

Master Program in *Data Science and Business Informatics*

# Statistics for Data Science

Lesson 03 - Bayes' rule and applications

Salvatore Ruggieri

Department of Computer Science

University of Pisa, Italy

[salvatore.ruggieri@unipi.it](mailto:salvatore.ruggieri@unipi.it)

# Exercise at home from Lesson 01

**Exercise at home.** Prove or disprove:

- If  $A$  is independent of  $B$  then  $A$  is conditionally independent of  $B$  given  $C$

In formula, if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$  then  $P(A \cap B|C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$

**Counterexample.**

- $\Omega = \{H, T\} \times \{H, T\}$  two coin toss
- $A = \{\text{first coin is H}\} = \{(H, H), (H, T)\} \quad P(A) = 1/2$
- $B = \{\text{second coin is H}\} = \{(H, H), (T, H)\} \quad P(B) = 1/2$

$$P(A \cap B) = 1/4 = P(A)P(B)$$

- $C = \{\text{both coins have same result}\} = \{(H, H), (T, T)\} \quad P(C) = 1/2$

$$P(A \cap B|C) = \frac{P(A \cap B \cap C)}{P(C)} = 1/2 \neq P(A|C)P(B|C) = \frac{P(A \cap C)P(B \cap C)}{P(C)^2} = 1/4$$

Same counterexample shows that pairwise independence is weaker than independence:  $A, B, C$  are pairwise independent, but not independent!

# Exercise

**Exercise.** Prove or disprove:

- If  $A, B$  and  $C$  are independent, then  $A$  is conditionally independent of  $B$  given  $C$   
(i.e.,  $P(A \cap B | C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$ )

**Proof.** Independence implies  $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$  and then:

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

Independence also implies  $P(A \cap C) = P(A)P(C)$  and  $P(B \cap C) = P(B)P(C)$ , and then:

$$P(A|C)P(B|C) = \frac{P(A \cap C)P(B \cap C)}{P(C)^2} = \frac{P(A)P(C)P(B)P(C)}{P(C)^2} = P(A)P(B)$$

# Testing for Covid-19

A new test for Covid-19 (or Mad-Cow disease, or drug use) has been developed.

- $\Omega = \{ \text{people aged 18 or higher} \}$
- $+ = \{ \text{people tested positive} \}$      $- = \{ \text{people tested negative} \} = +^c$
- $C = \{ \text{people with Covid-19} \}$      $C^c = \{ \text{people without Covid-19} \}$

In lab experiments, a sample of people with and without Covid-19 tested

- $P(+|C) = 0.99$     *[Sensitivity/Recall/True Positive Rate]*
- $P(-|C^c) = 0.99$     *[Specificity/True Negative Rate]*

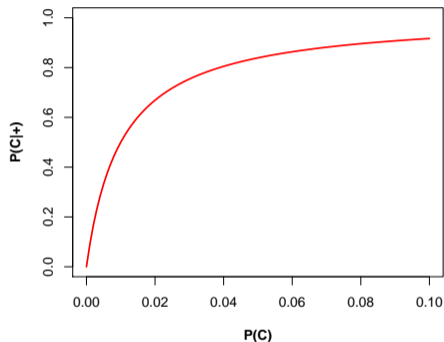
**What is the probability I really have Covid-19 given that I tested positive?** *[Precision]*

$$P(C|+) = \frac{P(C \cap +)}{P(+)} = \frac{P(+|C) \cdot P(C)}{P(+)} = \frac{P(+|C) \cdot P(C)}{P(+|C) \cdot P(C) + P(+|C^c) \cdot P(C^c)}$$

$$P(C|+) = \frac{0.99 \cdot P(C)}{0.99 \cdot P(C) + 0.01 \cdot (1 - P(C))}$$

# Testing for Covid-19

$P(C)$ , the probability of having Covid-19, is **unknown**. Let's plot  $P(C|+)$  over  $P(C)$ :



- For  $P(C) = 0.02$ ,  $P(C|+) = .67$
- For  $P(C) = 0.06$ ,  $P(C|+) = .86$
- For  $P(C) = 0.10$ ,  $P(C|+) = .92$

