

Tutorial 6: Simulations

Due: Friday, March 13, 2020

1: Card Game

In a computer-based trading card game, players use in-game currency to draw cards. The probability of drawing each card type is as follows:

Common: 83.5%

Rare: 14%

Legendary: 2.5%

- a) Develop a function that simulates drawing a card and returns the card type.
- b) Players open packs of 30 cards at a time. Develop a program that asks the player how many card packs they would like to open, and then returns the number of each type of card that they won.

Example:

How many packs would you like to open? 3

You have 71 common cards, 15 rare cards, and 4 legendary cards.

2: Dungeons and Dice

A Dungeons and Dragons dice set is typically made up of six types of dice.

1. 20-side die (D20)
 2. 12-side die (D12)
 3. 10-side die (D10)
 4. 8-sided die (D8)
 5. 6-sided die (D6) *this is a normal die*
 6. 4-sided die (D4)
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- a) Develop a function to simulate rolling an n-sided dice.
 - b) Develop a function that simulates rolling all of the Dungeons and Dragons dice types, and returns the total sum of the dice values after the roll.
 - c) Use a Monte Carlo simulation to estimate the most likely sum of the dice values you would get if you roll the dice.

3: Stock Market

Develop a program to plot a graph of 100 Monte Carlo simulations of the stock prices over the next year for each of the following companies. You can use the stockMarket.py code to help you.

- a) Netflix <https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/NFLX/history?p=NFLX>
- b) Facebook <https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/FB/history?p=FB>
- c) Amazon <https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/AMZN/history?p=AMZN>
- d) Tesla <https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/TSLA/history?p=TSLA>

4: Game Show Problem

The “Monty Hall Problem” (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monty_Hall_problem) is a classic introduction to game theory and probability simulations that comes from a live TV game show in the 1960s. A contestant is faced with three doors. Behind one door is a very large prize (say, a car). The contestant tries to guess which door has the prize. We already know that mathematically the contestant should win 33% of the time.

- a) Write a program that uses a Monte Carlo simulation to prove it. For each simulation run, the program should use a variable to represent the randomly chosen winning door number. The program should then randomly select a door number from one to three to represent the contestant’s choice. Finally, display the winning percentage after a large number of simulation runs, and confirm that it is very close to 33%.
- b) The second part of the “Monty Hall Problem” is the most interesting. After selecting a door, but before the prize door is revealed, the contestant is shown a losing door. The contestant now has the option of switching to the other, as-yet unopened door. Should the contestant stick with their original choice, switch to the other unopened door, or does it not matter? Modify your program from #2 to always choose to switch to the other door, and display the winning percentage after a large number of simulation runs. What would you conclude to be the best strategy?