

## Section 2.2.5

Day 5 BSTA 511/611

Topics: Sensitivity, specificity,  
Law of Total Probability, Bayes' Theorem

# CHAPTER 2: PROBABILITY (PART 2)

Example 2.7. How accurate is rapid testing for COVID-19?

From the iHealth® website

<https://ihealthlabs.com/pages/ihealth-covid-19-antigen-rapid-test-details>:

"Based on the results of a clinical study where the iHealth® COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test was compared to an FDA authorized molecular SARS-CoV-2 test, iHealth® COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test correctly identified 94.3% of positive specimens and 98.1% of negative specimens."

Suppose you take the iHealth® rapid test.

- (1) What is the probability of a positive test result?
- (2) What is the probability of having COVID-19 if you get a positive test result?
- (3) What is the probability of not having COVID-19 if you get a negative test result?

What information were we given?

First, let's define our events of interest:

- $D$  = event one has disease (COVID-19)
- $D^c$  = event one does not have disease
- $T^+$  = event one tests positive for disease
- $T^-$  = event one tests negative for disease       $T^- = (T^+)^c$

Translate given information into mathematical notation:

- Test correctly gives a positive result 94.3% of the time:

$$P(T^+ | D) = 0.943 \quad \text{sensitivity}$$

- Test correctly gives a negative result 98.1% of the time:

$$P(T^- | D^c) = 0.981 \quad \text{specificity}$$

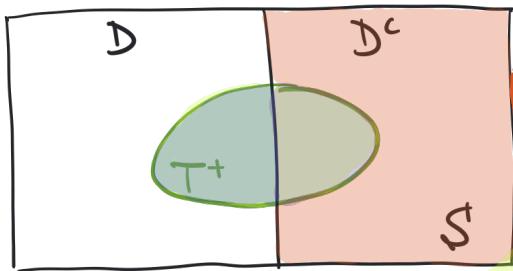
- What are all the possible scenarios of test results?

		Disease Status		Total
Test Outcome	D	$D^c$		
	$T^+$	$T^-$		
Test Outcome	D	$P(T^+   D)$ sensitivity	$P(T^+   D^c)$ false positive	#1
	$D^c$	$P(T^-   D)$ false negative	$P(T^-   D^c)$ specificity	#1
Total	1		1	1

Given:  $P(T^+|D) = 0.943$ ,  $P(T^-|D^c) = 0.981$

### Solutions to questions

(1) What is the probability of a positive test result?  $P(T^+)$



Law of Total Probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(T^+) &= P(T^+ \text{ and } D) + P(T^+ \text{ and } D^c) \\ &= P(T^+|D)P(D) + P(T^+|D^c)P(D^c) \\ &= 0.943 P(D) + 0.019 P(D^c) \end{aligned}$$

General Multiplication Rule

$$\begin{aligned} P(A \text{ and } B) &= P(B|A)P(A) \\ &= P(A|B)P(B) \end{aligned}$$

$$P(T^+|D^c) + P(T^-|D^c) = 1$$

$$P(T^+|D^c) + 0.981 = 1$$

$$P(T^+|D^c) = 1 - 0.981 = 0.019$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 0.943(0.000838) + \\ &\quad 0.019(1 - 0.000838) \\ &= 0.01977431 \end{aligned}$$

There's approximately a 2% chance of someone in Multnomah County in October 2022 of testing positive for Covid-19.

$P(D)$  and  $P(D^c)$ ?

October 2022: 83.8 per 100k

in Multnomah County

with Covid-19

$$\Rightarrow \text{Use } P(D) = \frac{83.8}{100,000} = 0.000838$$

Given:  $P(T^+|D) = 0.943$ ,  $P(T^-|D^c) = 0.981$

(2) What is the probability of having COVID-19 if you get a positive test result?

