

CS 212

Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science

Lecture 11: Probability Basics



Recap: Binomial Theorem

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} a^{n-i} b^i$$

$$= a^n + \binom{n}{1} a^{n-1} b + \dots + \binom{n}{i} a^{n-i} b^i + \dots + \binom{n}{1} a b^{n-1} + b^n$$

Different forms:

polynomial
 $P(x)$

$$(1 + x)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i$$

$$(1 - x)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} (-1)^i x^i$$

Sub. x'

Recap: Identities Using Binomial Theorem

$$\sum_i i \binom{n}{i} = n 2^{n-1}$$

$\binom{n}{k}$ = co-efficient of x^k in $(1+x)^n$

Fact: $1 + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{k} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n$

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1}x + \dots + \binom{n}{k}x^k + \dots + \binom{n}{n}x^n = (1+x)^n$$

Substitute $x=1$

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots \text{even terms} + \dots = \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \dots \text{odd terms} + \dots$$

Substitute $x = -1$ in $(1-x)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} (-1)^i x^i$

$$0 = (1-x)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} (-1)^i$$

$$\text{Coeff of } (x^3) \text{ in } x^2(x^3 - 100x^2 + 10x - 5) = x^5 - 100x^4 + 10x^3 - 5x^2$$

$$= \text{Coeff of } (x) \text{ in } x^3 - 100x^2 + 10x - 5$$

Counting using Binomial Theorem

Prove that $\binom{n-2}{k} + 2\binom{n-2}{k-1} + \binom{n-2}{k-2} = \binom{n}{k}, \forall k \text{ s.t. } 2 \leq k \leq n-2$

Pf. RHS = $\binom{n}{k}$ = coefficient of x^k in polynomial $P(x) = (1+x)^n$

Note: $\binom{n-2}{k} = \text{coeff. of } x^k \text{ in } (1+x)^{n-2}$

$$P(x) = (1+x)^n = (1+x)^{n-2} \times (1+x)^2 = (1+x)^{n-2} (1+2x+x^2)$$

$$P(x) = (1+x)^{n-2} + 2x(1+x)^{n-2} + x^2(1+x)^{n-2}$$

$$\text{Coeff of } x^k \text{ in } P(x) = \text{Coeff of } x^k \text{ in } (1+x)^{n-2} + \text{Coeff of } x^{k-1} \text{ in } 2x(1+x)^{n-2} + \text{Coeff of } x^{k-2} \text{ in } x^2(1+x)^{n-2}$$

$$= \binom{n-2}{k} + 2 \cdot \text{Coeff of } x^{k-1} \text{ in } (1+x)^{n-2} + \text{Coeff of } x^{k-2} \text{ in } (1+x)^{n-2}$$

$$= \binom{n-2}{k} + 2 \cdot \binom{n-2}{k-1} + \binom{n-2}{k-2} = \text{LHS} \quad \square$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \text{RHS}$$



Probability Theory



Questions that we'll answer

- Estimating success/ failure of algorithms.
- Measure of Information
- Statistical Significance of Hypothesis
- What is the chance that a given system fails?

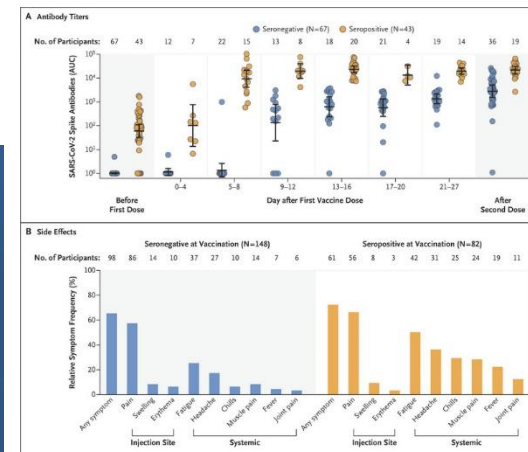
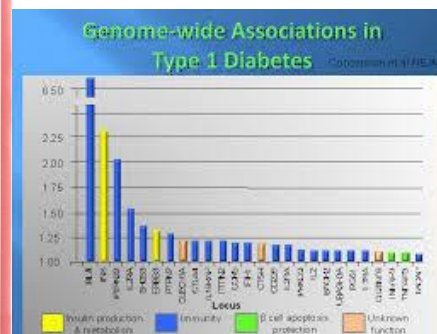
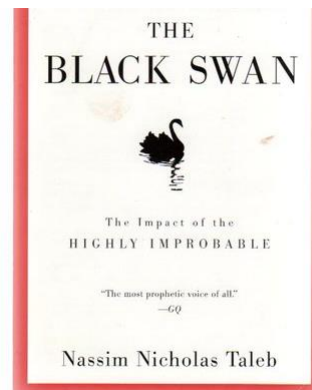
SHANNON ENTROPY

