

**Three** There are 3 cards: red/red; red/black; black/black.

**Card** The cards are shuffled and one chosen at random.

**Monte** The top of the card is red.  $\Pr[\text{bottom is red}] = ?$

3 possible lines of reasoning to solve this problem:

1. Bottom is red only if chose red/red card  $\rightarrow Pr = 1/3$ .
2. Not black/black, so either red/black or red/red  $\rightarrow Pr = 1/2$ .
3. 5 hidden sides: 2 red and 3 black  $\rightarrow Pr = 2/5$ .

Which is correct? They are ALL wrong! In fact,  $Pr = 2/3$ .

**DEF:**  $Pr[A|B] = Pr[\text{event } A \text{ occurs, GIVEN THAT event } B \text{ occurred}]$ .

- Either  $A$  occurs or  $A$  doesn't occur, even if  $B$  occurred.
- Their *relative* probabilities (ratio) shouldn't change, after restriction to  $B$  occurring ( $A \cap B$  and  $A' \cap B$ ).

**Want:**  $Pr[A|B] + Pr[A'|B] = 1$  and  $\frac{Pr[A|B]}{Pr[A'|B]} = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[A' \cap B]}$ .

**Know:**  $Pr[A \cap B] + Pr[A' \cap B] = Pr[B]$ . So just divide this by  $Pr[B]$ .

**THM:**  $Pr[A|B] = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[B]} = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[A \cap B] + Pr[A' \cap B]}$ .

**NOTE:** Forms:  $Pr[A|B] = \frac{x}{x+y}$  and  $Pr[A'|B] = \frac{y}{x+y}$ . Ratio  $x/y$ , add to one.

**EX:**  $Pr[\text{Bottom red} | \text{Top red}] = \frac{Pr[\text{Top AND Bottom red}]}{Pr[\text{Top red}]} = \frac{1/3}{1/2} = 2/3$ .

**OR:**  $Pr[BR|TR] = \frac{Pr[RR]}{Pr[RR]Pr[TR|RR] + Pr[RB]Pr[TR|RB] + Pr[BB]Pr[TR|BB]}$   
 $= \frac{1/3}{(1/3)(1) + (1/3)(1/2) + (1/3)(0)} = 2/3$  (try drawing a 3-branch tree).

**Why?** BB eliminated; 1 red face up; 2 of 3 remaining faces are red!

**Bayes's**  $Pr[A|B] = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[B]} = Pr[B|A] \frac{Pr[A]}{Pr[B]} = \frac{Pr[B|A]Pr[A]}{Pr[B|A]Pr[A] + Pr[B|A']Pr[A']}$ .

**Why?** Suppose we are given  $Pr[A]$  (*a priori* prob. of  $A$  occurring).

Now we observe  $B$  occurs. How does this *change* prob. of  $A$ ?

**i.e.:** Compute *a posteriori* prob.  $Pr[A|B]$  of  $A$  occurring, given  $B$ .

**EX:** Coin A has  $\Pr[\text{heads}] = 1/3$ ; Coin B has  $\Pr[\text{heads}] = 3/4$ .

Choose coin at random, flip it, get heads. Compute  $\Pr[\text{coin A}]$ .

**Note:** Without observing the flip result,  $\Pr[\text{coin A}] = 1/2$  (*a priori*).

**But:**  $Pr[A|H] = \frac{Pr[H|A]Pr[A]}{Pr[H|A]Pr[A] + Pr[H|B]Pr[B]} = \frac{(1/3)(1/2)}{(1/3)(1/2) + (3/4)(1/2)} = \frac{4}{13} < \frac{1}{2}$ .

**Why?** Observed heads  $\rightarrow$  more likely chose coin more likely to land heads.

**DEF:** Increasing sequence of sets  $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3 \subset \dots$   $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ .

**DEF:** Decreasing sequence of sets  $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset A_3 \supset \dots$   $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ .

**Thm:**  $Pr[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pr[A_n]$  for either increasing or decreasing sets.

**Note:** We can interchange "limit" and the function "Pr"; Pr is continuous.

**Proof:** For the increasing sequence  $\{A_n\}$ , let  $B_n = A_n - A_{n-1}$ ,  $A_0 = \phi$ .  
 $Pr[A_n] = Pr[\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i] = Pr[\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n Pr[B_i]$  ( $B_i \cap B_j = \phi$ ).

**lim:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pr[A_n] = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} Pr[B_i] = Pr[\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i] = Pr[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n]$   
 using the third axiom for countably infinite union of disjoint  $B_i$ .

- The proof for a decreasing sequence of sets  $\{A_n\}$  is similar.

**Note:** If we start with disjoint  $\{B_i\}$  and define  $A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i$ ,  
 and we suppose that continuity of probability is true,  
 we can use this argument to derive the third axiom!  
 Historically, this is the way Kolmogorov did it in 1933.

**DEF:** For any sequence of sets  $\{A_n\}$ , we can define the *limsup* and *liminf*:

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} A_i; \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcap_{i=n}^{\infty} A_i.$$

Apply continuity of probability using limsup and liminf, not lim.

- Property:  $(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n)' = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n'$ ;  $(\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n)' = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n'$ .

**EX1:** Spin a wheel of fortune. Compute  $Pr[\{\frac{1}{2}\}]$  using cont. of probability.

$$Pr[\{\frac{1}{2}\}] = Pr[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n})] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pr[(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n})] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{n} = 0$$

since  $A_n = (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n})$  is a decreasing sequence of sets.

We already knew this, but now we can use this simpler derivation.

**EX2:** Spin a wheel. Compute Pr[decimal expansion WON'T contain a 6].

Let  $A = \{x : 0 \leq x < 1\}$  and the decimal expansion of  $x$  has no 6.

$$A = [0, 1) - [0.6, 0.7) - \bigcup_{\substack{n=0 \\ n \neq 6}}^9 [0.n6, 0.n7) - \bigcup_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq 6}}^9 \bigcup_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq 6}}^9 [0.ij6, 0.ij7) - \dots$$

$$A_{n+1} = A_n - B_n = A_n - \bigcup_{\substack{i_1=0 \\ i_1 \neq 6}}^9 \dots \bigcup_{\substack{i_n=0 \\ i_n \neq 6}}^9 [0.i_1 \dots i_n 6, 0.i_1 \dots i_n 7).$$

$$B_n \subset A_n \rightarrow Pr[A_n - B_n] = Pr[A_n] - Pr[B_n]. \text{ Decreasing sequence.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cont. of prob.} \rightarrow Pr[A] &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pr[A_n] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} Pr[B_i]) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - 0.1 - 9(0.1)^2 - 9^2(0.1)^3 - \dots - 9^{n-1}(0.1)^n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (0.9)^n = 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Note:** Heuristically, Pr[none of 1st n digits are 6] =  $(0.9)^n$ . Indpt. digits?