



COMP 1002

Logic for Computer Scientists

Lecture 29





Random variables

- “Random variable” X is a *function* from outcomes to numbers.
 - In Computer Science applications, usually X counts something.
 - Number of heads out of n coin tosses.
 - Number of steps a program takes on an input
 - An *indicator* random variable X takes value 0 or 1 depending on whether an event occurred or not.

- Expectation of a random variable X is

$$E(X) = \sum_{i \in \text{Outcomes}} X(i) * \text{Pr}(i)$$

Expectation example

Suppose we roll two fair dice. What is the expected sum of their values?



- X can take values from 2 to 12.
 - $\Pr(X=2) = \Pr(X=12) = 1/36$
 - $\Pr(X=3) = \Pr(X=11) = 2/36 = 1/18,$
 - $\Pr(X=4) = \Pr(X=10) = 3/36 = 1/12,$
 - $\Pr(X=5) = \Pr(X=9) = 4/36 = 1/9,$
 - $\Pr(X=6) = \Pr(X=8) = 5/36,$
 - $\Pr(X=7) = 6/36 = 1/6$

$$E(X) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{36} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{18} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{12} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{9} + 6 \cdot \frac{5}{36} + 7 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 8 \cdot \frac{5}{36} + 9 \cdot \frac{1}{9} + 10 \cdot \frac{1}{12} + 11 \cdot \frac{1}{18} + 12 \cdot \frac{1}{36} = 7$$



Expected win in a lottery

- Rules of Lotto 6/49:
 - A player chooses 6 numbers, 1 to 49.
 - During a draw, 6 randomly generated numbers are revealed.
 - If all 6 numbers chosen by the player match 6 numbers in the draw, the player gets the jackpot of \$5,000,000 or more.
 - There are also smaller prizes; let's ignore them for simplicity.
 - A ticket costs \$3.
 - According to Atlantic Lotto Corporation, chances of winning the jackpot are roughly $1/14,000,000$.



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 - A ticket costs \$3.
 - According to Atlantic Lotto Corporation, chances of winning the jackpot are roughly 1/14,000,000.
- What is the expected amount a player would win if the jackpot is 5,000,000?
 - $\Pr(\text{win}) = 1/14,000,000$. $\Pr(\text{loss}) = 1 - \Pr(\text{win}) = 13,999,999/14,000,000$.
 - Let the random variable X encode the amount a player wins.
 - For all but one player, that amount is -3. So $\Pr(X=-3) = \Pr(\text{loss})$
 - For the lucky one, the amount is the jackpot minus ticket price.
 $\Pr(X=4,999,997) = \Pr(\text{win})$
 - Expected amount to win is $E(X) = \Pr(\text{loss}) * (-3) + \Pr(\text{win}) * (5,000,000 - 3) = -2.64$
 - If counting smaller prizes, just add their amount*odds to the sum, and adjust $\Pr(\text{loss})$
 - $E(X) = \Pr(\text{loss}) * (-3) + \Pr(\text{jackpot}) * (4,999,997) + \Pr(5/6 + \text{bonus}) * 374,997 + \Pr(5/6) * 312,497 \dots$



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 - A ticket costs \$3.
 - According to Atlantic Lotto Corporation, chances of winning the jackpot are roughly 1/14,000,000.
- How large should be the jackpot so that the players expect at least to break even?
 - Let's call the jackpot amount J .
 - Expected amount to win is $E(X) = \text{Pr}(\text{loss}) * (-3) + \text{Pr}(\text{win}) * (J-3)$.
 - To break even, want $E(X)=0$.
 - $J = 3 + (E(X) - \text{Pr}(\text{loss}) * (-3)) / \text{Pr}(\text{win}) = 42,000,000$



Saturday, March 25, 2017
MAIN DRAW
05-09-14-24-30-35
Bonus: 21
GUARANTEED PRIZE DRAW
45768958-02



Bernoulli trials and repeated experiments

- Suppose an experiment has two outcomes, 1 and 0 (success/failure), with $\Pr(1) = p$.
 - Such experiment is called a **Bernoulli trial**.
- What happens if the experiment is repeated multiple times (independently from each other?)



- A sample space after carrying out n Bernoulli trials is a set of all possible n -tuples of elements in $\{0,1\}$ (or $\{\text{success, fail}\}$).
 - Number of n -tuples with k 1s is $\binom{n}{k}$
 - Probability of getting 1 in any given trial is p , of getting 0 is $(1-p)$.
 - Probability of getting exactly k 1s (successes) out of n trials is $\binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$
 - Probability of getting the first success on exactly the k^{th} trial is $p(1-p)^{k-1}$
- How many trials do we need, on average, to get a success?



Expected number until...

- Suppose that Alan insists on buying lottery tickets until he wins. If probability of winning is p , how many tickets in expectation (“on average”) would he have to buy?
 - Let X be a random variable for how many tickets he has to buy.
 - The probability of winning on exactly i^{th} ticket is $p(1 - p)^{i-1}$
 - $E(X) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} i * \Pr(X = i) = \frac{1}{p}$
 - So for Lotto 6/49 he’d have to buy 14,000,000 tickets (and spend \$42,000,000 -- that’s jackpot that would let him break even!)



Expected number until...

- Suppose we have Bernoulli trials with success probability p . What is the expected number of trials to see success?
 - Let X be a random variable for the number of steps till success.
 - $E(X) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} i * \Pr(X = i) = \frac{1}{p}$
- Same reasoning applies to other processes, where there is a fixed probability of something happening at each experiment or time step.
 - A system has a 1% probability of hanging in any given hour. How long, on average, will it stay up?
 - 100 hours: a little over 4 days.



Linearity of expectation



- Expectation is a very well-behaved operation:
 - $E(X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n) = E(X_1) + \cdots + E(X_n)$
 - $E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b$
 - Where $X_1 \dots X_n$ are random variables on some sample space S , and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$
- Proof:
 - $E(X_1 + X_2) = \sum_{s \in S} p(s)(X_1(s) + X_2(s))$
 $= \sum_{s \in S} p(s)X_1(s) + \sum_{s \in S} p(s)X_2(s)$
 $= E(X_1) + E(X_2)$
 - Similar for $E(aX + b) = a E(X) + b$
 - Using the fact that $\sum_{s \in S} p(s) = 1$



Hat-check problem



- Suppose n men came to an event, and checked in their hats at the door.
 - On the way out, in a hurry, they each picked up a random hat.
 - On average, how many men picked their own hat?





Hat-check problem



- Suppose n men came to an event, and checked in their hats at the door.
 - On the way out, in a hurry, they each picked up a random hat.
 - How many men are expected to have picked their own hat?
- For each man, introduce a random variable X_i , where $X_i = 1$ iff he picked his own hat
 - Such random variables are called **indicator variables**.
 - The quantity we want is $E(X_1 + \dots + X_n)$
 - Now, for each X_i , $E(X_i) = 1 \cdot \Pr(X_i = 1) = \frac{1}{n}$
 - By linearity of expectation, $E(X_1 + \dots + X_n) = E(X_1) + \dots + E(X_n) = \frac{1}{n} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1$
- So on average, just one man will go home with his own hat!



Tower of Hanoi game



- Rules of the game:
 - Start with all disks on the first peg.
 - At any step, can move a disk to another peg, as long as it is not placed on top of a smaller disk.
 - Goal: move the whole tower onto the second peg.
- Question: how many steps are needed to move the tower of 8 disks? How about n disks?