

① Consider a two-stage experiment, where a die is rolled to produce X . Then a fair coin is flipped X times. Let Y be total number of heads.

Find $\Pr\{Y=3\}$ and $\Pr\{X=3 | Y=3\}$.

By total probability:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr\{Y=3\} &= \sum_{j=1}^6 \Pr\{Y=3 | X=j\} \Pr\{X=j\} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left[0 + 0 + \binom{3}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \binom{4}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 + \binom{5}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + \binom{6}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left[0 + 0 + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{10}{32} + \frac{20}{64} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{6}.\end{aligned}$$

Notice that $\Pr\{Y=3, X=3\}$ is $\frac{1}{6} \left[\binom{3}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \right] = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 = \frac{1}{48}$

$$\text{So } \Pr\{X=3 | Y=3\} = \frac{\Pr\{X=3, Y=3\}}{\Pr\{Y=3\}} = \frac{(1/48)}{(1/6)} = \frac{1}{8}$$

②

A test for a certain rare disease is correct 95% time: if a person has disease, test is positive with probability 0.95; if person does not have disease, test negative with probability 0.95. A random person in population has disease with probability 0.001. Given person test positive, what is probability of having disease?

Let A be event that person has disease; B event that test result positive. we want $P(A|B)$.

$$\begin{aligned}P(A|B) &= \frac{P(A)P(B|A)}{P(A)P(B|A) + P(A^c)P(B|A^c)} \\ &= \frac{(0.001)(0.95)}{(0.001)(0.95) + (0.999)(0.05)} \\ &= 0.0187.\end{aligned}$$

Even though test is fairly accurate, person who tested positive still unlikely (less than 2%) to have disease.

- ③ Consider a system of n urns u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n with each urn having different numbers of balls of different colors. In particular urn u_i has r_i red balls and g_i green balls, so total n_i balls.

A random mechanism first selects an urn $U = u_i$ with probability $\frac{1}{n}$, then draws ball B at random from urn, so $P(B=r | U=u_i) = \frac{r_i}{r_i + g_i}$.

What is total probability of getting r :

$$P(B=r) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{r_i}{r_i + g_i} \cdot \frac{1}{n}.$$

What is the probability $P_r[U=u_i | B=r]$ that the selected urn is u_i given the observed draw was a red ball.

$$P_r[U=u_i] = \frac{1}{n}, \quad P_r(B=r | U=u_i) = \frac{r_i}{n_i}, \quad P_r(B=r) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{r_i}{n_i} \cdot \frac{1}{n}.$$

By applying Bayes theorem, we get:

$$P_r[U=u_i | B=r] = \frac{r_i/n_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n r_i/n_i}.$$

- ④ On a multiple choice question having m choices, prior probability student knows answer is p . If s/he has to guess (event G), all alternatives are equally probable. Find probability student knew answer to question (event K) given s/he answered correctly (event C).