

# CSE 573: Artificial Intelligence

## Autumn 2010

Lecture 14: Bayesian Networks --  
Sampling and Learning  
11/30/2010

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Many slides over the course adapted from Dan Klein.

# Announcements

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- PS4 grades posted
- Syllabus revised
  - Machine learning focus
  - Exam solutions on lectures page
- We will do mini-project status reports during last class

# Outline

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- Probabilistic models: approx. inference and learning
  - (Recap) Bayesian Networks (BNs)
  - Approximate Inference: Sampling
  - Naive Bayes models
  - Parameter Estimation
  - Smoothing

# Recap: Bayes' Net Semantics

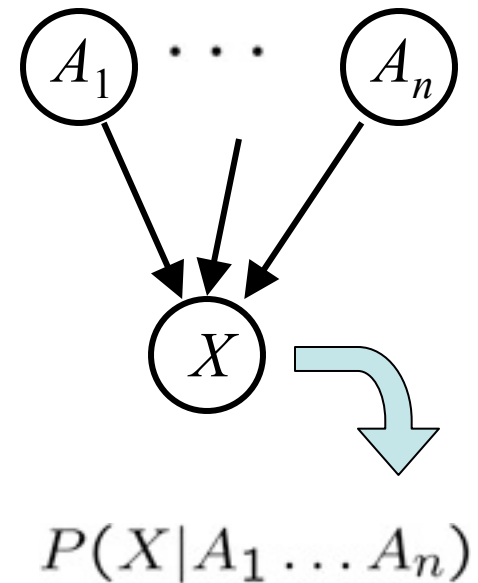
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- Let's formalize the semantics of a Bayes' net
- A set of nodes, one per variable  $X$
- A directed, acyclic graph
- A conditional distribution for each node
  - A collection of distributions over  $X$ , one for each combination of parents' values

$$P(X|a_1 \dots a_n)$$

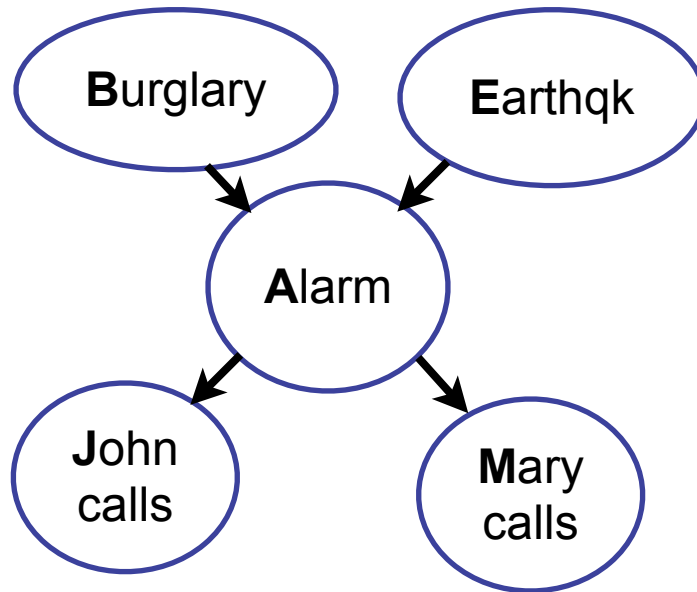
- CPT: conditional probability table

*A Bayes net = Topology (graph) + Local Conditional Probabilities*



# Example: Alarm Network

B	P(B)
+b	0.001
-b	0.999



E	P(E)
+e	0.002
-e	0.998

A	J	P(J A)
+a	+j	0.9
+a	-j	0.1
-a	+j	0.05
-a	-j	0.95

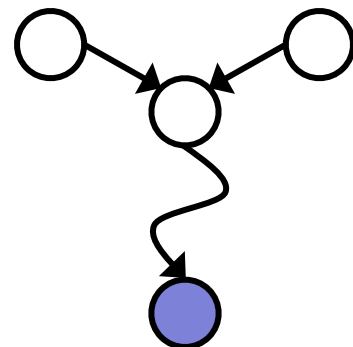
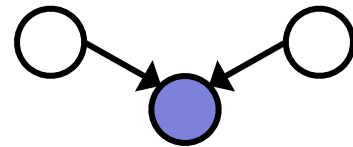
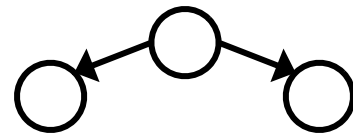
A	M	P(M A)
+a	+m	0.7
+a	-m	0.3
-a	+m	0.01
-a	-m	0.99

B	E	A	P(A B,E)
+b	+e	+a	0.95
+b	+e	-a	0.05
+b	-e	+a	0.94
+b	-e	-a	0.06
-b	+e	+a	0.29
-b	+e	-a	0.71
-b	-e	+a	0.001
-b	-e	-a	0.999

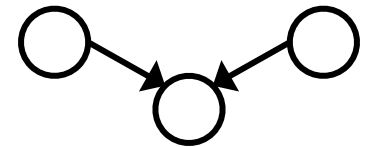
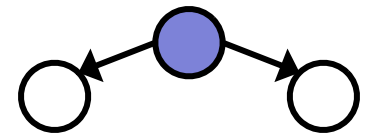
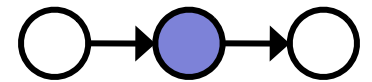
# Recap: Reachability (D-Separation)

- Question: Are  $X$  and  $Y$  conditionally independent given evidence vars  $\{Z\}$ ?
  - Yes, if  $X$  and  $Y$  “separated” by  $Z$
  - Look for active paths from  $X$  to  $Y$
  - No active paths = independence!
- A path is active if each triple is active:
  - Causal chain  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  where  $B$  is unobserved (either direction)
  - Common cause  $A \leftarrow B \rightarrow C$  where  $B$  is unobserved
  - Common effect (aka v-structure)  $A \rightarrow B \leftarrow C$  where  $B$  or one of its descendants is observed
- All it takes to block a path is a single inactive segment

