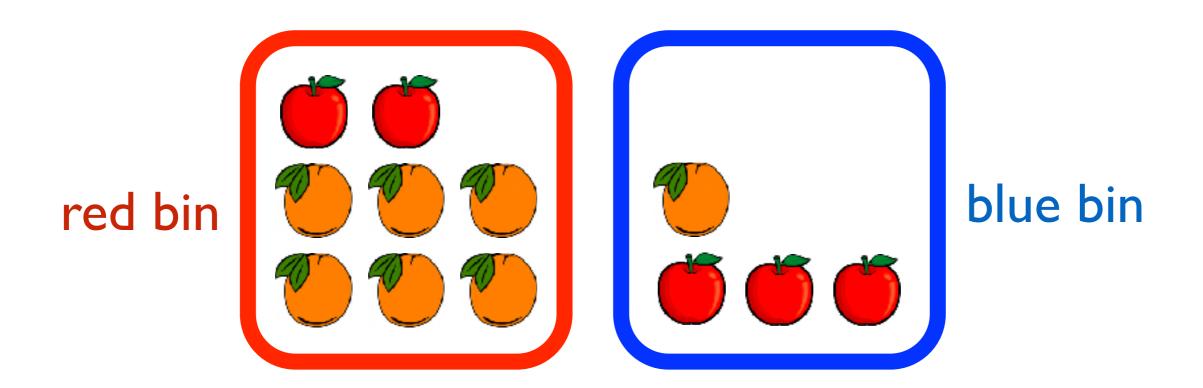
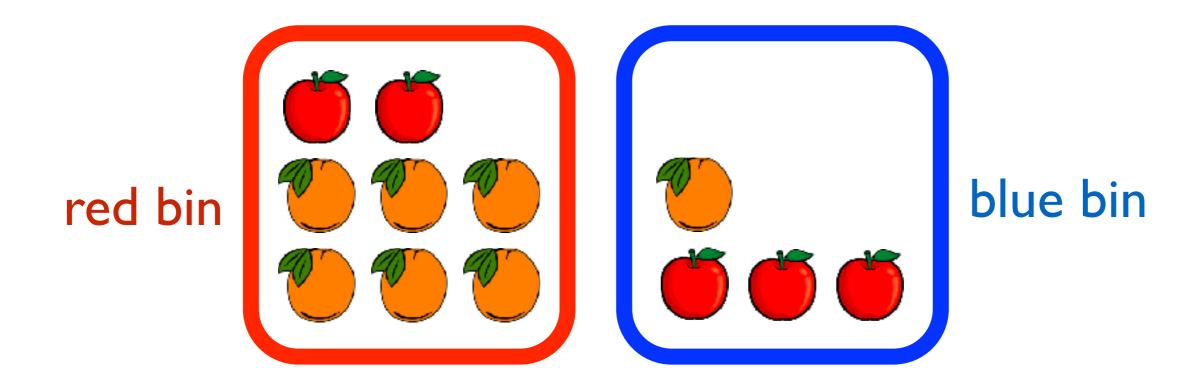
CS492: Probabilistic Programming Posterior Inference, Basics of Anglican, and Importance Sampling