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log_2 p_i$$

Weissman
SCORE™

$$W = \alpha \frac{r \log \bar{T}}{\bar{r} \log T}$$

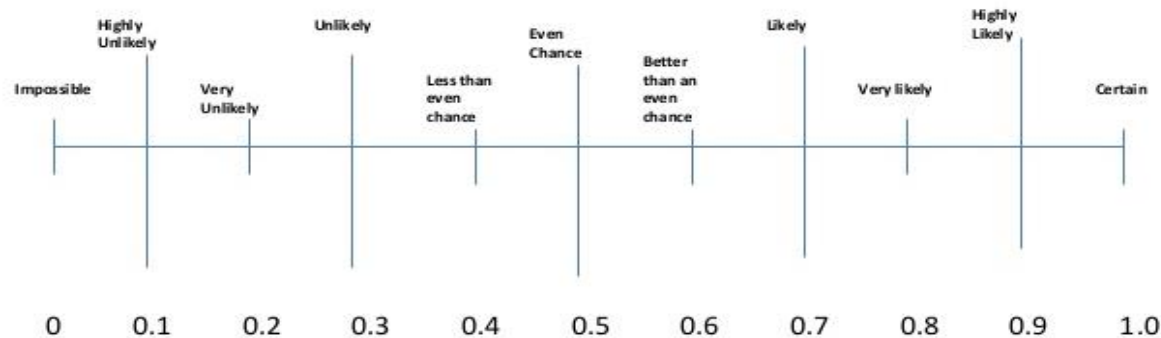
NOTE: r and T refer to the compression ratio and time-to-compress for the target algorithm, \bar{r} and \bar{T} refer to the same quantities for a standard universal compressor (e.g. gzip or FLAC), and α is a scaling constant. By normalizing by the performance of a standard compressor, we take away variation in compressive performance between types of data.



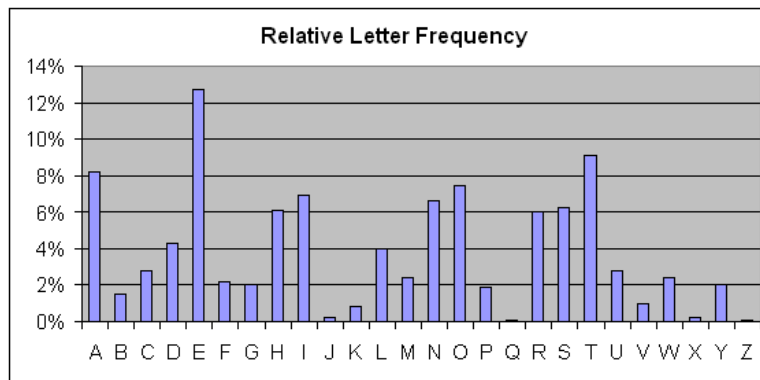
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What is Probability?

- Measuring uncertainty or chance

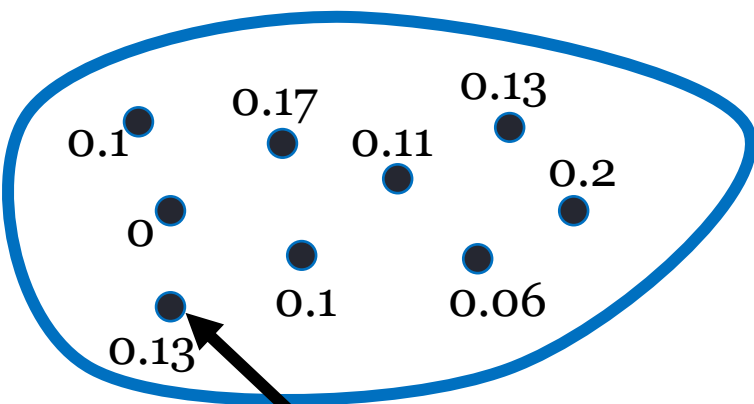


- Frequency of events



Probability Distribution

Sample space S



weight or probability
 $p(t) = 0.13$

A (finite) probability distribution D is a finite set S of elements, where each element t in S has a non-negative real weight, proportion, or probability $p(t)$

Weights must satisfy: $\sum_{t \in S} p(t) = 1$

S is sample space, elements $t \in S$ are called samples/atoms.

