



# DATA SIENCE

Lecture 4

# Lecture 4: Stochastic Thinking

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# Newtonian Mechanics

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- Every effect has a cause
- The world can be understood causally



1643 - 1727

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# Copenhagen Doctrine

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- Copenhagen Doctrine (Bohr and Heisenberg) of **causal nondeterminism**
  - At its most fundamental level, the behavior of the physical world cannot be predicted.
  - Fine to make statements of the form “x is highly likely to occur,” but not of the form “x is certain to occur.”

# Stochastic Processes

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- An ongoing process where the next state might depend on both the previous states **and some random element**

```
def rollDie():  
    """returns an int between 1 and 6"""
```

```
def rollDie():  
    """returns a randomly chosen int  
    between 1 and 6"""
```

## Implementing a Random Process

---

```
import random

def rollDie():
    """returns a random int between 1 and 6"""
    return random.choice([1,2,3,4,5,6])

def testRoll(n = 10):
    result = ''
    for i in range(n):
        result = result + str(rollDie())
    print(result)
```

## Implementing a Random Process

---

```
import random

def rollDie():
    """returns a random int between 1 and 6"""
    return random.choice([1,2,3,4,5,6])

def testRoll(n = 10):
    result = ''
    for i in range(n):
        result = result + str(rollDie())
    print(result)
```



## Probability Is About Counting

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- Count the number of possible events
- Count the number of events that have the property of interest
- Divide one by the other
- Probability of 11111?
  - 11111, 11112, 11113, ..., 11121, 11122, ..., 66666
  - $1/(6 \times 5)$



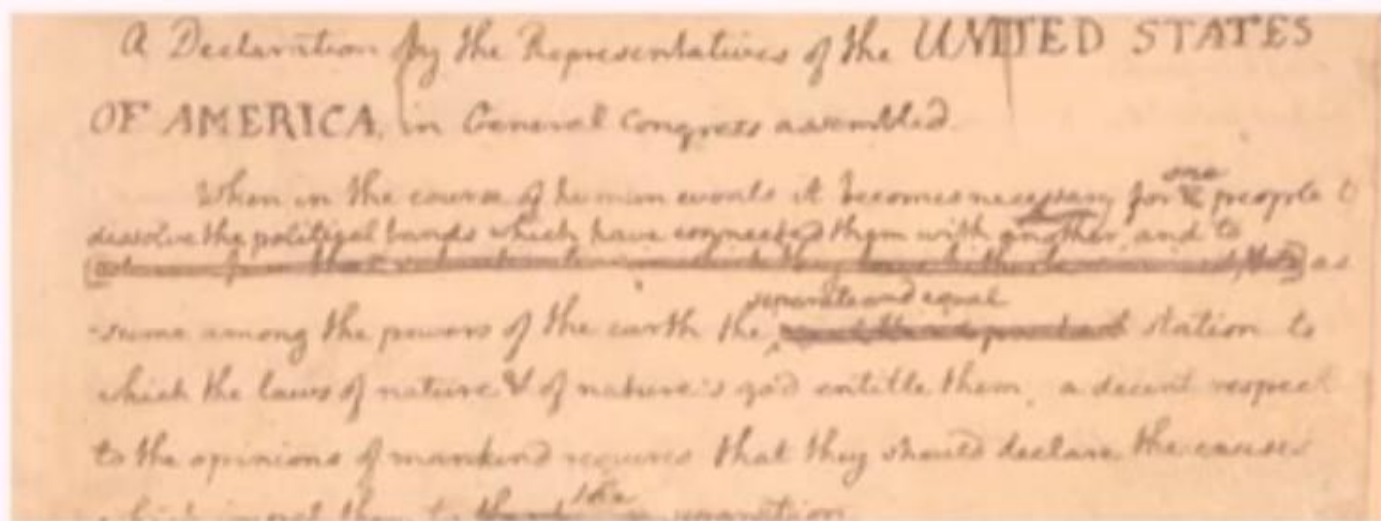
## Three Basic Facts About Probability

- Probabilities are always in the range **0 to 1**. 0 if impossible, and 1 if guaranteed.
- If the probability of an event occurring is  $p$ , the probability of it not occurring must be  $1 - p$
- When events are independent of each other, the probability of all of the events occurring is equal to a **product** of the probabilities of each of the events occurring.

$$A = .5 \quad B = .4$$
$$A \& B = .2$$

# Independence

- Two events are **independent** if the outcome of one event has no influence on the outcome of the other
- Independence should not be taken for granted



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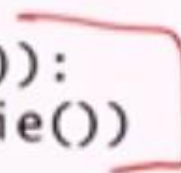
## Will One of the Patriots and Broncos Lose?