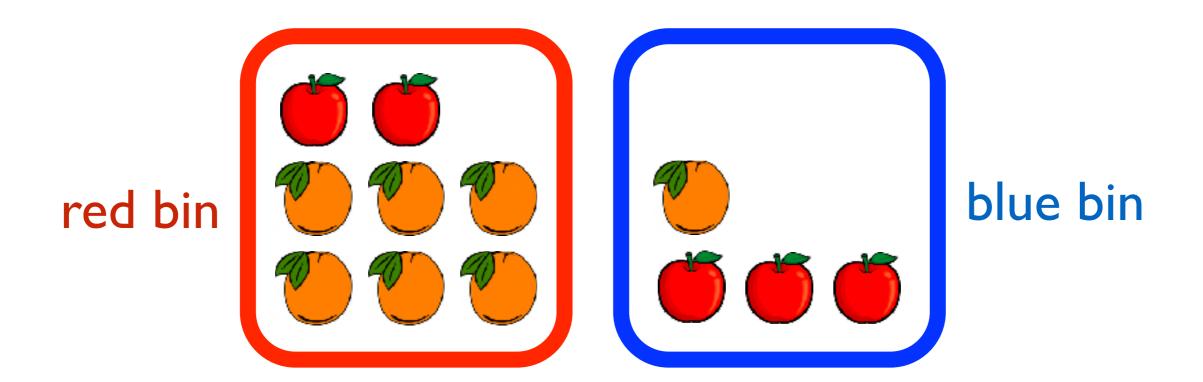
Hongseok Yang KAIST



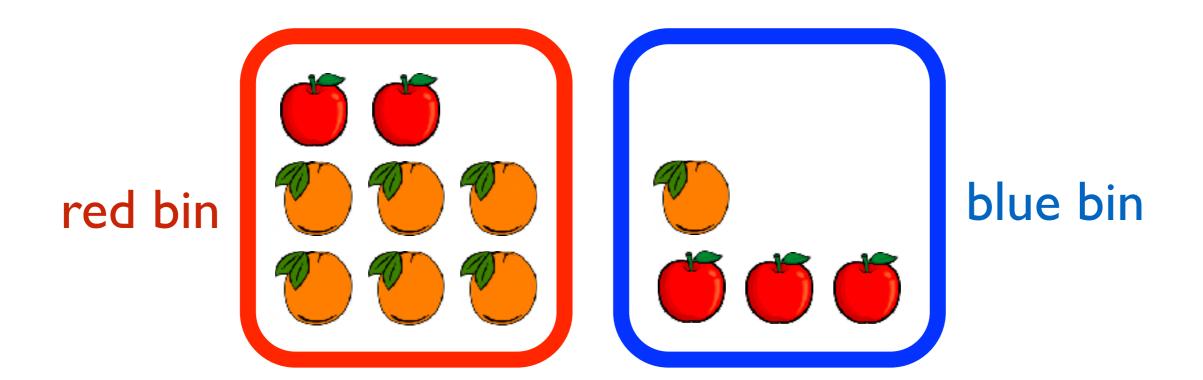


I pick a bin.

