


[Home](#)
[Course](#)
[Discussion](#)
[Wiki](#)
[Progress](#)

All Topics

Add a Post

Search all posts

Search

filter topics ▾

Support

## Struggling with part (b) or maybe (a) still

question posted 8 days ago by [gontia0](#)

I don't know if my part (a) is correct or not as part (b) is essentially part a in code. The answer I am getting with my code is [0.7115389, 0.06189829], clearly not even summing to 1. I even did this manually and still getting the same answer, which leads me to believe, I made a mistake in part (a)

My approach was as follows

$$p_{X,Y_0,Y_1\dots Y_{N-1}} = p_X(x) \cdot \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)$$

Since,

$$p_{X|Y_0,\dots,Y_{N-1}} = \frac{p_{X,Y_0,\dots,Y_{N-1}}}{p_{Y_0,\dots,Y_{N-1}}}$$

Therefore, on substituting and using the fact that  $Y_i$

are i.i.d

All Discussions

★ Posts I'm Following

Conditioning on Events

Random Variables Conditioned on Events

Bayes' Theorem for Events

Typesetting math: 100%

The Law of Total Probability

Practice Problem: Bayes' Theorem and  
Total ProbabilityRelating Conditioning on Events Back to  
Random Variables

The Product Rule for Events

Exercise: Bayes' Theorem and Total  
Probability

Conditioning on Events Intro

Practice Problem: Bayes' Theorem and  
Total Probability (Solution)

Exercise: Boy or Girl Paradox

Decisions and Expectations

Introduction to Decision Making and  
Expectations

Exercise: Variance and Standard

$$p_{X|Y_0, \dots, Y_{N-1}} = \frac{p_X(x) \cdot \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)}{\prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p_Y(y_n)}$$

Where am I going wrong?

Also, I realized that normalizing these two values gets me the answer (or maybe very close to it, since I only have so many precision digits). But I don't understand why I need to normalize, if that is to be done.

Related to: [Mini-project 1 / Mini-project: Movie Recommendations](#)

This post is visible to everyone.

Add a Response

1 response

[jheadwood](#)

8 days ago

same problem here

I don't understand why I should normalize the  $p_{X|Y_0 \dots Y_{N-1}}$ posted 8 days ago by [jheadwood](#)

Support

Exercise: Variance and Standard Deviation

Exercise: The Expected Value of a Random Variable

Exercise: Medical Diagnosis with Costs

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

Edit: my claim happens to be wrong.  $p_Y(y) \neq \prod_n p_{Y_n}(y_n)$ , because  $p_{Y_n}(y_n)$  are not independent. Independent (iid) are  $p_{Y_n|X}(y_n|x)$

-----

You are perfectly right.

$$\prod_n p_Y(y_n) = \prod_n \sum_x p_{Y,X}(y_n, x) = \prod_n \sum_x p_{Y|X}(y_n|x) \cdot p_X(x) = \sum_x p_X(x) \cdot \prod_n p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)$$

1. Marginalizing join distribution
2. Product rule
3. Change the order of summation and multiplication

And the last equation is a sum of numerator (normalizing constant).

posted 8 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

That is as close as I've gotten and beyond that I haven't a clue: `log_answer = np.log(likelihood[y, :]).sum(axis = 0) + log_prior`

`log_answer=log_answer / scipy.misc.logsumexp(np.dot(np.log(likelihood[y, :]),log_prior))`

posted 8 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

$A = \frac{B}{C}$  in log domain looks like  $\log(A) = \log(B) - \log(C)$ , thus it's more like

`log_answer = log_answer - scipy.misc.logsumexp(log_answer)`

# or

`log_answer -= scipy.misc.logsumexp(log_answer)`

posted 8 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

ya when I switched from divide to minus I got [ 0.00127637 0.00011119] so I must be doing something very wrong.



posted 8 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

I recommend you take the main example with calculator (or python interpreter) and try to understand what are you doing. To check log\_answer you should exponentiate it first `np.exp(log_answer)`.



posted 8 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Can you clarify for me: prior gives 2  $P(x)$  probabilities (0.6, 0.4), likelihood gives a joint probability table  $P(x,y)$  with four values for  $P(x|y)$ , and  $y$  gives the observed  $Y=y$  values for 3 experiments,  $Y = y$  [0, 0, 1].



