

CSE 312

# Foundations of Computing II

## Lecture 6: Chain Rule and Independence



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Slide Credit: Based on Stefano Tessaro's slides for 312 19au  
incorporating ideas from Alex Tsun, Rachel Lin, Hunter Schafer & myself 😊

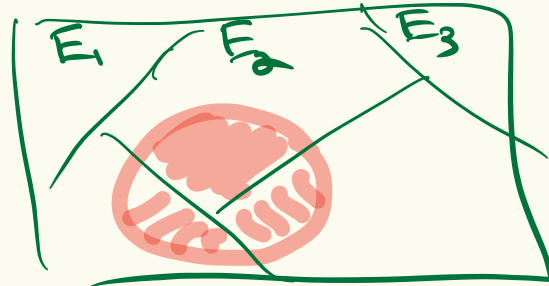
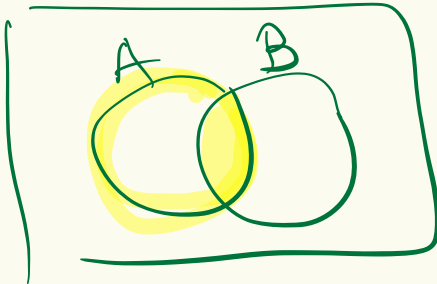
## Last Class:

- Conditional Probability
- Bayes Theorem
- Law of Total probability

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

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

$$\mathbb{P}(F) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(F|E_i)\mathbb{P}(E_i) \quad E_i \text{ partition } \Omega$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E_i \cap F)$$



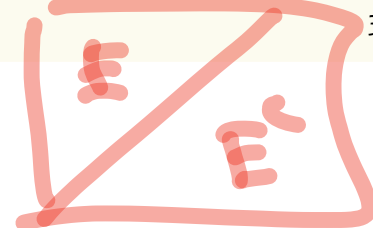
## Bayes Theorem with Law of Total Probability

**Bayes Theorem with LTP:** Let  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  be a partition of the sample space, and  $F$  and event. Then,

$$P(E_1|F) = \frac{P(F|E_1)P(E_1)}{P(F)} = \frac{P(F|E_1)P(E_1)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(F|E_i)P(E_i)}$$

**Simple Partition:** In particular, if  $E$  is an event with non-zero probability, then

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(F|E)P(E)}{P(F|E)P(E) + P(F|E^c)P(E^c)}$$



## Example – Zika Testing

Zika fever

OVERVIEW SYMPTOMS SPECIALISTS

Fever  
Rash  
Joint pain  
Red eyes



Spread through mosquito bites

Source

A disease caused by Zika virus that's spread through mosquito bites.

The image shows a woman with a red rash on her chest and a circular inset showing a mosquito biting her skin. The text lists symptoms: Fever, Rash, Joint pain, and Red eyes. It also states that the disease is spread through mosquito bites and provides a source.

Usually no or mild symptoms (rash); sometimes severe symptoms (paralysis).

During pregnancy: may cause birth defects.

Suppose you took a Zika test, and it returns “positive”, what is the likelihood that you actually have the disease?

- Tests for diseases are rarely 100% accurate.

Z: have Zika  
T: tests positive.

## Example – Zika Testing

Suppose we know the following Zika stats

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”)
- However, the test yields a “false positive” 1% of the time
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika.

$$\Pr(T|Z) = 0.98 \quad \leftarrow$$
$$\Pr(T|\bar{Z}) = 0.01$$

$$\Pr(Z) = 0.005$$

What is the probability you have Zika (event Z) if you test positive (event T).

$$P(Z|T)$$

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- A) Less than 0.25
- B) Between 0.25 and 0.5
- C) Between 0.5 and 0.75
- D) Between 0.75 and 1

Z: have Zika  
 T: tests positive.

## Example – Zika Testing

Suppose we know the following Zika stats

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”)
- However, the test may yield a “false positive” 1% of the time
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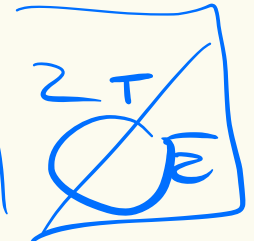
$$\Pr(Z|T) = \frac{\Pr(T|Z)\Pr(Z)}{\Pr(T)} = \frac{0.98 \cdot 0.005}{0.01485}$$

