

Dirichlet distribution



Dirichlet distribution

Dirichlet distributions are all for simplexes.

theta and alpha are k dimensional vectors.

$$\text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$$\sum_k \theta_k = 1$$

$$\theta_k \geq 0$$

^ This is a simplex.

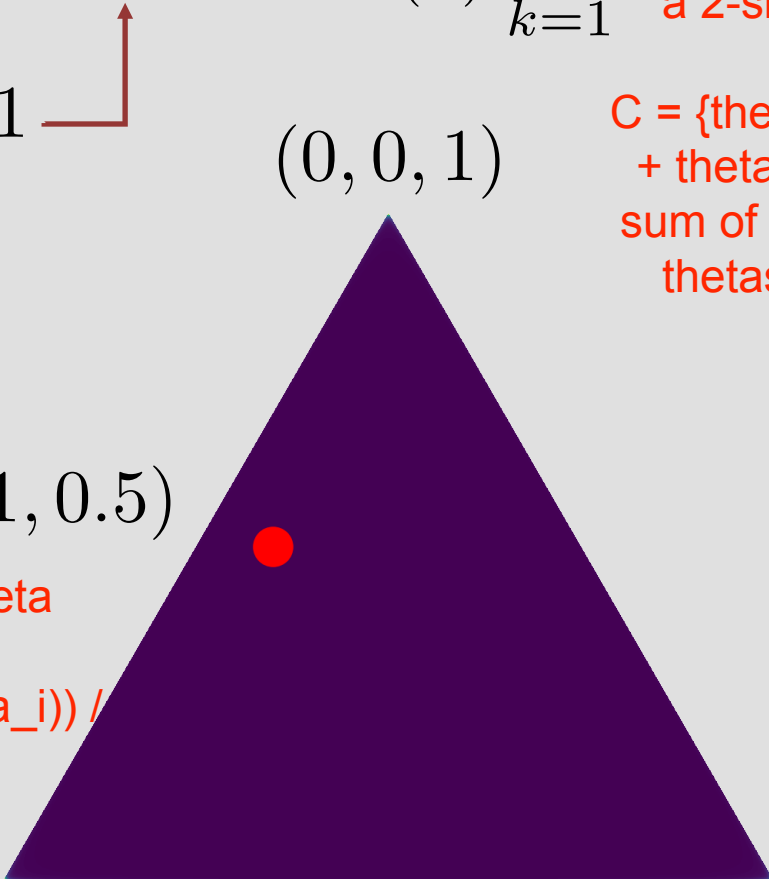
a 2-simplex, is the set of points:

$C = \{\theta_0 \mu_0 + \theta_1 \mu_1 + \theta_2 \mu_2\}$ such that the sum of all thetas is 1, and all thetas are non-negative.

in general, an n-simplex the set of points $C = \{t_0 \mu_0 + t_1 \mu_1 + \dots + t_n \mu_n\}$, where all t sum to 1, and are non-negative.


NOTE: $B(\alpha)$ is the beta function. Which is $B(a) = \prod_{i=1}^K \Gamma(a_i) / \Gamma(\sum_{i=1}^K a_i)$

^NOTE: each μ here is a point in \mathbb{R}^k .



Dirichlet distribution

$$\text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$\alpha_k > 0$ 

$(0, 0, 1)$

$(0.4, 0.1, 0.5)$

This point is near the upper
and left node, but far from
right node (hence 0.1)

