

**Philadelphia University**



**Lecture Notes for 650364**

# **Probability & Random Variables**

## **Chapter 1:**

### **Lecture 3: Total Probability, Bayes' Theorem and Independent Events**

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# Probability

1) Introduction

2) Set Definitions

3) Set Operations

4) Probability Introduced Through Sets and Relative Frequency

5) Joint and Conditional Probability

6) Total Probability and Bayes' Theorem

7) Independent Events

8) Combined Experiments

9) Bernoulli Trials

## 6) Total Probability and Bayes' Theorem

✓ If the events  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_N$  constitute a partition of the sample space  $S$  such that

$$1) \quad \bigcup_{n=1}^N B_n = S$$

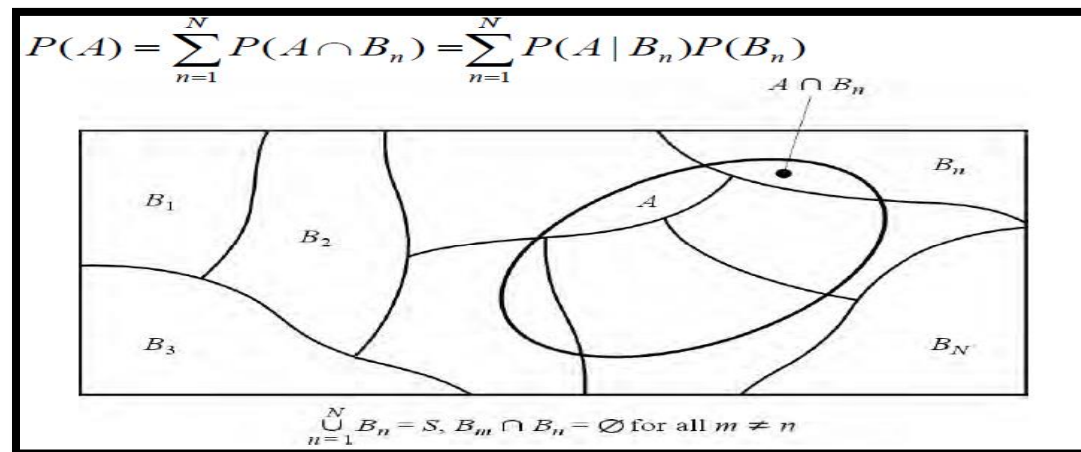
$$2) \quad B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$$

**Collectively Exhaustive**  
**mutually exclusive**

✓ The **probability**  $P(A)$  of any event defined on a sample space  $S$  can be expressed in terms of conditional probabilities:

$$P(A) = \sum_{n=1}^N P(A|B_n) * P(B_n)$$

Which is known as the **total probability** of event **A**



**Prove:**

Since  $A \cap S = A \Rightarrow$

$$A \cap S = A \cap \left( \bigcup_{n=1}^N B_n \right) = \bigcup_{n=1}^N (A \cap B_n)$$

The events  $(A \cap B_n)$  are mutually exclusive, then

$$P(A) = P(A \cap S) = P \left[ \bigcup_{n=1}^N (A \cap B_n) \right] = \sum_{n=1}^N P((A \cap B_n))$$

✓ **Bayes' Theorem:**

- Bayes' rule is one of the most important rules in probability theory.
- Bayes' theorem is often referred to as a theorem on the probability of causes.
- From the conditional probability (If  $P(A) \neq 0$  and  $P(B) \neq 0$ ):

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

and

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

- Bayes' theorem is obtained by **equating these two expressions:**

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B) * P(B) = P(B|A) * P(A) \quad i$$

$$P(A|B) * P(B) = P(B|A) * P(A)$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A) * P(A)}{P(B)} \quad ii(\text{Bayes' theorem})$$

- Sample space and intersection of events: **Generalized Bayes' theorem**

- In the case of three events  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive (probabilities of all events = 1 and construct the sample space)