- Patriots have winning percentage of  $7/8$ , Broncos of  $6/8$
- Probability of both winning next Sunday is  $7/8 * 6/8 = 42/64$
- Probability of at least one losing is  $1 - 42/64 = 22/64$



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## A Simulation of Die Rolling

```
def runSim(goal, numTrials, txt):  
    total = 0  
    for i in range(numTrials):  
        result = ''  
        for j in range(len(goal)):   
            result += str(rollDie())  
        if result == goal:  
            total += 1  
    print('Actual probability of', txt, '=',  
          round(1/(6**len(goal)), 8))  
    estProbability = round(total/numTrials, 8)  
    print('Estimated Probability of', txt, '=',  
          round(estProbability, 8))  
  
runSim('11111', 1000, '11111')
```

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```
Spyder (Python 3.5)
File Edit Search Source Run Debug Console Projects Tools View Help
C:\Users\John\Dropbox (MIT)\current\mit\Teaching\600\Fall16\6.0002\lecture4\lecture4.py
lecture4.py
20
21 random.seed(0)
22
23 def runSim(goal, numTrials, txt):
24     total = 0
25     for i in range(numTrials):
26         result = ''
27         for j in range(len(goal)):
28             result += str(rollDie())
29         if result == goal:
30             total += 1
31     print('Actual probability of', txt, '=',
32           round(1/(6**len(goal)), 8))
33     estProbability = round(total/numTrials, 8)
34     print('Estimated Probability of', txt, '=',
35           round(estProbability, 8))
36
37 runSim('11111', 1000, '11111')
38
39 def sameDate(numPeople, numSame):
40     possibleDates = range(366)
41     # possibleDates = 4*list(range(0, 57)) + [58]\

```

TypeError: cannot instantiate ctype 'EVP\_MD\_CTX' of unknown size

In [5]: runfile('C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4/lecture4.py', wdir='C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4')

Actual probability of 11111 = 0.0001286

Estimated Probability of 11111 = 0.0

In [6]:

Python console History log Python console

Permissions: RW End of lines: LF Encoding: UTF-8 Line: 54 Column: 25 Memory: 50 Mb

3.25 PM 11/15/2016

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## Output of Simulation

- Actual probability = 0.0001286
- Estimated Probability = 0.0
- Actual probability = 0.0001286
- Estimated Probability = 0.0

pseudo  
random

seed

- How did I **know** that this is what would get printed?

random.seed(0)

```
Spyder (Python 3.3)
File Edit Search Source Run Debug Consoles Projects Tools View Help
C:\Users\John\Dropbox (MIT)\current\mit\Teaching\600\Fall16\6.0002\lecture4\lecture4.py
20
21 random.seed(0)
22
23 def runSim(goal, numTrials, txt):
24     total = 0
25     for i in range(numTrials):
26         result = ''
27         for j in range(len(goal)):
28             result += str(rollDie())
29         if result == goal:
30             total += 1
31     print('Actual probability of', txt, '=',
32           round(1/(6**len(goal)), 8))
33     estProbability = round(total/numTrials, 8)
34     print('Estimated Probability of', txt, '=',
35           round(estProbability, 8))
36
37 runSim('11111', 1000000, '11111')
38
39 def sameDate(numPeople, numSame):
40     possibleDates = range(366)
41     # possibleDates = 4*list(range(0, 57)) + [58]\

```

```
Python console
600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4')
Actual probability of 11111
= 0.0001286
Estimated Probability of
11111 = 0.0

In [6]: runfile('C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/
mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4/lecture4.py',
wdir='C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/
600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4')
Actual probability of 11111
= 0.0001286
Estimated Probability of
11111 = 0.000128

In [7]:
```

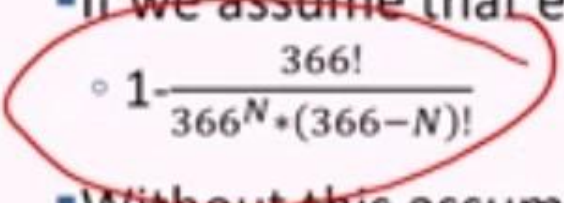
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# The Birthday Problem

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- What's the probability of at least two people in a group having the same birthday
- If there are 367 people in the group?
- What about smaller numbers?
- If we assume that each birthdate is equally likely


$$\circ 1 - \frac{366!}{366^N \cdot (366 - N)!}$$

- Without this assumption, VERY complicated

## Approximating Using a Simulation

---

```
def sameDate(numPeople, numSame):  
    possibleDates = range(366)  
    birthdays = [0]*366  
    for p in range(numPeople):  
        birthDate = random.choice(possibleDates)  
        birthdays[birthDate] += 1  
    return max(birthdays) >= numSame
```

## Approximating Using a Simulation