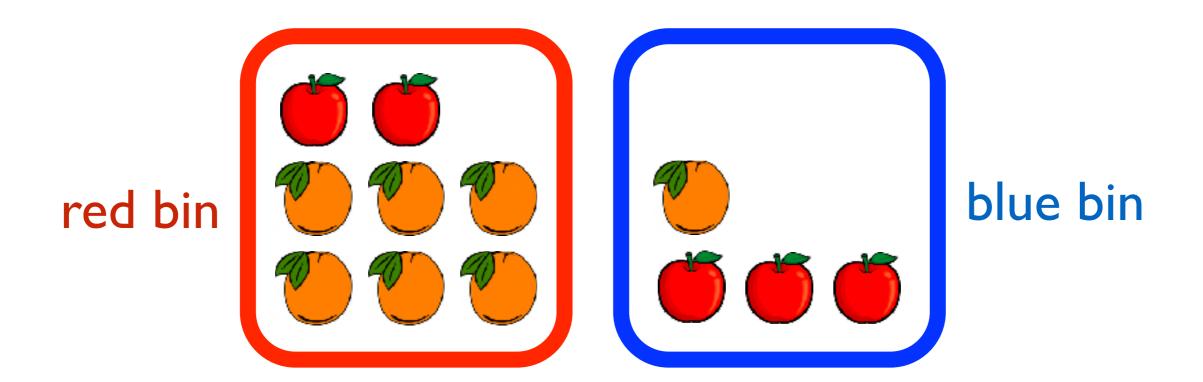
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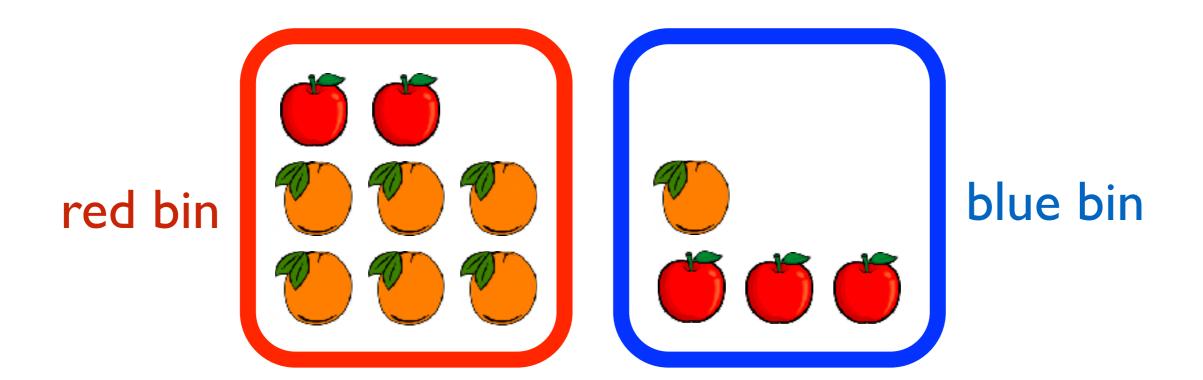
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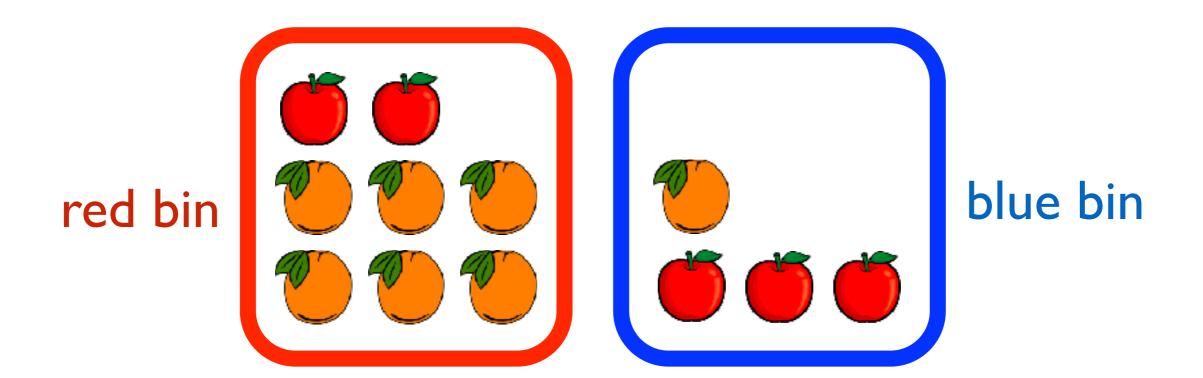
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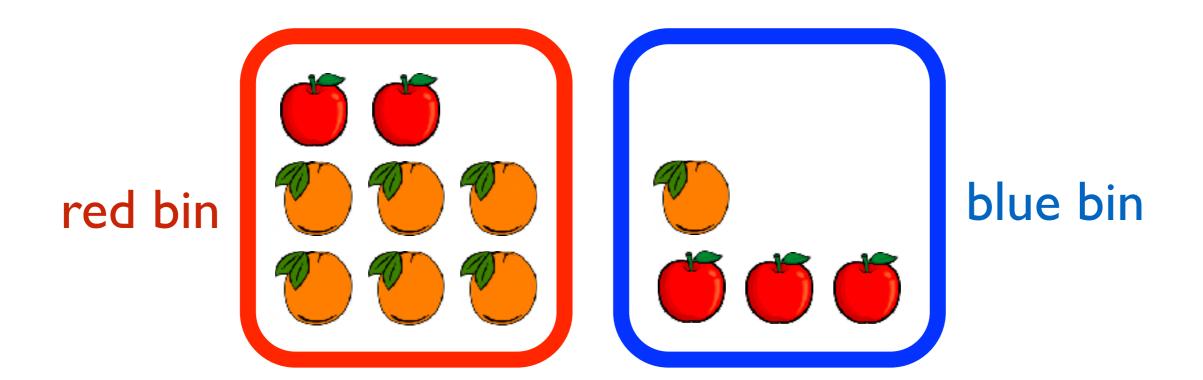
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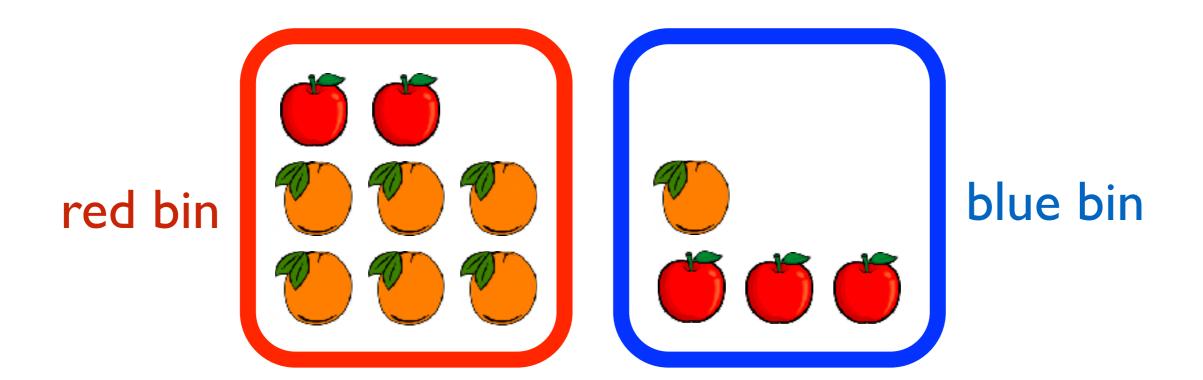
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that I picked the blue bin?