- B has some common in  $A_1, A_2,$  and  $A_3$

$$B = (A_1 \cap B) \cup (A_2 \cap B) \cup (A_3 \cap B)$$

From equation (i)

$$P(B) = P(B|A_1) * P(A_1) + P(B|A_2) * P(A_2) + P(B|A_3) * P(A_3)$$

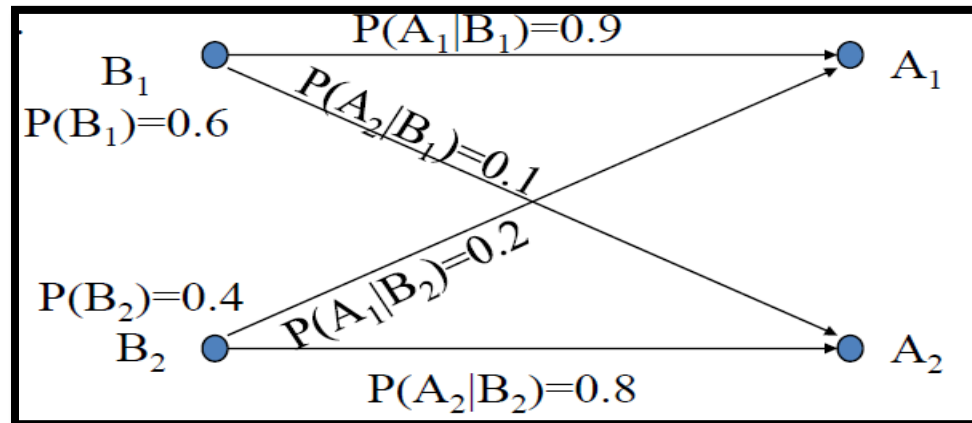
$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(B|A_i) * P(A_i) \quad iii$$

✓ Putting all together (substitute *iii* in *ii*) we get

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A) * P(A)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(B|A_i) * P(A_i)}$$

### Generalized form of the Bayes' Theorem

- ✓ **Example:** An elementary binary communication system consists of a transmitter that sends one of two possible symbols (a **1** or a **0**) over a channel to a receiver. The channel occasionally causes errors to occur so that a 1 shows up at the receiver as a 0, and vice versa.



Denote by  $B_i; i = 1, 2$ , as the events the symbol before the channel and  $A_i; i = 1, 2$ , as the events the symbol after the channel.

- The **probabilities of receiving symbol “A1”** and **“A2”** are:

$$P(A_1) = P(A_1|B_1) P(B_1) + P(A_1|B_2) P(B_2) = (0.9)(0.6) + (0.2)(0.4) = 0.62$$

$$P(A_2) = P(A_2|B_1) P(B_1) + P(A_2|B_2) P(B_2) = (0.1)(0.6) + (0.8)(0.4) = 0.38$$

- The probability that **B1** is sent if **A1** is received (using Bayes' theorem):

$$P(B_1 | A_1) = \frac{P(A_1 | B_1) \cdot P(B_1)}{P(A_1)} = \frac{(0.9)(0.6)}{0.62} = 0.87$$

- Similarly for:

$$P(B_2 | A_1) = 0.13,$$

$$P(B_2 | A_2) = 0.84$$

$$P(B_1 | A_2) = 0.16$$

- The **total probability of error** for the system:

$$P_e = P(A_1 | B_2) P(B_2) + P(A_2 | B_1) P(B_1) = (0.2)(0.4) + (0.1)(0.6) = 0.14$$

- ✓ **Example:** In a certain assembly plant, three machines, **B<sub>1</sub>**, **B<sub>2</sub>**, and **B<sub>3</sub>**, make **30%**, **45%**, and **25%** respectively of the products. It is known from past experience that **2%**, **3%** and **2%** of the products

made by each machine, respectively, are defective. Now suppose that a finished product is randomly selected.

a) What is the probability that it is defective?

○ **Solution:**

**Events:** **A** the product is defective  
**B<sub>1</sub>** the product is made by machine B<sub>1</sub>  
**B<sub>2</sub>** the product is made by machine B<sub>2</sub>  
**B<sub>3</sub>** the product is made by machine B<sub>3</sub>

Using total probability theorem

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= P(B_1)P(A|B_1) + P(B_2)P(A|B_2) + P(B_3)P(A|B_3) = \\ &= 0.3 * 0.02 + 0.45 * 0.03 + 0.25 * 0.02 = \\ &= 0.006 + 0.0135 + 0.005 = 0.0245 \end{aligned}$$

b) If a product was chosen randomly and found to be defective, what is the probability that it was made by machine **B<sub>3</sub>**?

