



[Unit 4 Unsupervised Learning \(2](#)

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3. Simple Multinomial Generative  
model

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## 3. Simple Multinomial Generative model

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**Note:** For those who have taken **18.6501x (Fundamentals of Statistics)** : The concept of **generative model** introduced in the above video that models the probabilistic nature of data generation is the same as what we learnt as a **statistical model** in 18.6501x. With parameter  $\theta$ , the analogous notation that we saw for  $p(w \mid \theta)$  in the statistics course is  $(E, \{P_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta})$ , where  $E$  is the sample space of the data and  $\{P_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta}$  is the family of distributions parameterized by  $\theta$ .

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## Simple Multinomial Generative model

0/1 point (graded)

Consider a very simple multinomial model  $M$  to generate text in documents.

Let us assume that this model  $M$  has a fixed vocabulary  $W$  and that we generate a document by sampling one word at a time from this vocabulary. Furthermore, all the words that are generated by  $M$  are independent of each other.

We would like to capture the fact in our generative model  $M$  that some words in  $W$  are more likely to occur in any given document than the others. So, the first thing that  $M$  models is how likely it is to generate certain word  $w \in W$ . We denote this probability by  $P(w|\theta) = \theta_w$ , where  $\theta_w$  is a parameter in our model  $M$ .

Which of the following option(s) is/are true about the model parameters  $\theta_w$ ? Choose all that apply from the statements below:

☐  $\theta_w \geq 0$  ✓

☒  $\theta_w \geq 1$

☒  $\sum_{w \in W} \theta_w = 1$  ✓

☐  $\sum_{w \in W} \theta_w > 1$

✗

### Solution:

Note that  $\theta_w$  denotes the probability of model  $M$  choosing the word  $w$ . Since it's a probability, its value must lie between 0 and 1. Therefore,  $0 \leq \theta_w \leq 1$ .

Further, all the above probability values must also sum up to 1. That is,  $\sum_{w \in W} \theta_w = 1$ .

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You have used 1 of 1 attempt

**i** Answers are displayed within the problem

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In the second last paragraph of the question: "... We denote this probability by 
$$p_{i,j}$$
...

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