Active Triples



Inactive Triples



# Variable Elimination Outline

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- Maintain a set of tables called **factors**
- Initial factors are local CPTs (one per node)

$P(R)$		$P(T R)$			$P(L T)$		
+r	0.1	+r	+t	0.8	+t	+l	0.3
-r	0.9	+r	-t	0.2	+t	-l	0.7
		-r	+t	0.1	-t	+l	0.1
		-r	-t	0.9	-t	-l	0.9

- Any known values are selected
  - E.g. if we know  $L = +\ell$ , the initial factors are

$P(R)$		$P(T R)$			$P(+\ell T)$		
+r	0.1	+r	+t	0.8	+t	+l	0.3
-r	0.9	+r	-t	0.2	-t	+l	0.1
		-r	+t	0.1			
		-r	-t	0.9			

- VE: Alternately join factors and eliminate variables

# Recap: General Variable Elimination

---

- Query:  $P(Q|E_1 = e_1, \dots, E_k = e_k)$
- Start with initial factors:
  - Local CPTs (but instantiated by evidence)
- While there are still hidden variables (not Q or evidence):
  - Pick a hidden variable H
  - Join all factors mentioning H
  - Eliminate (sum out) H
- Join all remaining factors and normalize



# Exact Inference: Variable Elimination

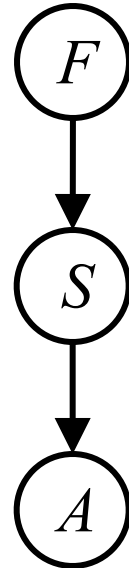
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- Remaining Issues:
  - Complexity: exponential in tree width (size of the largest factor created)
  - Best elimination ordering? NP-hard problem
- What you need to know:
  - Should be able to run it on small examples, understand the factor creation / reduction flow
  - Better than enumeration: saves time by marginalizing variables as soon as possible rather than at the end
- We have seen a special case of VE already
  - HMM Forward Inference

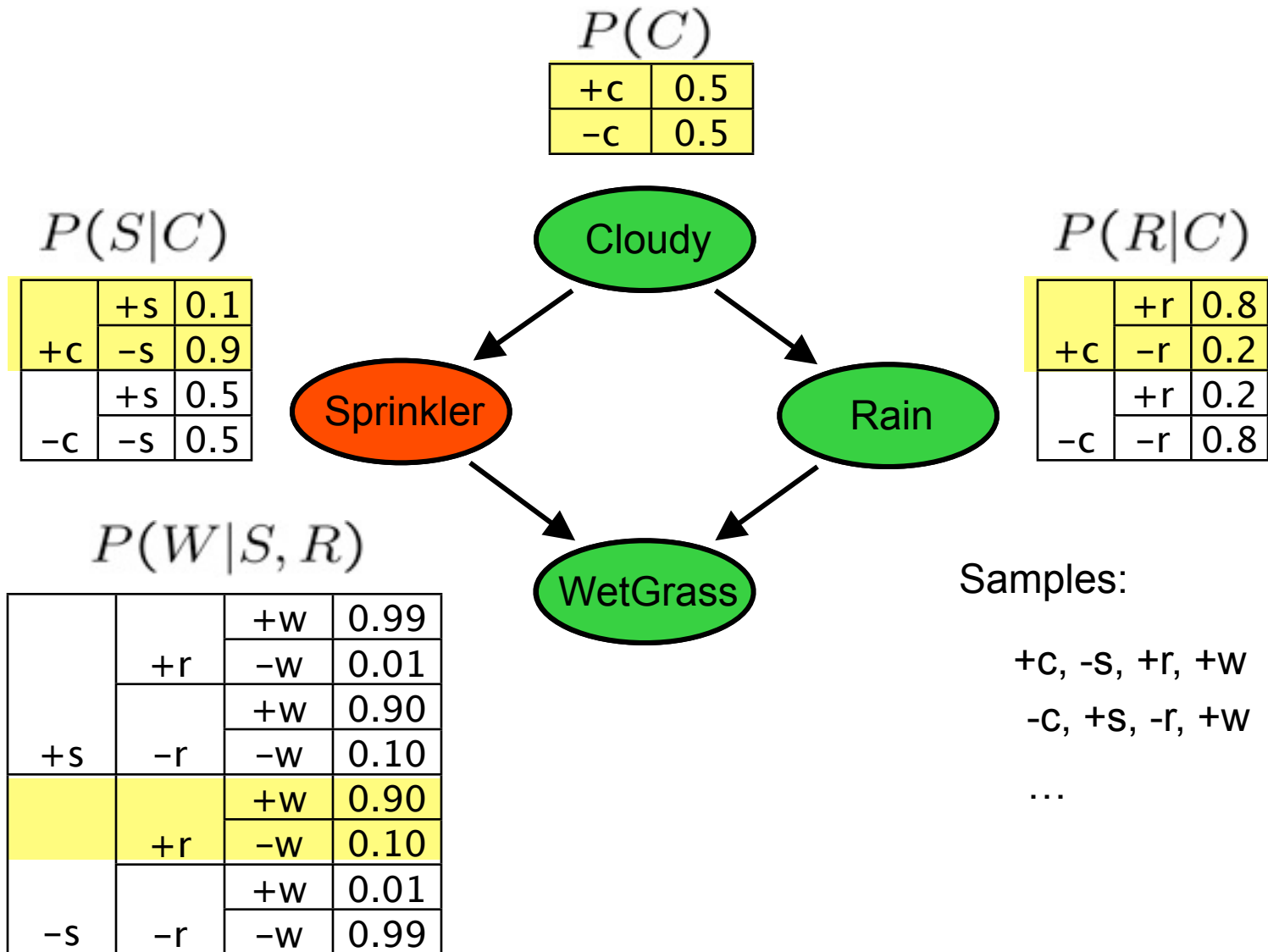
# Approximate Inference

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- Simulation has a name: sampling
- Sampling is a hot topic in machine learning, and it's really simple
- Basic idea:
  - Draw  $N$  samples from a sampling distribution  $S$
  - Compute an approximate posterior probability
  - Show this converges to the true probability  $P$
- Why sample?
  - Learning: get samples from a distribution you don't know
  - Inference: getting a sample is faster than computing the right answer (e.g. with variable elimination)



