

1. Legolas prepares for each shot during archery practice by drawing an arrow with probability p from a quiver hanging over his left shoulder and with probability $1 - p$ from a quiver hanging over his right shoulder. He makes each selection independently of earlier selections. Assume that each quiver contains n arrows to start with, so Legolas begins with $2n$ arrows altogether. Let X be the discrete random variable equal to the number of arrows remaining at the moment when Legolas reaches for an arrow and discovers that the corresponding quiver is empty.

- (a) What are the possible values of X ?
- (b) Find the pmf of X . (Suggestion: For $0 \leq k \leq n$, let L_k be the event that k arrows remain in the right quiver when Legolas first discovers that the left quiver is empty. Define R_k similarly.)

2. Suppose a coin comes up heads with probability p , but you don't know p . You flip the coin n times independently. Let X_k for $1 \leq k \leq n$ be the Bernoulli random variable that equals 1 when flip k comes up heads and 0 when flip k comes up tails.

- (a) Suppose you observe a sequence x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n of outcomes on the n flips — here each x_k is either 0 or 1. As a function of the x_k 's, find the value of p that maximizes the probability of the sequence you observed, i.e. maximizes

$$\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \{X_2 = x_2\} \cap \dots \cap \{X_n = x_n\}) .$$

Discuss your answer. The maximizing p -value is known as the *maximum likelihood estimate* of p .

- (b) You can use MATLAB to generate n independent outcomes of a Bernoulli p random variable using the code

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for k = 1:n:
    x(k) = binornd(1,p);
end
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Set $p = 0.5$ and use this code to generate a sequence of 1000 independent outcomes of the corresponding Bernoulli random variable. Using that sequence and the result of part (a), compute for each n the maximum likelihood estimate of p based on observations 1 through n for each $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 1000$ and plot that estimate as a function of n . Discuss the behavior of your estimator. Please include your MATLAB code.

3. Now you perform a sequence of independent experiments with the coin from the previous problem. Number the experiments $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. In experiment m , you flip the coin repeatedly and independently until heads comes up. For each m , define X_m as the geometric random variable that equals k when the first head in experiment m occurs on flip k .

- (a) Suppose you observe a sequence x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n of outcomes of the first n experiments — here each x_m is a positive integer, namely the value of X_m you observed on experiment m . As a function of the x_m 's, find the value of p that maximizes the natural log of the probability of the sequence you observed, i.e.

maximizes

$$\ln(\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \{X_2 = x_2\} \cap \cdots \cap \{X_n = x_n\})) .$$

Discuss your answer.

- (b) Explain why the value of p you computed in (a) also maximizes

$$\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \{X_2 = x_2\} \cap \cdots \cap \{X_n = x_n\}) .$$

4. In this problem you roll a pair of fair six-sided dice. Suppose the dice are labeled A and B.

- (a) You repeatedly and independently roll the two dice simultaneously until you get doubles. Let X be the number of rolls it takes. Find the pmf, expected value, and variance of X .
- (b) You repeatedly and independently roll the two dice simultaneously until one comes up 3 and the other comes up 4 on the same roll. Let Y be the number of rolls it takes. Find the pmf, expected value, and variance of Y . What is the probability that the last toss of the die labeled A is a 3?

5. This problem pertains to repetition coding in digital communications. A transmitter wants to send a bit through a noisy channel. Suppose the channel flips any transmitted bit with probability $\epsilon > 0$ and doesn't flip the bit with probability $1 - \epsilon$. The transmitter is equally likely to want to send a 0 or a 1 through the channel. The transmitter and receiver agree on the following scheme: the transmitter will send its bit three times in succession, and the receiver will decide what bit the transmitter sent based on majority rule — i.e. if two or three of the received bits are 1's, the receiver decides the transmitter sent a 1; otherwise, the receiver decides the transmitter sent a zero. What is the probability that the receiver decides incorrectly?

6. Let X be a random variable that takes on only nonnegative integer values and suppose $\mathbb{E}(X)$ is finite. Show that

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(\{X \geq k\}) .$$

(Suggestion: after expressing the right-hand side as a double summation, interchange the order of summation.)

① (a)

$$X = \{n, n-1, n-2, \dots, n-n\} \quad \text{i.e. integer } k \text{ s.t. } 0 \leq k \leq n$$

So $(n+1)$ total possibilities

(b) Let $L_k = (\text{event } \overset{k-1}{\underbrace{\quad}} \text{ arrows remain in right quiver when } L \text{ discovers right is empty})$

note
 $0 \leq k \leq n$

$R_k = (\text{event } k \text{ arrows remain in left quiver when } L \text{ discovers left is empty})$

$$P(L_k) = p^{n+1} (1-p)^{n-k} \binom{2n-k}{n}$$

$$P(R_k) = (1-p)^{n+1} p^{n-k} \binom{2n-k}{n}$$

$$P_X(k) = P(L_k) + P(R_k)$$

$$= \binom{2n-k}{n} \left[p^{n+1} (1-p)^{n-k} + (1-p)^{n+1} p^{n-k} \right]$$

(2) X_k ; $1 \leq k \leq n$; Bernoulli p .

$$X_k = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{flip } k \text{ is tails} \\ 1, & \text{flip } k \text{ is heads} \end{cases}$$

(a) Observe x_1, \dots, x_n .

