

CS143: Artificial Intelligence

Discrete Probability Distribution

Joint probability distribution
Marginal probability distribution
Conditional probability distribution
Bayes' Rule



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Probability Basics

- **Probability Distribution**
- Joint Probability Distribution
- Marginal Probability Distribution
- Conditional Probability Distribution
- Bayes Rule

Probability Basics

In this lecture, we are going to cover only distributions for discrete events;

- **Probability Distribution**

- Discrete Probabilities
- Continuous Probabilities

- **Probability Distribution and Random Variable**

- Probability distribution is a function which will depend on a random variable eg, X
- If the random variable X takes discrete values then you get discrete probabilities

Random Number

- Random numbers are useful many applications:
 - Simulating a coin toss — random flipping of head or tail
 - Simulating a dice roll — random roll of one of six sides
 - Simulating a card shuffling - randomly selecting cards (out of 52)
- Python provides library to generate random numbers
 - You can import random module to get access to random number generating functions

```
import random

rand_number = random.randint(1, 10)
print(rand_number)
```

10 coin toss events — random flipping of head or tail

- For example, let's say there are 10 coins tossing events as follows. The **sample space** is the set of *all possible value that X can take*. Then $P(X=head)=?$, $P(X=tail)=?$



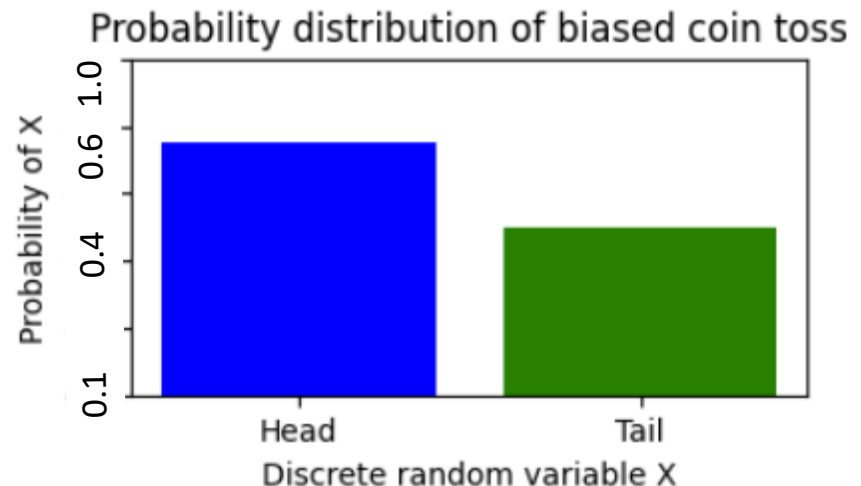
10 coin toss events — random flipping of head or tail

- **Discrete Probability Distribution (1 dimensional event):**

- Let's assume X is random variable which can take discrete values
- $P(X)$ is a function that maps from all possible values of X to the probability of the corresponding event. For example:
 - X is a random variable
 - The **sample space** is the set of *all possible value that X can take*.
 - There is probability assigned to each element of the sample space.
 - Eg, X is a random variable for coin toss event, hence X can take one of the 2 values from the **sample space** $\{Head, Tail\}$

