

Math

Random variables and concentration

Linearity of expectation and variance:

For R.V X, Y:

Expectation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X] &= \sum_{s \in S} Pr[X = s] * s \\ \mathbb{E}[\alpha X] &= \alpha \mathbb{E}[X] \\ \mathbb{E}[X + Y] &= \mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y]\end{aligned}$$

Variance:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}[X] &= \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2] \\ \text{Var}[\alpha X] &= \alpha^2 \text{Var}[X] \\ \text{Var}[X] &= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[X]^2\end{aligned}$$

When X and Y are independent:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[XY] &= \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y] \\ \text{Var}[X + Y] &= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]\end{aligned}$$

Random event A,B:

$$\begin{aligned}P(A \cup B) &= P(A + B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(AB) \\ P(A \cap B) &= P(AB) = P(A, B) = P(A|B)P(B)\end{aligned}$$

One trick to identify if A and B are independent:

if we know B happens or not, does we have any indication that A will happen or not

When A and B are independent:

$$\begin{aligned}P(A|B) &= P(A) \\ P(A \cap B) &= P(A) * P(B)\end{aligned}$$

Indicator random variables and how to use them

when to use:

know $\mathbb{E}[d_{i,j}]$, D contains a lot of events and they are dependent

$$d_{i,j} = 0/1 \quad D = \sum_{i,j} d_{i,j}$$

Inequality

Union bound:

$$P[A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots \cup A_k] \leq P[A_1] + P[A_2] + \dots + P[A_k]$$

How well does a R.V. X concentrate around it's expectation $\mathbb{E}[X]$:

Markov's Inequality:

For any random variable X which only takes non-negative values any positive t :

$$Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t} \Leftrightarrow Pr[X] \geq \alpha \mathbb{E}[X] \leq \frac{1}{\alpha}$$

Prove:

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} x Pr[X = x] \geq \sum_{x=t}^{\infty} x Pr[X = x] \geq \sum_{x=t}^{\infty} t Pr[X = x] = t \cdot \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} Pr[X = x] = t \cdot Pr[X \geq t]$$

Chebyshev's Inequality

r.v. X with expectation $\mathbb{E}[x]$ and variance $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[X]$. Then for any $k > 0$:

$$Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq k\sigma] \leq \frac{1}{k^2}$$

Ad: X could be anything, two side

Dis: need to know variance

using linearity of variance

variance deduction: i.i.d, means of many trails

Gaussian Tail Bound

For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$: $Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}X| \geq \alpha\sigma] \leq O(e^{-\alpha^2/2})$

Theorem(CLT-Informal)

Any sum of independent, identically distributed r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_k with μ and finite variance σ^2 converges to a Gaussian r.v. with mean $k\mu$ and variance $d\sigma^2$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$:

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow N(k\mu, k\sigma^2)$$

Chernoff Bound

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k be independent $\{0,1\}$ - valued R.V. and let $p_i = \mathbb{E}[X_i]$, where $0 < p_i < 1$. Then the sum $S = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i$, which has mean $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i = \mathbb{E}[S]$ satisfies :

$$Pr[S \geq (1 + \epsilon)\mu] \leq e^{\frac{-\epsilon^2 \mu}{2 + \epsilon}}$$

and for $0 < \epsilon < 1$

$$Pr[S \leq (1 - \epsilon)\mu] \leq e^{\frac{-\epsilon^2 \mu}{2}}$$

Corollary of Chernoff bound:

for $0 < \Delta < 1$, $Pr[|S - \mu| \geq \Delta\mu] \leq 2e^{-\Delta\mu/3}$

Bernstein Inequality

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k be independent random variables with each $X_i \in [-1, 1]$. Let $\mu_i = \mathbb{E}[X_i]$ and $\sigma_i^2 = \text{Var}[X_i]$. Let $\mu = \sum_i \mu_i$ and $\sigma^2 = \sum_i \sigma_i^2$. Then, for $\alpha \leq \frac{1}{2}\sigma$, $S = \sum_i X_i$ satisfies:

$$Pr[|S - \mu| > \alpha\sigma] \leq \exp(-\frac{\alpha^2}{4})$$

Hoeffding Inequality

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k be independent random variables with each $X_i \in [a_i, b_i]$. Let $\mu_i = \mathbb{E}[X_i]$ and $\sigma_i^2 = \text{Var}[X_i]$. Let $\mu = \sum_i \mu_i$ and $\sigma^2 = \sum_i \sigma_i^2$. Then, for any $\alpha > 0$, $S = \sum_i X_i$ satisfies:

$$Pr[|S - \mu| > \alpha] \leq 2 \exp(-\frac{\alpha^2}{\sum_{i=1}^k (b_i - a_i)^2})$$

Variance is a natural measure of central tendency

q^{th} central moment: $\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}X)^q]$

Some numbers

$$\log_2 \text{billion} = \log_2 1000000 \approx 20$$

$$0! = 1$$