$$\Pr(T) = \Pr(T|Z)\Pr(Z) + \Pr(T|\bar{Z})\Pr(\bar{Z})$$

$$= 0.98 \cdot 0.005 + 0.01 \cdot (1 - 0.005)$$

$$= 0.98 \cdot 0.005 + 0.01 \cdot 0.995$$

$$= 0.01485$$



$$\approx 0.33$$

## Example – Zika Testing

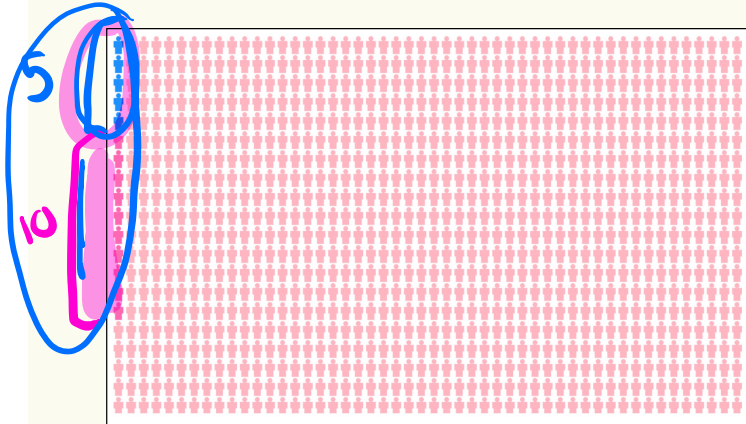
Have zika blue, don't pink

Suppose we know the following Zika stats

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”) 100%
- However, the test may yield a “false positive” 1% of the time  $10/995 =$  approximately 1%
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika. 5% have it.

$$P(T|Z) = 1$$

What is the probability you have Zika (event  $Z$ ) if you test positive (event  $T$ ).



Suppose we had 1000 people:

- 5 have Zika and test positive
- 985 do not have Zika and test negative
- 10 do not have Zika and test positive

$$\frac{5}{5 + 10} = \frac{1}{3} \approx 0.33$$

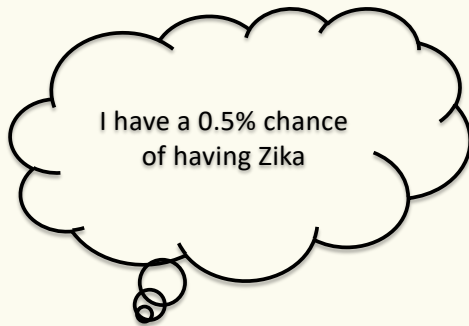
[Demo](#)

## Philosophy – Updating Beliefs

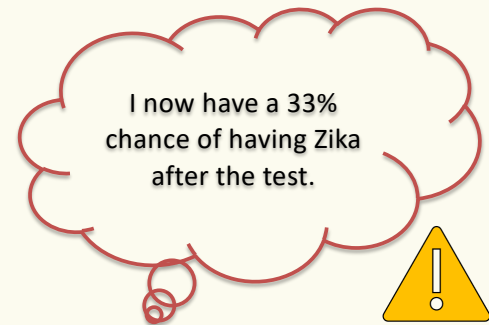
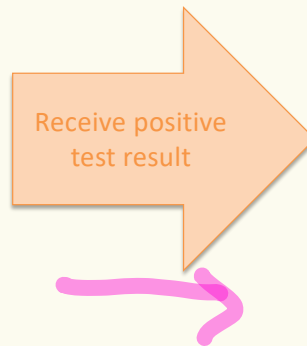
While it's not 98% that you have the disease, your beliefs changed **drastically**

Z = you have Zika

T = you test positive for Zika



**Prior:  $P(Z)$**



**Posterior:  $P(Z|T)$**



## Example – Zika Testing

Suppose we know the following Zika stats

- A test is 98% effective at detecting Zika (“true positive”)
- However, the test may yield a “false positive” 1% of the time
- 0.5% of the US population has Zika.

$$\Pr(T|Z) = 0.98$$

What is the probability you test negative (event  $\bar{T}$ ) if you have Zika (event  $Z$ )?

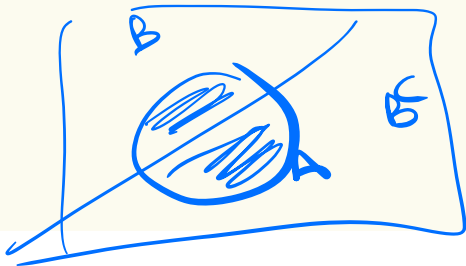
$$\Pr(\bar{T} | Z) = 1 - \Pr(T|Z) = 0.02$$

## Conditional Probability Define a Probability Space

The probability conditioned on  $A$  follows the same properties as (unconditional) probability.

**Example.**  $\mathbb{P}(B^c|A) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(B|A)$

$$\mathbb{P}(B|A) + \mathbb{P}(B^c|A) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)} + \frac{\mathbb{P}(B^c \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}$$



$$= \frac{\mathbb{P}(B \cap A) + \mathbb{P}(B^c \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)} = 1$$

## Conditional Probability Define a Probability Space

The probability conditioned on  $A$  follows the same properties as  $\Omega$  (unconditional) probability.