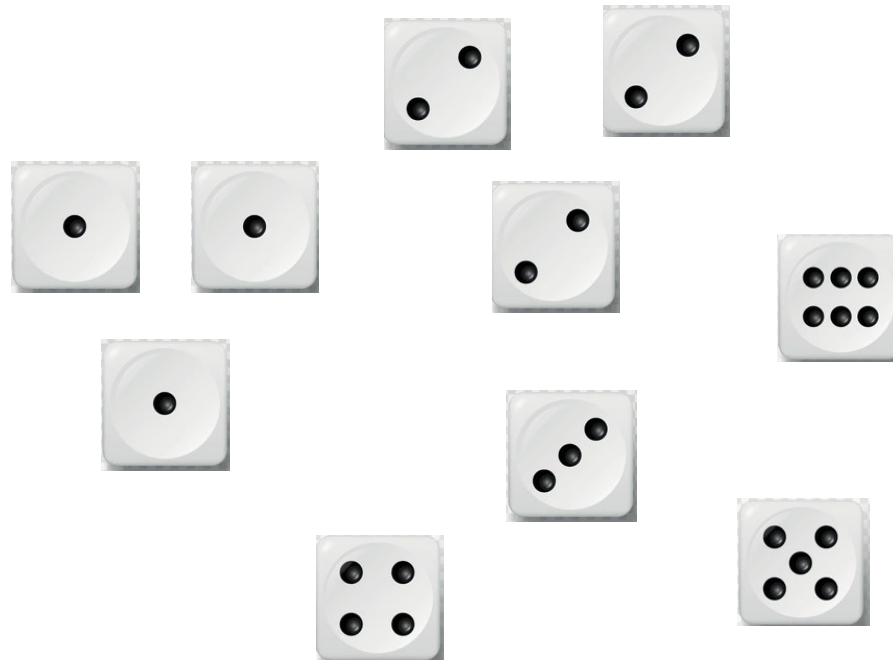
$$P(X = Head) = 0.60$$

$$P(X = Tail) = 0.40$$



10 dice rolling events — random roll of one of six sides

- For example, let's say there are 10 dice rolling events as follows. The **sample space** is the set of *all possible value that X can take*. Then $P(X=1)=?$, $P(X=2)=?$, $P(X=3)=?$, $P(X=4)=?$, $P(X=5)=?$, and $P(X=6)=?$.



10 dice rolling events — random roll of one of six sides

- **Discrete Probability Distribution (1 dimensional event):**

- Let's assume X is random variable which can take discrete values
- $P(X)$ is a function that maps from all possible values of X to the probability of the corresponding event.
 - X is a random variable which can take one of the 6 values for a standard six-sided die, ie, the **sample space** of X : $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$P(X = 1) = 0.3$$

$$P(X = 2) = 0.3$$

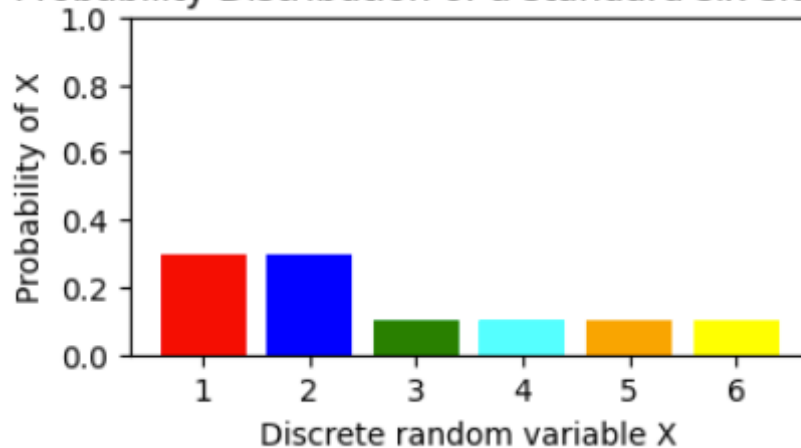
$$P(X = 3) = 0.1$$

$$P(X = 4) = 0.1$$

$$P(X = 5) = 0.1$$

$$P(X = 6) = 0.1$$

Probability Distribution of a standard six-sided die



Probability Basics

- **Discrete Probability Distribution (multi-dimensional event):**
 - What about when we have more than two random variables?
 - both random variables may take discrete values.
 - Let's assume there are two random variables, X and Y , each of which can take on discrete values.
 - Essentially, we are transitioning from a one-dimensional probability distribution to a higher-dimensional space. Let's start with a 2-dimensional probability distribution.

Probability Basics

- Probability Distribution
- **Joint Probability Distribution**
- Marginal Probability Distribution
- Conditional Probability Distribution
- Bayes Rule

Probability Basics

- **Discrete Probability Distribution (2 dimensional event):**

- Let's assume there are two random variables, X and Y, each of which can take on discrete values. So the **sample space** can be shown as table as follows:

1st dimension →

	Discrete value of 1st random variable X	Discrete value of 1st random variable X
Discrete value of 2nd random variable Y	$P(X=a_1, Y=b_1)$	$P(X=a_2, Y=b_1)$
Discrete value of 2nd random variable Y	$P(X=a_1, Y=b_2)$	$P(X=a_2, Y=b_2)$

↓ 2nd dimension

Probability Basics

- **Discrete Probability Distribution (2 dimensional event):**

- X = random variable indicating color
- Y = random variable indicating breed
- What is $P(X=\text{white}, Y=\text{Persian})$?

