

Fortune-teller Madam Bayes' Advice



My boyfriend has flirtatious tendencies...he cheated me before. He said that he would never have affairs with other girls.

But...recently he very often (>3 per week) comes home so late. He says that he doesn't cheat me...actually, he is very nice and talkative when he is at home.

I still suspect that he is cheating me again...but no evidence.

Ok. I will read your fortune based on "*Bayesian rule*"...



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According to the male behavior's data (refer the file male_behavior.dat*), the fact that the usual men who cheated their partner before come home late night shows;

$$P(\text{cheating}) = 0.6$$

$$P(\text{not cheating}) = 0.4$$

From the data above, the probability for cheating is not so high... And your boyfriend is very nice and talkative...from my abundant experience as a fortune-teller ($n > 300$), most men are nice and talkative when they have the secrets...therefore;

$$P(\text{nice and talkative} \mid \text{cheating}) = 0.8$$

$$P(\text{not nice and not talkative} \mid \text{cheating}) = 0.2$$

$$P(\text{nice and talkative} \mid \text{not cheating}) = 0.3$$

$$P(\text{not nice and not talkative} \mid \text{not cheating}) = 0.7$$

Based on Bayes' rule,

$$\Pr(B \mid A) = \frac{\Pr(A \mid B)\Pr(B)}{\Pr(A)} = \frac{\Pr(A \mid B)\Pr(B)}{\Pr(A \mid B)\Pr(B) + \Pr(A \mid \bar{B})\Pr(\bar{B})}$$

$P(\text{cheating} \mid \text{nice and talkative})$

$$\begin{aligned} &= P(\text{nice and talkative} \mid \text{cheating}) * P(\text{cheating}) \\ &\quad / \{P(\text{nice and talkative} \mid \text{cheating}) * P(\text{cheating}) + \\ &\quad P(\text{nice and talkative} \mid \text{not cheating}) * P(\text{not cheating})\} \\ &= 0.8 * 0.6 / (0.8 * 0.6 + 0.3 * 0.4) \\ &= \underline{0.80} \end{aligned}$$

Hmm...0.8...but it is up to you whether 0.8 is high or not...

(*It is fictional data!)

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Fortune-teller Madam Bayes' Advice



By Aki Shiozawa



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