$(1, 0, 0)$

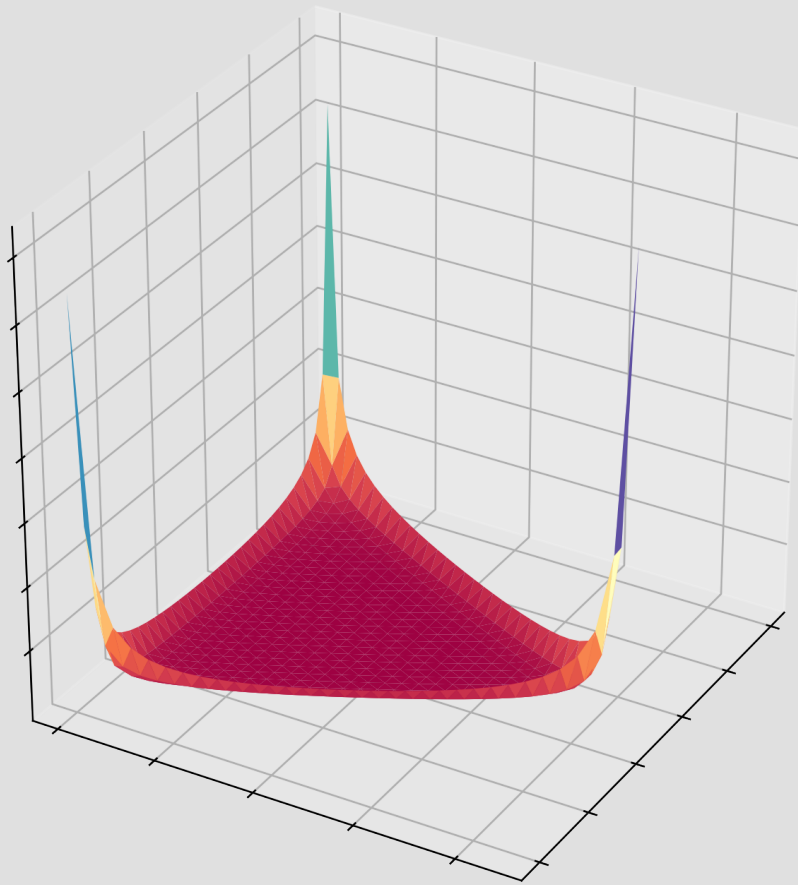
$(0, 1, 0)$



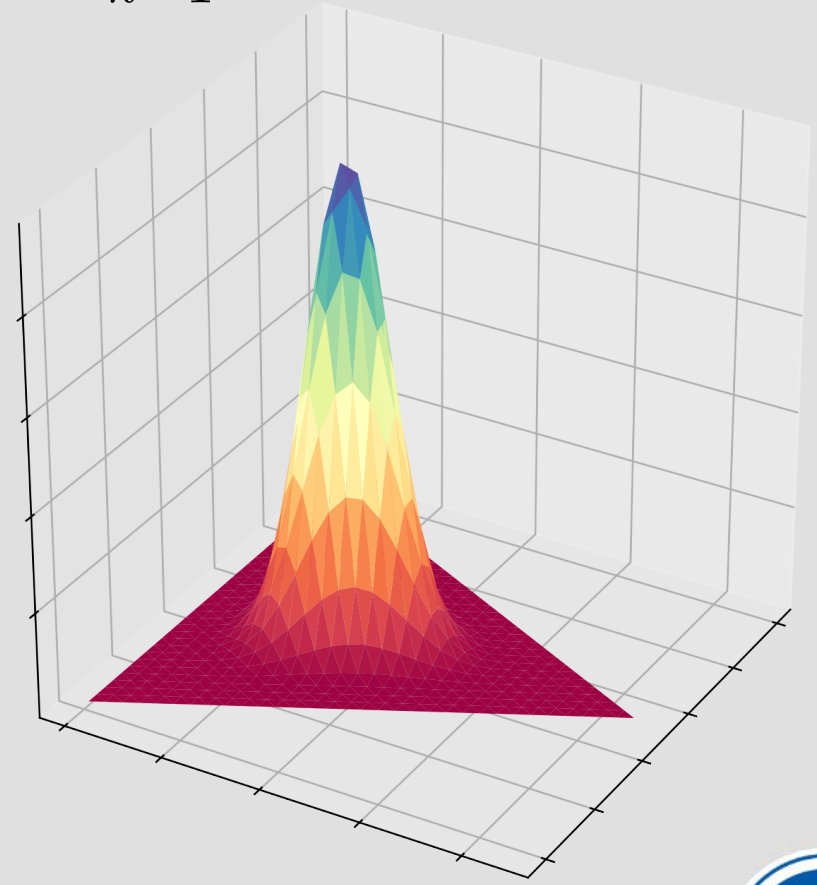
Dirichlet distribution

This is for a 2-simplex. Each point in the 2 simplex has a density as below.

