Assignment 4 (Al1110)

Prasham Walvekar CS21BTECH11047

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Outline

Problem Statement

Solution

Question(example:1.4):

• Given n particles and m > n boxes. we place at random each particle in one of the boxes. We wish to find the probability p that in n pre selected boxes, one and only one particle will be found.

Solution:

• If we accept as outcomes all possible ways of placing n particles in m boxes distinguishing the identity of each particle, then

$$p = \frac{n!}{m^n} \tag{1}$$

If we assume that the particles are not distinguishable, that is, if all their permutations count as one, then

$$p = \frac{(m-1)!(n)!}{(m+n-1)!} \tag{2}$$

If we do not distinguish between the particles and also we assume that in each box we are allowed to place at most one particle, then

$$p = \frac{(n)!(m-n)!}{m!} \tag{3}$$