# Prior Sampling



# Prior Sampling

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- This process generates samples with probability:

$$S_{PS}(x_1 \dots x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \text{Parents}(X_i)) = P(x_1 \dots x_n)$$

...i.e. the BN's joint probability

- Let the number of samples of an event be  $N_{PS}(x_1 \dots x_n)$

- Then 
$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \hat{P}(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n) / N \\ &= S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= P(x_1 \dots x_n) \end{aligned}$$

- I.e., the sampling procedure is **consistent**

# Example

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- We'll get a bunch of samples from the BN:

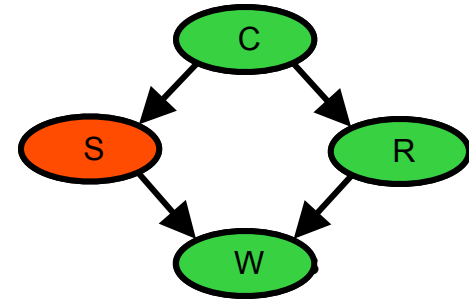
+c, -s, +r, +w

+c, +s, +r, +w

-c, +s, +r, -w

+c, -s, +r, +w

-c, -s, -r, +w



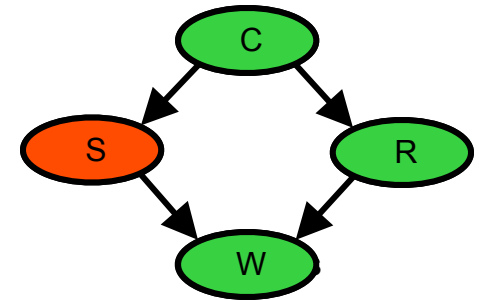
- If we want to know  $P(W)$

- We have counts  $\langle +w:4, -w:1 \rangle$
- Normalize to get  $P(W) = \langle +w:0.8, -w:0.2 \rangle$
- This will get closer to the true distribution with more samples
- Can estimate anything else, too
- What about  $P(C | +w)$ ?  $P(C | +r, +w)$ ?  $P(C | -r, -w)$ ?
- Fast: can use fewer samples if less time (what's the drawback?)

# Rejection Sampling

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- Let's say we want  $P(C)$ 
  - No point keeping all samples around
  - Just tally counts of C as we go



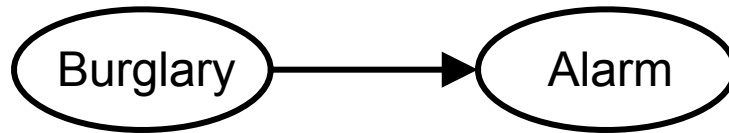
- Let's say we want  $P(C | +s)$ 
  - Same thing: tally C outcomes, but ignore (reject) samples which don't have  $S=+s$
  - This is called rejection sampling
  - It is also consistent for conditional probabilities (i.e., correct in the limit)

+c, -s, +r, +w  
+c, +s, +r, +w  
-c, +s, +r, -w  
+c, -s, +r, +w  
-c, -s, -r, +w

# Likelihood Weighting

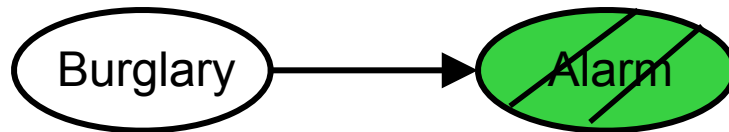
- Problem with rejection sampling:

- If evidence is unlikely, you reject a lot of samples
- You don't exploit your evidence as you sample
- Consider  $P(B|+a)$



-b, -a  
-b, -a  
-b, -a  
-b, -a  
+b, +a

- Idea: fix evidence variables and sample the rest



-b +a  
-b, +a  
-b, +a  
-b, +a  
+b, +a

- Problem: sample distribution not consistent!
- Solution: weight by probability of evidence given parents

# Likelihood Weighting

$$P(C)$$

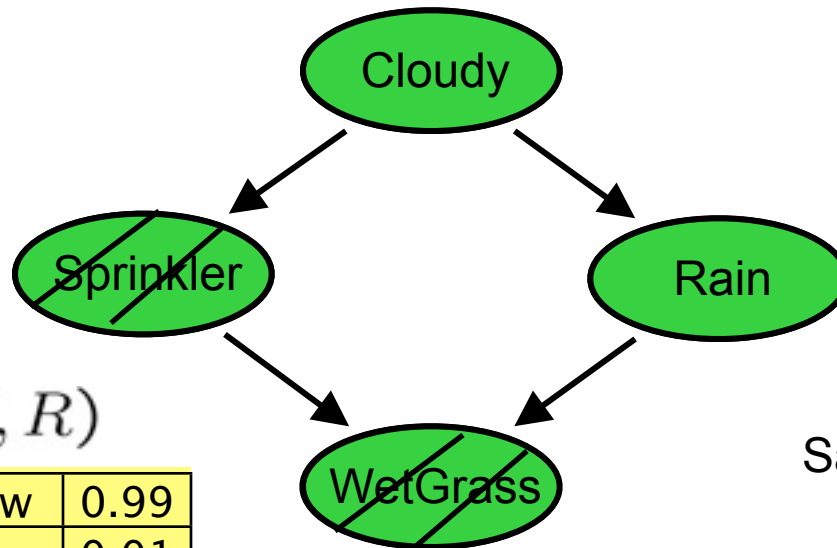
+c	0.5
-c	0.5

$$P(S|C)$$

	+s	0.1
+c	-s	0.9
	+s	0.5
-c	-s	0.5

$$P(R|C)$$

	+r	0.8
+c	-r	0.2
	+r	0.2
-c	-r	0.8



$$P(W|S, R)$$

		+w	0.99
	+r	-w	0.01
+s	-r	+w	0.90
		-w	0.10
	+r	+w	0.90
		-w	0.10
-s	-r	+w	0.01
		-w	0.99