X = random variable indicating color



Y = random variable indicating breed

	white	black
Persian	 $P(X=\text{white}, Y=\text{Persian})$	 $P(X=\text{black}, Y=\text{Persian})$
Himalayan	 $P(X=\text{white}, Y=\text{Himalayan})$	 $P(X=\text{black}, Y=\text{Himalayan})$

10 events of cat selection with 2-dimensions (color and breed)



Persian White



Himalayan White



Persian Black



Himalayan Black



Persian White



Himalayan White



Himalayan Black



Himalayan Black



Himalayan White



Himalayan Black

$P(X=\text{white}, Y=\text{Persian}) = ?$

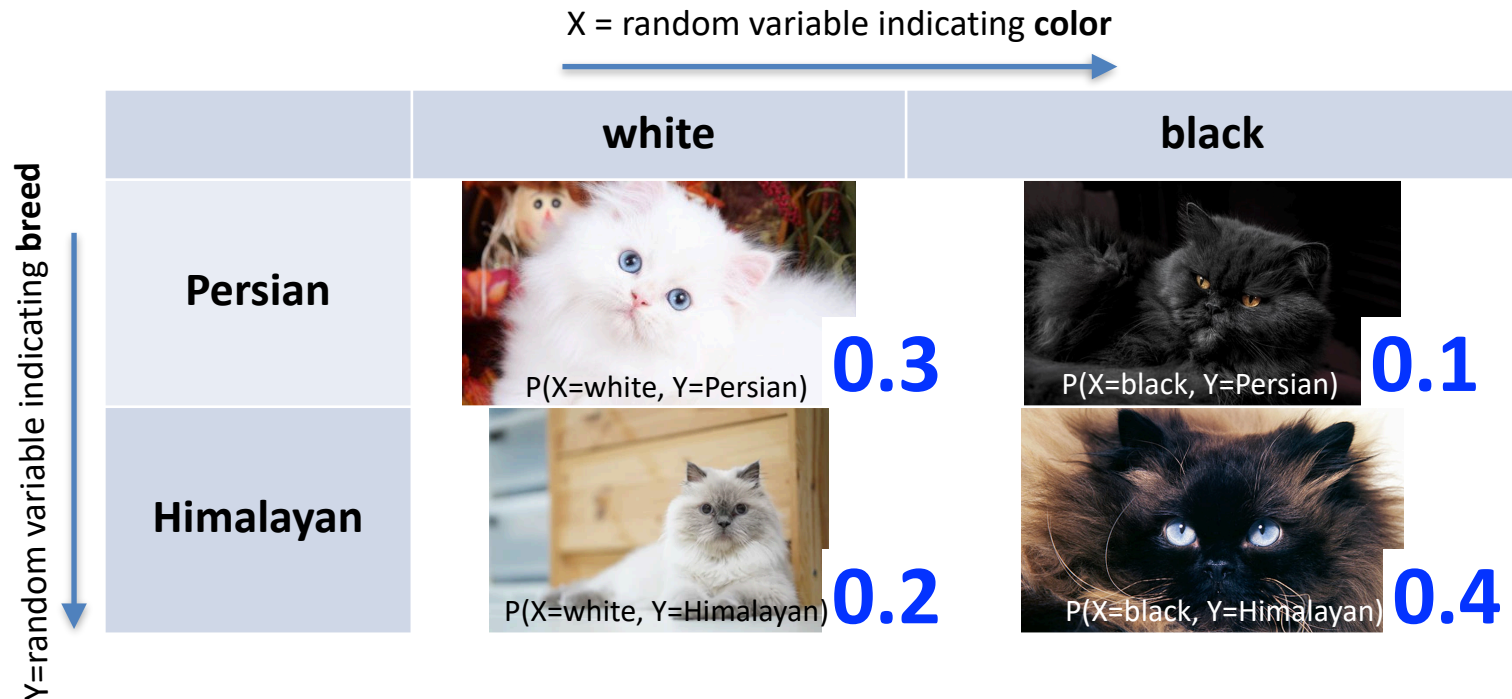
$P(X=\text{white}, Y=\text{Himalayan}) = ?$

$P(X=\text{black}, Y=\text{Persian}) = ?$

$P(X=\text{black}, Y=\text{Himalayan}) = ?$

Joint Probability Distribution

- Sample space is set of all possible outcomes of the random variable
 - X = random variable indicating color of the cat
 - Y = random variable indicating breed of the cat
- The full joint probability distribution assigns a probability to each element of the **sample space**



Joint Probability Distribution

- Sample space is set of all possible outcomes of the random variable
 - X = random variable indicating color of the cat
 - Y = random variable indicating breed of the cat
- The full joint probability distribution assigns a probability to each element of the sample space. You can also list the probabilities of the sample space in the format below:

X	Y	P(X,Y)
White	Persian	?
White	Himalayan	?
Black	Persian	?
Black	Himalayan	?

