

Assignment 1

CS22BTECH11043

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exempler,10.13.2.13: Question. If I toss a coin 3 times and get head each time, should I expect a tail to have a higher chance in the 4th toss? Give reason in support of your answer.

Solution: No. There is equal chance for both head and tail in the 4th coin toss.

Reason:

Let A be the event that first 3 coin tosses are heads.

Let B be the event that 4th coin toss is tail.

Now let us find $P(B/A)$ and $P(B)$.

1. $P(B/A)$: When the first 3 tosses are heads there are 2 possibilities HHHT and HHHH.

So $P(B/A) = 0.5$

2. $P(B)$:

Last toss can either be a head or a tail.

Case-1 : Last toss is head

First three tosses have 2 possibilities each of either head or tail. So total number of possibilities = $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$.

Case-2 : Last toss is tail

Similarly this case also has 8 possibilities.

So $P(B) = \frac{8}{8+8} = 0.5$

Since $P(B/A) = P(B)$ B is independent of A. So there is equal chance for head and tail of 0.5 in 4th coin toss independent of first 3 tosses.