

CS215 Assignment 1 Solutions

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Question 1. There are two friends playing a dice-roll game. Friend A has $(n + 1)$ fair dice and Friend B has n fair dice (a fair die has equal probability of every face). On every roll, a win is achieved if we get a prime number on the top. What is the probability that A will have more wins than B if both roll all of their dice?

[5 marks]

Solution 1. So A or B wins when they get either 2, 3 or 5, whose probability is $\frac{1}{2}$. So the probability that A wins i number of times when all of the $(n + 1)$ dice are rolled is

$$p(A_i) = \binom{n+1}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1-i} \quad (1)$$

$$= \binom{n+1}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1} \quad (2)$$

Similarly, probability that B gets i wins when all of the n are rolled is

$$p(B_i) = \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-i} \quad (3)$$

$$= \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \quad (4)$$

Now the probability that A has more wins than B is

$$p(i > j) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ i > j}}^n p(A_i) p(B_j) \quad (5)$$

Since number of wins of A is independent from that of B . By writing each possible term $\binom{n+1}{i}$ and $\binom{n}{j}$ in a grid manner. We observe that our required terms cover exactly half of the grid. Thus equation (5) simplifies to

$$p(i > j) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (6)$$

Thus, the probability of A winning more times than B is $\frac{1}{2}$.

Question 2. You are playing a trading game against two teams A and B (will happen in reality soon). The game is played in the form of a three-set series with A and B alternately. Also, Team B is better at trading than Team A . To encourage your trading career, the exchange (an organization responsible for managing the trades) gives you two options $A-B-A$ (which means you play a game with Team A , then Team B and at last Team A again) or $B-A-B$. You will win if you win two sets in a row. Which of the two options should you choose? Justify your choice with proper calculations.

[5 marks]

Solution 2.

Question 3. This question has two parts:

- **3.1** Let Q_1, Q_2 be non-negative random variables. Let $P(Q_1 < q_1) \geq 1 - p_1$ and $P(Q_2 < q_2) \geq 1 - p_2$ where q_1, q_2 are non-negative. Then show that $P(Q_1 Q_2 < q_1 q_2) \geq 1 - (p_1 + p_2)$
- **3.2** Given n distinct values $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ with mean μ and standard deviation σ , prove that for all i , we have $|x_i - \mu| \leq \sigma\sqrt{n-1}$. How does this inequality compare with Chebyshev's inequality as n increases? (give an informal answer)

[3+2 marks]

Solution 3. 3.1

Define two events, E_1 and E_2 :

$$1. E_1 = \{Q_1 < q_1\}$$

$$2. E_2 = \{Q_2 < q_2\}$$

So,

$$P(E_1) \geq 1 - p_1$$

$$P(E_2) \geq 1 - p_2$$

We need to prove that,

$$P(Q_1 Q_2 < q_1 q_2) \geq 1 - (p_1 + p_2)$$

Let's define another event E_3 , where $E_3 = \{Q_1 Q_2 < q_1 q_2\}$

If we consider the complement of E_3 , which is

$$\{Q_1 Q_2 < q_1 q_2\}^c = \{Q_1 Q_2 \geq q_1 q_2\}$$

$$E_3^c = \{Q_1 Q_2 \geq q_1 q_2\}$$

If $Q_1 Q_2 \geq q_1 q_2$, and Q_1, Q_2 are non-negative integers, it is very clear that, atleast one of the following has to be true:

$$Q_1 \geq q_1 \text{ or } Q_2 \geq q_2$$

$$\implies E_3^c \subseteq \{Q_1 \geq q_1\} \cup \{Q_2 \geq q_2\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies P(E_3^c) &\leq P(\{Q_1 \geq q_1\} \cup \{Q_2 \geq q_2\}) \\ &\leq P(\{Q_1 \geq q_1\}) + P(\{Q_2 \geq q_2\}) \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that:

$$\{Q_1 \geq q_1\} = E_1^c \text{ and } \{Q_2 \geq q_2\} = E_2^c$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - P(E_3) &\leq P(E_1^c) + P(E_2^c) \\ &\leq 1 - P(E_1) + 1 - P(E_2) \\ &\leq 1 - (1 - p_1) + 1 - (1 - p_2) \\ &\leq p_1 + p_2 \\ \implies P(E_3) &\geq 1 - (p_1 + p_2) \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3.2 We know that,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}{n - 1} &= \sigma^2 \\ \implies \sum_{i=0}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 &= \sigma^2 (n - 1) \end{aligned}$$