Samples:

+c, +s, +r, +w

...

$$w = 1.0 \times 0.1 \times 0.99$$



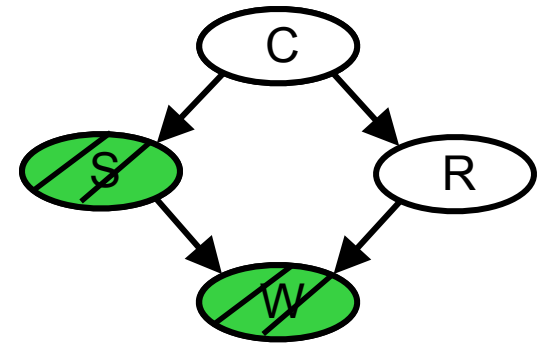
# Likelihood Weighting

- Sampling distribution if  $z$  sampled and  $e$  fixed evidence

$$S_{WS}(z, e) = \prod_{i=1}^l P(z_i | \text{Parents}(Z_i))$$

- Now, samples have weights

$$w(z, e) = \prod_{i=1}^m P(e_i | \text{Parents}(E_i))$$



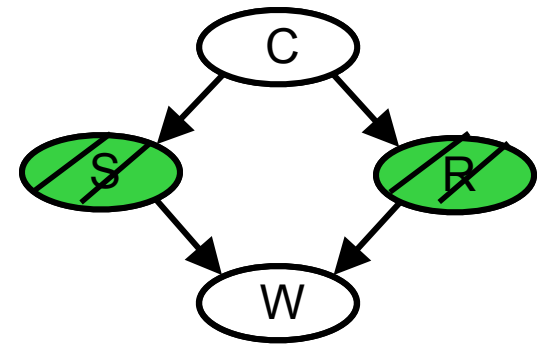
- Together, weighted sampling distribution is consistent

$$\begin{aligned} S_{WS}(z, e) \cdot w(z, e) &= \prod_{i=1}^l P(z_i | \text{Parents}(z_i)) \prod_{i=1}^m P(e_i | \text{Parents}(e_i)) \\ &= P(z, e) \end{aligned}$$

# Likelihood Weighting

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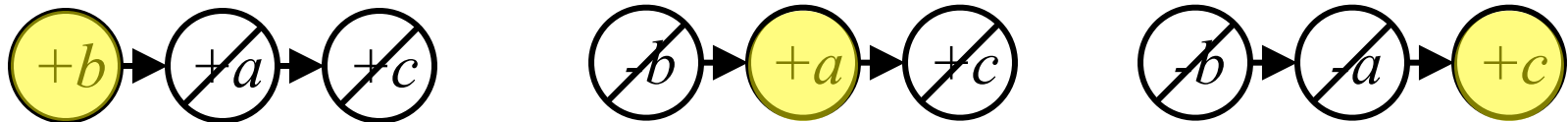
- Likelihood weighting is good
  - We have taken evidence into account as we generate the sample
  - E.g. here,  $W$ 's value will get picked based on the evidence values of  $S$ ,  $R$
  - More of our samples will reflect the state of the world suggested by the evidence
- Likelihood weighting doesn't solve all our problems
  - Evidence influences the choice of downstream variables, but not upstream ones ( $C$  isn't more likely to get a value matching the evidence)
- We would like to consider evidence when we sample every variable



# Markov Chain Monte Carlo\*

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- *Idea*: instead of sampling from scratch, create samples that are each like the last one.
- *Gibbs Sampling*: resample one variable at a time, conditioned on the rest, but keep evidence fixed.



- *Properties*: Now samples are not independent (in fact they're nearly identical), but sample averages are still consistent estimators!
- *What's the point*: both upstream and downstream variables condition on evidence.

# Machine Learning

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- Up until now: how to reason in a model and how to make optimal decisions
- Machine learning: how to acquire a model on the basis of data / experience
  - Learning parameters (e.g. probabilities)
  - Learning structure (e.g. BN graphs)
  - Learning hidden concepts (e.g. clustering)

# Example: Spam Filter

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- Input: email
- Output: spam/ham
- Setup:
  - Get a large collection of example emails, each labeled “spam” or “ham”
  - Note: someone has to hand label all this data!
  - Want to learn to predict labels of new, future emails
- Features: The attributes used to make the ham / spam decision
  - Words: FREE!
  - Text Patterns: \$dd, CAPS
  - Non-text: SenderInContacts
  - ...



Dear Sir.

First, I must solicit your confidence in this transaction, this is by virtue of its nature as being utterly confidential and top secret. ...



TO BE REMOVED FROM FUTURE MAILINGS, SIMPLY REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE AND PUT "REMOVE" IN THE SUBJECT.

99 MILLION EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR ONLY \$99



Ok, I know this is blatantly OT but I'm beginning to go insane. Had an old Dell Dimension XPS sitting in the corner and decided to put it to use, I know it was working pre being stuck in the corner, but when I plugged it in, hit the power nothing happened.


# Example: Digit Recognition

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- Input: images / pixel grids
- Output: a digit 0-9
- Setup:
  - Get a large collection of example images, each labeled with a digit
  - Note: someone has to hand label all this data!
  - Want to learn to predict labels of new, future digit images
- Features: The attributes used to make the digit decision
  - Pixels: (6,8)=ON
  - Shape Patterns: NumComponents, AspectRatio, NumLoops
  - ...

 0

 1

 2

 1

 ??

