

Assignment 9

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CCST9017 - Hidden Order in Daily Life: A Mathematical Perspective

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Question Q. 1. Show that the 13-digit ISBN13 system (a) can detect all 1-errors, (b) but not all 2-errors come from transposition of digits.

Answer Q. 1.

Let such ISBN13 code be $n = n_1n_2n_3 \dots n_{13}$.

Let the error digit be n_i , which is mistakenly changed to m_i , where $n_i \neq m_i$

Let the new (error) value be T , and original (correct) value be S

Consider case 1, i is a odd number,

Then we have $T - S = 1 \times m_i - 1 \times n_i = m_i - n_i$

Since $0 \leq m_i, n_i \leq 9$ and $m_i \neq n_i$, we must have $m_i - n_i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{10}$

Consider case 2, i is a even number,

Then we have $T - S = 3 \times m_i - 3 \times n_i = 3(m_i - n_i)$

Since $m_i - n_i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{10}$ and $3 \perp 10$, we must have $3(m_i - n_i) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{10}$

Because all ISBN13 code with 1-digit error will not satisfy the detection condition,
Therefore ISBN13 can detect all 1-digit errors.

Consider a transposition of 2-digits, n_i and n_{i+1} , where

Consider case 1, i is a odd number,

Then we have $T - S = \pm(3n_i + n_{i+1} - n_i - 3n_{i+1}) = \pm 2(n_i - n_{i+1})$

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + y^2 &= 1 \\ y &= \sqrt{1 - x^2}\end{aligned}$$

Question Q. 2. Heuristic Reason for Benfords Law

Answer Q. 2.

Considering that

$$100d(1 + r\%)^{f(d)} = 100(d + 1) \tag{1}$$

For d is a interger between 1 to 9.

We have

$$d(1 + r\%)^{f(d)} = (d + 1) \quad (2)$$

$$(1 + r\%)^{f(d)} = 1 + 1/d \quad (3)$$

$$f(d) = \log(1 + 1/d) / \log(1 + r\%) \quad (4)$$

The total time F for all digit changes is given by

$$F = \sum_{n=d}^9 f(d) \quad (5)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{n=d}^9 \log(1 + 1/d) \right) / \log(1 + r\%) \quad (6)$$

$$= \log 10 / \log(1 + r\%) \quad (7)$$

$$= 1 / \log(1 + r\%) \quad (8)$$

Hence

$$P(\text{first digit} = d) = f(d) / F = \log(1 + 1/d) \quad (9)$$