

Clarification on thresholds:

A property \mathcal{Q} has a threshold $p_0 = p_0(n)$ if:

$$\Pr(G(n,p) \in \mathcal{Q}) \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p = o(p_0) \Leftrightarrow p \ll p_0 \\ 1 & \text{if } p = \omega(p_0) \Leftrightarrow p \gg p_0 \end{cases}$$

\Leftrightarrow

\mathcal{Q} has a threshold $p_0 = p_0(n)$ if

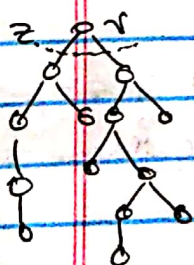
$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists c > 0, n_0 > 0$ s.t. for all $n > n_0$

$\Pr(G(n,p) \in \mathcal{Q}) < \varepsilon$ if $p < c p_0$

& $\Pr(G(n,p) \in \mathcal{Q}) > 1 - \varepsilon$ if $p > c p_0$

Recall: (Theorem 7.4.1)

If $p = c/n$ and $c > 1$, then a.s. $G(n,p)$ contains a unique component of linear order ($\sim n$), and all other components are of order $O(\log n)$

Intuition for proof:Branching (Exploration Process)

$$\deg(v) \sim \text{Bin}(n-1, p) \approx \text{Poi}(c)$$

$$Z \sim \text{Poi}(c)$$

↑
the out-
distribution

← approximately (same theorem)
↑
same parameter

- Start at a vertex v , and explore the graph by doing a BFS/DFS on its children.

- Degrees (# of children)

is roughly the branching distribution.

Formalizing this idea:

A Galton-Watson branching process.

Let Z be a random variable on nonnegative integers. At time $t=0$, a single particle comes into existence. At each $t \geq 1$, each existing particle gives birth to a random number of new particles and then it dies. These random numbers are i.i.d. copies of Z .

Let X_t denote the number of particles born during step $t \geq 0$.

Thus, $X_0 = 1$, and X_1 has the same distribution as Z .

Let E denote the event "that $X_t = 0$ for some $t \geq 0$ ", i.e. there exists t such that the process terminates after a finite # of steps.

Let $P_2 = \Pr(E)$

Exercise: For every $t \geq 1$, $\mathbb{E} X_t = (\mathbb{E} Z)^t$

Theorem

(i) If $\mathbb{E} Z < 1$, then $P_2 = 1$.

(ii) If $\mathbb{E} Z = 1$, ~~and~~ $\Pr(Z=0) > 0$, then $P_2 = 1$.

(iii) If $\mathbb{E} Z > 1$ and $\Pr(Z=0) > 0$, then $0 < P_2 < 1$

to avoid triviality (if $\Pr(Z=0) = 0$, then we always give birth to new children, so $P_2 = 0$)

→ Proof

Proof:

$$(i) \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(X_t > 0) \leq \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (\mathbb{E} Z)^t = 0$$

Exercise + Markov

Since $\mathbb{E} Z < 1$,

(ii) and (iii):

Let P_j be the probability that the process becomes extinct after j steps. Thus clearly let v_1, \dots, v_{X_1} denote the set of children born at step 1. The process terminates after j steps iff the X_1 processes starting from v_1, \dots, v_{X_1} all terminate after $j-1$ steps. These X_1 processes are independent.

Then:

$$P_j = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \Pr(Z=i) P_{j-1}^i$$

\downarrow \downarrow
 i children \rightarrow each terminate in $j-1$ steps

Let $G(x) = \mathbb{E} x^Z = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \Pr(Z=i) x^i$, then $P_j = G(P_{j-1})$

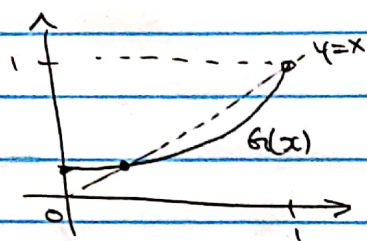
Note:

- $G(1) = 1$
- $G(0) > 0$ Since $G(0) = \Pr(Z=0) > 0$
- G convex (Since G is a probability generating function and they are always convex)
- $G'(1) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i x^{i-1} \Pr(Z=i) \Big|_{x=1} = \mathbb{E} Z \geq 1$.

