
UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

COLLEGE OF ICT

IS 143

Discrete Structure

Lecture 8



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Content

- Introduction to Course
 - Proposition, Sets, Relations and Functions
 - Algorithm and Basic Logics
 - Proof Techniques
 - Basics Of Counting (Mathematical Reasoning)
 - Graphs And Trees
 - Discrete Probability
-



Mathematical Reasoning - Probability

- ▶ Probability theory plays an important role in Mathematical reasoning in deriving algorithm of nondeterministic events
- ▶ In computer science, it is used in complexity theory (average complexity of algorithms, expert systems for medical diagnosis, etc)
- ▶ Unlike in deterministic algorithms, in probabilistic algorithms, the output of a program may change given the same input (random choices are taken!)



Introduction to Discrete Probability

▶ Introduction

- ▶ In the eighteenth century, Laplace defined the probability of an event as the number of successful outcomes divided by the number of possible outcomes
- ▶ The probability of obtaining an odd number when rolling a dice is equal to $3/6 = 1/2$ (assume die is fair!)



Introduction to Discrete Probability

- ▶ Finite probability
 - ▶ **Experiment** is a procedure that yields one of the given set of possible outcomes
 - ▶ **Sample space** of the experiment is the set of possible outcomes
 - ▶ **An event** is a subset of the sample space



Introduction to Discrete Probability

► **Definition 1:**

the **probability** of an event E , which is a subset of a finite sample space S of equally likely outcomes, is

$$p(E) = \frac{|E|}{|S|}.$$



Introduction to Discrete Probability

► **Example:**

A bowl contains 4 blue balls and 5 red balls. What is the probability that a ball chosen from the bowl is blue?

Solution:

to calculate the probability, note that there are 9 possible outcomes and 4 of these possible outcomes produce a blue ball. Hence, the probability that a blue ball is chosen is $\frac{4}{9}$.



Introduction to Discrete Probability

- ▶ **Example:** Find the probability that a hand of 5 cards in poker contains 4 cards of one kind.

Solution: By the product rule, the number of hands of 5 cards with 4 cards of one kind is the product of the number of ways to pick one kind, the number of ways to pick the 4 of this kind out of the 4 in the deck of this kind, and the number of ways to pick the 5th card. This is $C(13, 1) C(4, 4) C(48, 1)$.

Since there is a total of $C(52, 5)$ different hands of 5 cards, the probability that a hand contains 4 cards of one kind is

$$\frac{C(13,1)C(4,4)C(48,1)}{C(52,5)} = \frac{13 * 1 * 48}{2,598,960} \approx 0.00024.$$



Introduction to Discrete Probability

► Probability of combinations of events

► Theorem I:

Let E be an event in a sample space S . The probability of the event \overline{E} , the complementary event of E , is given by

$$p(\overline{E}) = 1 - p(E).$$

Proof: To find the probability of the event \overline{E} , note that

$$|\overline{E}| = |S| - |E|.$$

Hence,

$$p(\overline{E}) = \frac{|S| - |E|}{|S|} = 1 - \frac{|E|}{|S|} = 1 - p(E)$$

Introduction to Discrete Probability

- ▶ **Example:** A sequence of 10 bits is randomly generated. What is the probability that at least one of these bits is 0?

Solution: Let E be the event that at least one of the 10 bits is 0. Then \overline{E} is the event that all the bits are 1s. Since the sample space S is the set of all bit strings of length 10. It follows that

$$p(E) = 1 - p(\overline{E}) = 1 - \frac{|\overline{E}|}{|S|} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^{10}} = 1 - \frac{1}{1024} = \frac{1023}{1024}.$$



Introduction to Discrete Probability

► Theorem 2:

Let E_1 and E_2 be events in the sample space S . Then

$$p(E_1 \cup E_2) = p(E_1) + p(E_2) - p(E_1 \cap E_2).$$

Proof: Using the formula for the number of elements in the union of two sets, it follows that

$$|E_1 \cup E_2| = |E_1| + |E_2| - |E_1 \cap E_2|.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} p(E_1 \cup E_2) &= \frac{|E_1 \cup E_2|}{|S|} = \frac{|E_1| + |E_2| - |E_1 \cap E_2|}{|S|} \\ &= \frac{|E_1|}{|S|} + \frac{|E_2|}{|S|} - \frac{|E_1 \cap E_2|}{|S|} = p(E_1) + p(E_2) - p(E_1 \cap E_2). \end{aligned}$$

Introduction to Discrete Probability

- ▶ **Example:** What is the probability that a positive integer selected at random from the set of positive integers not exceeding 100 is divisible by either 2 or 5?

