

Bayes Theorem Example

Mike Bowles, PhD and Patricia Hoffman, PhD

Conditional Probability

$$(1) \quad P(C|A) = \frac{P(A,C)}{P(A)}$$

$$(2) \quad P(A|C) = \frac{P(A,C)}{P(C)}$$

Bayes Theorem

$$(3) \quad P(C|A) = \frac{P(A|C)P(C)}{P(A)}$$

Let's Make a Deal

Three Doors A, B, C

- One Grand Prize Car

Contestant picks door. Monte Hall opens
one of the other doors - booby prize.

Should contestant can stay with original door or switch?

Contestant picks door A,
Monty opens door B; Should switch to C?

Solution: Compare probabilities

grand prize being behind door A with
grand prize being behind door C

Preliminaries:

Probability(Monty opens door B) = $P(oB)$

Probability(Car in door X) = $P(X)$

$$P(\text{Monty opens door B}) = P(oB)$$

$$= P(oB|A)P(A) + P(oB|B)P(B) + P(oB|C)P(C)$$

$$= (1/2)(1/3) + (0)(1/3) + (1)(1/3)$$

$$= 1/2$$

$$P(\text{car in A} | \text{open B}) = \frac{P(oB|A)P(A)}{P(oB)} = \frac{(1/2)(1/3)}{1/2} = 1/3$$

$$P(\text{car in C} | \text{open B}) = \frac{P(oB|C)P(C)}{P(oB)} = \frac{(1)(1/3)}{1/2} = 2/3$$

Answer: Yes, Switch as the probability that the car is in C is greater

Simpler Way

Think of it as two choices -

Choice 1) Door A has a probability of $1/3$ having the car behind it. (as each of the doors are equally likely)

Choice 2) Not Door A has a probability of $2/3$. Monty puts the full $2/3$ probability on the exact door to switch over to.

2

This is the first slide.

You can typeset *Emphasized text*.

You can also typeset **Bold**, *Italics*, *Slanted* and Typewriter text. Roman fonts are not available.

Point size can be changed by making use of the tiny, scriptsize, footnotesize, small, normalsize, large, **Large**, **LARGE**, **huge** and **Huge** commands.

3 This is the second slide.

The numbered equation

$$(4) \quad u_{tt} - \Delta u + u^5 + u|u|^{p-2} = 0 \text{ in } \mathbf{R}^3 \times [0, \infty[.$$

is automatically numbered as equation 4.