

1. Uncertainty U should be a function which is continuous in all P_i , where $P_i \equiv P(X_i)$.

$$U(X) = U(P_1, P_2, \dots, P_N) = - \sum_{i=1}^N P_i \log_n(P_i) \quad P_i \in [0, 1]$$

$$\frac{\partial U(P_1, \dots, P_N)}{\partial P_i} = - \left[P_i \cdot \frac{1}{P_i \log_e(n)} + \log_n(P_i) \right]$$

$= -\log_n(P_i) - \frac{1}{\log_e(n)}$ which means U is differentiable on P_i ($\frac{\partial U}{\partial P_i}$ is defined) which then implies U is continuous on P_i .

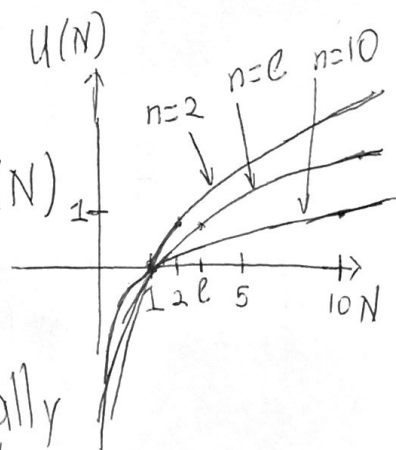
2. If all events equally possible then U should be monotonically increasing with N (number of events).

$$P_i = P_1 = \dots = P_N = 1/N = P(X_i)$$

$$U(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N} \log_n\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) = \log_n(N)$$

$$\frac{dU}{dN} = \frac{1}{N \log_e(n)} > 0 \quad \forall N \in \mathbb{N}$$

Therefore monotonically increasing with N .



3: If an event is broken down to successive events the original U should be the weighted sum of the individual values of U in the succession.

Example: A coin and a dice. We decide to categorize the events as:

- 1) coin being heads. (P_1)
- 2) coin being tails and dice a prime number. (P_2)
- 3) All other possible events. (P_3)

Suppose we throw coin and dice at the same time, then: $P_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $P_2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{12}$, $P_3 = \frac{1}{4}$

$$U\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{4}\right) = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{12} \log_2\left(\frac{1}{12}\right) - \frac{1}{4} \log_2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

We choose $n=2$ for convenience

Now we throw the coin first, then the dice.

On throwing the coin we have: $P_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $P_2 = 0$, $P_3 = \frac{1}{2}$.

Now, ~~if~~ throwing the dice is only necessary if we get tails in the coin which has a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$. This $\frac{1}{2}$ is the weight of our second event (throwing the dice) then in this second event we have: $P_1 = 0$, $P_2 = \frac{1}{2}$, $P_3 = \frac{1}{2}$.

(it's already tails)

Then the total uncertainty is

$$U\left(\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} U\left(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{2}$$

Uncertainty should be independent on the "way" events happen.