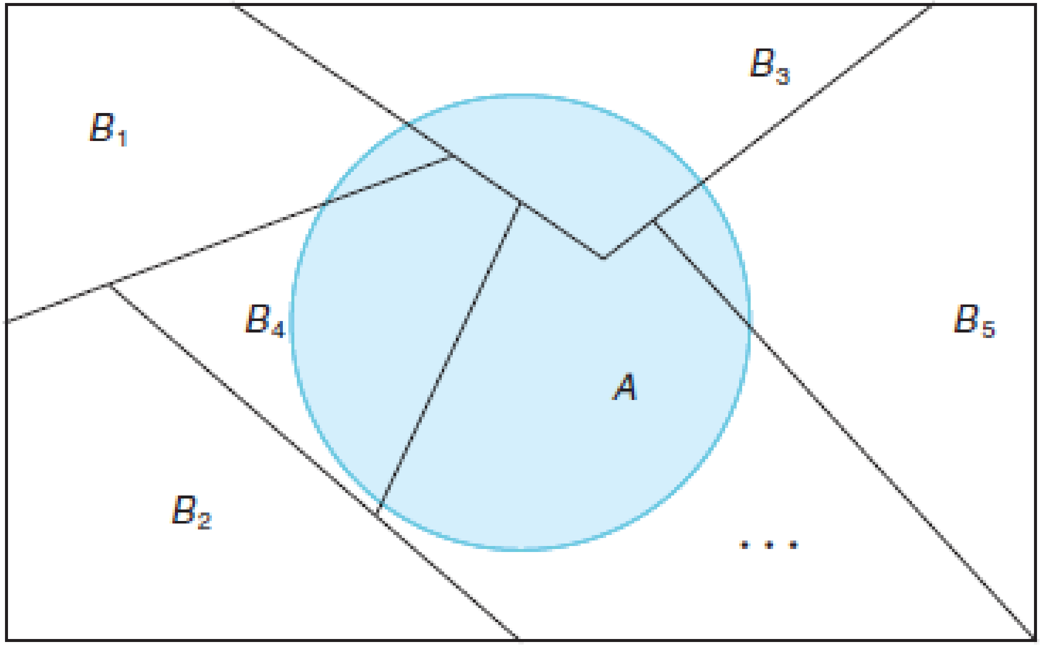
Lec 23

Bayes theorem

Theorem of total probability

Theorem 2.13: If the events $B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_k$ constitute a partition of the sample space S such that $P(B_i) \neq 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$, then for any event A of S,

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i \cap A) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i)P(A|B_i).$$



***Proof*:** Consider the Venn diagram of Figure 2.14. The event A is seen to be the union of the mutually exclusive events

$$B_1 \cap A, \; B_2 \cap A, \; \ldots, \; B_k \cap A;$$

that is,

$$A = (B_1 \cap A) \cup (B_2 \cap A) \cup \cdots \cup (B_k \cap A).$$

Using Corollary 2.2 of Theorem 2.7 and Theorem 2.10, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P[(B_1 \cap A) \cup (B_2 \cap A) \cup \cdots \cup (B_k \cap A)] \\ &= P(B_1 \cap A) + P(B_2 \cap A) + \cdots + P(B_k \cap A) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i \cap A) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i)P(A|B_i). \end{aligned}$$

$\blacksquare$

Example 2.41: In a certain assembly plant, three machines, B_1, B_2, and B_3, make 30%, 45%, and 25%, respectively, of the products. It is known from past experience that 2%, 3%, and 2% of the products made by each machine, respectively, are defective. Now, suppose that a finished product is randomly selected. What is the probability that it is defective?

***Solution*:** Consider the following events:

A: the product is defective,

B_1: the product is made by machine B_1,

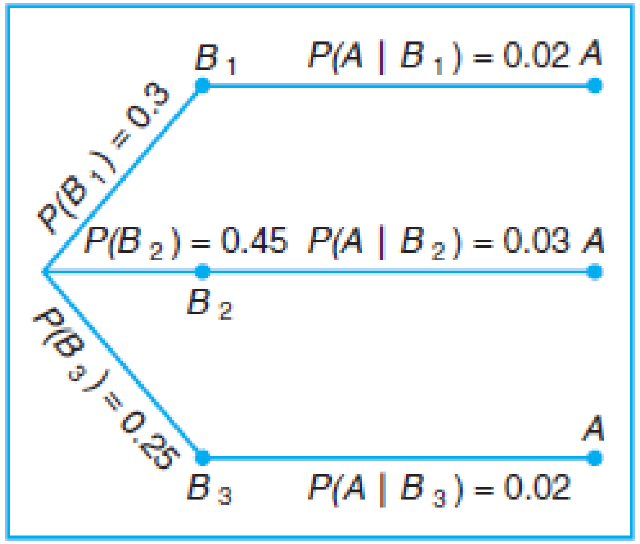
B_2: the product is made by machine B_2,

B_3: the product is made by machine B_3.