Solution:

E_1 = event that integer selected is divisible by 2

E_2 = event that integer is divisible by 5

$E_1 \cup E_2$ = event that integer divisible by either 2 or 5

$E_1 \cap E_2$ = event that integer divisible by both 2 & 5, or
equivalently, that is divisible by 10

Since $|E_1| = 50$, $|E_2| = 20$ and $|E_1 \cap E_2| = 10$,

$$\begin{aligned} p(E_1 \cup E_2) &= p(E_1) + p(E_2) - p(E_1 \cap E_2) \\ &= \frac{50}{100} + \frac{20}{100} - \frac{10}{100} = \frac{3}{5}. \end{aligned}$$



Probability Theory

▶ Assigning probabilities

- ▶ Let S be the sample space of an experiment with a finite or countable number of outcomes.

$p(s)$ is the probability assigned to each outcome s

a) $0 \leq p(s) \leq 1 \quad \forall s \in S$
and

b) $\sum_{s \in S} p(s) = 1$

There are n possible outcomes, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , the two conditions to be checked are:

a) $0 \leq p(x_i) \leq 1 \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$
and

b) $\sum_{i=1}^{i=n} p(x_i) = 1$

The function p from the set of all events of the sample S is called **probability distribution**

Probability Theory (cont.)

- ▶ **Example:** What probabilities should we assign to the outcomes H(heads) and T(tails) when a fair coin is flipped? What probabilities should be assigned to these events when the coin is biased so that heads comes up twice as often as tails?

Solution:

- ▶ unbiased coin: $p(H) = p(T) = \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ biased coin since:

$$\begin{cases} p(H) = 2p(T) \\ p(H) + p(T) = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow p(T) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad p(H) = \frac{2}{3}.$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

► Definition 2:

The probability of the event E is the sum of the probabilities of the outcome in E . That is,

$$p(E) = \sum_{s \in E} p(s)$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

► Example:

Suppose that a die is biased so that 3 appears **twice as often** as each other number but that the other 5 outcomes are equally likely. What is the probability that an odd number appears when we roll this die?

Solution: We want to find the probability of the event

$$E = \{1, 3, 5\}$$

$$p(1) = p(2) = p(4) = p(5) = p(6) = 1/7$$

$$p(3) = 2/7$$

It follows that:

$$p(E) = p(1) + p(3) + p(5) = 1/7 + 2/7 + 1/7 = 4/7$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

- ▶ Conditional probability

- ▶ Definition 3:

Let E and F be events with $p(F) > 0$. The conditional probability of E given F , denoted $p(E|F)$, is defined as

$$p(E / F) = \frac{p(E \cap F)}{p(F)}.$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

- ▶ **Example:** A bit string of length 4 is generated at random so that each of the 16 bit strings of length 4 is equally likely. What is the probability that it contains at least 2 consecutive 0s, given that its first bit is a 0? (We assume that 0 bits and 1 bits are equally likely)

Solution:

E = event that a bit string of length 4 contains at least 2 consecutive 0s.

F = event that the first bit of a bit string of length 4 is a 0.

The probability that a bit string of length 4 has at least 2 consecutive 0s, given that its first bit is equal 0, equals

$$p(E / F) = \frac{p(E \cap F)}{p(F)}.$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

Solution (cont.):

Since $E \cap F = \{0000, 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100\}$, we see that $p(E \cap F) = 5/16$. Since there are 8 bit strings of length 4 that start with a 0, we have $p(F) = 8/16 = 1/2$.

Consequently,

$$p(E / F) = \frac{5 / 16}{1 / 2} = \frac{5}{8}.$$



Probability Theory (cont.)

▶ Random variables

- ▶ They are numerical values associated with the outcome of an experiment

▶ Definition 5:

A random variable is a function from the sample space of an experiment to the set of real numbers. That is, a random variable assigns a real number to each possible outcome.

Remark: Note that a random variable is a function. It is not a variable, and it is not random!



Probability Theory (cont.)

- ▶ **Example:** Suppose that a coin is flipped 3 times. Let $X(t)$ be the random variable that equals the number of heads that appear when t is the outcome. Then $X(t)$ takes the following values:

$$X(HHH) = 3,$$

$$X(HHT) = X(HTH) = X(THH) = 2,$$

$$X(TTH) = X(THT) = X(HTT) = 1,$$

$$X(TTT) = 0.$$



Expected Value & Variance

▶ Introduction

- ▶ The expected value is very useful in computing the average-case complexity of algorithms
- ▶ Another useful measure of a random variable is its variance
- ▶ The variance tells us how spread out the values of this random variable are



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ Expected values

- ▶ Definition 1:

The expected value (or expectation) of the random variable $X(s)$ on the sample space S is equal to

$$E(X) = \sum_{s \in S} p(s) X(s).$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

► **Example:** Expected value of a die

Let X be the number that comes up when a die is rolled. What is the expected value of X ?