### Positive Predictive Value (PPV)

$$\begin{aligned} P(D|T^+) &= \frac{P(D \text{ and } T^+)}{P(T^+)} \\ &= \frac{P(T^+|D)P(D)}{P(T^+|D)P(D) + P(T^+|D^c)P(D^c)} \quad \text{General Multiplication Rule} \\ &= \frac{0.01977431}{0.01977431 + 0.000838} \quad \text{from (1), using the Law of Total Probability} \\ &= \frac{0.943}{0.943 + 0.057} \quad \text{Multnomah Co. in October 2022} \\ &= 0.943 / 1.000 \\ &= 0.943 \end{aligned}$$

$P(D)$	$P(D T^+)$
0.01	0.334
0.10	0.846

Given:  $\mathbb{P}(T^+|D) = 0.943$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(T^-|D^c) = 0.981$

- (3) What is the probability of not having COVID-19 if you get a negative test result?

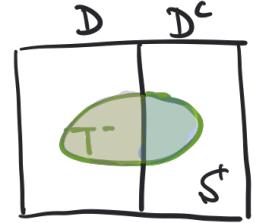
### Negative Predictive Value (NPV)

$$\mathbb{P}(D^c|T^-) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(D^c \text{ and } T^-)}{\mathbb{P}(T^-)} \quad 1 - \mathbb{P}(T^+)$$

$\mathbb{P}(D^c|T^-) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(T^-|D^c)\mathbb{P}(D^c)}{\mathbb{P}(T^-|D^c)\mathbb{P}(D^c) + \mathbb{P}(T^-|D)\mathbb{P}(D)}$  General Multiplication Rule

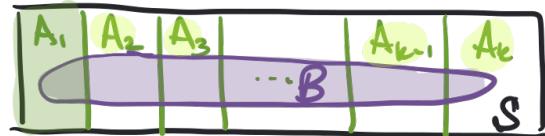
$$\mathbb{P}(D^c|T^-) = \frac{0.981(1 - 0.000838)}{0.981(1 - 0.000838) + (1 - 0.943)(0.000838)}$$

$$= 0.999513$$



$\mathbb{P}(D)$	$NPV = \mathbb{P}(D^c T^-)$
0.01	0.994134
0.10	0.9935854

## Bayes' Theorem (Section 2.2.5)



In the previous examples we derived the formula for Bayes' Theorem.

**Theorem 2.8** (Bayes' Theorem). *If the sample space  $S$  can be split into disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  that make up all possible outcomes in  $S$ , and if  $\mathbb{P}(A_i) > 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\mathbb{P}(B) > 0$ , then*

$$\mathbb{P}(A_1|B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B|A_1) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_1)}{\mathbb{P}(B|A_1) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_1) + \mathbb{P}(B|A_2) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_2) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(B|A_k) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_k)}$$

*General Multiplication Rule*

*Law of Total Probability*

Special case of Bayes' Theorem for sample space being split into  $A$  and  $A^c$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(A|B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(B|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B|A^c) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A^c)}$$

**Theorem 2.9** (Law of Total Probability). *(denominator of Bayes' Theorem)*

*If the sample space  $S$  can be split into disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  that make up all possible outcomes in  $S$ , and if  $\mathbb{P}(A_i) > 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\mathbb{P}(B) > 0$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(B) &= \mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A_1) + \mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A_2) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A_k) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(B|A_1) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_1) + \mathbb{P}(B|A_2) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_2) + \dots + \mathbb{P}(B|A_k) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_k) \end{aligned}$$

*OR*

*Partition of S*

Special case of Law of Total Probability for sample space being split into  $A$  and  $A^c$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(B) &= \mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A) + \mathbb{P}(B \text{ and } A^c) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(B|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B|A^c) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A^c) \end{aligned}$$

*OR*

## Class discussion

### Example 2.10. Antibody test for COVID-19

According to the [FDA's EUA Authorized Serology Test Performance website](#), the Abbott AdviseDx SARS-CoV-2 IgG II (Alinity) antibody test for COVID-19 has sensitivity 98.1% and PPV 98.4% when the prevalence is 20%.

Question: What is the specificity of the antibody test?

### What information were we given?

First, let's define our events of interest:

- $A$  = event one has antibodies for COVID-19
- $A^c$  = event one does not have antibodies
- $T^+$  = event one tests positive for antibodies
- $T^-$  = event one tests negative for antibodies

Translate given information into mathematical notation:

- Sensitivity is 98.1%:

- PPV is 98.4%:

- Prevalence is 20%:

**Solution:**