P(+|S)P(S)}{P(+)}$$

$P(S)$ = incidence of disease in population.
= p .

$$P(+)=P(S,+) + P(W,+)$$

$$= P(+|S)P(S) + P(+|W)P(W)$$

$$= .75p + (.005)(1-p)$$

$$= .005 + .745p$$

$$P(S|+) = \frac{.75p}{.005 + .745p} = \frac{750p}{5 + 745p}$$

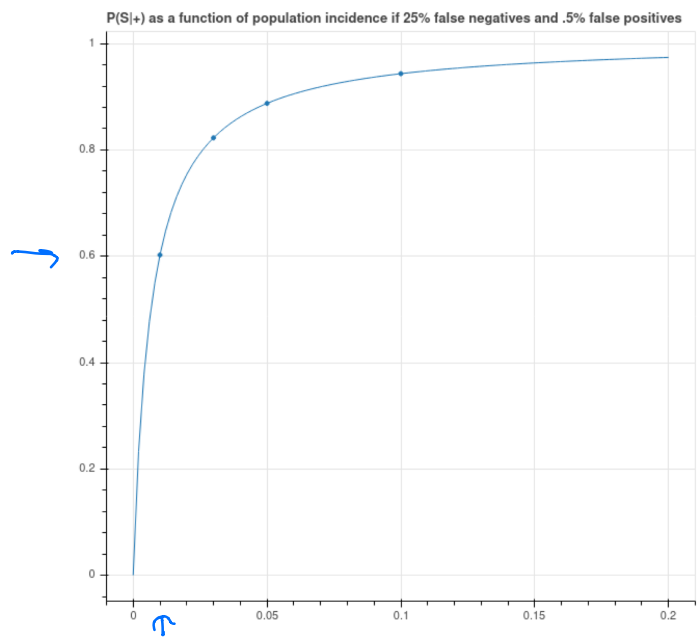


Figure 2: $P(S|+)$ vs $P(S)$