Events

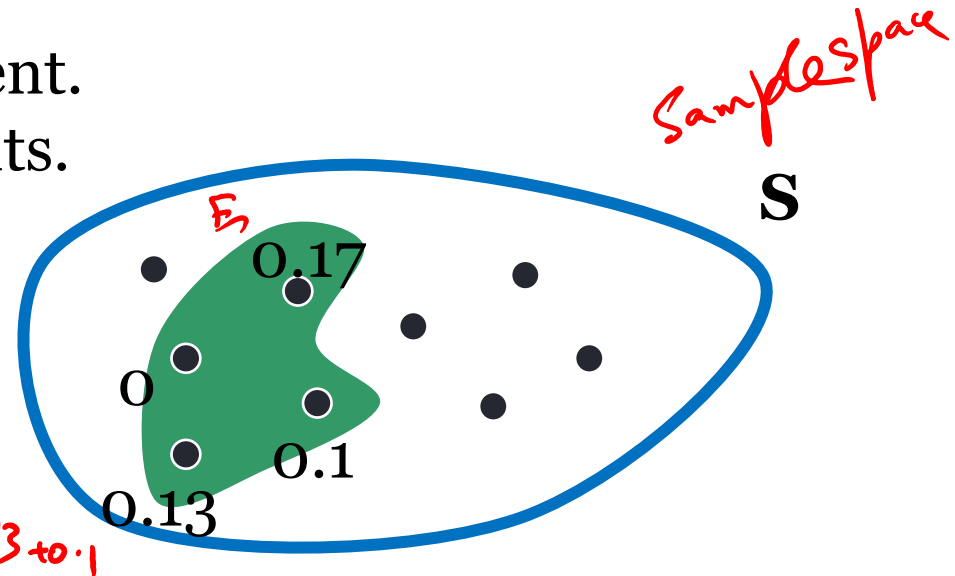
- Any set $E \subseteq S$ is called an event.
- Elements called Atomic events.

$$\Pr_D[E] = \sum_{t \in E} p(t)$$

*↑
probability
distribution*

$$\Pr_D[E] = 0.4$$

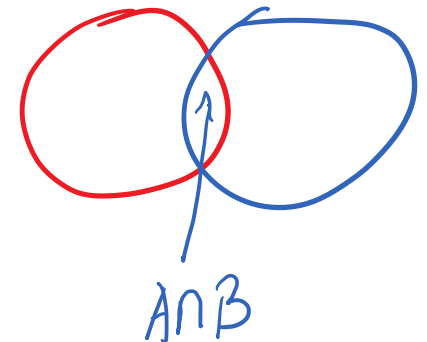
$$= 0 + 0.17 + 0.13 + 0.1$$



Union of two events:

If A and B are events, then

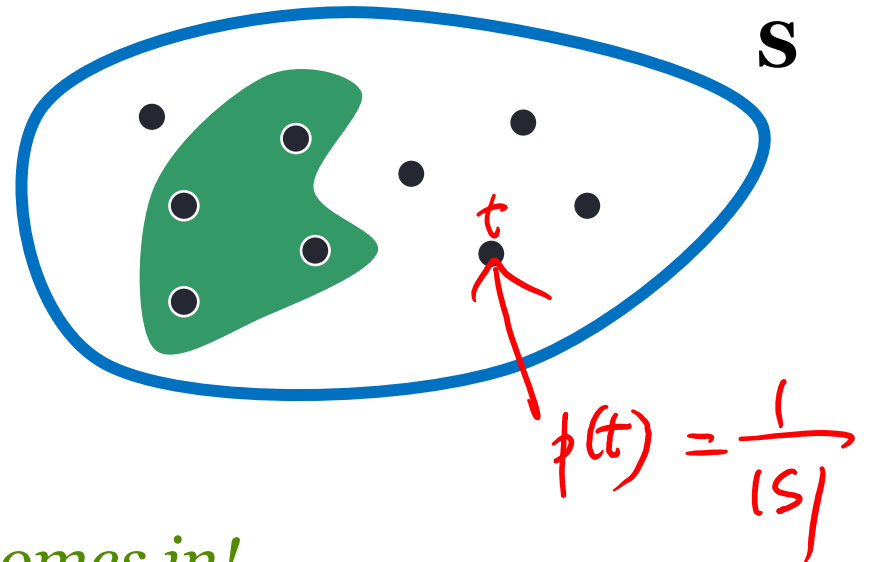
$$\Pr[A \cup B] = \Pr[A] + \Pr[B] - \Pr[A \cap B]$$



Uniform Distribution

If each element (atomic event) has equal probability, the distribution is said to be uniform

$$\Pr_D[E] = \sum_{t \in E} p(t) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}$$



This is where Counting comes in!