

# Intrusion Detection: Base Rate Fallacy

Prof. Ravi Sandhu  
Executive Director and Endowed Chair

Lecture 11

ravi.utsa@gmail.com  
www.profsandhu.com

S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

S

$\neg$ S

|          |                     |                |   |
|----------|---------------------|----------------|---|
|          |                     | S              | $\neg$ S                                    |
| R        | R $\wedge$ S        | True positive  | R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S<br>False positive       |
| $\neg$ R | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ S | False negative | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S<br>True negative |

R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)  
System is under attack

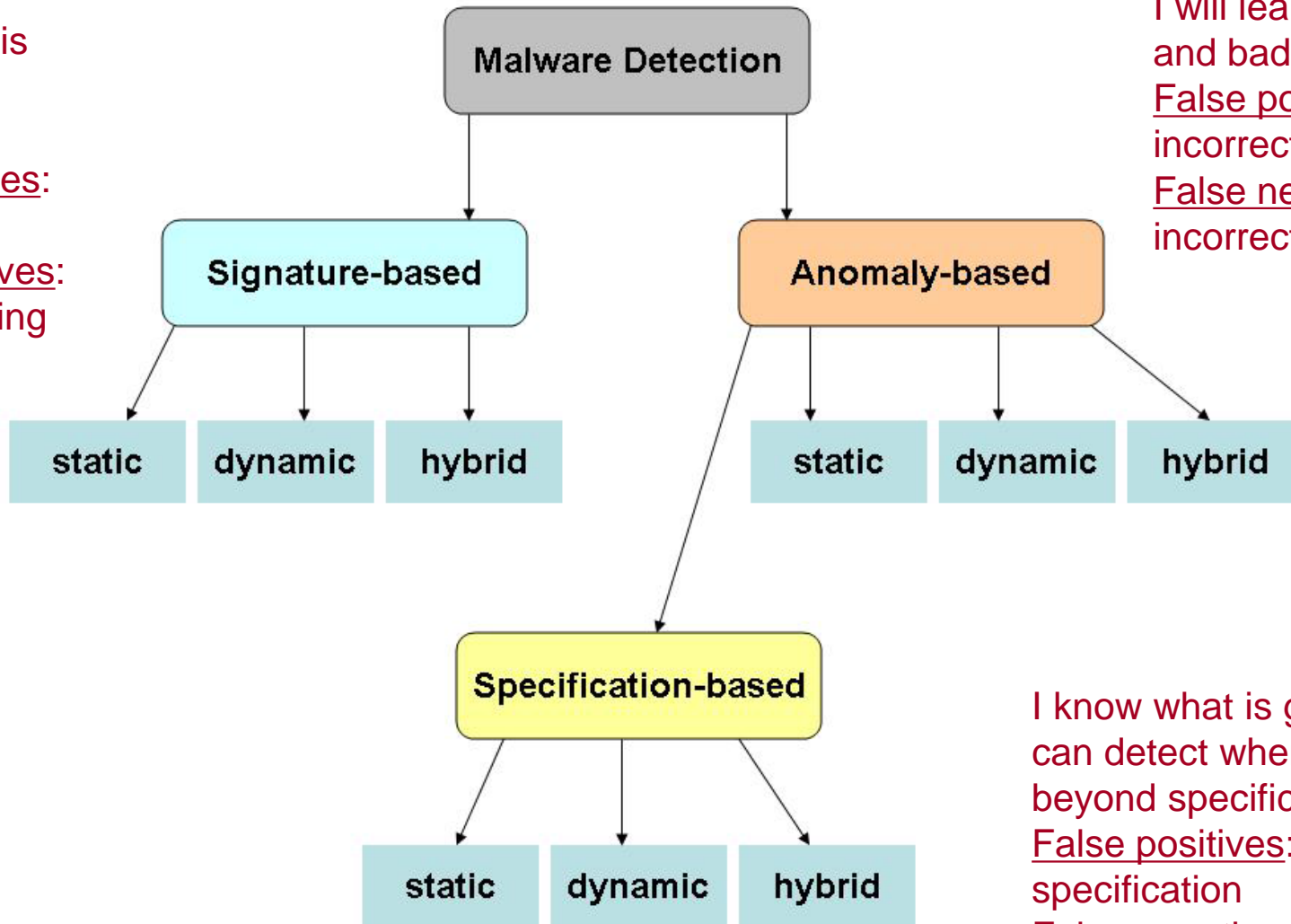
S

$\neg$ S

|          |                   |                        |
|----------|-------------------|------------------------|
|          | $R \wedge S$      | $R \wedge \neg S$      |
| R        | True positive     | False positive         |
|          | $\neg R \wedge S$ | $\neg R \wedge \neg S$ |
| $\neg$ R | False negative    | True negative          |

R: Test **R**esult  
is positive  
Alarm is raised

I know what is bad and can detect it  
False positives: none  
False negatives: ever increasing



I will learn what is good and bad  
False positives: incorrect learning  
False negatives: incorrect learning

I know what is good and can detect when you go beyond specification  
False positives: incomplete specification  
False negatives: incorrect specification

Nwokedi Idika and Aditya Mathur, A Survey of Malware Detection Techniques, Purdue University, Feb 2007.

