

# Machine Learning Foundations

## **Chapter 6: Probability**

Harish Guruprasad Ramaswamy  
IIT Madras

# Outline for Chapter 6 : Probability

**6.1 : Discrete Random Variables**

6.2 : Continuous Random Variables

6.3 : Maximum Likelihood and other advanced topics

# Outline for Chapter 6 : Probability

## **6.1 : Discrete Random Variables**

1. Probability space

**2. Conditioning**

3. Random variables

4. Expectation and Variance

5. Multiple Random Variables

6. Bernoulli, Binomial, Poisson and Geometric RVs

## 6.2 : Continuous Random Variables

## 6.3 : Maximum Likelihood and other advanced topics

# Chapter 6.1.2 : Conditioning

Conditional probability

e.g.: Two die throw experiment.  $P(\text{sum}=7 | \text{first}=5)$ ,

Total probability

e.g. Two urn experiment with white and black balls (9W1B, 5W5B)

Independence

e.g. Two die throw experiment  $\text{Sum}=7$ ,  $\text{First}=5$ ,  $\text{second}=3$

Bayes Rule

e.g. Two urn exp  $P(\text{Urn1 is chosen} | \text{Ball is white})$

e.g  $P(\text{COVID} | \text{PCR}=\text{True})$

# Conditional Probability

$$A, B \subseteq \mathcal{A}$$

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

# Conditional Probability Examples

$$\text{DDTE: } \Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}^2$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \{0, 1\}^{\Omega}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{36}$$

$$P(\text{Sum} = 7 \mid \text{First} = 5) = \frac{P(\text{Sum} = 7 \text{ \& } \text{First} = 5)}{P(\text{First} = 5)}$$

$$= \frac{1/36}{6/36} = \frac{1}{6}$$

# Conditional Probability Examples

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{First} = 5 \mid \text{Sum} = 8) &= \frac{P(\text{First} = 5 \ \& \ \text{Sum} = 8)}{P(\text{Sum} = 8)} \\ &= \frac{1/36}{5/36} = \frac{1}{5} \end{aligned}$$

# Total Probability Law

$B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  are mutually exclusive & exhaustive

$$\forall i, j \atop i \neq j \quad B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$$

$\Rightarrow$  ME

$$B_1 \cup B_2 \dots \cup B_n = \Omega$$

$\Rightarrow$  Exhaustive.

$$A \subseteq \Omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(A \cap B_1) + P(A \cap B_2) + \dots + P(A \cap B_n) \\ &= P(A|B_1)P(B_1) + \dots + P(A|B_n)P(B_n) \end{aligned}$$



# Total Probability Law Example

Q UE : 2 Buckets 10 balls each

1<sup>st</sup> bucket : 9W , 1B

2<sup>nd</sup> bucket : 5W , 5B

$P(\text{White Ball is picked})$

A : White ball is picked

$B_1$  : Urn 1 is chosen

$B_2$  : Urn 2 is chosen

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

$$= \frac{9}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{5}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

# Independence

$$A, B \subseteq \Omega$$

$A, B$  are independent events  $\Leftrightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$

# Independence Examples

$$\text{DDTE : } P(A) = \frac{|A|}{36}$$

$A$  = Sum is 7

$D$  = Sum = 4

$B$  = First is 5

$C$  = Second is 3

$$P(B \cap D) = 0$$

$$P(B) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$P(D) = \frac{2}{36}$$

# Bayes Rule

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

# Bayes Rule Examples

2UE

$P(\text{Urn 1 was chosen} \mid \text{Ball is white})$

$A \rightarrow \text{Ball is white}$

$B_1 \rightarrow \text{Urn 1}$

$B_2 \rightarrow \text{Urn 2}$

$$P(B_1 \mid A) = ?$$

$$P(A \mid B_1) = 9/10$$

$$P(B_1) = 1/2$$

$$P(A \mid B_1^c) = 5/10$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(B_1 \mid A) &= \frac{9/10 \cdot 1/2}{9/10 \cdot 1/2 + 5/10 \cdot 1/2} \\ &= \frac{9}{14} \end{aligned}$$

# Bayes Rule Examples

$C$  is the event that the chosen person  
has COVID

$T$  is the event the chosen person's  
test is positive.

$$P(C|T) = ?$$

Test is such that

$$P(T|C) = 0.9$$

$$P(C) = 1/100$$

$$P(T^c|C^c) = 0.9$$

$$P(C|T) = ?$$

Test is such that

$$P(T|C) = 0.9$$

$$P(C) = 1/100$$

$$P(T^c|C^c) = 0.9$$

$$P(C|T) = \frac{P(T|C) P(C)}{P(T|C) P(C) + P(T|C^c) P(C^c)}$$

$$= \frac{(0.9)(1/100)}{0.9(1/100) + 0.1(99/100)} = \frac{0.9}{0.9 + 9.9} =$$