Assignment 1

AI1110: Probability and Random Variables

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12.13.5.10: Question.

A person buys a lottery ticket in 50 lotteries, in each of which his chance of winning a prize is $\left(\frac{1}{100}\right)$. What is the probability that he will win a prize (a) at least once (b) at least twice?

Answer:
a.
$$1 - \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{50}$$

b. $1 - \left(\frac{149}{100}\right)\left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{49}$

Solution: Let X represent the number of winning prizes in 50 lotteries. The trials are Bernoulli trials. Clearly, X has a binomial distribution with n=50 and p= $\frac{1}{100}$

$$\therefore q = 1 - p = 1 - \frac{1}{100} = \frac{99}{100}$$

$$\therefore P(X = x) = {^n}C_x q^{n-x} p^x = {^{50}}C_x \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{50-x} \left(\frac{1}{100}\right)^x$$
(1)

(a) P (winning at least once) = P ($X \ge 1$)

$$= 1 - P(X < 1)$$

$$= 1 - P(X = 1)$$

$$= 1 - {50 \choose x} \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{50}$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{50}$$
(2)

(b) P (atleasttwice) = P ($X \ge 2$)

$$= 1 - P(X < 2)$$

$$= 1 - P(X \le 1)$$

$$= 1 - [P(X = 0) + P(X = 1)]$$

$$= 1 - P(X = 0) - P(X = 1)$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{50} - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{49}$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{49} \left[\frac{99}{100} + \frac{1}{2}\right]$$

$$= 1 - \frac{149}{100}\left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{49}$$
(3)