S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

S

$\neg$ S

|          |                     |                            |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|
|          | R $\wedge$ S        | R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S        |
| R        | True positive       | False positive             |
|          | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ S | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S |
| $\neg$ R | False negative      | True negative              |

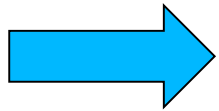
R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

S

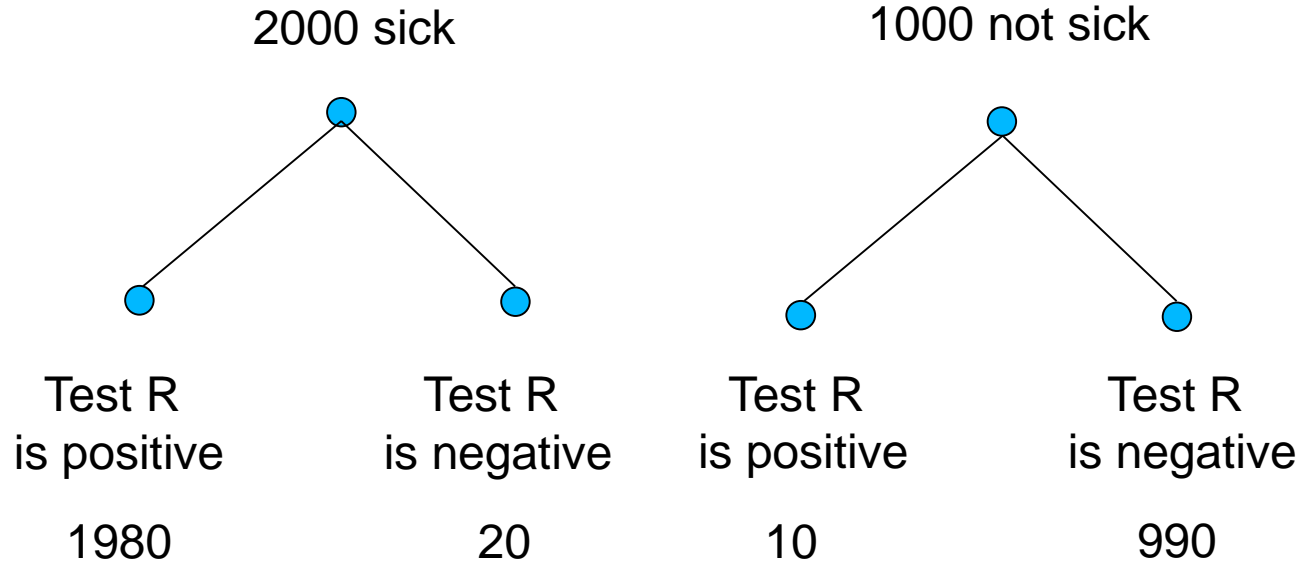
$\neg$ S

|          |                     |  |  |
|----------|---------------------|--|--|
|          |                     | S                                      | $\neg$ S   |
| R        | R $\wedge$ S        | True positive<br>$P(R S) = 0.99$       | R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S<br>False positive<br>$P(R \neg S) = 0.01$            |
| $\neg$ R | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ S | False negative<br>$P(\neg R S) = 0.01$ | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S<br>True negative<br>$P(\neg R \neg S) = 0.99$ |