So is it .7  $P(x=0|y=0)$  and .3  $P(x=1|y=0)$  etc?

posted 7 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

likelihood gives  $P(y|x)$



posted 7 days ago by [gontia0](#)

@Mark\_B2 thanks for the help. But I have another problem. What I did was find first the distribution  $p_{x,y}(x,y)$  and marginalising it to find  $p_y$  and then I used this  $p_y$  in the denominator of the expression I showed above. What am I doing wrong? Did I find the distribution incorrectly or is perhaps my approach incorrect?



posted 7 days ago by [gontia0](#)

Typesetting math: 100%

$$p_{X,Y}(x=0, Y) = p_X(x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=1|x=0) \\ = 0.6 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.3 = 0.0882$$

$$p_{X,Y}(x=1, Y) = p_X(x=1) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=1) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=1) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=1|x=1) \\ = 0.4 \cdot 0.98 \cdot 0.98 \cdot 0.02 = 0.0076832$$

After normalization  $p_{X|Y} = \frac{p_{X,Y}}{p_Y} = \{0.919869174161897, 0.08013082583810303\}$

posted 7 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

are you getting  $P(y=0) = 0.812$  when you did that  $P_{X,Y}$  joint probability table gontia?

posted 7 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

@gontia0 You are right, corrected my mistake. See above.

posted 7 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

@seanedXacc Yes i get 0.812

posted 7 days ago by [gontia0](#)

@Mark\_B2 Thanks. But I do not understand how you interchanged the summation and the product. If you manually do calculations for both, the results would be different. That is the reason we are getting different answers.

At least, it is clear to me now, that the mistake I'm making, is in calculating the  $\prod_n p_Y(y_n)$ .

posted 7 days ago by [gontia0](#)

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

Summation is by  $x$  and multiplication is by  $n$  in  $y_n$ . They are interchangeable.



posted 7 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

But that would mean



$$\prod_n ay_n = a \cdot \prod_n y_n$$

posted 7 days ago by [gontia0](#)

$p_x(x)$  doesn't depend on  $y$



posted 7 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

welp you got me close Mark, I've managed to get the right answer doing manual inputs. Now to try get the np.logs and such to work :O



posted 7 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

Please don't post answers (even if they are wrong) before the deadline.



posted 7 days ago by [RADUGROSU](#) Community TA

Sorry Radugrosu, I deleted it. I have the numerators properly done in np.log python code form using the numpy arrays, I confirmed that by printing out the np.exp of my numerators. When I converted my numerators using np.exp and did the division I get the right answer, but I cannot figure out how to get the right answer in logspace. I tried using - instead of divide but its giving me 130.15 and 11.337 as the answer when I do that lol



posted 7 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

Typesetting math: 100%

@seanedXacc You try to mix memberwise and nd-array attitude. It will not work. If you managed to get right answer in memberwise access, do the same in log domain (still memberwise). Then we'll see ...

...

posted 7 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Mark you should be a community TA for this subject! I'm guessing I have to convert this algorithm into a loop which iterates  $i = 0$   $i++$  through the  $n$  values for the  $x$  and  $y$  arrays so that it can receive the input from the large data set. I'm not sure what you mean by memberwise and nd-array attitude, but I am researching memberwise now.

...

Somehow its the pre np.exp numerators that are giving me problems. I tried:  $\text{denom1} = \text{scipy.misc.logsumexp}(\text{num1} - (\text{num2} + \text{num1}))$   $\text{denom2} = \text{scipy.misc.logsumexp}(\text{num2} - (\text{num1} + \text{num2}))$  I tried these both without logsumexp also and get the same answer.  $\text{log\_answer} = \text{denom1}$ ,  $\text{demon2}$  posterior =  $\text{np.exp}(\text{log\_answer})$  and I get 130 & 11. Cannot figure out how to normalize them.

Same thing happens when I use nd array language like:  $\text{log\_answer} = \text{np.array}([\text{num1}, \text{num2}])$   $\text{log\_answer} = \text{np.subtract}(\text{log\_answer}, \text{np.sum}([\text{num1}, \text{num2}]))$

if I do  $\text{np.exp}(\text{num1})$  and  $\text{np.exp}(\text{num2})$  and then use those with division I get the right answer. So its the  $\text{num1} - \text{num1} - \text{num2}$  that isn't working out and I cannot figure out why.

posted 7 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

What do you get for  $P(y = 2)$ ? Like gontia at the start of this thread I am close at 0.7115389. Numerator is right and  $P(y=0)$  and  $P(y=1)$  at 0.812 but  $P(y=2)$  is at 0.188

...

Got! - Agree with the above - Mark - very big thank you

posted 6 days ago by [marklepla](#)

@Mark\_B2

...

Just to see we are in the same page, let me tell you my approach

I calculated the denominator this way -

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

$$p_{Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_{N-1}} = \prod_n p_Y(y_n)$$

$$\prod_n p_Y(y_n) = \prod_n \sum_x p_X(x) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)$$