See R script

# Bayes' Rule

**BAYES' RULE.** Suppose the events  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m$  are disjoint and  $C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_m = \Omega$ . The conditional probability of  $C_i$ , given an arbitrary event  $A$ , can be expressed as:

$$P(C_i | A) = \frac{P(A | C_i) \cdot P(C_i)}{P(A | C_1)P(C_1) + P(A | C_2)P(C_2) + \dots + P(A | C_m)P(C_m)}.$$

- It follows from  $P(C_i | A) = \frac{P(A | C_i) \cdot P(C_i)}{P(A)}$  and the law of total probability
- Useful when:
  - ▶  $P(C_i | A)$  not easy to calculate
  - ▶ while  $P(A | C_j)$  and  $P(C_j)$  are known for  $j = 1, \dots, m$
  - ▶ E.g., in classification problems (see Bayesian classifiers from Data Mining)
- $P(C_i)$  is called the *prior* probability
- $P(A | C_i)$  is called the *posterior* probability (after seeing event  $C_i$ )

# (Machine Learning) Binary Classifiers

- $\Omega = \{f, m\} \times \mathbb{N} \times \{+, -\}$
- Features:
  - ▶  $G$  gender,  $G = f$  is  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \omega = (f, -, -)\}$
  - ▶  $A$  age,  $A = 25$  is  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \omega = (-, 25, -)\}$
  - ▶  $Y$  true class
    - $Y = +$  is  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \omega = (-, -, +)\}$ , e.g., Covid-19 positive
    - $Y = -$  is  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \omega = (-, -, -)\}$ , e.g., Covid-19 negative  $(Y = +)^c$
- Binary Classifier:  $\hat{Y} : \{f, m\} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{+, -\}$  predicted class
  - ▶  $\hat{Y} = +$  is  $\{(g, a, c) \in \Omega \mid \hat{Y}((g, a)) = +\}$ , e.g., predicted Covid-19 positive
  - ▶  $\hat{Y} = -$  is  $\{(g, a, c) \in \Omega \mid \hat{Y}((g, a)) = -\}$ , e.g., predicted Covid-19 negative  $(\hat{Y} = +)^c$
- $P(Y = \hat{Y})$ , i.e.,  $P(Y = + \cap \hat{Y} = +) + P(Y = - \cap \hat{Y} = -)$  *[True Accuracy]*
- $P(Y = + \mid \hat{Y} = +)$  *[True Precision]*
- $P(\hat{Y} = + \mid Y = +)$  *[True Recall]*
- Such probabilities are unknown! They can only be estimated on a sample (*test set*)

# Precision of classifiers

**Confusion matrix** over the test set!

		True Y		Total
		+	-	
Predicted $\hat{Y}$	+	TP	FP	PP
	-	FN	TN	PN
Total		P	N	P + N

- $P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) \approx TP/P$
- $P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -) \approx TN/N$
- “ $\approx$ ” reads as “approximatively”

[Sensitivity/Recall/TPR]

[Specificity/TNR]

[Probability estimation]

**What is the probability I really am positive given that I was predicted positive?** [Precision]

$$P(Y = + | \hat{Y} = +) = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} \quad ???$$



# Precision of classifiers

**Confusion matrix** over the test set!

		True Y		Total
		+	-	
Predicted $\hat{Y}$	+	$TP$	$FP$	$PP$
	-	$FN$	$TN$	$PN$
Total		$P$	$N$	$P + N$

- $P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) \approx TP/P$  *[Sensitivity/Recall/TPR]*
- $P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -) \approx TN/N$  *[Specificity/TNR]*
- “ $\approx$ ” reads as “approximatively” *[Probability estimation]*

