

Q 1)

- i) Find P of them ending at same point after n step.

we can model this as a system, where one of the drunks is stuck at the origin, and the other drunk takes $2n$ steps.

Now for them to end up at the same point, the moving drunk has to move n steps right and n steps left in any order.

the number of such orders is

$${}^{2n}C_n$$

Hence, the probability of this is

$$\frac{{}^{2n}C_n \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2n}}$$

~~(as going either right or left has a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$)~~

(as total number of possibilities is ~~3~~ 2^{2n})

2) P of drunk ending up at origin.

For this to happen, he has to move right exactly $\frac{n}{2}$ times, and move left exactly $\frac{n}{2}$ times. hence, if n is even, then the number of ways he can do this is,

$${}^n C_{\frac{n}{2}}$$

$$\text{So } P = \begin{cases} {}^n C_{\frac{n}{2}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

3) Mean Displacement.

let us define X_i as a random variable, where if the i^{th} step is right, $X_i = 1$, and if it is left the $X_i = -1$.

Clearly

$$\text{Mean Displacement} = E(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 \dots X_n)$$

as X_i are independent of each other,

$$E(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 \dots X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i)$$

$$\text{now, } E(x) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (-1) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (1) \\ = 0$$

$$\text{So } \sum_{i=1}^n E(x_i) = 0$$

So mean displacement = 0.

4) ~~Average~~ Squared displacement

We use the same x_i as in the previous part.

$$\text{mean squared displacement} = E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2\right)$$

$$= E\left((x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + \dots) + 2(x_1 x_2 + x_2 x_3 + x_3 x_4 + \dots)\right)$$

$$= E(x_1^2) + E(x_2^2) + \dots + 2(E(x_1 x_2) + E(x_2 x_3) + \dots)$$

$$E(x_i^2) = 1 \quad \text{as } x_i = \text{either } 1 \text{ or } -1 \\ \text{So } x_i^2 = 1 \\ \text{So } E(x_i^2) = 1$$

$$E(x_i x_j) = 0 \quad \text{as } x_i x_j = 1 \text{ with } P = \frac{1}{2} \\ -1 \text{ with } P = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{So } E(x_i x_j) = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + (-1) \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 0$$

So ..

$$\text{mean squared displacement} = (1 + 1 + 1 \dots n \text{ times}) \\ + (0 + 0 + 0 \dots)$$

$$= \frac{n}{n}$$