

Bayesian Inference

Oliver Filla

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Probability

Determinism and its Limits

Frequentist statistics

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Conditional Probability

Probability & Likelihood

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Hypothesis Testing

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The Posterior Odds ratio

Bibliography



Determinism and its Limits

Why do we need Probabilities?



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⇒ Thus, we need probabilities to predict events!



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$p(6) = \frac{1}{6} \Rightarrow$ *I expect that every 6th dice roll shows a 6, on average.*



Bayesian statistics



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Probability



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- ▶ $C(H)$ can be updated with new data



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$p(6) = \frac{1}{6} \Rightarrow$ *I believe the hypothesis H “the die roll shows a 6” with a credibility of $C(H) = \frac{1}{6}$.*



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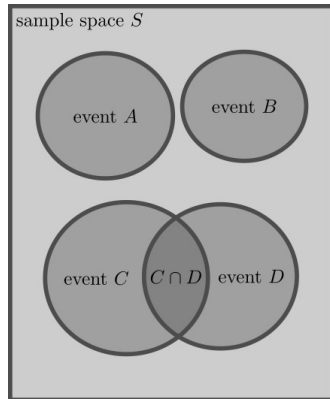
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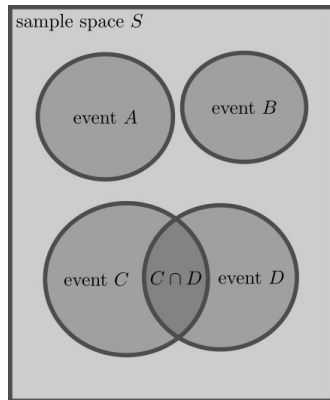
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- ⇒ A and B mutually exclusive:
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Probability & Likelihood

Recap from the talk *The Maximum Likelihood Principle*
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- Probability P : tool for prediction of events
- Likelihood L : tool for modelling
- equal for given hypothesis H and events E

$$L(H|E) = P(E|H)$$



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- Probability P : tool for prediction of events
- Likelihood L : tool for modelling
- equal for given hypothesis H and events E
- ▶ but only if no prior knowledge is available
- ▶ Bayes' theorem generalizes this, using prior knowledge

$$L(H|E) \stackrel{?}{=} P(E|H) \quad (1)$$



Bayes' Theorem

Bayes' theorem describes the procedure of updating a hypothesis H , given that new evidence E is available. It is the scientific method of changing beliefs.



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$$P(E) = P(E|H)P(H) + P(E|\neg H)P(\neg H) \quad (4)$$

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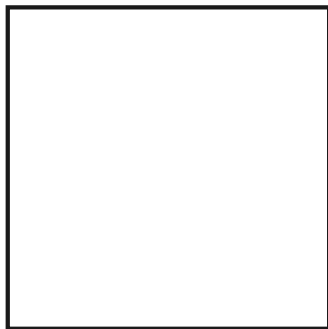
Geometric Interpretation



Bayes' Theorem

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- ▶ square: probability 1



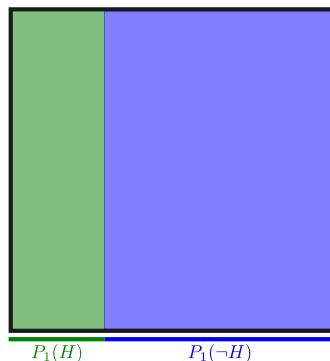
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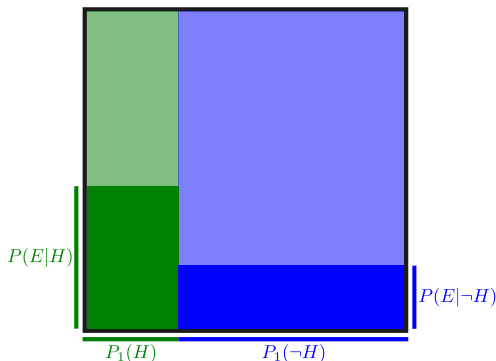


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$$P_2(H|E) = \frac{\text{green square}}{\text{green square} + \text{blue square}}$$



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Updating Credibilities

with Bayes' Theorem

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$$P_2(H|E) = \frac{P(E|H)P_1(H)}{P(E)}$$

How to update the credibility of a hypothesis H :

1. assert prior $P_1(H)$



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$$P_2(H|E) = \frac{P(E|H)P_1(H)}{P(E)}$$

How to update the credibility of a hypothesis H :

1. assert prior $P_1(H)$
2. evaluate evidence E : \rightarrow likelihood $P(E|H)$



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3. calculate overall likelihood $P(E)$
4. calculate posterior probability $P_2(H|E)$



Updating Credibilities

The Posterior Odds ratio



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Hypothesis Testing



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The Posterior Odds ratio

- ▶ relative probability: compare probabilities
- ▶ absolute probabilities have limited use



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for e.g. $P(A) = 0.1, P(B) = 0.2$ or $P(A) = 0.3, P(B) = 0.6$.



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- ▶ overall likelihood $P(E)$ becomes irrelevant

$$\frac{P_2(H_A|E)}{P_2(H_B|E)} = \frac{P(E|H_A) P_1(H_A)}{P(E|H_B) P_1(H_B)} \quad (5)$$



Example

rapid antigen tests

Assume a *COVID rapid test*



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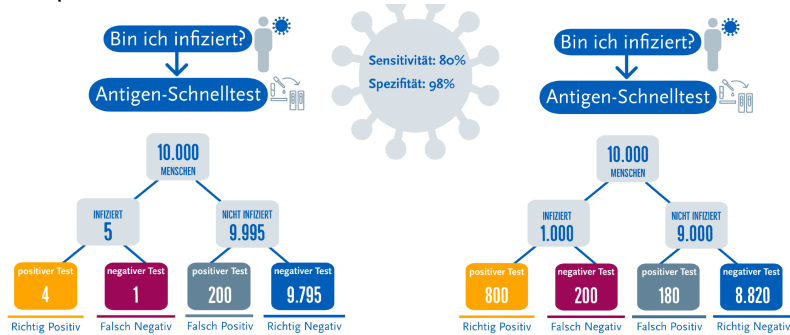
My rapid test is positive: How likely do I have COVID?



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Source: Robert Koch Institute



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Thank you for your attention!