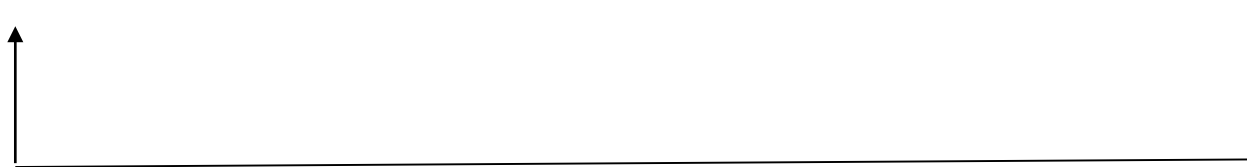


R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

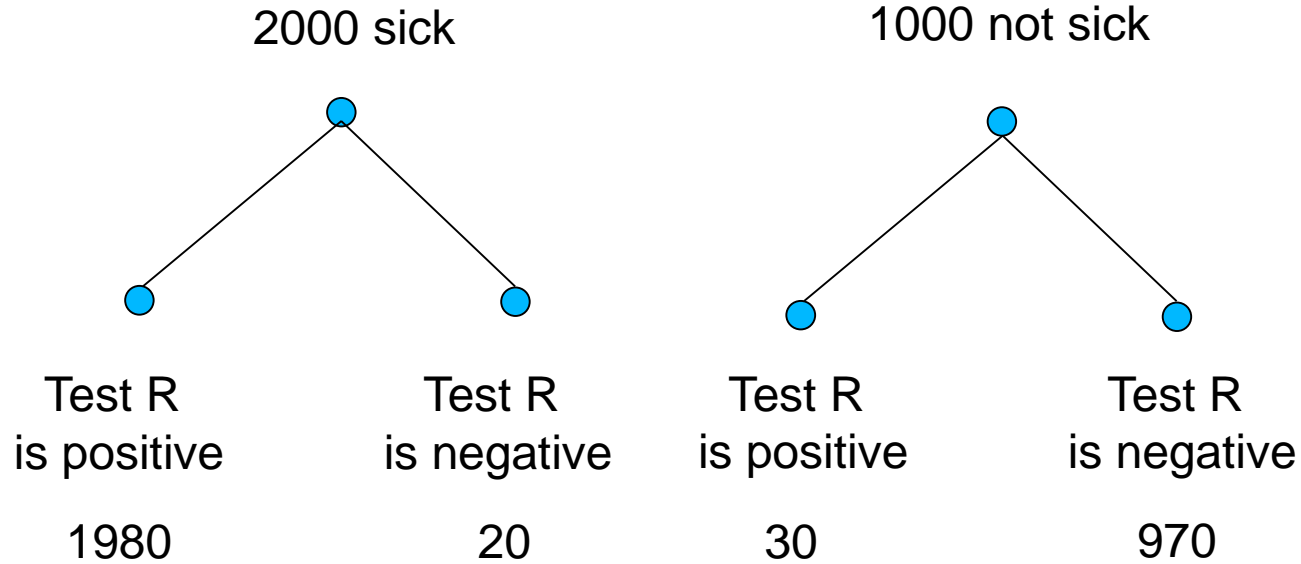
These probabilities  
can be empirically  
estimated



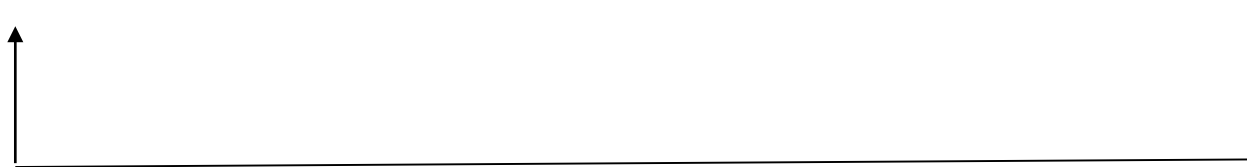
estimate  $P(R|S) = 0.99$   $P(\neg R|S) = 0.01$   $P(R|\neg S) = 0.01$   $P(\neg R|\neg S) = 0.99$



Coincidentally equal



estimate  $P(R|S) = 0.99$   $P(\neg R|S) = 0.01$   $P(R|\neg S) = 0.03$   $P(\neg R|\neg S) = 0.97$



In general will not be equal

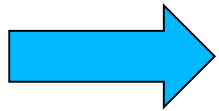


S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

S

$\neg$ S

|          |                     |  |  |
|----------|---------------------|--|--|
|          |                     | S                                      | $\neg$ S                                   |
| R        | R $\wedge$ S        | True positive<br>$P(R S) = 0.99$       | False positive<br>$P(R \neg S) = 0.03$     |
| $\neg$ R | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ S | False negative<br>$P(\neg R S) = 0.01$ | True negative<br>$P(\neg R \neg S) = 0.97$ |



R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

These probabilities  
can be empirically  
estimated

Rows must  
total between  
0 and 2

Columns must total 1

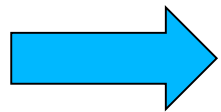
We will continue with these numbers

S: Patient is Sick  
(has the disease)

S

$\neg$ S

|          |                   |  |  |
|----------|-------------------|--|--|
|          |                   | S                                      | $\neg$ S   |
| R        | $R \wedge S$      | True positive<br>$P(R S) = 0.99$       | $R \wedge \neg S$<br>False positive<br>$P(R \neg S) = 0.01$          |
| $\neg R$ | $\neg R \wedge S$ | False negative<br>$P(\neg R S) = 0.01$ | $\neg R \wedge \neg S$<br>True negative<br>$P(\neg R \neg S) = 0.99$ |