Joint Probability Distribution

- The joint probability distribution expresses probability distribution of observing varied instance of (x, y) where some paired outcome occurs more frequently than others
 - X = random variable with three discrete values $\{a, b, c\}$
 - Y = random variable with three discrete values $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}$
- The joint probability distribution $P(X, Y)$ is expressed using the table

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

Probability Basics


- Probability Distribution
- Joint Probability Distribution
- **Marginal Probability Distribution**
- Conditional Probability Distribution
- Bayes Rule

Marginal Probability Distribution

- It expresses **probability distribution of any single random variable** from a joint probability distribution
 - What is the **probability distribution of the breed** of the cat?
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a Persian
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a Himalayan

X = random variable indicating **color**



	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Marginal Probability Distribution

- It expresses **probability distribution of any single random variable** from a joint probability distribution
 - What is the **probability distribution of the color** of the cat?
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a white
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a black

X = random variable indicating **color**



	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Marginal Probability Distribution

- The marginal probability distribution expresses probability distribution of any single random variable from a joint probability distribution by summing over all other variables

$$P(X) = \sum_y P(X, Y = y)$$

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15


Marginal Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Aggregating individual marginal probability values into a histogram to make the probability distribution as follows:
[P(X=a), P(X=b), P(X=c)]
- Marginal distribution has the following interpretation — “It finds the probability of X happening regardless of Y taking any value of α β γ ”

Exercise 1: Marginal Probability Distribution



	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X)$?

$$P(X = a) = ?$$
$$P(X = b) = ?$$
$$P(X = c) = ?$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution

Compute along
this direction



	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y=α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y=β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y=γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=a)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = a) &= P(X = a, Y = \alpha) + P(X = a, Y = \beta) + P(X = a, Y = \gamma) \\ &= ? \end{aligned}$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution

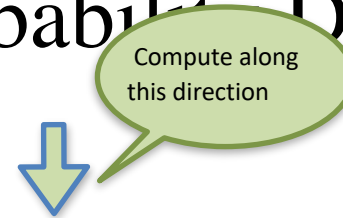
	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=a)$?

$$\begin{aligned}P(X = a) &= P(X = a, Y = \alpha) + P(X = a, Y = \beta) + P(X = a, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.1 + P(X = a, Y = \beta) + P(X = a, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.1 + 0.1 + P(X = a, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.05 \\&= 0.25\end{aligned}$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution



	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=b)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = b) &= P(X = b, Y = \alpha) + P(X = b, Y = \beta) + P(X = b, Y = \gamma) \\ &= ? \end{aligned}$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=b)$?

$$\begin{aligned}P(X = b) &= P(X = b, Y = \alpha) + P(X = b, Y = \beta) + P(X = b, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.05 + P(X = b, Y = \beta) + P(X = b, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.05 + 0.3 + P(X = b, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.05 + 0.3 + 0.05 \\&= 0.40\end{aligned}$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution

Compute along
this direction



	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=c)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = c) &= P(X = c, Y = \alpha) + P(X = c, Y = \beta) + P(X = c, Y = \gamma) \\ &= ? \end{aligned}$$

Solution: Marginal Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Find the marginal distribution $P(X=c)$?

$$\begin{aligned}P(X = c) &= P(X = c, Y = \alpha) + P(X = c, Y = \beta) + P(X = c, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.10 + P(X = c, Y = \beta) + P(X = c, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.10 + 0.10 + P(X = c, Y = \gamma) \\&= 0.10 + 0.10 + 0.15 \\&= 0.35\end{aligned}$$

Marginal Probability Distribution

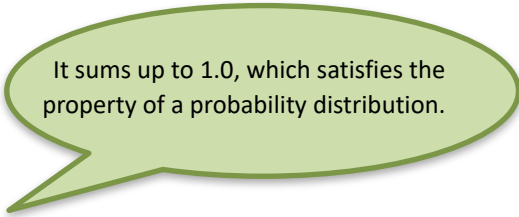
	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X) = P(X, Y = \alpha) + P(X, Y = \beta) + P(X, Y = \gamma)$$

- Aggregating individual marginal probability values into a histogram to make the probability distribution as follows:

$[P(X=a), P(X=b), P(X=c)]$

$[0.25, 0.40, 0.35]$



It sums up to 1.0, which satisfies the property of a probability distribution.

