

450D Political Methodology IV

TA Section 1

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Course Goals

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- ▶ Jumping-off point for more sophisticated methods that could improve your research
- ▶ Ability to understand work produced by others
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What specific skills will we learn?

- ▶ Most of our applied time will be spent on hierarchical models, you will actually learn how to make those
- ▶ We will also introduce a lot of other applications – IRT models, EM for missing data, Mr. P, MCMC – but you will not be experts by the end of the course.

Most common applications in Political Science

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What are some examples outside of American politics?

- ▶ Blaydes and Linzer (APSR, 2012) "Elite Competition, Religiosity, and Anti-Americanism in the Islamic World"
- ▶ Robinson (World Politics, 2014) "National versus ethnic identification in Africa"

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3. Text analysis

- ▶ We won't cover text analysis in this class but the foundations will be useful if you take another course.

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- ▶ Joint, marginal, and conditional probability
- ▶ Bayes rule

OPEC Membership

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Loading the data, nothing exciting. Its from Fish (World Politics, 2002) "Islam and Authoritarianism," I will distribute the data with the slides.

```
library(foreign)
library(xtable)
library(dplyr)
fish <- read.dta("fish_data.dta")

tab <- table(fish$MUSLIM, fish$OPEC)
colnames(tab) <- c("Not OPEC", "OPEC")
rownames(tab) <- c("Not Muslim", "Muslim")
```

Joint Probability

Here is the number of countries in each category

```
xtable(tab)
```

| | Not OPEC | OPEC |
|------------|----------|------|
| Not Muslim | 108 | 1 |
| Muslim | 38 | 10 |

We can also express these as the *joint probability*

```
joint <- prop.table(tab)  
xtable(joint, digits=3)
```

| | Not OPEC | OPEC |
|------------|----------|-------|
| Not Muslim | 0.688 | 0.006 |
| Muslim | 0.242 | 0.064 |

Notice that the entire table sums to 1.

```
.688 + .242 + .006 + .064
```

```
## [1] 1
```

Joint Probability

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| Not Muslim | 0.688 | 0.006 |
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Put these countries in a bag.

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$$p(\text{Muslim} = 1, \text{OPEC} = 1) = .064$$

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What about not Muslim and in OPEC?

$$p(\text{Muslim} = 0, \text{OPEC} = 1) = .006$$

These are the *joint probabilities* of Muslim and OPEC.

Marginal probability

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But what if I wanted to use these data to learn how many countries are in OPEC?

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The *Law of Total Probability* says that we can get the marginal distribution of a variable by summing over the other variable.

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n Pr(A, B_i)$$

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We can also write it in terms of conditional probabilities

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n Pr(A|B_i) \cdot Pr(B_i)$$

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Hoff calls this the *rule of marginal probability*.

Marginal probability

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$$P(OPEC = 1) = P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 0) + P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 1)$$

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$$P(OPEC = 1) = P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 0) + P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 1)$$

$$P(OPEC = 1) = .006 + .064 = .07$$

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```
(pOPEC <- colSums(joint) %>% round(3))
```

```
## Not OPEC      OPEC  
##      0.93      0.07
```

```
(pMuslim <- rowSums(joint) %>% round(3))
```

```
## Not Muslim      Muslim  
##      0.694      0.306
```

Now we can update our table to include the marginal probabilities.

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```
full <- rbind(cbind(joint, pMuslim), "pOPEC"=c(pOPEC, 1))  
  
#drawing lines  
table <- xtable(full, digit=3)  
align(table) <- "r|rr|r"  
print(table, hline.after=c(0,2),vline.after=c(0,2))
```

| | Not OPEC | OPEC | pMuslim |
|------------|----------|-------|---------|
| Not Muslim | 0.688 | 0.006 | 0.694 |
| Muslim | 0.242 | 0.064 | 0.306 |
| pOPEC | 0.930 | 0.070 | 1.000 |

Conditional Probability

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$$P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) = P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 1)/P(Muslim = 1)$$

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$$P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) = .064/.306 = .209$$

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$$P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) = P(OPEC = 1, Muslim = 1)/P(Muslim = 1)$$

$$P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) = .064/.306 = .209$$

We can intuit this answer from the raw counts.

| | Not OPEC | OPEC |
|------------|----------|------|
| Not Muslim | 108 | 1 |
| Muslim | 38 | 10 |

Bayes' Rule

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$$P(Muslim = 1|OPEC = 1) = \frac{P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) \cdot P(Muslim = 1)}{P(OPEC = 1)}$$

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$$P(Muslim = 1|OPEC = 1) = \frac{P(OPEC = 1|Muslim = 1) \cdot P(Muslim = 1)}{P(OPEC = 1)}$$

$$P(Muslim = 1|OPEC = 1) = (.209) \cdot (.306)/(.070) = .91$$