For any i ,

$$(x_i - \mu)^2 \geq 0$$

So, for each i ,

$$(x_i - \mu)^2 \leq \sigma^2 \times (n - 1)$$

Again, as both $(x_i - \mu)^2$ and $\sigma^2 \times (n - 1)$ are greater than or equal to zero, we can take square root on both sides.

$$\sqrt[2]{(x_i - \mu)^2} \leq \sqrt[2]{\sigma^2 (n - 1)} |x_i - \mu| \leq \sigma \sqrt{n - 1}$$

Question 4. You need a new staff assistant, and you have n people to interview. You want to hire the best candidate for the position. When you interview a candidate, you can give them a score, with the highest score being the best and no ties being possible.

You interview the candidates one by one. Because of your company's hiring practices, after you interview the k th candidate, you either offer the candidate the job before the next interview or you forever lose the chance to hire that candidate. We suppose the candidates are interviewed in a random order, chosen uniformly at random from all $n!$ possible orderings.

We consider the following strategy. First, interview m candidates but reject them all: these candidates give you an idea of how strong the field is. After the m th candidate, hire the first candidate you interview who is better than all of the previous candidates you have interviewed.

1. Let E be the event that we hire the best assistant, and let E_i be the event that i th candidate is the best and we hire him. Determine $Pr(E_i)$, and show that

$$Pr(E) = \frac{m}{n} \sum_{j=m+1}^n \frac{1}{j-1} \quad (7)$$

[4 marks]

2. Bound $\sum_{j=m+1}^n \frac{1}{j-1}$ to obtain:

$$\frac{m}{n} (\ln n - \ln m) \leq Pr(E) \leq \frac{m}{n} (\ln(n-1) - \ln(m-1)) \quad (8)$$

[3 marks]

3. Show that $\frac{m}{n} (\ln(n) - \ln(m))$ is maximized when $m = \frac{n}{e}$, and explain why this means $Pr(E) \geq \frac{1}{e}$ for this choice of m . [3 marks]

Solution 4.

Question 5. Imagine an infinitely long line of traders waiting outside a brokerage firm to place their trades. Each trader is assigned an ID number from 1 to 200 (both inclusive, obviously these IDs are not unique). The firm's director announces a special offer: the first trader in the queue whose ID number matches the ID of any trader who has already placed a trade will receive a free trade (i.e., a trade without any margins). You have the option to choose your position in this queue. However, you don't know the ID numbers of the traders ahead of you or behind you. Your goal is to maximize your chances of being the first trader whose ID matches someone who has already placed a trade. Given this situation, what position in the queue should you choose to maximize your chances of receiving the free trade? [6 marks]

Solution 5. We have infinite number of trader where each trader is assigned an ID number from 1 to 200 waiting in a queue. We need to find the position which maximises the chance of getting a free trade, where free trade is awarded to a person whose ID number matches with someone ahead in the queue, that is, person who has traded. Since there are 200 unique IDs, the last position one can win is 201 (by pigeon hole principle). 1st person can never win as it has no one ahead of him. Therefore for i^{th} person $i \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots, 201\}$ to win, the probability of winning a free trade is given by

$$P(i) = \frac{200}{200} \times \frac{199}{200} \times \dots \times \frac{202-i}{200} \times \frac{i-1}{200} \quad (9)$$

$$= \prod_{j=2}^i \left(\frac{202-j}{200} \right) \times \frac{i-1}{200} \quad (10)$$

For maximising this probability I have used python and I have attached a file for the code. The position which maximises the probability of winning a free trade is 15 with a probability of 0.0439.