Solution: The random variable X takes the values 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6, each with probability $1/6$. It follows that

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{6} * 1 + \frac{1}{6} * 2 + \frac{1}{6} * 3 + \frac{1}{6} * 4 + \frac{1}{6} * 5 + \frac{1}{6} * 6 = \frac{21}{6} = \frac{7}{2}.$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

► Theorem 1:

If X is a random variable and $p(X = r)$ is the probability that $X = r$, so that

$$p(X = r) = \sum_{s \in S, X(s) = r} p(s)$$

then

$$E(X) = \sum_{r \in X(S)} p(X = r) * r.$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ **Example:** What is the expected value of the sum of the numbers that appear when a pair of fair dice is rolled?

Solution:

Let X be the random variable equal to the sum of the numbers that appear when a pair of dice is rolled.

We have 36 outcomes for this experiment.

The range of X is $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$.



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

Solution (cont.):

$$p(X = 2) = p(X = 12) = 1/36,$$

$$p(X = 3) = p(X = 11) = 2/36 = 1/18,$$

$$p(X = 4) = p(X = 10) = 3/36 = 1/12,$$

$$p(X = 5) = p(X = 9) = 4/36 = 1/9,$$

$$p(X = 6) = p(X = 8) = 5/36,$$

$$p(X = 7) = 6/36 = 1/6.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow E(X) &= 2 * \frac{1}{36} + 3 * \frac{1}{18} + 4 * \frac{1}{12} + 5 * \frac{1}{9} + 6 * \frac{5}{36} + 7 * \frac{1}{6} \\ &\quad + 8 * \frac{5}{36} + 9 * \frac{1}{9} + 10 * \frac{1}{12} + 11 * \frac{1}{18} + 12 * \frac{1}{36} \\ &= 7.\end{aligned}$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ Linearity of expectations

- ▶ Theorem 3:

If $X_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ with n a positive integer, are random variables on S , and if a and b are real numbers, then

$$\begin{aligned} E(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n) \\ = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_n) \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $E(aX + b) = aE(X) + b.$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ **Average-case computational complexity**
 - ▶ Computing the average-case computational complexity of an algorithm can be interpreted as computing the expected value of a random variable
 - ▶ **Principle:** Let the sample space of an experiment be the set of possible inputs a_j , ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n$), and let $X(a_j)$ computes the number of operations used by the algorithm when a_j is an input.



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ Then, the average-case complexity of the algorithm is:

$$E(X) = \sum_{j=1}^n p(X(a_j)) * (X(a_j)) = \text{expected value of } X.$$

- ▶ The average-case computational complexity of an algorithm is usually more difficult to determine than its worst-case computational complexity
- ▶ **Example:** Exercise to think about, compute Average-case complexity of the linear search algorithm.



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

► Variance

- The expected value of a random variable provides the average value, but the variance tells us how widely its values are distributed
- Definition 4:

Let X be a random variable on a sample space S . The variance of X , denoted by $V(X)$, is

$$V(X) = \sum_{s \in S} (X(s) - E(X))^2 p(s).$$

The standard deviation of X , denoted $\sigma(X)$, is defined to be

$$\sqrt{V(X)}.$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

► Theorem 6:

If X is a random variable on a sample S , then

$$V(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2.$$

Proof: Note that

$$\begin{aligned} V(X) &= \sum_{s \in S} (X(s) - E(X))^2 p(s) \\ &= \sum_{s \in S} X(s)^2 p(s) - 2E(X) \sum_{s \in S} X(s) p(s) + E(X)^2 \sum_{s \in S} p(s) \\ &= E(X^2) - 2E(X)E(X) + E(X)^2 \\ &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 \end{aligned}$$



Expected Value & Variance (cont.)

- ▶ **Example:** Variance of the value of a die

What is the variance of the random variable X , where X is the number that comes up when a die is rolled?

Solution:

$$V(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2.$$

We know that $E(X) = 7/2$. To find $E(X^2)$ note that X^2 takes the values $i^2 = 1, 2, \dots, 6$, each with probability $1/6$.

$$\Rightarrow E(X^2) = \frac{1}{6}(1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2) = \frac{91}{6}.$$

Conclusion:

$$V(X) = \frac{91}{6} - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{35}{12}.$$



Assignment 4

- 1) Give a big- O estimate for $(x^2 + x(\log x)^3) \cdot (2^x + x^3)$
- 2) Give a big- O estimate for the number additions used in this segment of an algorithm.

```
t := 0
for i := 1 to n
  for j := 1 to n
    t := t + i + j
```

- 3) The final exam of IS143 consists of 50 true/false questions, each worth two points, and 25 multiple-choice questions, each worth four points. The probability that Asha answers a true/false question correctly is 0.9, and the probability that she answers a multiple-choice question correctly is 0.8. What is her expected score on the final?



Assignment 4

- 4) Given a real number x , what is the average-case computational complexity of the linear search if a linear-search algorithm to locate x by successively comparison to each element in the list of n distinct real numbers. Assume the probability that x is in the list is p and it is equally likely that x is any of the n elements in the list?

Instruction:

- ▶ Submission deadline Wednesday, **19th June 2019, 1600 Hrs.**