- Marginal distribution has the following interpretation — “It finds the probability of X happening regardless of Y taking any value of α β γ ”

Exercise 2: Marginal Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

Compute along these directions one after another



$$P(Y) = P(X = a, Y) + P(X = b, Y) + P(X = c, Y)$$





- Similarly, can you find the marginal distribution $P(Y)$?

$$\begin{aligned}P(Y = \alpha) &= ? \\P(Y = \beta) &= ? \\P(Y = \gamma) &= ?\end{aligned}$$

Group Exercise

- What is the **probability distribution of the color** of a cat?
- $P(X=\text{color})=?$
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a white
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a black

$X = \text{random variable indicating color}$
→





	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Y = random variable indicating breed
↓

Group Exercise

- What is the **probability distribution of the breed** of a cat?
- $P(X=\text{breed})=?$
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a Persian
 - You need to find the probability of the cat being a Himalayan

$X = \text{random variable indicating color}$
→

	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Y = random variable indicating breed
↓

Probability Basics

- Probability Distribution
- Joint Probability Distribution
- Marginal Probability Distribution
- **Conditional Probability Distribution**
- Bayes Rule

Conditional Probability Distribution

- It expresses **probability distribution of any single random variable conditioned** on other random variables
- **It tells us the relative propensity**
 - Let's say that you picked a **white cat**, then what is the probability of it's **breed**?
 - What is the probability it is a Persian: $P(Y=\text{Persian} | X=\text{white}) = ?$
 - What is the probability it is a Himalayan: $P(Y=\text{Himalayan} | X=\text{white}) = ?$

	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Conditional Probability Distribution

- It expresses **probability distribution of any single random variable conditioned** on other random variables
- **It tells us the relative propensity**
 - Let's say that you picked a **Himalayan cat**, , then what is the probability of it's **color**?
 - What is the probability it is a White: $P(Y=White | X=Himalayan) = ?$
 - What is the probability it is a Black: $P(Y=Black | X=Himalayan) = ?$

	white	black
Persian	 0.3	 0.1
Himalayan	 0.2	 0.4

Conditional Probability Distribution

- **It tells us the relative propensity**
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (*eg*, X) conditioned on other variable's (*eg*, Y) value fixed to a particular value
- Conditional distribution has the following form:

$$P(X | Y = \alpha)$$

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y=α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y=β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y=γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

- Individual terms of the conditional distribution has the following form:

$$P(X = a | Y = \alpha) = \frac{P(X = a, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)}$$

We computed this marginal probability term earlier

$$= \frac{P(X = a, Y = \alpha)}{P(X = a, Y = \alpha) + P(X = b, Y = \alpha) + P(X = c, Y = \alpha)}$$

If you don't recall, here is how it can be recomputed

Conditional Probability Distribution

- It tells us the relative propensity
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (eg, X) conditioned on other variable's (eg, Y) value fixed to a particular value

	$X=a$	$X=b$	$X=c$
$Y=\alpha$	0.1	0.05	0.1
$Y=\beta$	0.1	0.3	0.1
$Y=\gamma$	0.05	0.05	0.15

- In this example, you need to compute three conditional probabilities to form a valid distribution

$$P(X = a | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

$$P(X = b | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

$$P(X = c | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

Conditional Probability Distribution

- It tells us the relative propensity
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (eg, X) conditioned on other variable's (eg, Y) value fixed to a particular value

	$X=a$	$X=b$	$X=c$
$Y=\alpha$	0.1	0.05	0.1
$Y=\beta$	0.1	0.3	0.1
$Y=\gamma$	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(Y = \alpha) = 0.25$$

We computed this marginal probability term earlier

- In this example, you need to compute three conditional terms to make it a distribution

$$P(X = a | Y = \alpha) = \frac{P(X = a, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)}$$

$$P(X = b | Y = \alpha) = \frac{P(X = b, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)}$$

$$P(X = c | Y = \alpha) = \frac{P(X = c, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)}$$