Question 6. Suppose that you have computed the mean, median and standard deviation of a set of n numbers stored in array A where n is very large. Now, you decide to add another number to A . Write a python function

to update the previously computed mean, another python function to update the previously computed median, and yet another python function to update the previously computed standard deviation. Note that you are not allowed to simply recompute the mean, median or standard deviation by looping through all the data. You may need to derive formulae for this. Include the formulae and their derivation in your report. Note that your python functions should be of the following form:

```
function newMean = UpdateMean(OldMean, NewDataValue, n, $A$),
function newMedian = UpdateMedian(OldMedian, NewDataValue, n, $A$),
function newStd = UpdateStd(OldMean, OldStd, NewMean, NewDataValue, n, $A$).
```

Also explain, how would you update the histogram of A , if you received a new value to be added to A ? (Only explain, no need to write code.) Please specify clearly if you are making any assumptions. [10 marks]

Solution 6.

Question 7. Read about the following plots:

1. Violin Plot
2. Pareto Chart
3. Coxcomb Chart
4. Waterfall Plot

Describe the uses of these plots. Take some sample data and generate one example plot for each of them.

[8 marks]

Solution 7. Here are the descriptions and usages of the given plots along with their examples:

1. **Violin plot:** It's a hybrid of box plot and kernel density plot. A box plot represents data in a linear fashion. It's made of a straight line from lowest value to highest value along with a box from first to third quartiles, marking all the quartiles of the dataset. Here's an example:



Figure 1: Box plot

A kernel density plot represents the density/frequency of data points. It's similar to a histogram, but smooth. In a violin graph, this is kept vertical, with two mirror images of it reflected along y-axis. This is useful in the sense that we can look into both central tendencies of the data (like mean, median etc.) but also how the data is distributed. Both at once. We can visualise the following data which I've taking from (*) containing the average number of hours a person studies given the number of courses taken

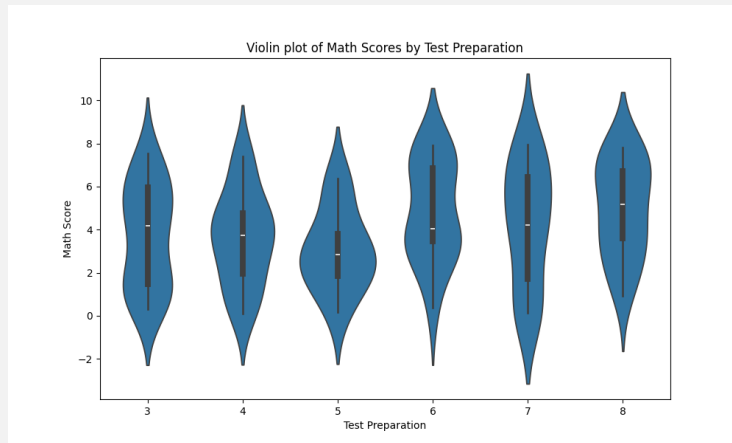


Figure 2: Violin Plot

As mentioned before, a violing plot can show both statistical summary along with distribution, which a normal plot can't. Here, the gray line represents the box plot component of it. And the plot you get by rotating it by 90° is the distribution plot.

2. Pareto Chart:

Question 8. Download the image of Monalisa from here. Read the image using matplotlib (example). Write a piece of python code to shift the image along the X direction by tx pixels where tx is an integer ranging from -10 to $+10$ (so, in total you need to do this for 20 values). While doing so, assign a value of 0 to unoccupied pixels. For each shift, compute the correlation coefficient between the original image and its shifted version. Make a plot of correlation coefficients across the shift values. Also, generate a normalized histogram for the original image. You might need to refer to section 3.3 from this book. You are not allowed to use any inbuilt function for generating the histogram. If you are using any other libraries, then please mention about them in the pdf.