Applying the rule of elimination, we can write

$$P(A) = P(B_1)P(A|B_1) + P(B_2)P(A|B_2) + P(B_3)P(A|B_3).$$

Referring to the tree diagram of Figure 2.15, we find that the three branc
the probabilities



$$P(B_1)P(A|B_1) = (0.3)(0.02) = 0.006,$$
$$P(B_2)P(A|B_2) = (0.45)(0.03) = 0.0135,$$
$$P(B_3)P(A|B_3) = (0.25)(0.02) = 0.005,$$

and hence

$$P(A) = 0.006 + 0.0135 + 0.005 = 0.0245.$$

Bayes' Rule

Instead of asking for $P(A)$ in Example 2.41, by the rule of elimination, suppose that we now consider the problem of finding the conditional probability $P(B_i|A)$. In other words, suppose that a product was randomly selected and it is defective. What is the probability that this product was made by machine B_i? Questions of this type can be answered by using the following theorem, called **Bayes' rule**:

Theorem 2.14: **(Bayes' Rule)** If the events $B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_k$ constitute a partition of the sample space S such that $P(B_i) \neq 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$, then for any event A in S such that $P(A) \neq 0$,

$$P(B_r|A) = \frac{P(B_r \cap A)}{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i \cap A)} = \frac{P(B_r)P(A|B_r)}{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i)P(A|B_i)} \quad \text{for } r = 1, 2, \ldots, k.$$

***Proof*:** By the definition of conditional probability,

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

and then using Theorem 2.13 in the denominator, we have

$$P(B_r|A) = \frac{P(B_r \cap A)}{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i \cap A)} = \frac{P(B_r)P(A|B_r)}{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{k} P(B_i)P(A|B_i)},$$

which completes the proof.

Example 2.43: A manufacturing firm employs three analytical plans for the design and development of a particular product. For cost reasons, all three are used at varying times. In fact, plans 1, 2, and 3 are used for 30%, 20%, and 50% of the products, respectively. The defect rate is different for the three procedures as follows:

$$P(D|P_1) = 0.01, \qquad P(D|P_2) = 0.03, \qquad P(D|P_3) = 0.02,$$

where $P(D|P_j)$ is the probability of a defective product, given plan j. If a random product was observed and found to be defective, which plan was most likely used and thus responsible?

***Solution*:** From the statement of the problem

$$P(P_1) = 0.30, \quad P(P_2) = 0.20, \quad \text{and} \quad P(P_3) = 0.50,$$

we must find $P(P_j|D)$ for $j = 1, 2, 3$. Bayes' rule (Theorem 2.14) shows

$$P(P_1|D) = \frac{P(P_1)P(D|P_1)}{P(P_1)P(D|P_1) + P(P_2)P(D|P_2) + P(P_3)P(D|P_3)}$$
$$= \frac{(0.30)(0.01)}{(0.3)(0.01) + (0.20)(0.03) + (0.50)(0.02)} = \frac{0.003}{0.019} = 0.158.$$

Similarly,

$$P(P_2|D) = \frac{(0.03)(0.20)}{0.019} = 0.316 \text{ and } P(P_3|D) = \frac{(0.02)(0.50)}{0.019} = 0.526.$$

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$$\begin{aligned} P(P_1|D) &= \frac{P(P_1)P(D|P_1)}{P(P_1)P(D|P_1) + P(P_2)P(D|P_2) + P(P_3)P(D|P_3)} \\ &= \frac{(0.30)(0.01)}{(0.3)(0.01) + (0.20)(0.03) + (0.50)(0.02)} = \frac{0.003}{0.019} = 0.158. \end{aligned}$$

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2.96 Police plan to enforce speed limits by using radar traps at four different locations within the city limits. The radar traps at each of the locations L_1, L_2, L_3, and L_4 will be operated 40%, 30%, 20%, and 30% of the time. If a person who is speeding on her way to work has probabilities of 0.2, 0.1, 0.5, and 0.2, respectively, of passing through these locations, what is the probability that she will receive a speeding ticket?

2.99 Suppose that the four inspectors at a film factory are supposed to stamp the expiration date on each package of film at the end of the assembly line. John, who stamps 20% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 200 packages; Tom, who stamps 60% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 100 packages; Jeff, who stamps 15% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 90 packages; and Pat, who stamps 5% of the packages, fails to stamp the expiration date once in every 200 packages. If a customer complains that her package of film does not show the expiration date, what is the probability that it was inspected by John?

Consider the events:

A: no expiration date,

B_1: John is the inspector, $P(B_1) = 0.20$ and $P(A \mid B_1) = 0.005$,

B_2: Tom is the inspector, $P(B_2) = 0.60$ and $P(A \mid B_2) = 0.010$,

B_3: Jeff is the inspector, $P(B_3) = 0.15$ and $P(A \mid B_3) = 0.011$,

B_4: Pat is the inspector, $P(B_4) = 0.05$ and $P(A \mid B_4) = 0.005$,

$$P(B_1 \mid A) = \frac{(0.005)(0.20)}{(0.005)(0.20)+(0.010)(0.60)+(0.011)(0.15)+(0.005)(0.05)} = 0.1124.$$