

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY
APPLIED STOCHASTIC PROCESSES
(COURSE 18-751)
HOMEWORK 2

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Q.1 Compute the expected discounted future reward($\gamma(i)$)

we can compute the expected discounted future reward by using the following formula

$$\gamma(i) = h(i) + \beta \sum_j P(i, j) \gamma(j) \quad (1)$$

where β is the discount factor and $h(i)$ is the reward on state i .

$$\gamma(A) = 0 + 0.8 * (0.5 * \gamma(B) + 0.5 * \gamma(D)) \quad (2)$$

$$\gamma(B) = 0 + 0.8 * \gamma(C) \quad (3)$$

$$\gamma(C) = 0 + 0.8 * \gamma(A) \quad (4)$$

$$\gamma(D) = 1 + 0.8 * \left(\frac{1}{3} * \gamma(B) + \frac{1}{3} * \gamma(E) + \frac{1}{3} * \gamma(A) \right) \quad (5)$$

$$\gamma(E) = 2 + 0.8 * (0.5 * \gamma(B) + 0.5 * \gamma(C)) \quad (6)$$

Lets write all them in terms of $\gamma(A)$

$$\gamma(A) = \gamma(A) \quad (7)$$

$$\gamma(B) = 0.64 * \gamma(A) \quad (8)$$

$$\gamma(C) = 0.8 * \gamma(A) \quad (9)$$

$$\gamma(D) = 1.5333 + 0.5909 * \gamma(A) \quad (10)$$

$$\gamma(E) = 2 + 0.576 * \gamma(A) \quad (11)$$

writing eqn (2) interms of $\gamma(A)$ s we get

$$\gamma(A) = 0.64\gamma(A) + 0.4 * 0.5909 * \gamma(A) + 0.4 * 1.5333 \quad (12)$$

$$0.50764 * \gamma(A) = 0.4 * 1.5333 \quad (13)$$

$$(14)$$

so $\gamma(A) = 1.2082$, $\gamma(A) = 1.2082$, $\gamma(B) = 0.64 * \gamma(A) = 0.7732$,
 $\gamma(C) = 0.8 * \gamma(A) = 0.9666$, $\gamma(D) = 1.5333 + 0.5909 * \gamma(A) = 2.2472$,
 $\gamma(E) = 2 + 0.576 * \gamma(A) = 2.6959$

Ans.

$\gamma(A) = 1.2082$, $\gamma(B) = 0.7732$, $\gamma(C) = 0.9666$, $\gamma(D) = 2.2472$,
 $\gamma(E) = 2.6959$

Q.2 Prove the following

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \subset \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i^c \right)^c \quad (15)$$

soln.

We can rewrite the RHS as (16) using De Morgan's law

$$\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i^c \right)^c = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \quad (16)$$

To prove that the LHS is a subset of RHS we can show that any arbitrary element of LHS is also an element of the RHS.

Let's say e_i is an arbitrary element of LHS, i.e. $e_i \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$. This implies e_i is an element of any set E_i . Since all the elements of any arbitrary set E_i are also elements of the union of the sets, $e_i \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$.

Hence LHS is a subset of RHS. i.e. $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$ which is the same as saying,

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \subset \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i^c \right)^c \quad (17)$$

Can the left and right side ever be equal?

YES. When for example $E_1 = E_2 = E_3 \dots = E_i = \dots$, that is when all the E_i 's are the same. The intersection and union of those sets would be the same as any one of the sets E_i .

Q.3

(a) Show that the following statements are consistent with the three axioms of probability

The three axioms of probability are :

(1) $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \subset S$

(2) $P(S) = 1$

(3) if $A \cap B = \emptyset$, then $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$

Assigning $P[\{1\}] = 1$, $P[\{2\}] = 1$, $P[\{1, 2\}] = 2$ is consistent with the first axiom because all the elements of \mathcal{F} have $P \geq 0$, we can also assign $P(S) = P(\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}) = 1$ so it satisfies the second axiom. When it comes to the third axiom, the only elements of \mathcal{F} that are pair wise disjoint are $\{1\}$ and $\{2\}$.

$P(\{1\} \cup \{2\}) = P(\{1, 2\}) = 2 = P(\{1\}) + P(\{2\})$ hence it is also consistent with third axiom.

Therefore, $P[\{1\}] = 1$, $P[\{2\}] = 1$, $P[\{1, 2\}] = 2$ is consistent with the three axioms of probability.

(b)

Is \mathcal{F} a sigma field?

NO.

To be a sigma field \mathcal{F} has to be closed under complementation. And we can clearly see that \mathcal{F} doesn't satisfy this property. $\{1\}^c, \{2\}^c$ and $\{1, 2\}^c$ are all missing.

Minimum number of additional events required to make \mathcal{F} a sigma field.

3.

we need to add $\{1\}^c$ which is $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}^c$, $\{2\}^c$ which is $\{1, 3, 4, 5, 6\}^c$ and finally $\{1, 2\}^c$ which is $\{3, 4, 5, 6\}^c$.

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{3, 4, 5, 6\}, \{1, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}\} \quad (18)$$

Show that (a) is not true

for \mathcal{F} in (18) if we assign $P[\{1\}] = 1$, $P[\{2\}] = 1$, $P[\{1, 2\}] = 2$
 $\implies P(\{1, 2\} \cup \{3, 4, 5, 6\}) = P(\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}) = P(S) = 1$

lets assume it is consistant with the third axiom,
that means $P(\{1, 2\} \cup \{3, 4, 5, 6\}) = P(\{1, 2\}) + P(\{3, 4, 5, 6\})$

$$P(\{1, 2\}) + P(\{3, 4, 5, 6\}) = 1$$

$$2 + P(\{3, 4, 5, 6\}) = 1$$

$$P(\{3, 4, 5, 6\}) = -1$$

i.e $P(\{3, 4, 5, 6\}) \leq 0$, thus violating the first axiom of probability.

So $P[\{1\}] = 1$, $P[\{2\}] = 1$ and $P[\{1, 2\}] = 2$ will not be consistant with the axioms of probability if \mathcal{F} is a sigma field.

Q4

Q5

$P(+|D) = 0.99$, $P(+|D^c) = 0.01$, $P(D) = \frac{1}{10000} = 0.0001$ and since $P(D) + P(D^c) = 1$ $P(D^c) = 0.9999$

Where D = you have the disease and $+$ = you tested positive .

We are asked to compute, given that we tested positive for it, the probability that we actually have the disease (i.e $P(D|+)$).

$$P(D|+) = \frac{P(+|D)P(D)}{P(+)} \quad (19)$$

$$P(+) = P(+|D)P(D) + P(+|D^c)P(D^c) \quad (20)$$

$$P(D|+) = \frac{P(+|D)P(D)}{P(+|D)P(D) + P(+|D^c)P(D^c)} \quad (21)$$

hence

$$P(D|+) = \frac{0.99 * 0.0001}{0.99 * 0.0001 + 0.01 * 0.9999}$$

$$P(D|+) = 0.009803$$

So we have a $< 1\%$ chance of actually having the disease eventhough we tested positive for it.

Q6