# Other Classification Tasks

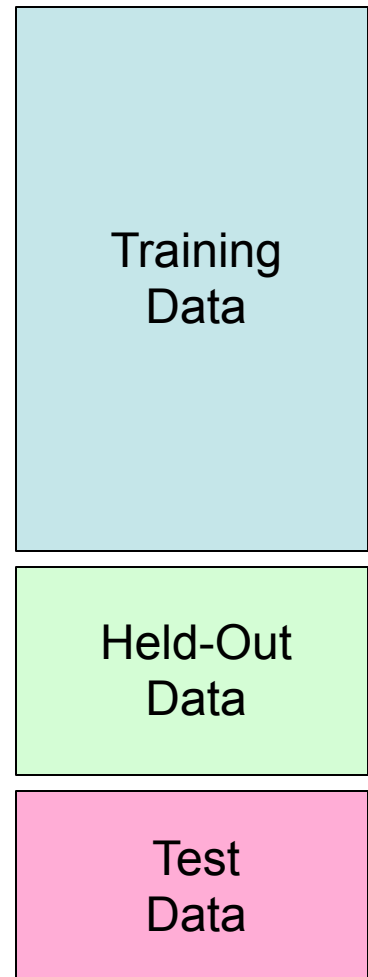
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- In classification, we predict labels  $y$  (classes) for inputs  $x$
- Examples:
  - Spam detection (input: document, classes: spam / ham)
  - OCR (input: images, classes: characters)
  - Medical diagnosis (input: symptoms, classes: diseases)
  - Automatic essay grader (input: document, classes: grades)
  - Fraud detection (input: account activity, classes: fraud / no fraud)
  - Customer service email routing
  - ... many more
- Classification is an important commercial technology!

# Important Concepts

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- **Data:** labeled instances, e.g. emails marked spam/ham
  - Training set
  - Held out set
  - Test set
- **Features:** attribute-value pairs which characterize each  $x$
- **Experimentation cycle**
  - Learn parameters (e.g. model probabilities) on training set
  - (Tune hyperparameters on held-out set)
  - Very important: never “peek” at the test set!
- **Evaluation**
  - Compute accuracy of test set
  - Accuracy: fraction of instances predicted correctly
- **Overfitting and generalization**
  - Want a classifier which does well on *test* data
  - Overfitting: fitting the training data very closely, but not generalizing well





# Bayes Nets for Classification

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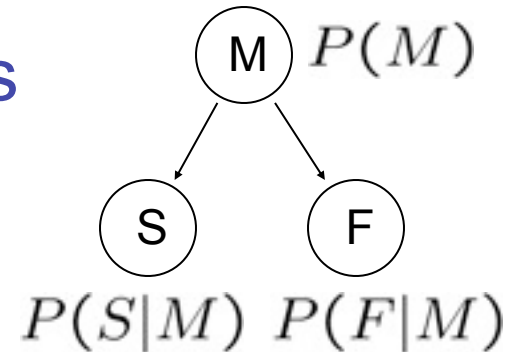
- One method of classification:
  - Use a probabilistic model!
  - Features are observed random variables  $F_i$
  - $Y$  is the query variable
  - Use probabilistic inference to compute most likely  $Y$

$$y = \operatorname{argmax}_y P(y|f_1 \dots f_n)$$

- You already know how to do this inference

# Simple Classification

- Simple example: two binary features



$P(m|s, f)$  ← direct estimate

$P(m|s, f) = \frac{P(s, f|m)P(m)}{P(s, f)}$  ← Bayes estimate (no assumptions)

$P(m|s, f) = \frac{P(s|m)P(f|m)P(m)}{P(s, f)}$  ← Conditional independence

+ ↷

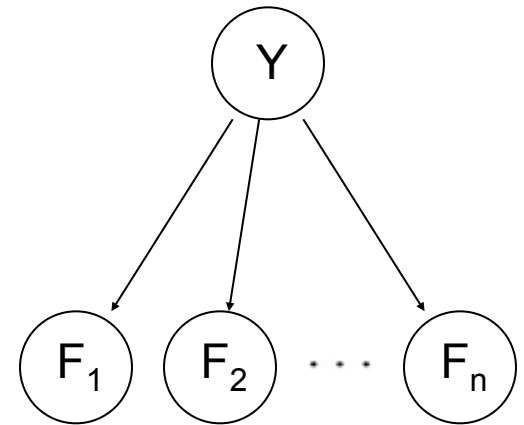
$$\begin{cases} P(+m, s, f) = P(s|+m)P(f|+m)P(+m) \\ P(-m, s, f) = P(s|-m)P(f|-m)P(-m) \end{cases}$$

# General Naïve Bayes

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- A general *naive Bayes* model:

$$P(Y, F_1 \dots F_n) = P(Y) \prod_i P(F_i|Y)$$



- We only specify how each feature depends on the class
- Total number of parameters is *linear* in  $n$

# General Naïve Bayes

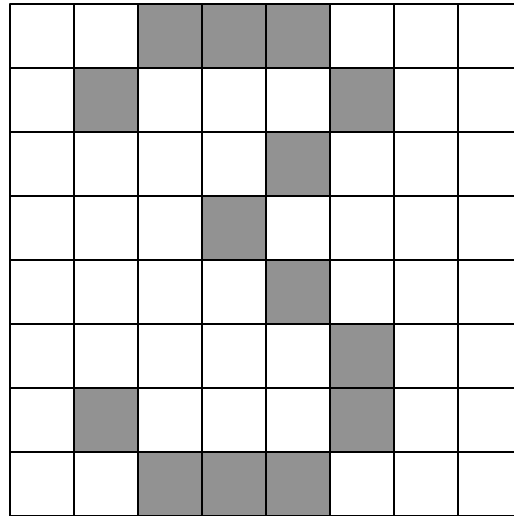
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- What do we need in order to use naïve Bayes?
  - Inference (you know this part)
    - Start with a bunch of conditionals,  $P(Y)$  and the  $P(F_i|Y)$  tables
    - Use standard inference to compute  $P(Y|F_1\dots F_n)$
    - Nothing new here
  - Estimates of local conditional probability tables
    - $P(Y)$ , the prior over labels
    - $P(F_i|Y)$  for each feature (evidence variable)
    - These probabilities are collectively called the *parameters* of the model and denoted by  $\theta$
    - Up until now, we assumed these appeared by magic, but...
    - ...they typically come from training data: we'll look at this now