Maximize

$$\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \dots \cap \{X_n = x_n\})$$

Intuitively, this will be the mean of the flips.

i.e

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k}$$

To see this, observe the following.

Let

$$S = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$$

be the amount of heads flipped.

Want to maximize

$$p^S (1-p)^{n-S}$$

with respect to p .

- If $S=0$, have $(1-p)^n$ which decreases monotonically from $1 \rightarrow 0$ for $p=0$ to $p=1$. So maximizing p value is $p=0$.

- If $S=n$, have p^n . So maximizing value of $p=1$.

- If $0 < S < n$,

$$\frac{d}{dp} [p^S (1-p)^{n-S}] = S(1-p) - (n-S)p = 0 \Rightarrow p = \frac{S}{n}$$

③ $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

X_m = geometric rv that equals k when the firsts head in experiment m occurs on flip k

As a function of X_m 's find p that maximizes

$$\ln \left(\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \{X_2 = x_2\} \cap \dots \cap \{X_n = x_n\}) \right)$$

Note: $\mathbb{P}(\{X_1 = x_1\} \cap \{X_2 = x_2\} \cap \dots \cap \{X_n = x_n\})$
 $= (p(1-p)^{x_1-1})(p(1-p)^{x_2-1}) \dots (p(1-p)^{x_n-1})$
 $= p^n (1-p)^{x_1+x_2+\dots+x_n-(1+1+\dots+1)}$
 $= p^n (1-p)^{S_n-n} \quad ; \quad S_n := \sum_{m=1}^n x_m$

Let this be $g(p)$.

$$\ln g(p) = n \ln(p) + (S_n - n) \ln(1-p)$$

$$\frac{d}{dp} [\ln(g(p))] = \frac{n}{p} + \frac{S_n - n}{1-p} = \frac{n(1-p) - (S_n - n)p}{p(1-p)} = 0$$

thus, for $p \in (0, 1]$ the only p is

$p = \frac{n}{S_n}$

 \leftarrow to realize this as a max
take second derivative

④ (a) A, B. rolls are independent!
 $X = \#(\text{rolls it takes until doubles})$

X is a geometric random variable! $X = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : x > 0\}$

$$P_X(k) = p(1-p)^{k-1}, \quad 1 \leq k < \infty$$

$p = \text{probability you roll doubles} = 1/6$

$1-p = \text{probability you don't roll doubles} = 5/6$

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6} \cdot \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{x-1}, & 1 \leq x < \infty \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{x-1} = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} x \cdot p(1-p)^{x-1}$$

$$= p \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} x(1-p)^{x-1}$$

$$= p \left(-\frac{d}{dp} \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} (1-p)^{x-1} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left(-\frac{d}{dp} \cdot \frac{1-p}{p} \right) = p \left(\frac{1}{p^2} \right) = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$E(X) = 1/1/6 = 6$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2} = \frac{5/6}{1/36} = \boxed{30}$$

WIKI on
Geometric RV

$$(b) \quad P_Y(y) = \left(\frac{1}{18}\right) \left(\frac{17}{18}\right)^{y-1}$$

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{1/18} = 18$$

$$VAR(Y) = \frac{17/18}{(1/18)^2} = 17 \cdot 18 = 306$$

⑤ Let

$A = \{\text{receiver decides incorrectly}\}$

$B = \{\text{Probability transmitter sends a 0}\}$

Then

$$P(A) = P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)$$

Where

- $P(B) = P(B^c) = 1/2$ given

- $P(A|B)$ is the probability receiver sees either 110, 101, 011, or 111 given that the transmitter sends 000.

$$\cdot P(110 R | 000 S) = \epsilon^2(1-\epsilon)$$

$$\cdot P(101 R | 000 S) = \epsilon^2(1-\epsilon)$$

$$\cdot P(011 R | 000 S) = \epsilon^2(1-\epsilon)$$

$$\cdot P(111 R | 000 S) = \epsilon^3$$

- $P(A|B^c)$ is the same as $P(A|B)$ with zeros + ones interchanged.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= \frac{3\epsilon^2(1-\epsilon) + \epsilon^2}{2} + \frac{3\epsilon^2(1-\epsilon) + \epsilon^2}{2} \\ &= 3\epsilon^2(1-\epsilon) + \epsilon^3 \end{aligned}$$

More simple way;

This is simply the probability 2 are incorrect
OR 3 are incorrect.

So,

$$\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\epsilon^2(1-\epsilon) + \epsilon^3$$

(6) Show that

$$IE(X) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P(\{X \geq k\})$$

for X a rv which takes on only nonnegative integer values; $IE(X)$ finite.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P(\{X \geq k\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=k}^{\infty} P(\{X=n\}) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n P(\{X=n\}) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P(\{X \geq k\}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n P(\{X=n\}) = IE(X)$$