**Example.**  $\mathbb{P}(B^c | \mathcal{A}) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(B | \mathcal{A})$



**Formally.**  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$  is a probability space +  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}) > 0$

$(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P}(\cdot | \mathcal{A}))$  is a probability space

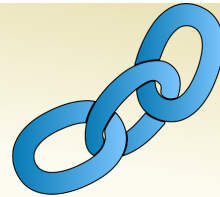
~~$$P(A|B) + P(A|\bar{B}) = ?$$~~

$f(\cdot)$

## Today:

- Chain Rule
- Independence
- Sequential Process

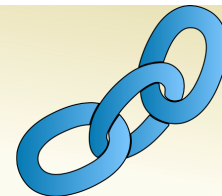
## Chain Rule



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

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\underbrace{A_1 \cap A_2}_A \cap \underbrace{A_3}_B) &= \mathbb{P}(A_3 | A_1 \cap A_2) \mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap A_2) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(A_3 | A_1 \cap A_2) \mathbb{P}(A_2 | A_1) \mathbb{P}(A_1) \end{aligned}$$

## Chain Rule



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

**Theorem. (Chain Rule)** For events  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$ ,

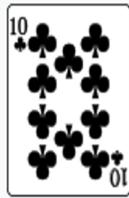
$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}_1 \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{A}_n) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}_1) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}_2|\mathcal{A}_1) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}_3|\mathcal{A}_1 \cap \mathcal{A}_2) \\ \dots \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}_n|\mathcal{A}_1 \cap \mathcal{A}_2 \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{A}_{n-1})$$

An easy way to remember: We have  $n$  tasks and we can do them **sequentially**, conditioning on the outcome of previous tasks

## Chain Rule Example

Have a Standard 52-Card Deck. Shuffle It, and draw the top 3 cards **in order**. (uniform probability space).

What is  $P(\text{Ace of Spades First} \cap \text{10 of Clubs Second} \cap \text{4 of Diamonds Third}) = P(\mathbf{A} \cap \mathbf{B} \cap \mathbf{C})$ ?



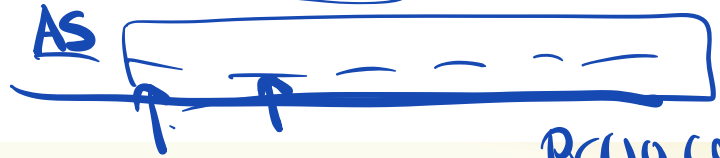
- A:** Ace of Spades First
- B:** 10 of Clubs Second
- C:** 4 of Diamonds Third

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \Pr(\text{AS first}) \Pr(\text{10 Club second} \mid \text{AS first}) \Pr(\text{4 of Diamonds} \mid \text{AS first} \cap \text{10 Club second}) \\
 \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \\
 \frac{1}{52} \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{1}{51} \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{1}{50}
 \end{array}$$

$$= \frac{\# \text{per AS first}}{\#} = \frac{51!}{52!}$$

$$\Pr(\text{10C and } \cap \text{AS first}) = \frac{\Pr(\text{10C and } \cap \text{AS first})}{\Pr(\text{AS first})}$$

$$= \frac{51!}{51!} = \frac{1}{51}$$



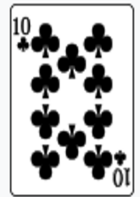
$$\Pr(10 \text{ Clubs 2nd}) = \frac{1}{52}$$



## Chain Rule Example

Have a Standard 52-Card Deck. Shuffle It, and draw the top 3 cards in order. (uniform probability space).

What is  $P(\text{Ace of Spades First} \cap \text{10 of Clubs Second} \cap \text{4 of Diamonds Third}) = P(A \cap B \cap C)$ ?



- A:** Ace of Spades First
- B:** 10 of Clubs Second
- C:** 4 of Diamonds Third

$$\mathbb{P}(A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(B|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(C|A \cap B)$$

$$\frac{1}{52} \cdot \frac{1}{51} \cdot \frac{1}{50}$$



# Independence

**Definition.** Two events  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are (statistically) **independent** if

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}) \cdot \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{B}).$$

Alternatively,

- If  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$ , equivalent to  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{B}|\mathcal{A}) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{B})$
- If  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{B}) \neq 0$ , equivalent to  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{B}) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{A})$

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

“The probability that  $\mathcal{B}$  occurs after observing  $\mathcal{A}$ ” -- Posterior  
= “The probability that  $\mathcal{B}$  occurs” -- Prior

## Example -- Independence

Toss a coin 3 times. Each of 8 outcomes equally likely.

- $A = \{\text{at most one T}\} = \{\text{HHH}, \text{HHT}, \text{HTH}, \text{THH}\}$
- $B = \{\text{at most 2 Heads}\} = \{\text{HHH}\}$

Independent?