# A Digit Recognizer

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- Input: pixel grids



- Output: a digit 0-9



# Naïve Bayes for Digits

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- Simple version:

- One feature  $F_{ij}$  for each grid position  $\langle i,j \rangle$
- Possible feature values are on / off, based on whether intensity is more or less than 0.5 in underlying image
- Each input maps to a feature vector, e.g.

$$1 \rightarrow \langle F_{0,0} = 0 \ F_{0,1} = 0 \ F_{0,2} = 1 \ F_{0,3} = 1 \ F_{0,4} = 0 \ \dots \ F_{15,15} = 0 \rangle$$

- Here: lots of features, each is binary valued

- Naïve Bayes model:

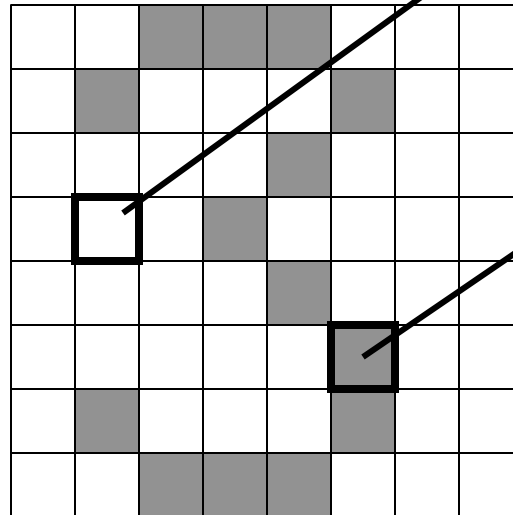
$$P(Y|F_{0,0} \dots F_{15,15}) \propto P(Y) \prod_{i,j} P(F_{i,j}|Y)$$

- What do we need to learn?

# Examples: CPTs

$P(Y)$

1	0.1
2	0.1
3	0.1
4	0.1
5	0.1
6	0.1
7	0.1
8	0.1
9	0.1
0	0.1



$P(F_{3,1} = on|Y)$     $P(F_{5,5} = on|Y)$

1	0.01
2	0.05
3	0.05
4	0.30
5	0.80
6	0.90
7	0.05
8	0.60
9	0.50
0	0.80

1	0.05
2	0.01
3	0.90
4	0.80
5	0.90
6	0.90
7	0.25
8	0.85
9	0.60
0	0.80

# Parameter Estimation

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- Estimating distribution of random variables like  $X$  or  $X | Y$
- *Elicitation: ask a human!*
  - Usually need domain experts, and sophisticated ways of eliciting probabilities (e.g. betting games)
  - Trouble calibrating
- *Empirically: use training data*
  - For each outcome  $x$ , look at the *empirical rate* of that value:

$$P_{\text{ML}}(x) = \frac{\text{count}(x)}{\text{total samples}}$$



$$P_{\text{ML}}(r) = 1/3$$

- This is the estimate that maximizes the *likelihood of the data*

$$L(x, \theta) = \prod_i P_{\theta}(x_i)$$



# A Spam Filter

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- Naïve Bayes spam filter



- Data:

- Collection of emails, labeled spam or ham
- Note: someone has to hand label all this data!
- Split into training, held-out, test sets



- Classifiers

- Learn on the training set
- (Tune it on a held-out set)
- Test it on new emails



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# Naïve Bayes for Text

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- Bag-of-Words Naïve Bayes:

- Predict unknown class label (spam vs. ham)
- Assume evidence features (e.g. the words) are independent
- Warning: subtly different assumptions than before!

- Generative model

$$P(C, W_1 \dots W_n) = P(C) \prod_i P(W_i|C)$$

*Word at position  
i, not  $i^{\text{th}}$  word in  
the dictionary!*



- Tied distributions and bag-of-words

- Usually, each variable gets its own conditional probability distribution  $P(F|Y)$
- In a bag-of-words model
  - Each position is identically distributed
  - All positions share the same conditional probs  $P(W|C)$
  - Why make this assumption?

# Example: Spam Filtering

- Model:  $P(C, W_1 \dots W_n) = P(C) \prod_i P(W_i|C)$
- What are the parameters?

$P(C)$

ham : 0.66
spam: 0.33

$P(W|\text{spam})$

the : 0.0156
to : 0.0153
and : 0.0115
of : 0.0095
you : 0.0093
a : 0.0086
with: 0.0080
from: 0.0075
...

$P(W|\text{ham})$

the : 0.0210
to : 0.0133
of : 0.0119
2002: 0.0110
with: 0.0108
from: 0.0107
and : 0.0105
a : 0.0100
...

- Where do these come from?

# Spam Example

---

Word	$P(w \text{spam})$	$P(w \text{ham})$	Tot Spam	Tot Ham
(prior)	0.33333	0.66666	-1.1	-0.4

---

$P(\text{spam} | w) = 98.9$

# Example: Overfitting

$P(\text{features}, C = 2)$

$$P(C = 2) = 0.1$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 2) = 0.8$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 2) = 0.1$$

$$P(\text{off}|C = 2) = 0.1$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 2) = 0.01$$