**What is the probability I really am positive given that I was predicted positive?** *[Precision]*

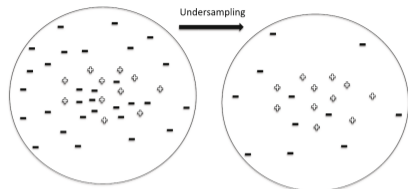
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(Y = + | \hat{Y} = +) &= \frac{P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) \cdot P(Y = +)}{P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) \cdot P(Y = +) + (1 - P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -)) \cdot P(Y = -)} \\
 &\approx \frac{TP/P \cdot P(Y = +)}{TP/P \cdot P(Y = +) + (1 - TN/N) \cdot (1 - P(Y = +))} \\
 &\stackrel{(*)}{\approx} \frac{TP/P \cdot P/(P + N)}{TP/P \cdot P/(P + N) + (1 - TN/N) \cdot (1 - P/(P + N))} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}
 \end{aligned}$$

(\*) if  $P(Y = +) \approx P/(P + N)$ , i.e., if fraction of positives in the test set is same as population

# Dataset selection

- Let  $\Omega' = \Omega \times \{0, 1\}$ , where:
  - ▶  $(\omega, 1) \in \Omega'$  iff  $\omega$  is selectable in the dataset
  - ▶ let  $S$  be the name of the new feature
- Class independent selection:

$$P(S = 1) = P(S = 1|Y = +) = P(S = 1|Y = -)$$



- Class dependent selection
  - ▶ Under-sampling negatives:  $P(S = 1|Y = -) < P(S = 1|Y = +) = P(S = 1)$
  - ▶ Over-sampling positives:  $P(S = 1|Y = +) > P(S = 1|Y = -) = P(S = 1)$
  - ▶ Prior probability shift:  $P(S = 1|Y = -) \neq P(S = 1|Y = +) \neq P(S = 1)$
- How confident are we that selection of our (training/test) dataset is class independent?
  - ▶ Bias in data collection
  - ▶ Change of distribution over time/domain

*[Selection bias]*  
*[Distribution shift]*

Then, confusion matrix is uninformative of true precision/accuracy!

# Precision of classifiers: correction under shift

		True Y		Total
		+	-	
Predicted $\hat{Y}$	+	TP	FP	PP
	-	FN	TN	PN
Total		P	N	P + N

## When class dependent selection can occur?

- Undersampling  $P(Y = +) \approx P/(P + \beta N)$  with  $\beta = N_{orig}/N \geq 1$  rate in original dataset
- Oversampling  $P(Y = +) \approx \alpha P/(\alpha P + N) = P/(P + N/\alpha)$  with  $\alpha = P_{orig}/P \leq 1$
- Prior shift  $P(Y = +) \approx \alpha P/(\alpha P + \beta N) = P/(P + \gamma N)$  with  $\gamma = \beta/\alpha = (N_{orig}/P_{orig})/(N/P)$

What is the probability I really am positive given that I was predicted positive? [Precision]

$$P(Y = + | \hat{Y} = +) \approx \frac{TP/P \cdot P/(P + \gamma N)}{TP/P \cdot P/(P + \gamma N) + (1 - TN/N) \cdot (1 - P/(P + \gamma N))} = \frac{TP}{TP + \gamma FP}$$

Called  $Prec = TP/(TP + FP)$ , we have:

$$P(Y = + | \hat{Y} = +) \approx \frac{Prec}{Prec + \gamma(1 - Prec)}$$

See R script

**Example:** for  $\gamma = 5$ ,  $Prec = 0.9$ , we have  $P(Y = + | \hat{Y} = +) \approx 0.9/(0.9 + 5 \cdot 0.1) \approx 0.642$

# Accuracy of classifiers

		True Y		Total
		+	-	
Predicted $\hat{Y}$	+	TP	FP	PP
	-	FN	TN	PN
Total		P	N	P + N

- $P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) \approx TP/P$

[Sensitivity/Recall/TPR]

- $P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -) \approx TN/N$

[Specificity/TNR]

What is the probability that prediction is correct?

