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Product Rule, Correlation, Independence, Bayes' Rule,

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Two coin flips.

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Event B = two heads.

The probability of two heads if the first flip is heads. The probability of *B* given *A* is 1/2.

# Conditional Probability.

#### Definition: The conditional probability of B given A is

$$Pr[B|A] = \frac{Pr[A \cap B]}{Pr[A]}$$

Suppose I toss 3 balls into 3 bins.

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*A* is less likely given *B*: If second bin is empty the first is more likely to have balls in it.

#### Three Card Problem

Three cards: Red/Red, Red/Black, Black/Black. Pick one at random and place on the table. The upturned side is a Red. What is the probability that the other side is Black? Can't be the BB card, so...prob should be 0.5, right? *R*: upturned card is Red; *RB*: the Red/Black card was selected. Want P(RB|R).

What's wrong with the reasoning that leads to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ?

$$P(RB|R) = \frac{P(RB \cap R)}{P(R)}$$
$$= \frac{\frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{3}(1) + \frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}(0)}$$
$$= \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Once you are given R: it is twice as likely that the RR card was picked.

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The likelihood of 51st heads does not depend on the previous flips.

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so that the result holds for n+1.

An example.

An example. Random experiment: Pick a person at random.

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Conclusion:

- Smoking increases the probability of lung cancer by 17%.
- Smoking causes lung cancer.

Event *A*: the person has lung cancer. Event *B*: the person is a heavy smoker.  $Pr[A|B] = 1.17 \times Pr[A]$ .

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Lung cancer increases the probability of smoking by 17%.

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Conclusion:

- Lung cancer increases the probability of smoking by 17%.
- Lung cancer causes smoking.

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- Lung cancer causes smoking. Really?

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Tesla owners are more likely to be rich.

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- People who go to the opera are more likely to have a good career.

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- Rabbits eat more carrots and do not wear glasses.

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- People who go to the opera are more likely to have a good career. That does not mean that going to the opera will improve your career.
- Rabbits eat more carrots and do not wear glasses. Are carrots good for eyesight?

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Thus,

$$Pr[A|B] = \frac{Pr[A]Pr[B|A]}{Pr[B]} = \frac{(1/2)(1/2)}{(1/2)(1/2) + (1/2)0.6} \approx 0.45.$$

Is your coin loaded? A picture:

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Imagine 100 situations, among which m := 100(1/2)(1/2) are such that *A* and *B* occur and n := 100(1/2)(0.6) are such that  $\overline{A}$  and *B* occur.



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Hence,

$$Pr[A_n|B] = rac{p_n q_n}{\sum_m p_m q_m}.$$







 $Pr[\mathsf{Flu}|\mathsf{High Fever}] = \frac{0.15 \times 0.80}{0.15 \times 0.80 + 10^{-8} \times 1 + 0.85 \times 0.1}$ pprox 0.58







These are the posterior probabilities.
# Why do you have a fever?



These are the posterior probabilities. One says that 'Flu' is the Most Likely a Posteriori (MAP) cause of the high fever.

# Bayes' Rule Operations

### **Bayes' Rule Operations**



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Bayes' Rule is the canonical example of how information changes our opinions.

### **Thomas Bayes**



Source: Wikipedia.

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#### A Bayesian picture of Thomas Bayes.

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- A prostate cancer.
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  - ▶ Pr[A] = 0.0016, (.16 % of the male population is affected.)
  - ▶ Pr[B|A] = 0.80 (80% chance of positive test with disease.)
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All these are possible: Pr[A|B] < Pr[A]; Pr[A|B] > Pr[A]; Pr[A|B] = Pr[A].