$$\text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$



$$\alpha = (0.1, 0.1, 0.1)$$

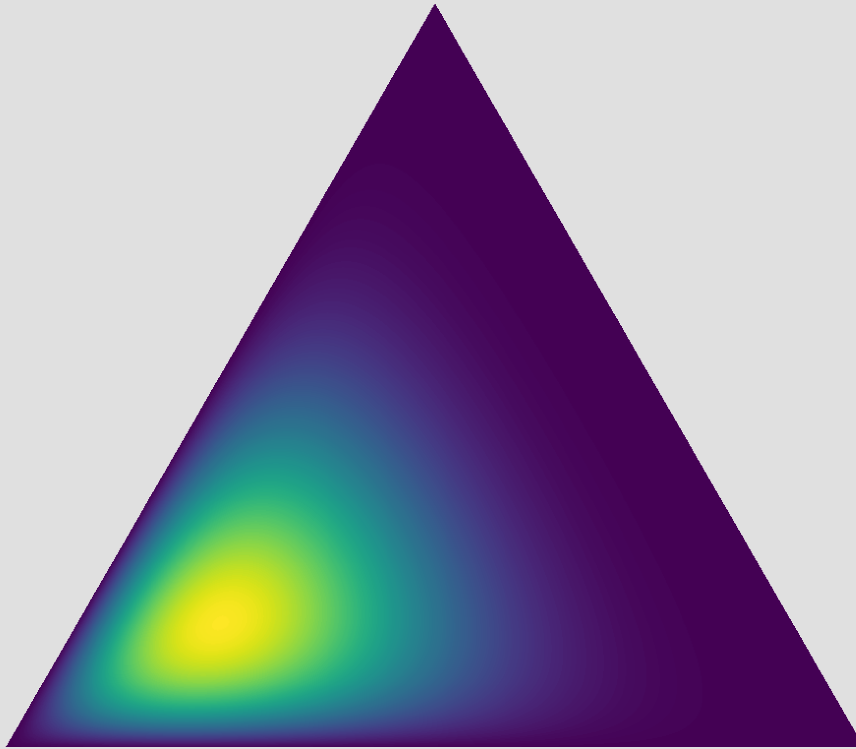


$$\alpha = (10, 10, 10)$$

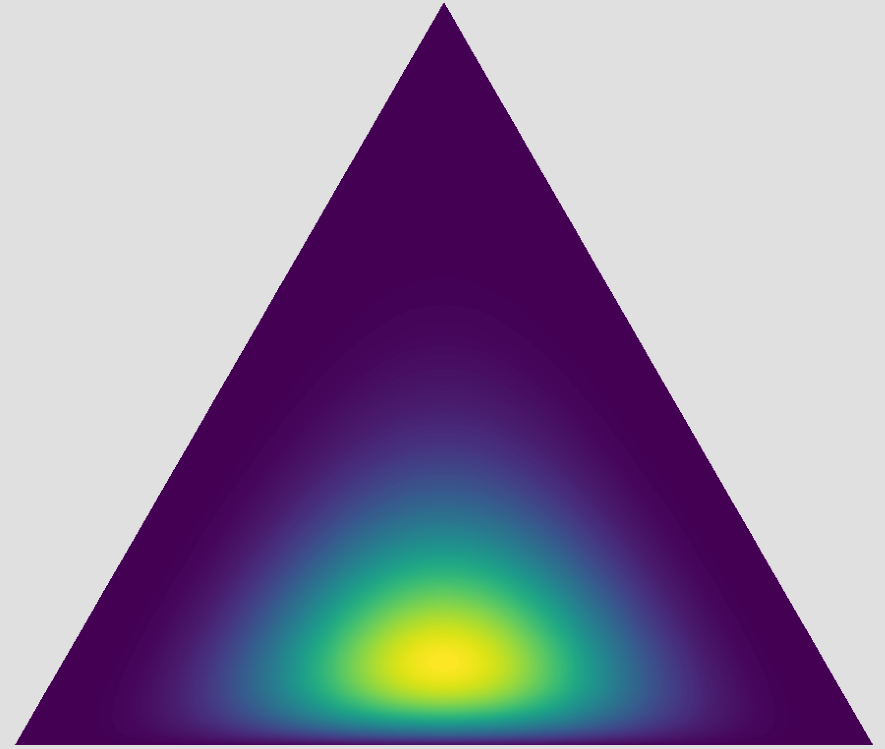


Dirichlet distribution

$$\text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$



$$\alpha = (5, 2, 2)$$



$$\alpha = (5, 5, 2)$$

alpha determines the concentration.