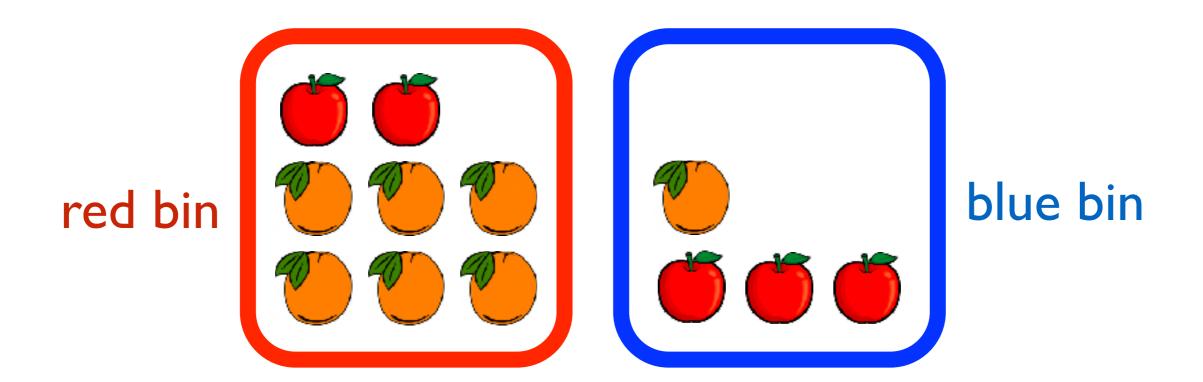
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Learning outcome

- Can describe prior, likelihood, posterior, Bayes' rule.
- Can solve the puzzle using Bayes' rule
- Can express/solve the puzzle in Anglican.
- Can explain importance sampling.

We will use discrete probabilities mostly.

Review of discrete probability, and posterior inference

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- Probability p assigns numbers between 0 and 1 for all possible value assignments of some variables.

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 $p(x=0,y=1) = 3/24$
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[Lemma 2] (Bayes' rule)

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In sloppy but simpler popular notation.

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y—observation a harder latent Bayes' rule variable

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- Trivial fact. But super famous. Why?
- Says how to combine prior knowledge with observed data consistently.
- Typically, p(x) & p(y|x) specified (not p(x,y)).

y—observation x—target latent Bayes' rule variable

prior distribution

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variable

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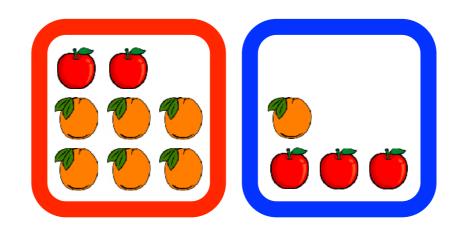
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posterior \prior likelihood \prior

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- Typically, p(x) & p(y|x) specified (not p(x,y)).