[Accuracy]

$$P(\hat{Y} = Y) = P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +)P(Y = +) + P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -)P(Y = -) \approx^{(*)}$$

$$\approx^{(*)} \frac{TP}{P} \frac{P}{P+N} + \frac{TN}{N} \frac{N}{P+N} = \frac{TP + TN}{P+N}$$

(\*) if  $P(Y = +) \approx P/(P+N)$ , i.e., if dataset selection is **class independent!**

# Accuracy of classifiers: correction under shift

		True Y		
		+	-	Total
Predicted $\hat{Y}$	+	TP	FP	PP
	-	FN	TN	PN
	Total	P	N	P + N

- Shift  $P(Y = +) \approx \alpha P / (\alpha P + \beta N) = P / (P + \gamma N)$  with  $\gamma = \beta / \alpha = (N_{\text{orig}} / P_{\text{orig}}) / (N / P)$

What is the probability that prediction is correct?

[Accuracy]

$$\begin{aligned} P(\hat{Y} = Y) &= P(\hat{Y} = + | Y = +) P(Y = +) + P(\hat{Y} = - | Y = -) P(Y = -) \approx \\ &\approx \frac{TP}{P} \frac{P}{P + \gamma N} + \frac{TN}{N} \frac{\gamma N}{P + \gamma N} = \frac{TP + \gamma TN}{P + \gamma N} \end{aligned}$$

**Example:** for  $\gamma = 10$ ,  $P = N = 1000$ ,  $TP = 950$ ,  $TN = 800$ :

$$Acc = (TP + TN) / (P + N) = .875$$

$$P(\hat{Y} = Y) = (TP + \gamma TN) / (P + \gamma N) \approx .814$$

# Probabilistic classifier predictions: correction under shift

A probabilistic classifier predicts the posterior probability  $P(Y = +|G = g, A = a)$

[*predict\_proba* in Python]

Assume a *biased* posterior probability  $\hat{S}((g, a)) \approx P(Y = +|S = 1, G = g, A = a)$ , due to data shift

**How to compute unbiased prediction**  $P(Y = +|G = g, A = a)$ ?

- Class dependent selection, but feature independent selection:

$$P(S = 1) \neq P(S = 1|Y = +) = P(S = 1|Y = +, G = g, A = a)$$

- From Bayes rule applied to  $P'(\cdot) = P(\cdot|G = g, A = a)$ :

$$P'(Y = +|S = 1) = \frac{P'(Y = +)}{P'(Y = +) + \frac{P'(S=1|Y=-)}{P'(S=1|Y=+)}(1 - P'(Y = +))}$$

- For prior shift:  $\frac{P'(S=1|Y=-)}{P'(S=1|Y=+)} \approx \frac{N/N_{orig}}{P/P_{orig}} = \alpha/\beta = 1/\gamma$ , hence:

$$P'(Y = +|S = 1) = \frac{P'(Y = +)}{P'(Y = +) + (1 - P'(Y = +))/\gamma}$$

# Probabilistic classifier predictions: correction under shift

A probabilistic classifier predicts the posterior probability  $P(Y = +|G = g, A = a)$

[*predict\_proba* in Python]

Assume a *biased* posterior probability  $\hat{S}((g, a)) \approx P(Y = +|S = 1, G = g, A = a) = P'(Y = +|S = 1)$

**How to compute unbiased prediction**  $P(Y = +|G = g, A = a)$ ?

- and then, solving for  $P'(Y = +) = P(Y = +|G = g, A = a)$ :

$$P'(Y = +) = \frac{P'(Y = +|S = 1)}{P'(Y = +|S = 1) + \gamma(1 - P'(Y = +|S = 1))}$$

- Correction under prior probability shift:

$$\frac{\hat{S}((g, a))}{\hat{S}((g, a)) + \gamma(1 - \hat{S}((g, a)))}$$

*Same formula as for precision!*

# Optional references

Optional readings: [[Pozzolo, 2015](#)], [[Šipka, 2022](#)]



Andrea Dal Pozzolo, Olivier Caelen, and Gianluca Bontempi (2015)  
When is Undersampling Effective in Unbalanced Classification Tasks?

*ECML/PKDD (1)* 200–215.

Lecture Notes in Computer Science, volume 9284.

[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-23528-8\\_13](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-23528-8_13)



Tomáš Šipka, Milan Šulc, and Jiří Matas (2022)

The Hitchhiker's Guide to Prior-Shift Adaptation.

IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV) 1516-1524.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.11695>