$P(\text{features}, C = 3)$

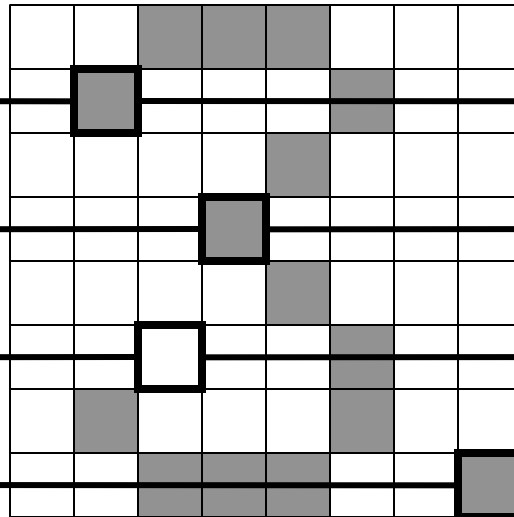
$$P(C = 3) = 0.1$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 3) = 0.8$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 3) = 0.9$$

$$P(\text{off}|C = 3) = 0.7$$

$$P(\text{on}|C = 3) = 0.0$$



*2 wins!!*

# Generalization and Overfitting

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- Relative frequency parameters will **overfit** the training data!
  - Just because we never saw a 3 with pixel (15,15) on during training doesn't mean we won't see it at test time
  - Unlikely that every occurrence of "minute" is 100% spam
  - Unlikely that every occurrence of "seriously" is 100% ham
  - What about all the words that don't occur in the training set at all?
  - In general, we can't go around giving unseen events zero probability
- As an extreme case, imagine using the entire email as the only feature
  - Would get the training data perfect (if deterministic labeling)
  - Wouldn't *generalize* at all
  - Just making the bag-of-words assumption gives us some generalization, but isn't enough
- To generalize better: we need to **smooth** or **regularize** the estimates

# Estimation: Smoothing

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- Problems with maximum likelihood estimates:
  - If I flip a coin once, and it's heads, what's the estimate for  $P$  (heads)?
  - What if I flip 10 times with 8 heads?
  - What if I flip 10M times with 8M heads?
- Basic idea:
  - We have some prior expectation about parameters (here, the probability of heads)
  - Given little evidence, we should skew towards our prior
  - Given a lot of evidence, we should listen to the data

# Estimation: Smoothing

---

- Relative frequencies are the maximum likelihood estimates

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{ML} &= \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X}|\theta) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \prod_i P_{\theta}(X_i)\end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad P_{ML}(x) = \frac{\text{count}(x)}{\text{total samples}}$$

- In Bayesian statistics, we think of the parameters as just another random variable, with its own distribution

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{MAP} &= \arg \max_{\theta} P(\theta|\mathbf{X}) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X}|\theta)P(\theta)/P(\mathbf{X}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{????} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X}|\theta)P(\theta)\end{aligned}$$

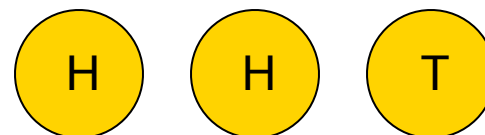


# Estimation: Laplace Smoothing

---

- Laplace's estimate:

- Pretend you saw every outcome once more than you actually did



$$P_{LAP}(x) = \frac{c(x) + 1}{\sum_x [c(x) + 1]}$$
$$= \frac{c(x) + 1}{N + |X|}$$

$$P_{ML}(X) =$$

$$P_{LAP}(X) =$$

- Can derive this as a MAP estimate with *Dirichlet priors* (Bayesian justification)

# Estimation: Laplace Smoothing

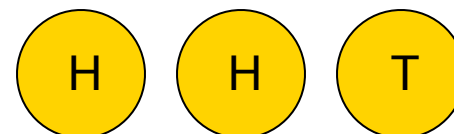
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- Laplace's estimate (extended):

- Pretend you saw every outcome  $k$  extra times

$$P_{LAP,k}(x) = \frac{c(x) + k}{N + k|X|}$$

- What's Laplace with  $k = 0$ ?
- $k$  is the **strength** of the prior



$$P_{LAP,0}(X) =$$

$$P_{LAP,1}(X) =$$

$$P_{LAP,100}(X) =$$

- Laplace for conditionals:

- Smooth each condition independently:

$$P_{LAP,k}(x|y) = \frac{c(x, y) + k}{c(y) + k|X|}$$

# Estimation: Linear Interpolation

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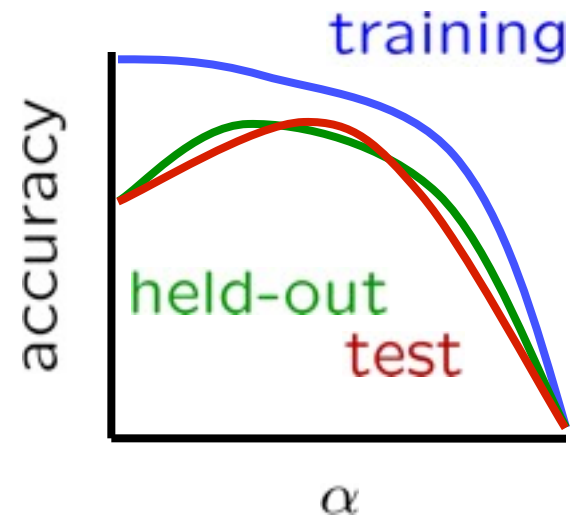
- In practice, Laplace often performs poorly for  $P(X|Y)$ :
  - When  $|X|$  is very large
  - When  $|Y|$  is very large
- Another option: linear interpolation
  - Also get  $P(X)$  from the data
  - Make sure the estimate of  $P(X|Y)$  isn't too different from  $P(X)$

$$P_{LIN}(x|y) = \alpha \hat{P}(x|y) + (1.0 - \alpha) \hat{P}(x)$$

- What if  $\alpha$  is 0? 1?