R: Test Result is positive

These probabilities can be empirically estimated



S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

S

$\neg$ S

|          |                                      |  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|
|          | R $\wedge$ S                         | R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S                      |
| R        | True positive<br>$P(S R) = ??$       | False positive<br>$P(\neg S R) = ??$     |
|          | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ S                  | $\neg$ R $\wedge$ $\neg$ S               |
| $\neg$ R | False negative<br>$P(S \neg R) = ??$ | True negative<br>$P(\neg S \neg R) = ??$ |

R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

Rows must  
total 1

These probabilities  
can be computed by  
Bayes' theorem if we  
know  $P(S)$

Columns must total between 0 and 2

- $P(S|R) = \frac{(P(S) \times P(R|S))}{(P(S) \times P(R|S) + P(\neg S) \times P(R|\neg S))}$
- $P(\neg S|R) = 1 - P(S|R)$
- $P(S|\neg R) = \frac{(P(S) \times P(\neg R|S))}{(P(S) \times P(\neg R|S) + P(\neg S) \times P(\neg R|\neg S))}$
- $P(\neg S|\neg R) = 1 - P(S|\neg R)$

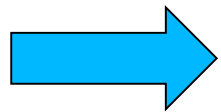
We will continue with these numbers

S: Patient is Sick  
(has the disease)

S

¬S

|    |                                    |                                    |
|----|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|    | R ∧ S                              | R ∧ ¬S                             |
| R  | True positive<br>$P(R S) = 0.99$   | False positive<br>$P(R ¬S) = 0.01$ |
|    | ¬R ∧ S                             | ¬R ∧ ¬S                            |
| ¬R | False negative<br>$P(¬R S) = 0.01$ | True negative<br>$P(¬R ¬S) = 0.99$ |



R: Test Result is positive

These probabilities can be empirically estimated

Assume  
 $P(S)=0.0001$   
 1 in 10,000 has  
 disease



S: Patient is **S**ick  
 (has the disease)

S

$\neg S$

|          |                   |  |  |
|----------|-------------------|--|--|
|          |                   | S  | $\neg S$   |
| R        | R $\wedge$ S      | True positive<br>$P(S R) = 0.009804$       | R $\wedge$ $\neg S$<br>False positive<br>$P(\neg S R) = 0.990196$        |
| $\neg R$ | $\neg R \wedge S$ | False negative<br>$P(S \neg R) = 0.000001$ | $\neg R \wedge \neg S$<br>True negative<br>$P(\neg S \neg R) = 0.999999$ |

R: Test **R**esult  
 is positive

Rows must  
 total 1

These probabilities  
 can be computed by  
 Bayes' theorem if we  
 know  $P(S)$

Columns must total between 0 and 2

Assume  
 $P(S)=0.0001$   
1 in 10,000 has  
disease

| $P(S R)$ | requires | $P(R \neg S)$ |
|----------|----------|---------------|
| 0.01     |          | 0.01          |
| 0.09     |          | 0.001         |
| 0.5      |          | 0.0001        |
| 0.9      |          | 0.00001       |
| 0.99     |          | 0.000001      |

Total population = 1,000,000  
1 in 10,000 has disease

S: Patient is **S**ick  
(has the disease)

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| <b>S</b>   | <b>¬S</b>      |
| <b>100</b> | <b>999,900</b> |

|           |                |                |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|
|           | <b>R ∧ S</b>   | <b>R ∧ ¬S</b>  |
| <b>R</b>  | True positive  | False positive |
|           | <b>¬R ∧ S</b>  | <b>¬R ∧ ¬S</b> |
| <b>¬R</b> | False negative | True negative  |

R: Test **R**esult  
is positive

R is 99% accurate  
for sick and non-sick  
populations



Total population = 1,000,000  
1 in 10,000 has disease

S: Patient is Sick  
(has the disease)

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| $S$        | $\neg S$       |
| <b>100</b> | <b>999,900</b> |

R: Test Result  
is positive

|          |                            |                                 |
|----------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|          | $R \wedge S$               | $R \wedge \neg S$               |
| $R$      | True positive<br><b>99</b> | False positive<br><b>9,999</b>  |
|          | $\neg R \wedge S$          | $\neg R \wedge \neg S$          |
| $\neg R$ | False negative<br><b>1</b> | True negative<br><b>989,901</b> |

R is 99% accurate  
for sick and non-sick  
populations