

## 2-7 Discrete Probability

*"Life is a school of probability — Walter Bagehot"*

Hengfeng Wei

hfwei@nju.edu.cn

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## Two Extra Tasks

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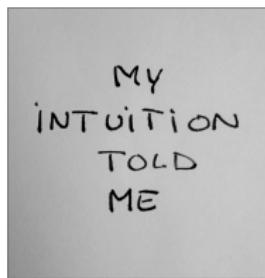
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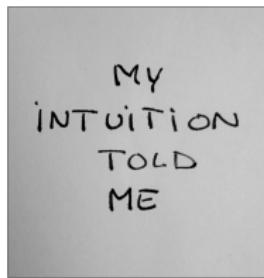


Q : What is probability?



*"...and the many **paradoxes** show clearly that we, as humans, lack a well grounded intuition in this matter."*

— “*The Art of Probability*”, Richard W. Hamming



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*“When called upon to judge probability, people actually judge something else and **believe** they have judged probability.”*

— “*Thinking, Fast and Slow*”, Daniel Kahneman

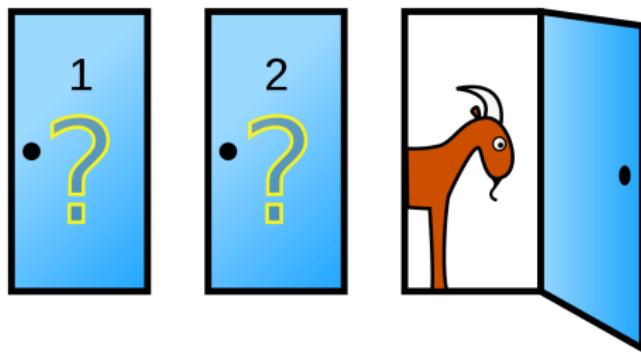


*Let us calculate [calculemus].*

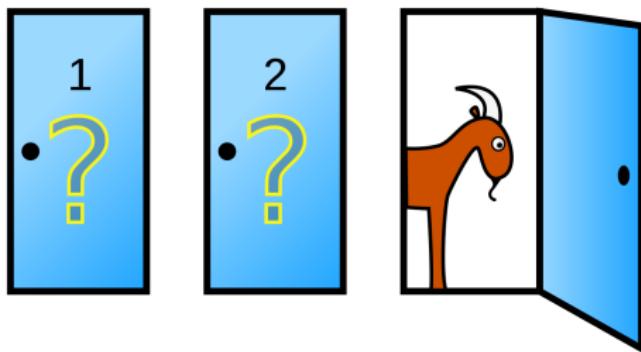


- (a) Monty Hall problem
- (b) Boy or Girl paradox
- (c) Searching unsorted array

# The Monty-Hall Problem



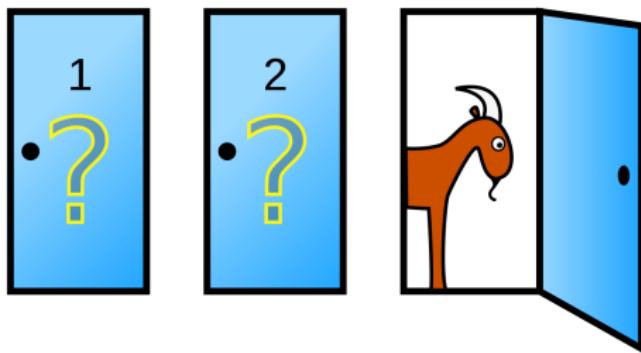
# The Monty-Hall Problem



You: Randomly pick a door (No. 1)

I: Open a door which has a goat (No. 3)

# The Monty-Hall Problem



You: Randomly pick a door (No. 1)

I: Open a door which has a goat (No. 3)

Q : Do you want to switch to door 2?

$C_i$  : The car is behind door  $i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ )

$$\Pr \{C_i\} = \frac{1}{3}$$

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ASSUMPTION: The car is initially hidden randomly behind the doors.

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$$\Pr \{C_i\} = \frac{1}{3}$$

ASSUMPTION: The car is initially hidden randomly behind the doors.

$Y_1$  : you initially pick door 1

$$\Pr \{Y_1\} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$C_i$  : The car is behind door  $i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ )

$$\Pr \{C_i\} = \frac{1}{3}$$

ASSUMPTION: The car is initially hidden randomly behind the doors.

$Y_1$  : you initially pick door 1

$$\Pr \{Y_1\} = \frac{1}{3}$$

ASSUMPTION: Your initial choice is random.

$I_3$  : I open door 3 **and** happen to reveal a goat

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**ASSUMPTION:** If you initially pick the car, then I open a door randomly.

