

Where do the probabilities come from?

- Probabilities come from:
 - ▶ Experts
 - ▶ Data

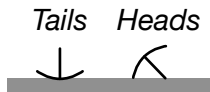
Learning probabilities — the simplest case

Observe tosses of thumbtack:

n_0 instances of *Heads* = *false*

n_1 instances of *Heads* = *true*

what should we use as $P(\text{heads})$?



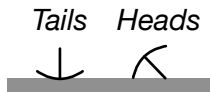
Learning probabilities — the simplest case

Observe tosses of thumbtack:

n_0 instances of *Heads* = *false*

n_1 instances of *Heads* = *true*

what should we use as $P(\text{heads})$?



- Empirical frequency: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1}{n_0 + n_1}$

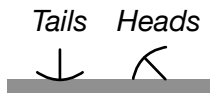
Learning probabilities — the simplest case

Observe tosses of thumbtack:

n_0 instances of *Heads* = *false*

n_1 instances of *Heads* = *true*

what should we use as $P(\text{heads})$?



- Empirical frequency: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1}{n_0 + n_1}$
- Laplace smoothing [1812]: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1 + 1}{n_0 + n_1 + 2}$

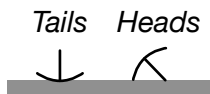
Learning probabilities — the simplest case

Observe tosses of thumbtack:

n_0 instances of *Heads* = *false*

n_1 instances of *Heads* = *true*

what should we use as $P(\textit{heads})$?



- Empirical frequency: $P(\textit{heads}) = \frac{n_1}{n_0 + n_1}$
- Laplace smoothing [1812]: $P(\textit{heads}) = \frac{n_1 + 1}{n_0 + n_1 + 2}$
- Informed priors: $P(\textit{heads}) = \frac{n_1 + c_1}{n_0 + n_1 + c_0 + c_1}$

for some informed pseudo counts $c_0, c_1 > 0$.

$c_0 = 1, c_1 = 1$, expressed ignorance (uniform prior)

Pseudo-counts convey prior knowledge. Consider: “how much more would I believe α if I had seen one example with α true than if I has seen no examples with α true?”

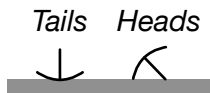
Learning probabilities — the simplest case

Observe tosses of thumbtack:

n_0 instances of *Heads* = *false*

n_1 instances of *Heads* = *true*

what should we use as $P(\text{heads})$?



- Empirical frequency: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1}{n_0 + n_1}$
- Laplace smoothing [1812]: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1 + 1}{n_0 + n_1 + 2}$
- Informed priors: $P(\text{heads}) = \frac{n_1 + c_1}{n_0 + n_1 + c_0 + c_1}$

for some informed pseudo counts $c_0, c_1 > 0$.

$c_0 = 1, c_1 = 1$, expressed ignorance (uniform prior)

Pseudo-counts convey prior knowledge. Consider: “how much more would I believe α if I had seen one example with α true than if I had seen no examples with α true?”

— empirical frequency overfits to the data.

Example of Overfitting

- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?

Example of Overfitting

- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?
- Are the restaurants with the highest average rating the most liked restaurants?

Example of Overfitting

- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?
- Are the restaurants with the highest average rating the most liked restaurants?
- Which restaurants have the highest average rating?

Example of Overfitting

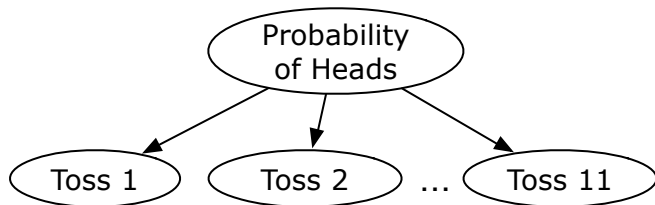
- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?
- Are the restaurants with the highest average rating the most liked restaurants?
- Which restaurants have the highest average rating?
- Which restaurants have a rating of 5?

Example of Overfitting

- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?
- Are the restaurants with the highest average rating the most liked restaurants?
- Which restaurants have the highest average rating?
- Which restaurants have a rating of 5?
 - ▶ Only restaurants with few ratings have an average rating of 5.

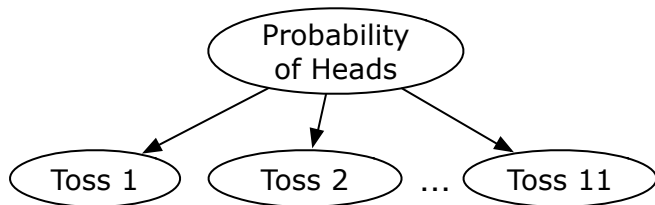
Example of Overfitting

- We have a web site where people rate restaurants with 1 to 5 stars.
- We want to report the most liked restaurant(s) — the one predicted to have the best future ratings.
- How can we determine the most liked restaurant?
- Are the restaurants with the highest average rating the most liked restaurants?
- Which restaurants have the highest average rating?
- Which restaurants have a rating of 5?
 - ▶ Only restaurants with few ratings have an average rating of 5.
- Solution: add some “average” ratings for each restaurant!



