

W02 - Examples

Bayes' Theorem

Example - Bayes' Theorem - COVID tests

Assume that 0.5% of people have COVID. Suppose a COVID test gives a (true) positive on 96% of patients who have COVID, but gives a (false) positive on 2% of patients who do not have COVID. Bob tests positive. What is the probability that Bob has COVID?

Solution

1. Label events.

- Event A_P : Bob is actually positive for COVID
- Event A_N : Bob is actually negative; note $A_N = A_P^c$
- Event T_P : Bob tests positive
- Event T_N : Bob tests negative; note $T_N = T_P^c$

2. Identify knowns.

- Know: $P[T_P | A_P] = 96\%$
- Know: $P[T_P | A_N] = 2\%$
- Know: $P[A_P] = 0.5\%$ and therefore $P[A_N] = 99.5\%$
- We seek: $P[A_P | T_P]$

3. Translate Bayes' Theorem.

- Using $A = T_P$ and $B = A_P$ in the formula:

$$P[A_P | T_P] = P[T_P | A_P] \cdot \frac{P[A_P]}{P[T_P]}$$

- We know all values on the right except $P[T_P]$

4. Use Division into Cases.

- Observe:

$$T_P = T_P \cap A_P \cup T_P \cap A_N$$

- Division into Cases yields:

$$P[T_P] = P[A_P] \cdot P[T_P | A_P] + P[A_N] \cdot P[T_P | A_N]$$

- Important to notice this technique!

- It is a common element of Bayes' Theorem application problems.
- It is frequently needed *for the denominator*.

- Plug in data and compute:

$$\gg \gg P[T_P] = \frac{5}{1000} \cdot \frac{96}{100} + \frac{995}{1000} \cdot \frac{2}{100} \gg \gg \approx 0.0247$$

5. Compute answer.

- Plug in and compute:

$$P[A_P | T_P] = P[T_P | A_P] \cdot \frac{P[A_P]}{P[T_P]}$$

$$\gg \gg \quad 0.96 \cdot \frac{0.005}{0.0247} \quad \gg \gg \quad \approx 19\%$$

🔗 Intuition - COVID testing

Some people find the low number surprising. In order to repair your intuition, think about it like this: roughly 2.5% of tests are positive, with roughly 2% coming from *false* positives, and roughly 0.5% from *true* positives. The true ones make up only 1/5 of the positive results!

(This rough approximation is by assuming 96% = 100%.)

If *two* tests both come back positive, the odds of COVID are now 98%.

If *only people with symptoms* are tested, so that, say, 20% of those tested have COVID, that is, $P[A_P | T_P] = 20\%$, then one positive test implies a COVID probability of 92%.

✍ Exercise - Bayes' Theorem and Multiplication: Inferring bin from marble

There are marbles in bins in a room:

- Bin 1 holds 7 red and 5 green marbles.
- Bin 2 holds 4 red and 3 green marbles.

Your friend goes in the room, shuts the door, and selects a random bin, then draws a random marble. (Equal odds for each bin, then equal odds for each marble in that bin.) He comes out and shows you a red marble.

What is the probability that this red marble was taken from Bin 1?

[Solution](#)

Independence

✍ Exercise - Independence and complements

Prove that these are logically equivalent statements:

- A and B are independent
- A and B^c are independent
- A^c and B^c are independent

Make sure you demonstrate both directions of each equivalency.

≡ Example - Checking independence by hand

A bin contains 4 red and 7 green marbles. Two marbles are drawn.

Let R_1 be the event that the first marble is red, and let G_2 be the event that the second marble is green.

- (a) Show that R_1 and G_2 are independent if the marbles are drawn *with replacement*.
- (b) Show that R_1 and G_2 are not independent if the marbles are drawn *without replacement*.

≡ Solution

(a) With replacement.

1. ≡ Identify knowns.

- Know: $P[R_1] = \frac{4}{11}$
- Know: $P[G_2] = \frac{7}{11}$

2. ≡ Compute both sides of independence relation.

- Relation is $P[R_1 G_2] = P[R_1] \cdot P[G_2]$
- Right side is $\frac{4}{11} \cdot \frac{7}{11}$
- For $P[R_1 G_2]$, have $4 \cdot 7$ ways to get $R_1 G_2$, and 11^2 total outcomes.
- So left side is $\frac{4 \cdot 7}{11^2}$, which equals the right side.

(b) Without replacement.

1. ≡ Identify knowns.

- Know: $P[R_1] = \frac{4}{11}$ and therefore $P[R_1^c] = \frac{7}{11}$
- We seek: $P[G_2]$ and $P[R_1 G_2]$

2. ⇔ Find $P[G_2]$ using Division into Cases.