**ASSUMPTION:** I always open a door to reveal a goat and never the car.

$I_3$  : I open door 3 **and** happen to reveal a goat

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$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{C_2, I_3, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{C_2, I_3, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1\}} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 | C_2\} \Pr \{C_2\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | Y_1\} \Pr \{Y_1\}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} &= \frac{\Pr \{C_2, I_3, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1\}} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 \mid C_2\} \Pr \{C_2\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid Y_1\} \Pr \{Y_1\}} \\ &= \frac{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 \mid C_2\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid Y_1\}}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 \mid C_2\} = \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\} \Pr \{Y_1 \mid C_2\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} &= \frac{\Pr \{C_2, I_3, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1\}} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 | C_2\} \Pr \{C_2\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | Y_1\} \Pr \{Y_1\}} \\ &= \frac{\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 | C_2\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | Y_1\}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr \{I_3, Y_1 | C_2\} &= \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} \Pr \{Y_1 | C_2\} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{3 \Pr \{I_3 | Y_1\}}$$

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**It depends on how I choose the door to open!**

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**It depends on how I choose the door to open!**

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

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$$\boxed{\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_3, Y_1\}}$$

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$$\Pr \{C_1 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}$$

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$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} > \Pr \{C_1 | I_3, Y_1\} \iff \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} > \Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_3, Y_1\}}$$

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$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{2}{3}$$

*Q : Switching vs. Choosing between the two remaining doors randomly?*

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = q$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

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$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = q$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_3, Y_1\} = 0$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{1+q}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = q$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_3, Y_1\} = 0$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{1+q} \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = q$$

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$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{1+q} \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$$

$$\Pr \{C_1 \mid I_3, Y_1\} \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}$$

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$$\boxed{\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} > \Pr \{C_1 | I_3, Y_1\} \iff \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} > \Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 \mid I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 \mid C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 \mid C_1, Y_1\} = q$$

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*Always Switch!*

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} > \Pr \{C_1 | I_3, Y_1\} \iff \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} > \Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\}$$

ASSUMPTION: I KNOW.

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}{\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} + \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\}}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} > \Pr \{C_1 | I_3, Y_1\} \iff \Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} > \Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\}$$

ASSUMPTION: I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

ASSUMPTION: I KNOW.

Opens one randomly that happens not to reveal the car.

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} = 1$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{2}{3}$$

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Opens one randomly that happens not to reveal the car.

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_1, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr \{I_3 | C_2, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr \{C_2 | I_3, Y_1\} = \frac{1}{2}$$



Monty Hall problem (wiki)

# The Boy/Girl Puzzle



## Both Girls (CS Problem 5.3 – 12)

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children of different ages,  
what is the probability that they has **two girls**,

- (a) given that **one of the children** is a girl?
- (b) given that **the older child** is a girl?



$G_1$  : the older child is a girl

$G_2$  : the younger child is a girl

$G_1$  : the older child is a girl

$G_2$  : the younger child is a girl

$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\}$$

$G_1$  : the older child is a girl

$G_2$  : the younger child is a girl

$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\} = \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}}{\Pr \{G_1 \vee G_2\}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\} &= \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}}{\Pr \{G_1 \vee G_2\}} \\ &= \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}}{\Pr \{G_1\} + \Pr \{G_2\} - \Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1\} = \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}}{\Pr \{G_1\}} = \frac{1/4}{1/2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$(G_1, G_2), (G_1, B_2), (B_1, G_2), (B_1, B_2)$

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$$\Pr \{G_1 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\} = \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge (G_1 \vee G_2)\}}{\Pr \{G_1 \vee G_2\}}$$

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$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\} = \boxed{\Pr \{G_1 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\}} \Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid G_1\}$$

$$\Pr \{G_1 \mid G_1 \vee G_2\} = \frac{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge (G_1 \vee G_2)\}}{\Pr \{G_1 \vee G_2\}} = \frac{\Pr \{G_1\}}{\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2\}} = \frac{2}{3}$$





## Both Girls (CS Problem 5.3 – 12)

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children of different ages,  
what is the probability that they has **two girls**,

- (a) given that **one of the children** is a girl?

## Both Girls (CS Problem 5.3 – 12)

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children of different ages,  
what is the probability that they has **two girls**,

- (a) given that **one of the children** is a girl?

**Q : How do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?**

*Q : How* do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?

**Q : How** do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?



**Q : How** do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?



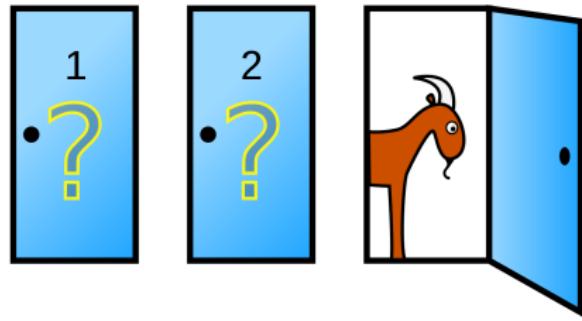
- (I) I **KNOW** them well and I tell you that “one of the children is a girl”.

**Q : How** do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?



- (I) I **KNOW** them well and I tell you that “one of the children is a girl”.
- (II) I **DON'T KNOW** them. I just open a room door and see a girl.

## The Monty-Hall Problem Comes Back



*Q : How do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?*

(II) *g* : I DON'T KNOW them. I just open a room door and see a girl.

*Q : How do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?*

(II) *g* : I DON'T KNOW them. I just open a room door and see a girl.