$$\text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$$\mathbb{E}\theta_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_0}$$

This is for a SPECIFIC theta component.

$$\text{Cov}(\theta_i, \theta_j) = \frac{\alpha_i \alpha_0 [i=j] - \alpha_i \alpha_j}{\alpha_0^2 (\alpha_0 + 1)}$$

$$\alpha_0 = \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k$$



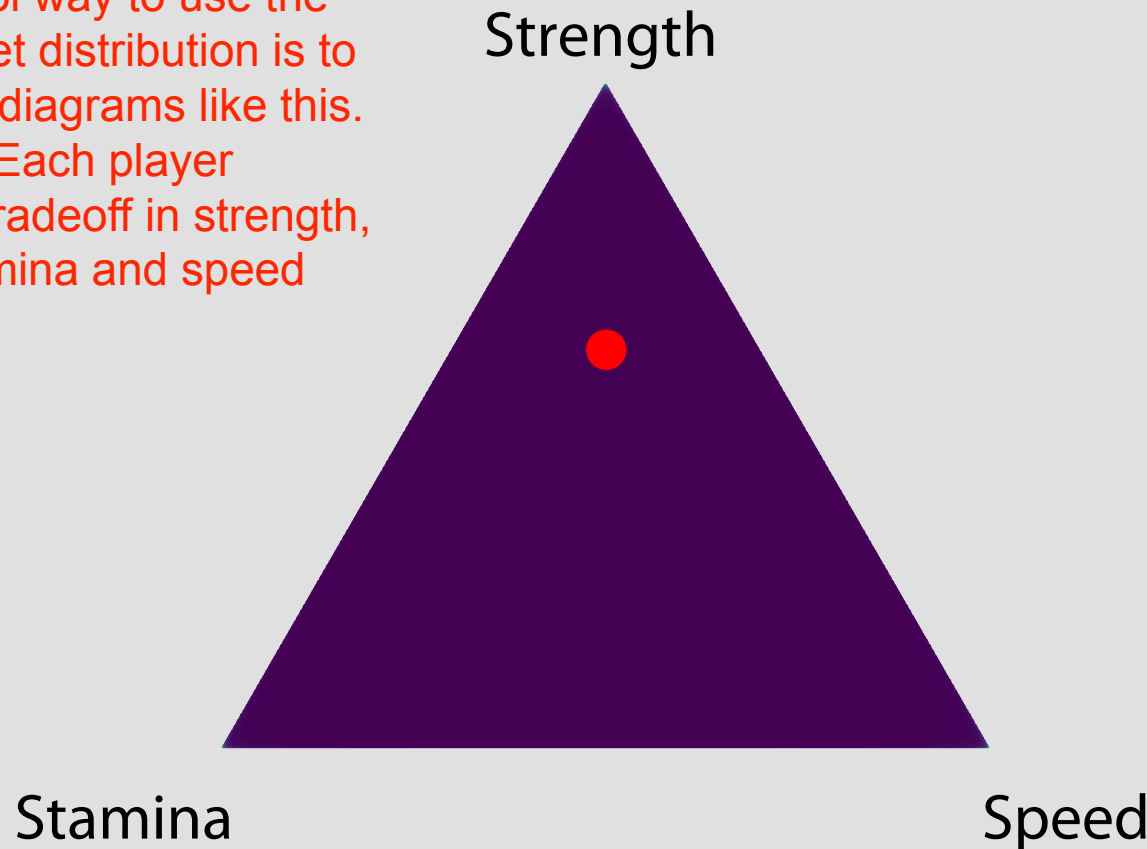
Example

Massively multiplayer online role-playing game (**MMORPG**)

Player 1:

A cool way to use the
dirichlet distribution is to
model diagrams like this.