# Tuning on Held-Out Data

- Now we've got two kinds of unknowns
  - Parameters: the probabilities  $P(Y|X)$ ,  $P(Y)$
  - Hyperparameters, like the amount of smoothing to do:  $k$ ,  $\alpha$
- Where to learn?
  - Learn parameters from training data
  - Must tune hyperparameters on different data
    - Why?
  - For each value of the hyperparameters, train and test on the held-out data
  - Choose the best value and do a final test on the test data



# Baselines

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- First step: get a **baseline**
  - Baselines are very simple “straw man” procedures
  - Help determine how hard the task is
  - Help know what a “good” accuracy is
- Weak baseline: most frequent label classifier
  - Gives all test instances whatever label was most common in the training set
  - E.g. for spam filtering, might label everything as ham
  - Accuracy might be very high if the problem is skewed
  - E.g. calling everything “ham” gets 66%, so a classifier that gets 70% isn’t very good...
- For real research, usually use previous work as a (strong) baseline

# Confidences from a Classifier

- The **confidence** of a probabilistic classifier:

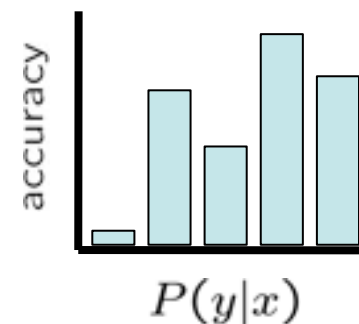
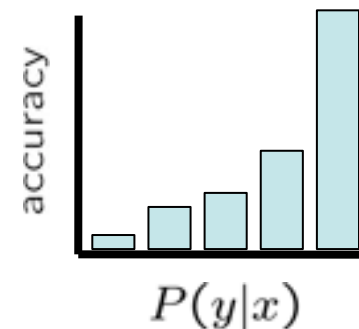
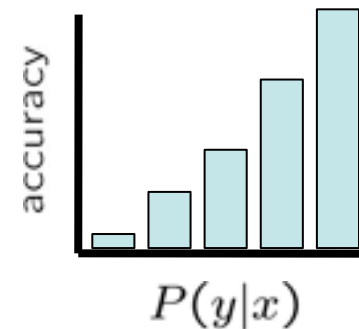
- Posterior over the top label

$$\text{confidence}(x) = \max_y P(y|x)$$

- Represents how sure the classifier is of the classification
- Any probabilistic model will have confidences
- No guarantee confidence is correct

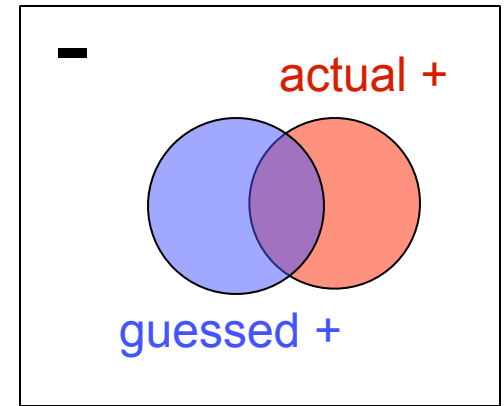
- **Calibration**

- Weak calibration: higher confidences mean higher accuracy
- Strong calibration: confidence predicts accuracy rate
- What's the value of calibration?



# Precision vs. Recall

- Let's say we want to classify web pages as homepages or not
  - In a test set of 1K pages, there are 3 homepages
  - Our classifier says they are all non-homepages
  - 99.7 accuracy!
  - Need new measures for rare positive events

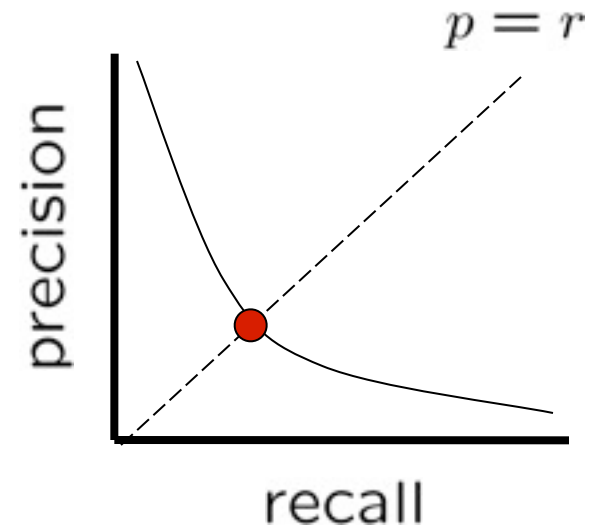


- Precision: fraction of guessed positives which were actually positive
- Recall: fraction of actual positives which were guessed as positive
- Say we detect 5 spam emails, of which 2 were actually spam, and we missed one
  - Precision:  $2 \text{ correct} / 5 \text{ guessed} = 0.4$
  - Recall:  $2 \text{ correct} / 3 \text{ true} = 0.67$
- Which is more important in customer support email automation?

# Precision vs. Recall

- Precision/recall tradeoff
  - Often, you can trade off precision and recall
  - Only works well with weakly calibrated classifiers
- To summarize the tradeoff:
  - **Break-even point:** precision value when  $p = r$
  - **F-measure:** harmonic mean of  $p$  and  $r$ :

$$F_1 = \frac{2}{1/p + 1/r}$$





# Errors, and What to Do

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- Examples of errors

Dear GlobalSCAPE Customer,

GlobalSCAPE has partnered with ScanSoft to offer you the latest version of OmniPage Pro, for just \$99.99\* - the regular list price is \$499! The most common question we've received about this offer is - Is this genuine? We would like to assure you that this offer is authorized by ScanSoft, is genuine and valid. You can get the . . .

. . . To receive your \$30 Amazon.com promotional certificate, click through to

<http://www.amazon.com/apparel>

and see the prominent link for the \$30 offer. All details are there. We hope you enjoyed receiving this message. However, if you'd rather not receive future e-mails announcing new store launches, please click . . .

# What to Do About Errors?

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- Need more features— words aren't enough!
  - Have you emailed the sender before?
  - Have 1K other people just gotten the same email?
  - Is the sending information consistent?
  - Is the email in ALL CAPS?
  - Do inline URLs point where they say they point?
  - Does the email address you by (your) name?
- Can add these information sources as new variables in the NB model
- Next class we'll talk about classifiers which let you easily add arbitrary features more easily

# Summary

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- Bayes rule lets us do diagnostic queries with causal probabilities
- The naïve Bayes assumption takes all features to be independent given the class label
- We can build classifiers out of a naïve Bayes model using training data
- Smoothing estimates is important in real systems
- Classifier confidences are useful, when you can get them