Now, I understand that you interchanged the summation and the product, getting

$$\prod_n p_Y(y_n) = \sum_x \prod_n p_X(x) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)$$

and then took  $p_X(x)$  out of the product since it is a constant w.r.t  $n$  getting

$$\prod_n p_Y(y_n) = \sum_x p_X(x) \cdot \prod_n p_{Y|X}(y_n|x)$$

However, I'm still against this one step of interchanging the product and summation signs. Because, let's say I have a term  $a_x \cdot b_n$  in which  $a_x$  depends only on the index  $x \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $b_n$  depends only on its index  $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then,

$$\prod_n \sum_x a_x \cdot b_n$$

would be

$$\prod_n b_n \cdot (a_1 + a_2 + a_3) = b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot b_3 \cdot (a_1 + a_2 + a_3)^3$$

and If I were to just simply interchange the symbols, I would get,

$$\sum_x \prod_n a_x \cdot b_n$$

which equals

$$\sum_x a_x^3 \cdot b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot b_3 = b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot b_3 \cdot \sum_x a_x^3$$



which is equal to

$$b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot b_3 \cdot (a_1^3 + a_2^3 + a_3^3)$$

Clearly, both the expressions are not equal. Is there some property I am missing ? or maybe some detail in the question itself?

posted 6 days ago by [gontia0](#)

Typesetting math: 100%

You are right, my derivation is flawed. In such equation  $\sum$  and  $\prod$  are **not** interchangeable. I tried to shoe derivation to known result.



On the other hand, your initial premise that  $y_i$ 's are i.i.d and therefore

$$p_Y = \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p_Y(y_n)$$

is wrong. They are conditionally independent on given  $x$  (see [here](#)) and thus marginalizing joint distribution

$$p_Y = \sum_x p_{X,Y}(x, y) = \sum_x p_X(x) \cdot \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p_{Y|X}(y_n | x)$$

As aside note this case could be good example why it's so important for me to participate in forum discussions. Only trying to explain issue one can check his own understanding.

posted 6 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

Glad it worked out for you Mark. As for me, I have got the correct answer/formula in logspace but when the posterior np.exp runs on my result I get the unnormalized answer of the expected answer. If I normalize my answer manually I get the expected answer. I tried using logsumexp() on my array and on my variables before putting them into the array but it will not normalize them, I keep getting the unnormalized answer.



If I do this I get no answer at all when I run my program: `log_answer = scipy.misc.logsumexp(log_answer)`. I am stuck.

posted 6 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

@seanedXacc I ment take this 6 numbers with a pen and a paper (and calculator) and try to get to the right answer.



posted 6 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

I have the right answer I just cannot get it to normalize from My Answer: `[[ 130.15410246 11.33786848]]` to Expected answer: `[[ 0.91986917 0.08013083]]` using `scipy.misc.logsumexp` or even just doing the normalisation division manually.



posted 6 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

@Mark\_B2 oh that clears it. Thanks for your support.



posted 6 days ago by [gontia0](#)

omg I finally figured it out.. I was using logsumexp on the wrong thing.....



posted 6 days ago by [seanedXacc](#)

Typesetting math: 100%

@Mark\_B2

...

Thanks so much this thread was a huge help. I think I might actually have eventually gotten it on my own but I had so little confidence that I knew what I was doing that I couldn't get myself to even start coding and even considered dropping the class at one low point. But this thread helped immensely and I just got the expected answer from the little test of `compute_posterior()` on the first run of my code. I could not believe it. It's only the first baby step but at least I'm finally started.

And after writing the code the concepts seems clearer and in a way simpler than seemed after re-watching some of the videos a few times, googling for explanations, and juggling equations with pencil and paper. I guess that just goes to shows that I've been programming too long and have gotten to the point where I can only understand things when they're written out in code. ;)

posted 5 days ago by [pymike](#)

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step

...

posted 5 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

@Mark\_B2

...

$$p_{X,Y}(x=0, Y) = p_X(x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=0|x=0) \cdot p_{Y|X}(y=1|x=0) \\ = 0.6 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.3 = 0.0882$$

Why are we multiplying 0.7 twice here ?

posted 3 days ago by [bicepjai](#)

Because vector  $Y = \{0, 0, 1\}$ .

...

posted 3 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Typesetting math: 100%

Support

Part b: I got the correct answer for the simple 2x2 test case without using logs. I understand that for bigger calculations, using logs is critical for reasons mentioned in the assignment,. I can see that logs would be easy to apply for the numerator as it is just one product term. I am struggling to figure out how to apply the log to the denominator which is a sum of potentially many products. Would appreciate any hints on how to address  $\log(A+B+C\dots)$ . Is the approach to use logs to calculate the products - then exponentiate them to get A, B, C - add them and then take the log of the sum? Thanks.

...

posted 2 days ago by [SudipChahal](#)

You want this beautiful little function Sudip

...

```
scipy.misc.logsumexp
```

posted 2 days ago by [kiwitrader](#) Community TA

See [wiki](#) how to use it.

...

posted 2 days ago by [Mark\\_B2](#) Community TA

Thank you for the help - greatly appreciated.

...

posted a day ago by [SudipChahal](#)

✎

Showing all responses

**Add a response:**

Preview

Typesetting math: 100%

Submit



Support

© 2016 edX Inc. All rights reserved except where noted. EdX, Open edX and the edX and Open EdX logos are registered trademarks or trademarks of edX

POWERED BY  
OPENedX®