Puzzle again



I pick a bin. Then, I choose a fruit from the bin.

$$p(red) = 1/6$$
 $p(blue) = 5/6$
 $p(apple|red) = 2/8$ $p(apple|blue) = 3/4$

[Q] If I pick an orange, what is the probability that I picked the blue bin?

Exercise

A bag contains one ball, either white with prob 1/5 or black with prob 4/5. An additional white ball is put in, and the bag is shaken. Then, a ball is drawn, which proves to be white. What is now the chance of drawing a white ball?

Modified Ex 3.12 from MacKay's Info.Th. book

Posterior inference

- Computation of p(x|y) given i) p(y|x) and p(x) and ii) an observed value w of y.
- Bayes' rule and Req 2 give an algorithm:

$$p(x \mid y=w) = \frac{p(y=w \mid x) \times p(x)}{p(y=w)}$$
$$= \frac{p(y=w \mid x) \times p(x)}{\sum_{v} p(x=v, y=w)}$$

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Big sum for realistic models. Inefficient.

Approximate posterior inference

- Approximates posterior p(x|y) using a set of samples or a simpler distribution.
- Commonly used in practice.
- Anglican implements many such algorithms.
- Often, the goal is to estimate $\mathbb{E}_{P(x|y)}[f(x)]$.

Expectation

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathsf{p}(\mathsf{x})}[\mathsf{f}(\mathsf{x})] = \sum_{\mathsf{x}} \mathsf{p}(\mathsf{x})\mathsf{f}(\mathsf{x})$$

I. Linearity:

$$\mathbb{E}_{P(x)}[\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)] = \alpha \mathbb{E}_{P(x)}[f(x)] + \beta \mathbb{E}_{P(x)}[g(x)]$$

2. Independent random variables:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{x})\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{y})}[\mathsf{f}(\mathsf{x})\mathsf{g}(\mathsf{y})] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{x})}[\mathsf{f}(\mathsf{x})]\mathbb{E}_{\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{y})}[\mathsf{g}(\mathsf{y})]$$

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[Q] A coin with probability p of coming up heads. N coin tosses. Mean of the number of heads? Variance?

Conditioning and posterior inference in Anglican

Conditioning in Anglican

In Anglican, we condition a model by observed random variables using the observe construct:

(observe distribution-object observed-value)

Examples:

```
(observe (flip p) true)
```

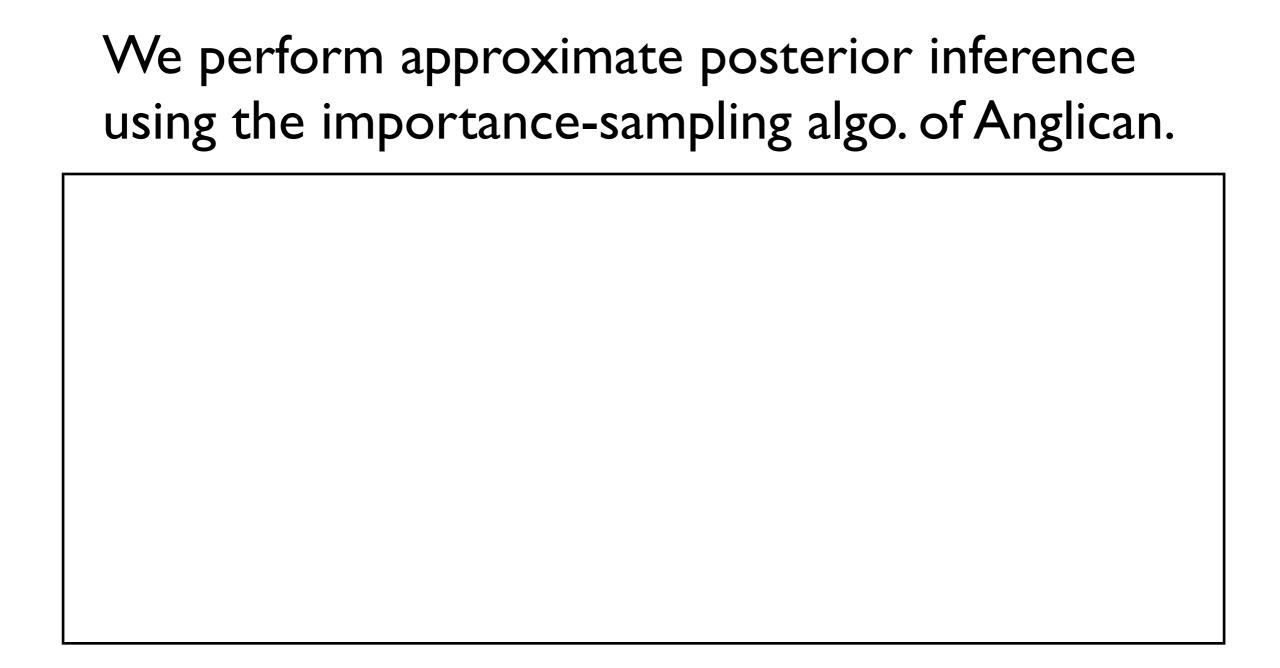
```
(observe
  (categorical
    {:blue p, :red q, :green r})
    :blue)
```

```
(defquery puzl [fruit]
  (let [bin
    bin))
```

```
(defquery puzl [fruit]
  (let [bin
            (observe
              (categorical
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                 {:blue p, :red q, :green r})
               :blue)
```

```
(defquery puzl [fruit]
  (let [bin (sample (categorical
                       {:red (/ 1 6),
                        :blue (/ 5 6)}))]
    (if (= bin :red)
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                fruit)
      (observe (categorical
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                fruit))
    bin))
```



```
(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
```

