

1 We know that $\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$ and $\forall i, 0 \leq p_i \leq 1$ - (1)

Shannon entropy of X , $H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log p_i$

From (1) i.e. $0 \leq p_i \leq 1 \forall i \Rightarrow \log p_i \leq 0$

$\Rightarrow p_i \log p_i \leq 0$ (Note: $\lim_{p_i \rightarrow 0} p_i \log p_i = 0$)

Hence $H(X) \geq 0$ ($\because p_i \log p_i \leq 0 \forall i$)

Further we need to prove uniform distribution maximizes $H(X)$

Under the given constraint $\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$, to maximize $H(X)$, we will differentiate $J(X)$ w.r.t. p_i & λ where $J(X) = H(X) - \lambda \left(\sum_{i=1}^N p_i - 1 \right)$ Set it to 0

$$\frac{\partial J(X)}{\partial p_i} = -(\log p_i + 1 + \lambda) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial J(X)}{\partial p_i} \log p_i = -(1 + \lambda) \forall i \quad - (2)$$

\Rightarrow All p_i should be equal to maximize $H(X)$

Find the stationary point of $J(X)$?

$$\frac{\partial J(X)}{\partial \lambda} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow p_i = 1/N \text{ (because all } p_i \text{ are equal)} \quad - (3)$$

Using (2) and (3)

$$\lambda = \log N - 1$$