Exercise 3: Conditional Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X|Y = \alpha)$$

- Aggregating individual conditional probability values into a histogram to make the probability distribution as follows:

$$[P(X = a | Y = \alpha), P(X = b | Y = \alpha), P(X = c | Y = \alpha)]$$

Exercise 3: Conditional Probability Distribution

- It tells us the relative propensity
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (*eg*, X) conditioned on other variable's (*eg*, Y) **value fixed to a particular value**

$$P(X = a | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{P(X = a, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.1}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.1}{0.25} \\ &= 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(Y = \alpha) = 0.25$$

We computed this marginal probability term earlier

	X=a	X=b	X=c
$Y=\alpha$	0.1	0.05	0.1
$Y=\beta$	0.1	0.3	0.1
$Y=\gamma$	0.05	0.05	0.15

Exercise 3: Conditional Probability Distribution

- It tells us the relative propensity
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (*eg*, X) conditioned on other variable's (*eg*, Y) **value fixed to a particular value**

$$P(X = b | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{P(X = b, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.05}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.05}{0.25} \\ &= 0.2 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(Y = \alpha) = 0.25$$

We computed this marginal probability term earlier

	X=a	X=b	X=c
$Y=\alpha$	0.1	0.05	0.1
$Y=\beta$	0.1	0.3	0.1
$Y=\gamma$	0.05	0.05	0.15

Exercise 3: Conditional Probability Distribution

- It tells us the relative propensity
- Conditional probability distribution of any single random variable (*eg*, X) conditioned on other variable's (*eg*, Y) **value fixed to a particular value**

$$P(X = c | Y = \alpha) = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{P(X = c, Y = \alpha)}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.1}{P(Y = \alpha)} \\ &= \frac{0.1}{0.25} \\ &= 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(Y = \alpha) = 0.25$$

We computed this marginal probability term earlier

	X=a	X=b	X=c
$Y=\alpha$	0.1	0.05	0.1
$Y=\beta$	0.1	0.3	0.1
$Y=\gamma$	0.05	0.05	0.15

Exercise 3: Conditional Probability Distribution

	X=a	X=b	X=c
Y= α	0.1	0.05	0.1
Y= β	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y= γ	0.05	0.05	0.15

$$P(X | Y = \alpha)$$

- Aggregating individual conditional probability values into a histogram to make the probability distribution as follows:

$$[P(X = a | Y = \alpha), P(X = b | Y = \alpha), P(X = c | Y = \alpha)]$$

$$[0.4, \quad 0.2, \quad 0.4]$$

Probability Basics

- Probability Distribution
- Joint Probability Distribution
- Marginal Probability Distribution
- Conditional Probability Distribution
- **Bayes' Rule**

Bayes' Rule

$$P(X, Y) = P(Y|X)P(X) = P(X|Y)P(Y)$$

$$P(Y|X)P(X) = P(X|Y)P(Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y|X) &= \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)} \\ &= \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X, Y = y)} \\ &= \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X|Y = y)P(Y = y)} \end{aligned}$$

Bayes' Rule

$$P(Y|X) = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X, Y = y)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X|Y = y)P(Y = y)}$$

Bayes' rule is useful when you want to know something about Y , but all you can *directly* observe is X

- This process is called Bayesian inference

Bayes' Rule

$$P(Y|X) = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X, Y = y)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X|Y = y)P(Y = y)}$$

$P(Y)$ is called the **prior probability**

It represents what we know about y before we consider x

$P(X|Y)$ is called the **likelihood**

We will often define the relationship between y and x in terms of conditional probability

$P(X)$ is called the **evidence**

$P(Y|X)$ is called the **posterior probability**

It represents what we know about y given x

If we know x has a distribution $p(x)$ then $p(y|x)$ is a more informative distribution

Bayes' Rule

$$P(Y|X) = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X, Y = y)} = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{\sum_y P(X|Y = y)P(Y = y)}$$

$P(Y)$ is called the **prior probability**

When an agent starts to build a probabilistic model, this quantity represents its initial belief by taking all background information into account

$P(X|Y)$ is called the **likelihood**

We will often define the relationship between \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{x} in terms of conditional probability

$P(X)$ is called the **evidence**

$P(Y|X)$ is called the **posterior probability**

This quantity specifies how to revise agent's belief based on new information.