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```

Anglican function.

Performs inference.

Returns a lazy infinite list of Clojure maps.

```
(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
(println (first x))
```

```
(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
(println (first x))
      {:log-weight -1.3862943611198906,
      :result :blue, :predicts []}
```

```
(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
```

```
(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
(def y (take 10000 x))
```

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(defn f [m] (exp (:log-weight m)))
(defn g [m]
  (if (= (:result m) :blue) (f m) 0.0))
```

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(def x (doquery :importance puzl [:orange]))
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(/ (reduce + 0.0 (map g y))
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[Q] Does anyone see what goes on here?

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[Q] Does anyone see what goes on here?
[A] Portion of (weighted) blue samples among all (weighted) samples.

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[Q2] How to implement 1 & 2 for Anglican queries?

[Output] Weighted samples (w₁,s₁),...,(w_N,s_N).

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I. Use a global variable w initialised to 1.

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      (observe (categorical
                   {:apple (/ 3 4),
                    :orange (/ 1 4)})
               fruit))
    bin))
```

```
(defquery puzl [fruit]
  (let [bin (sample
               (categorical
                 \{: red (/ 1 6),
                  :blue (/ 5 6)}))]
    (if (= bin :red)
      (observe (categorical
                   {:apple (/ 2 8),
                    :orange (/ 6 8)})
                fruit)
      (observe (categorical
                   {:apple (/ 3 4),
                    :orange (/ 1 4)})
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```

w = 1.0

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```

 $w = 1.0 \times 0.25$

```
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  (let [bin (sample
               (categorical
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                  :blue (/ 5 6)}))]
    (if (= bin :red)
      (observe (categorical
                   {:apple (/ 2 8),
                    :orange (/ 6 8)})
                fruit)
      (observe (categorical
                   {:apple (/ 3 4),
                    :orange (/ 1 4)})
                fruit))
    bin))
```

 $w = 1.0 \times 0.25$ bin = :blue

Thus, returns (0.25, :blue)

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- Regarded as a semi-official semantics for Anglican and other probabilistic PLs.
- Log weight, not weight, used typically. Why?

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[Q] OK, but inefficient. Can you guess why? How can we improve it?

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I. Sample $x_1, ..., x_N$ from prior p(x).

2. Compute weight $w_i = p(y|x_i)$ for each i.

3. Return weighted avg. $(\sum_i w_i \times f(x_i)) / \sum_j w_j$.

General Hihood weighted importance sampling

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- 3. Return weighted avg. $(\sum_i w_i \times f(x_i)) / \sum_j w_j$. [Q] Which q(x) is good?

Summary

- Learnt posterior inference using Bayes' rule in the context of discrete probabilities.
- In Anglican, we can condition using observe and perform posterior inference.
- Discussed the likelihood weighted importance sampling algorithm.