$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid g\} = \frac{\{G_1 \wedge G_2 \wedge g\}}{\Pr \{g\}}$$

*Q : How do you know that “one of the children is a girl”?*

(II) *g* : I DON'T KNOW them. I just open a room door and see a girl.

$$\Pr \{G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid g\} = \frac{\{G_1 \wedge G_2 \wedge g\}}{\Pr \{g\}} = \frac{1/4}{1/2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

## After-class Exercise:

A new couple, known to have two children, has just moved into town. Suppose that the mother is encountered walking with one of her children. If this child is a girl, what is the probability that both children are girls?





Boy or Girl paradox (wiki)

*Q* : What is probability?

*Q* : What is probability?



Objective: Frequentist



Subjective: Bayesians



Probability interpretations (wiki)



Probability interpretations (wiki)



Kolmogorov axioms



$$\Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \times \Pr(F) \quad (E \perp F)$$



$$\Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \times \Pr(F) \quad (E \perp F)$$

$$\Pr(E) = \Pr(E \mid F)$$



$$\Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \times \Pr(F) \quad (E \perp F)$$

$$\Pr(E) = \Pr(E \mid F)$$

*Q : E \perp F \implies F \perp E ?*

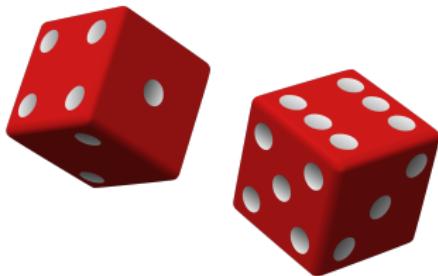


$$\Pr(EF) = \Pr(E) \times \Pr(F) \quad (E \perp F)$$

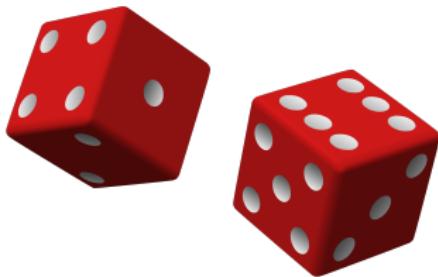
$$\Pr(E) = \Pr(E \mid F)$$

$$Q : E \perp F \implies F \perp E ?$$

$$Q : E \perp F \implies E \perp F^C ?$$

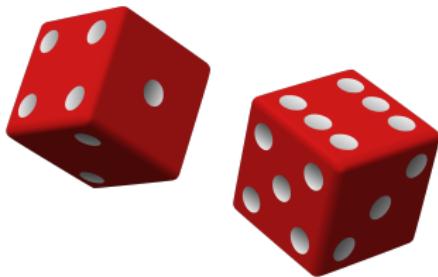


$$(d_1, d_2)$$



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$$E : d_1 + d_2 = 6 \quad F : d_1 = 4$$



$$(d_1, d_2)$$

$$E : d_1 + d_2 = 6 \quad F : d_1 = 4$$

$$Q : E \perp F ?$$



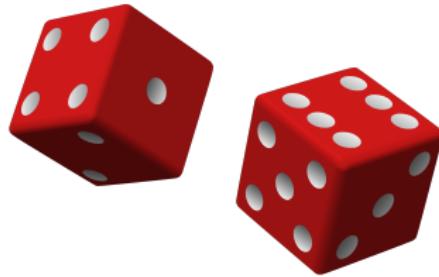
$$(d_1, d_2)$$

$$E : d_1 + d_2 = 7 \quad F : d_1 = 4$$

$$Q : E \perp F ?$$

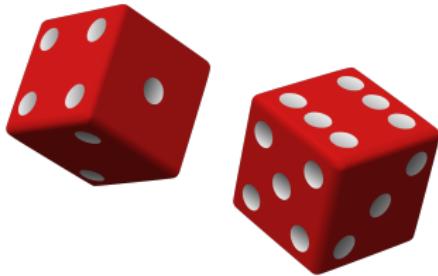
$Q : E \perp F \wedge E \perp G \implies E \perp (FG) ?$

$Q : E \perp F \wedge E \perp G \implies E \perp (FG) ?$



$$(d_1, d_2)$$

$Q : E \perp F \wedge E \perp G \implies E \perp (FG) ?$

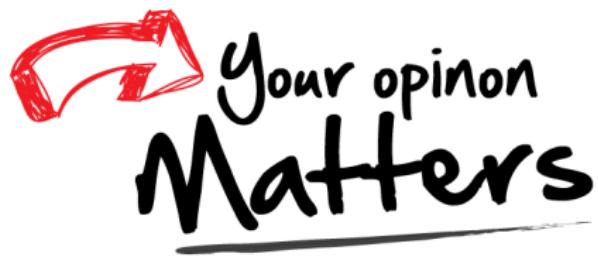


$$(d_1, d_2)$$

$$E : d_1 + d_2 = 7$$

$$F : d_1 = 4 \quad G : d_2 = 3$$

# Thank You!



Office 302

Mailbox: H016

[hfwei@nju.edu.cn](mailto:hfwei@nju.edu.cn)