[8 marks]

Solution 8. The image of Mona Lisa was read using the `matplotlib` library. The image was then shifted horizontally by tx pixels for each value of tx in the range of -10 to $+10$. The shifting operation was implemented manually, ensuring that unoccupied pixels were assigned a value of 0. A custom function `shifting` was created to handle the shifting process:

- If $tx > 0$, pixels were shifted rightwards by tx units.
- If $tx < 0$, pixels were shifted leftwards by tx units.
- If $tx = 0$, the function returned the original image.

For each shifted image, the correlation coefficient between the original and shifted image was calculated. This coefficient quantifies the linear relationship between the two images, with values ranging from -1 to 1 , where 1 indicates a perfect positive correlation, -1 indicates a perfect negative correlation, and 0 indicates no correlation. A normalized histogram of the original image was generated by calculating the frequency of each pixel intensity and then normalizing the values. This was done manually without using any inbuilt histogram function. The correlation coefficients for the different shift values were plotted to observe the relationship between the magnitude of the shift and the correlation with the original image.

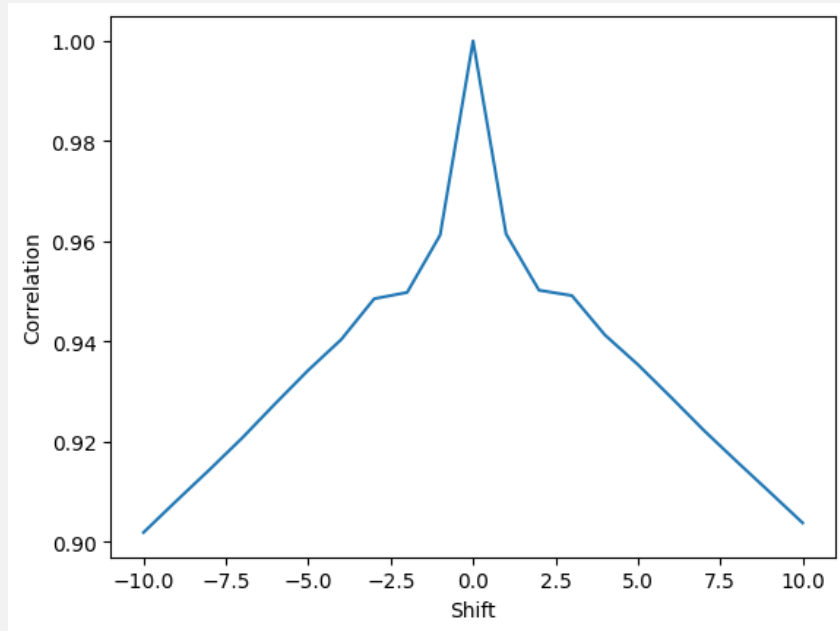


Figure 3: Correlation Coefficient vs Shift Values

As observed in Figure 3, the correlation decreases as the shift increases in either direction. This is expected as the more the image is shifted, the less it resembles the original, resulting in lower correlation values.

The normalized histogram of the original image was also plotted to visualize the distribution of pixel intensities.

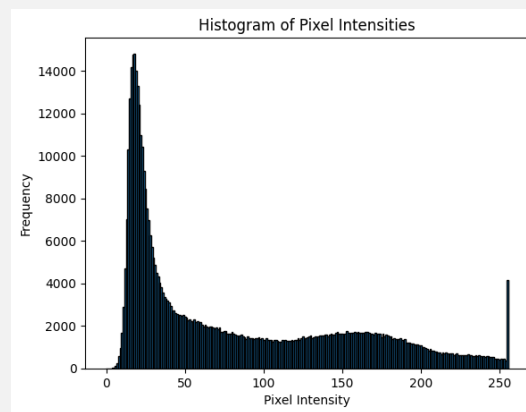


Figure 4: Normalized Histogram of the Original Image

The histogram in Figure 4 shows the frequency of occurrence of each pixel intensity, normalized over the total number of pixels.