- Division into cases:

$$G_2 = G_2 \cap R_1 \cup G_2 \cap R_1^c$$

- Therefore:

$$P[G_2] = P[R_1] \cdot P[G_2 | R_1] + P[R_1^c] \cdot P[G_2 | R_1^c]$$

- Find these by counting and compute:

$$\gg \gg P[G_2] = \frac{4}{11} \cdot \frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{11} \cdot \frac{6}{10} \gg \gg \frac{70}{110}$$

3. ≡ Find $P[R_1 G_2]$ using Multiplication rule.

- Multiplication rule (implicitly used above already):

$$P[R_1 G_2] = P[R_1] \cdot P[G_2 | R_1] \gg \gg \frac{4}{11} \cdot \frac{7}{10} \gg \gg \frac{28}{110}$$

4. ≡ Compare both sides.

- Left side: $P[R_1 G_2] = \frac{28}{110}$

- Whereas, right side:

$$P[R_1] \cdot P[G_2] = \frac{4}{11} \cdot \frac{70}{110} = \frac{28}{121}$$

- But $\frac{28}{110} \neq \frac{28}{121}$ so $P[R_1 G_2] \neq P[R_1] \cdot P[G_2]$ and they are *not independent*.

Tree diagrams

Example - Tree diagrams: Marble transferred, marble drawn

Setup:

- Bin 1 holds five red and four green marbles.
- Bin 2 holds four red and five green marbles.

Experiment:

- You take a random marble from Bin 1 and put it in Bin 2 and shake Bin 2.
- Then you draw a random marble from Bin 2 and look at it.

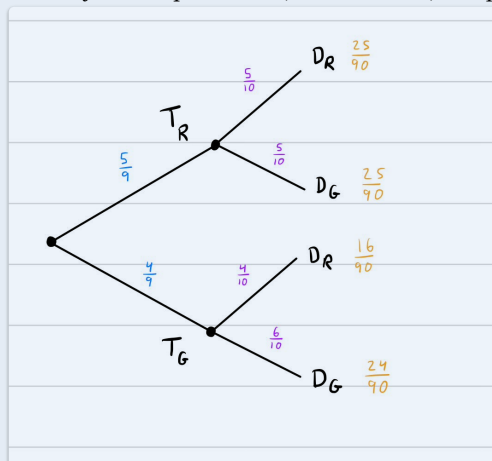
Questions:

- (a) What is the probability you *draw* a red marble?
- (b) Supposing that you drew a red marble, what is the probability that a red marble was *transferred*?

Solution

1. Construct the tree diagram.

- Identify sub-experiments, label events, compute probabilities:



2. For (a), compute $P[D_R]$.

- Add up leaf numbers for D_R at leaf:

$$P[D_R] = \frac{25}{90} + \frac{16}{90} = \frac{41}{90}$$

3. For (b), compute $P[T_R | D_R]$.

- Conditional probability:

$$P[T_R | D_R] = \frac{P[T_R D_R]}{P[D_R]}$$

- Plug in data and compute:

$$\gg \gg \frac{25/90}{41/90} \gg \gg \frac{25}{41}$$

- Interpretation: mass of desired pathway over mass of possible pathways.

Counting

☰ Combinations: Counting teams with Cooper

A team of 3 student volunteers is formed at random from a class of 40. What is the probability that Cooper is on the team?

☰ Solution

There are $\binom{39}{2}$ teams that include Cooper, and $\binom{40}{3}$ teams in total. So we have:

$$P = \frac{39!}{2!37!} \bigg/ \frac{40!}{3!37!} = \frac{3}{40}$$

☰ Combinations: Groups with Haley and Hugo

The class has 40 students. Suppose the professor chooses 3 students Wednesday at random, and again 3 on Friday. What is the probability that Haley is chosen today and Hugo on Friday?

☰ Solution

1. ☰ Count total outcomes.

- Have $\binom{40}{3}$ possible groups chosen Wednesday.
- Have $\binom{40}{3}$ possible groups chosen Friday.
- Therefore $\binom{40}{3} \times \binom{40}{3}$ possible groups in total.

2. ☰ Count desired outcomes.

- Groups of 3 with Haley are same as groups of 2 taken from others.
- Therefore have $\binom{39}{2}$ groups that contain Haley.
- Have $\binom{39}{2}$ groups that contain Hugo.
- Therefore $\binom{39}{2} \times \binom{39}{2}$ total desired outcomes.

3. ☰ Compute probability.

- Let E label the desired event.

- Use formula:

$$P[E] = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$$

- Therefore:

$$P[E] \gg \gg \frac{\binom{39}{2} \times \binom{39}{2}}{\binom{40}{3} \times \binom{40}{3}}$$

$$\gg \gg \left(\frac{\frac{39 \cdot 38}{2!}}{\frac{40 \cdot 39 \cdot 38}{3!}} \right)^2 \gg \gg \left(\frac{3}{40} \right)^2$$