```
def birthdayProb(numPeople, numSame, numTrials):  
    numHits = 0  
    for t in range(numTrials):  
        if sameDate(numPeople, numSame):  
            numHits += 1  
    return numHits/numTrials  
  
for numPeople in [10, 20, 40, 100]:  
    print('For', numPeople,  
          'est. prob. of a shared birthday is',  
          birthdayProb(numPeople, 2, 10000))  
    numerator = math.factorial(366)  
    denom = (366**numPeople)*math.factorial(366-numPeople)  
    print('Actual prob. for N = 100 =',  
          1 - numerator/denom)
```

```
Spyder (Python 3.5)
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current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture4.py
Python console

47     birthdays[birthDate] += 1
48     return max(birthdays) >= numSame
49
50 def birthdayProb(numPeople, numSame,
51                 numHits = 0
52                 for t in range(numTrials):
53                     if sameDate(numPeople, numSame):
54                         numHits += 1
55     return numHits/numTrials
56
57 import math
58
59 for numPeople in [10, 20, 40, 100]:
60     print('For', numPeople,
61           'est. prob. of a shared birthday is',
62           birthdayProb(numPeople, 2,
63                         numerator = math.factorial(366)
64                         denom = (366*numPeople)*math.factorial(366-numPeople))
65     print('Actual prob. for N = 100',
66           1 - numerator/denom)
67

current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture4.py
Actual probability of 11111 = 0.0001286
Estimated Probability of 11111 = 0.000128

In [7]: runfile('C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture4.py', wdir='C:/Users/John/Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture4.py')
For 10 est. prob. of a shared birthday is 0.1183
Actual prob. for N = 100 = 0.1166454118039999
For 20 est. prob. of a shared birthday is 0.4116
Actual prob. for N = 100 = 0.4105696370550831
For 40 est. prob. of a shared birthday is 0.8941
Actual prob. for N = 100 = 0.89054476188945
For 100 est. prob. of a shared birthday is 1.0
Actual prob. for N = 100 = 0.9999996784357714

In [8]:
```

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## Why 3 Is Much Harder Mathematically

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- For 2 the complementary problem is “all birthdays distinct”
- For 3 people, the complementary problem is a complicated disjunct
  - All birthdays distinct or
  - One pair and rest distinct or
  - Two pairs and rest distinct or
  - ...

```

Spyder (Python 3.5)
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C:\Users\John\Dropbox (MIT)\current\mit\Teaching\600\Fall16\6.0002\lecture4\lecture4.py
lec4.py temp.py birthdayProblem.py lecture4.py
Python console
C:\Users\John\Dropbox (MIT)\current\mit\Teaching\600\Fall16\6.0002\lecture4\lecture4.py
Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4/
lecture4.py', wdir='C:/Users/John/
Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/
600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4')
For 10 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0011
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.1166454118039999
For 20 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0066
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.4105696370550831
For 40 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0651
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.89054476188945
For 100 est. prob. of a shared
birthday is 0.6359
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.9999996784357714

In [10]:

```

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## Another Win for Simulation

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- Adjusting analytic model a pain
- Adjusting simulation model easy

```
def sameDate(numPeople, numSame):  
    possibleDates = 4*list(range(0, 57)) + [58]\  
                    + 4*list(range(59, 366))\  
                    + 4*list(range(180, 270))  
    birthdays = [0]*366  
    for p in range(numPeople):  
        birthDate = random.choice(possibleDates)  
        birthdays[birthDate] += 1  
    return max(birthdays) >= numSame
```



```
35         round(estProbability, 8))
36
37 #runSim('11111', 1000000, '11111')
38
39 def sameDate(numPeople, numSame):
40     # possibleDates = range(366)
41     possibleDates = 4*list(range(0, 57)) + [58
42                                     + 4*list(range(59, 366))\
43                                     + 4*list(range(180, 270))]
44     birthdays = [0]*366
45     for p in range(numPeople):
46         birthDate = random.choice(possibleDate
47         birthdays[birthDate] += 1
48     return max(birthdays) >= numSame
49
50 def birthdayProb(numPeople, numSame, numTrials
51                 numHits = 0
52                 for t in range(numTrials):
53                     if sameDate(numPeople, numSame):
54                         numHits += 1
55                 return numHits/numTrials
56
```

```
600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4/
lecture4.py', wdir='C:/Users/John/
Dropbox (MIT)/current/mit/Teaching/
600/Fall16/6.0002/lecture4/lecture 4')
For 10 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0019
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.1166454118039999
For 20 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0097
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.4105696370550831
For 40 est. prob. of a shared birthday
is 0.0871
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.89054476188945
For 100 est. prob. of a shared
birthday is 0.7501
Actual prob. for N = 100 =
0.9999996784357714

In [11]:
```

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# Simulation Models

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- A description of computations that provide useful information about the possible behaviors of the system being modeled