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \stackrel{?}{=} \mathbb{P}(A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(B)$$

X

$$\mathbb{P}(A) = \frac{4}{8}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(B) = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \frac{3}{8}$$

Poll:

A. Yes, independent

B. No

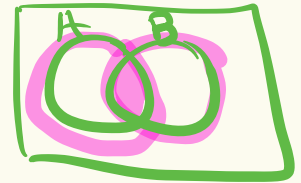
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Often probability space  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$  is **defined** using independence

## Example – Network Communication

$$P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \cap F)$$

Each link works with the probability given, **independently**.  
What's the probability A and D can communicate?



$$P(AD) = ?$$

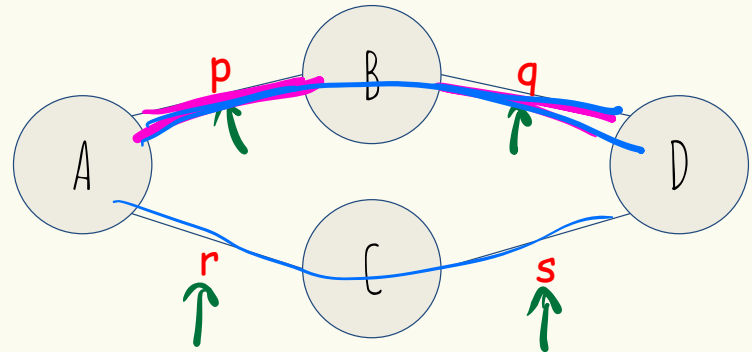
$$= P(\overset{E}{AB \cap BD}) \cup \overset{F}{AC \cap CD}$$

top
bottom

$$= P(AB \cap BD) + P(AC \cap CD) - P(AB \cap BD \cap AC \cap CD)$$

$p \cdot q$ 
 $r \cdot s$

$$p \cdot q \cdot r \cdot s$$



— mutually excl events  
disjoint events

Can mutually exclusive events be 1?



$$P(A \cap B) = 0$$

- indep events A, B

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$$

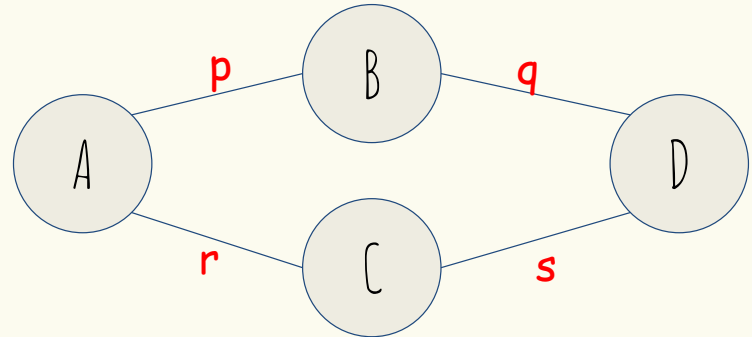
## Example – Network Communication

Each link works with the probability given, **independently**.  
What's the probability A and D can communicate?

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(AD) &= \mathbb{P}(AB \cap BD \text{ or } AC \cap CD) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(AB \cap BD) + \mathbb{P}(AC \cap CD) - \mathbb{P}(AB \cap BD \cap AC \cap CD) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(AB \cap BD) = \mathbb{P}(AB) \cdot \mathbb{P}(BD) = pq$$

$$\mathbb{P}(AC \cap CD) = \mathbb{P}(AC) \cdot \mathbb{P}(CD) = rs$$



$$\mathbb{P}(AB \cap BD \cap AC \cap CD) = \mathbb{P}(AB) \cdot \mathbb{P}(BD) \cdot \mathbb{P}(AC) \cdot \mathbb{P}(CD) = pqrs$$



## Example – Biased coin

We have a biased coin comes up Heads with probability  $2/3$ ; Each flip is independent of all other flips. Suppose it is tossed 3 times.

$$\mathbb{P}(HHH) = \Pr(H) \Pr(H) \Pr(H) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$$

$$\mathbb{P}(TTT) = \Pr(T) \Pr(T) \Pr(T) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3$$

$$\mathbb{P}(HTT) = \Pr(H) \Pr(T) \Pr(T) = \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2$$

$$\Pr(A \cap B) = 0$$
$$\Pr(B) = 0$$

## Example – Biased coin

We have a biased coin comes up Heads with probability  $2/3$ , independently of other flips. Suppose it is tossed 3 times.

$\mathbb{P}(2 \text{ heads in } 3 \text{ tosses}) =$

$$= \mathbb{P}(HHT, HTH, THH)$$

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→ A)  $(2/3)^2 1/3$

B)  $2/3$

→ C)  $3 (2/3)^2 1/3$  ✓

D)  $(1/3)^2$