○ **Solution:** Using Bayes' rule

$$\begin{aligned} P(B_3|A) &= \frac{P(B_3)P(A|B_3)}{P(B_1)P(A|B_1) + P(B_2)P(A|B_2) + P(B_3)P(A|B_3)} \\ P(B_3|A) &= \frac{0.005}{0.006 + 0.0135 + 0.005} = \frac{0.005}{0.0245} = \frac{10}{49} \end{aligned}$$



- ✓ **Example:** A box contains **6 green balls**, **4 black balls**, and **10 yellow balls**. All balls are equally likely (probable) to be drawn. What is the probability of drawing **two green balls** from the box if the first drawn ball is not replaced?

$$P(G \cap G) = P(G|G)P(G) = (5/19)(6/20) = 0.0789$$

- ✓ In Bayes' theorem  $P(B_n)$  are usually referred to as a **Priori probabilities**.
- ✓ The  $P(A|B_n)$  are numbers typically known prior to conducting the experiment.
- ✓ The  $P(B_n|A)$  are called a **Posteriori probabilities**

## 7) Independent Events

- ✓ The two nonzero probabilities events **A** and **B** are called **statistically independent** if the probability of occurrence of one event is not affected by the occurrence of the other event.
- ✓ If events **A** and **B** are **statistically independent** then **they can both occur**.
- ✓ **Mathematically:**
  - **First approach** for testing the Independent Events

$$P(A|B) = P(A) \text{ and } P(B|A) = P(B)$$

Conditions **B** doesn't affect in **A**.

✓ **Example:** From HBO example from previous lecture

$$P(WW|F) = \frac{0.05}{0.54} = 0.093$$

$$P(WW) = 0.25$$

Therefore the events are **NOT** independent as  $0.093 \neq 0.25$

○ **Second approach** for **testing** the Independent Events:

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B) \text{ (Product rule)}$$

✓ **Example:** From HBO example from previous lecture

$$P(WW \cap F) = 0.05$$

And

$$P(WW) * P(F) = 0.25 * 0.54 = 0.14$$

Therefore **NOT** independent as  $0.05 \neq 0.14$

✓ **Example:** rolling a Dice and flipping a coin are independent events, so the probability of getting 2 and a Heads is

$$P(2 \cap H) = P(2) * P(H) = \frac{1}{6} * \frac{1}{2}$$

✓ **Example:** In an experiment, one card is selected from an ordinary 52-card deck. Define events:

**A = {select a king}**

**B = {select a jack or queen}**

**C = {select a heart}**

We find:

$$P(A) = 4/52, P(B) = 8/52, P(C) = 13/52$$

$$P(A \cap B) = 0 \neq P(A)P(B) = (4/52)(8/52)$$

$$P(A \cap C) = 1/52 = P(A)P(C) = (4/52)(13/52)$$

$$P(B \cap C) = 2/52 = P(B)P(C) = (8/52)(13/52)$$

Thus,

- **A** and **B** are **not independent**
- **A** and **C** are **independent**
- **B** and **C** are **independent**
- **A** and **B** are **mutually exclusive**

✓ **Multiple Events:** In the case of three events **A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>3</sub>** are independent if they are pairwise independent:

$$P(A_j \cap A_k) = P(A_j) * P(A_k), \quad j \neq k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

And also independent as a triple

$$P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = P(A_1) * P(A_2) * P(A_3)$$

✓ **Example:** Find the probability of drawing an ace on the first, second, third, and fourth cards from an ordinary 52-card deck. Assume that:

a) Each is **replaced** after drawing

$$\begin{aligned}P(A1 \cap A2 \cap A3 \cap A4) &= P(A1) P(A2) P(A3) P(A4) \\ &= (4/52)(4/52)(4/52)(4/52)\end{aligned}$$

**Events  $A1, A2, A3$ , and  $A4$  are independent**

b) Each is **not replaced** after drawing

$$P(A1 \cap A2 \cap A3 \cap A4) = (4/52)(3/51)(2/50)(1/49)$$

**Events  $A1, A2, A3$  and  $A4$  are not independent**

✓ If the two events have nonzero probabilities then by comparing mutually exclusive events  $P(A \cap B) = 0$  and statistically independent events  $P(A \cap B) = P(A) * P(B)$ , we can easily establish that two events cannot be both mutually exclusive and statistically independent.