aispace: <http://artint.info/code/aispace/beta.xml>

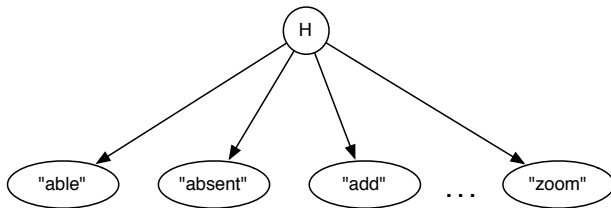
- *Probability_of_Heads* is a random variable representing the probability of heads.
- Range is $\{0.0, 0.1, 0.2, \dots, 0.9, 1.0\}$ or interval $[0, 1]$.
- $P(\text{Toss}\#n=\text{Heads} \mid \text{Probability_of_Heads}=v) =$



aispace: <http://artint.info/code/aispace/beta.xml>

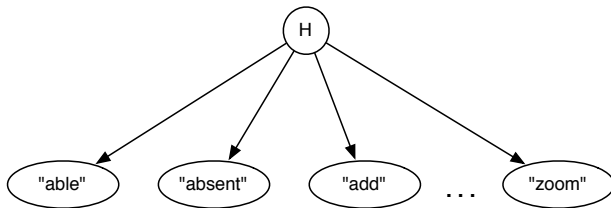
- *Probability_of_Heads* is a random variable representing the probability of heads.
- Range is $\{0.0, 0.1, 0.2, \dots, 0.9, 1.0\}$ or interval $[0, 1]$.
- $P(\text{Toss}\#n=\text{Heads} \mid \text{Probability_of_Heads}=v) = v$
- *Toss#i* is independent of *Toss#j* (for $i \neq j$) given *Probability_of_Heads*
- **i.i.d.** or **independent and identically distributed**.

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



H is the help page the user is interested in.
We observe the words in the query.

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help

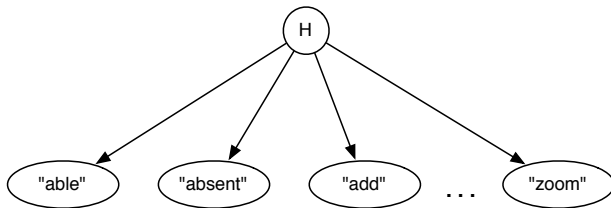


H is the help page the user is interested in.

We observe the words in the query.

What probabilities are required?

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



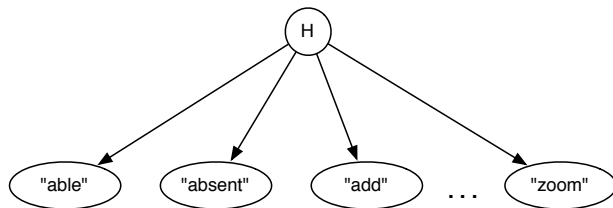
H is the help page the user is interested in.

We observe the words in the query.

What probabilities are required?

What counts are required?

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



H is the help page the user is interested in.

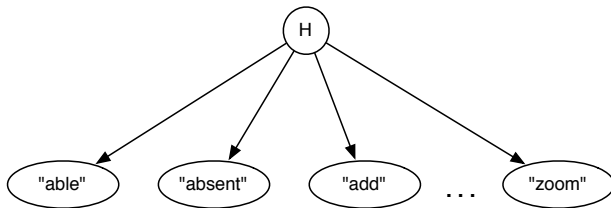
We observe the words in the query.

What probabilities are required?

What counts are required?

- number of times each help page h_i is the best one
- number of times word w_j is used when h_i is the help page.

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



H is the help page the user is interested in.

We observe the words in the query.

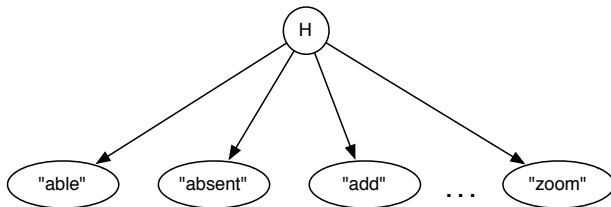
What probabilities are required?

What counts are required?

- number of times each help page h_i is the best one
- number of times word w_j is used when h_i is the help page.

When can the counts be updated?

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



H is the help page the user is interested in.

We observe the words in the query.

What probabilities are required?

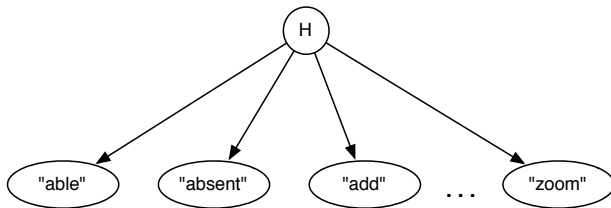
What counts are required?

- number of times each help page h_i is the best one
- number of times word w_j is used when h_i is the help page.

When can the counts be updated?

- When the correct page is found.

Naive Bayes Classifier: User's request for help



H is the help page the user is interested in.

We observe the words in the query.

What probabilities are required?

What counts are required?

- number of times each help page h_i is the best one
- number of times word w_j is used when h_i is the help page.

When can the counts be updated?

- When the correct page is found.

What prior counts should be used? Can they be zero?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?
- What about common words?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?
- What about common words?
- What about words that affect other words, e.g. "not"?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?
- What about common words?
- What about words that affect other words, e.g. "not"?
- What about new words?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?
- What about common words?
- What about words that affect other words, e.g. "not"?
- What about new words?
- What do we do with new help pages?

If you were designing such a system, many issues arise such as:

- What if the most likely page isn't the correct page?
- What if the user can't find the correct page?
- What if the user mistakenly thinks they have the correct page?
- Can some pages never be found?
- What about common words?
- What about words that affect other words, e.g. "not"?
- What about new words?
- What do we do with new help pages?
- How can we transfer the language model to a new help system?