Each player
has a tradeoff in strength,
stamina and speed



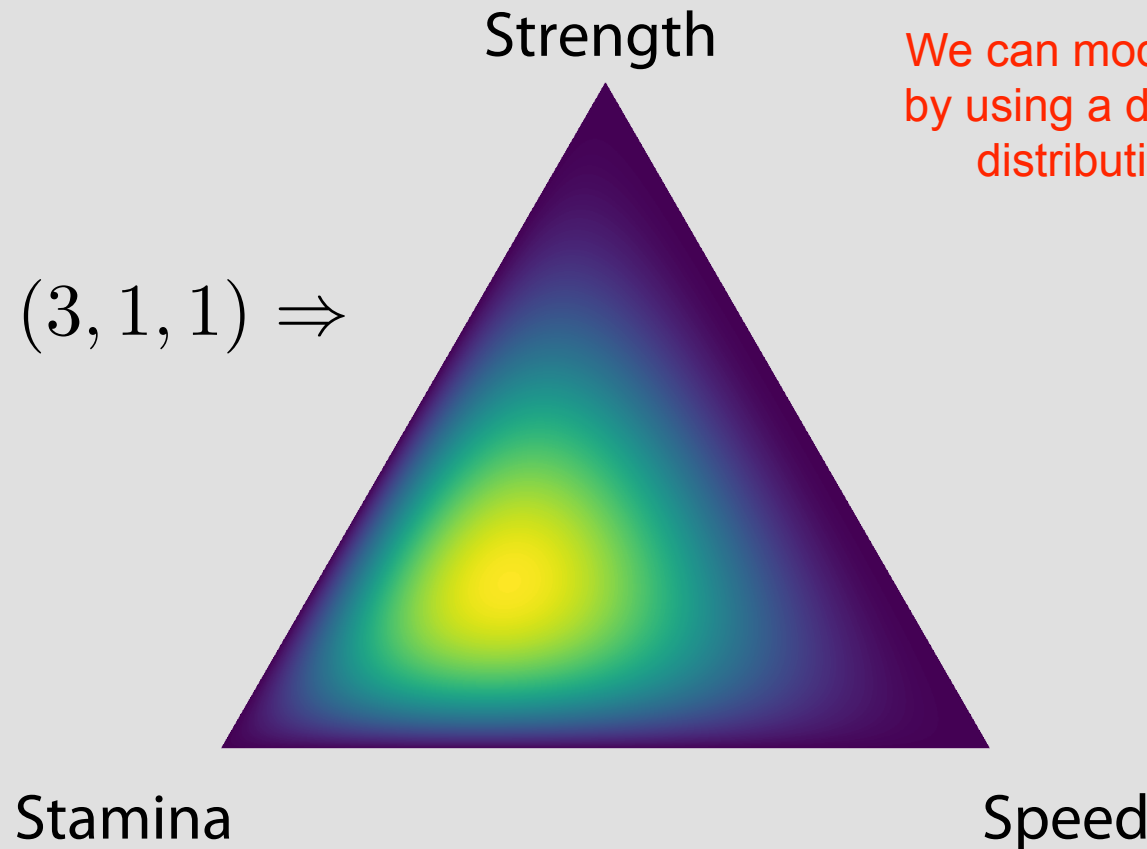
Example

Massively multiplayer online role-playing game (**MMORPG**)

Average over all players:

$$\alpha = (3, 1, 1) \Rightarrow$$

We can model this
by using a dirichlet
distribution.



Conjugate prior

$P(\theta)$ is **conjugate** to $P(X|\theta)$:

the dirichlet prior is conjugate
to the multinomial likelihood.

$$P(\theta|X) = \frac{P(X|\theta)P(\theta)}{P(X)}$$

$\mathcal{A}(v)$ (pointing to $P(\theta)$)

$\mathcal{A}(v)$ (pointing to $P(X|\theta)$)

What is a multinomial
likelihood? See next slide.



Multinomial likelihood

It is important to consider the combinations in likelihood. In the dice example, each 'side' order doesn't matter. Same like simplices. Each triangle edge likelihood specifically doesn't matter.

Distribution over counts.
e.g. for a dice, $K = 6$,
each x_i is the number of
times that we get number
1.

We conduct n trials.

$$P(X|\theta) = \frac{n!}{x_1! \dots x_K!} \theta_1^{x_1} \dots \theta_K^{x_K}$$

^ likelihood.

$$\text{sum}_i x_i = n.$$

$$p(\theta) = \text{Dir}(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$$p(\theta|X) \propto \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\alpha_k + x_k - 1}$$

= product of the above.

$$p(\theta|X) = \text{Dir}(\theta | (\alpha_k \overset{\ddots}{+} x_k))$$