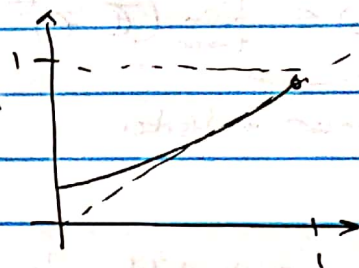
By assumption.



These facts can help us visualize G .



*Shape comes from that G convex

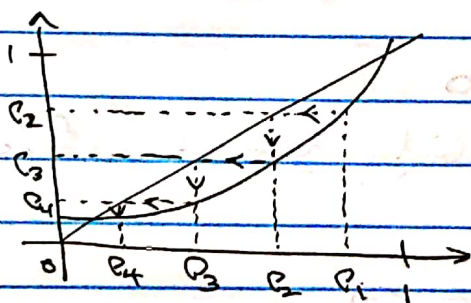


If $z > 1$, then $G(x) = x$ has 2 roots, 1 root at $x=1$ and the other $0 < P_2 < 1$

If $z = 1$, then $G(x) = x$ has a unique root at $x=1$ (the line $y=x$ is tangent to G at $x=1$)

For (ii) (and (i) is similar), it is sufficient to show that $P_t \rightarrow P_2$ for $t \rightarrow \infty$. $0 < P_1 < 1$, and the conclusion follows from the properties of G .

Proof by picture!



$P_2 = G(P_1)$, then find P_2 on the x-axis by following $y=x$ to. Then $P_3 = G(P_2)$. And continue until we converge at the fixed point $G(P_2) = P_2$.

Theorem 1: (Chernoff Bound)

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent $\{0,1\}$ -valued random variables. Let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ and $\mu = \mathbb{E}X$. Then the following probability bounds hold:

(a) For any $\delta > 0$:

$$\Pr(X \geq (1+\delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right)^\mu.$$

$\hookrightarrow (a) \Rightarrow (b)$

(b) For any $0 < \delta \leq 1$

$$\Pr(X \geq (1+\delta)\mu) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\mu\delta^2}{3}\right)$$

(c) For any $0 < \delta \leq 1$

$$\Pr(X \leq (1-\delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-\delta)^{(1-\delta)}} \right)^\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(X \leq (1-\delta)\mu) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\mu\delta^2}{2}\right)$$

Proof:

Let $X_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_i)$

\rightarrow holds for any $t > 0, t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Pr(X \geq (1+\delta)\mu) = \Pr(e^{tX} \geq e^{t(1+\delta)\mu})$$

$$\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}e^{tX}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}}$$

\hookrightarrow Markov

$$= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}e^{tX_i}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}}$$

as X_1, \dots, X_n are independent

$$= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n (1-p_i + p_i e^t)}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}}$$

$$\leq \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n e^{p_i(t-1)}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} = \frac{e^{\mu(t-1)}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}}$$

$$\sum p_i = \mu$$

For part (a), take $t = \log(1+\delta) > 0$

\hookrightarrow

Proof: (cont)

Part (b) follows by noting that $\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)(1+\delta)} \leq e^{-\delta/3}$ for $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$.

For part (c), For ~~the~~ $t < 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(X \leq (1-\delta)\mu) &= \Pr(e^X \geq e^{t(1-\delta)\mu}) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(e^{tX})}{e^{t(1-\delta)\mu}} \\ &\leq \frac{e^{t\mu(1-\delta)}}{e^{t(1-\delta)\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

Proceed as before

And part (c) follows by taking $t = \log(1-\delta) < 0$.

The 2nd inequality follows by $\frac{e^\delta}{(1-\delta)(1-\delta)} \leq e^{-\delta/2}$ for $0 < \delta < 1$. \square

Remarks:

The Chernoff bounds hold for ~~any~~ ^{i.i.d.} X_1, \dots, X_n that are independent $[0, 1]$ -valued as well.

Modifications for the proof:

At the step

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} e^{tx_i}}{e^{t(1-\delta)\mu}}$$

we cannot split this to $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (1-p_i + p_i e^t)}{e^{t(1-\delta)\mu}}$.

But we will use that e^x is a convex function and $e^x \leq \alpha x + \beta$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$ where $\alpha = e^t - 1$ and $\beta = 1$.

Then,

$$\mathbb{E} e^{tx_i} \leq \mathbb{E}(\alpha(tX_i) + \beta) = p_i e^t + (1-p_i)$$

and the remaining steps are the same.