

1. A crime is committed by one of two suspects, A and B. Initially, there is equal evidence against both of them. In further investigation at the crime scene, it is found that the guilty party had a blood type found in 10% of the population. Suspect A does match this blood type, whereas the blood type of Suspect B is unknown. (a) Given this new information, what is the probability that A is the guilty party? (b) Given this new information, what is the probability that B's blood type matches that found at the crime scene?

ANS:

Define events

A: {A is guilty}

B: {B is Guilty}

MA = {A's Blood matches the guilty party}

MB = {B's Blood matches the guilty party}

(a) we want to calculate $P(A/MA)$. Use Bayes rule to Calculate

$$P(A/MA) = \frac{P(MA|A)P(A)}{P(MA|A)P(A) + P(MA|B)P(B)}$$

$$(1/2)/(1/2 + (1/10 * 1/2)) = 10/11$$

(b) we want to calculate $P(MB/MA)$. Use Law of Total Probability to obtain

$$P(MB/MA) = P(MB|MA.A)P(A/MA) + P(MB/MA.B)P(B/MA)$$

$$= 1/10 * 10/11 + 1/2 * 1/11 = 2/11$$