

### Probability HW3

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#### Problem1

Problem 1.

(PII)

$$\text{Case 1. } Z=0 \Rightarrow P(X=x, Z=0) = \begin{cases} 1-p & \text{if } x=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x>0. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Case 2. } Z=1 \Rightarrow P(X=x, Z=1) = \begin{cases} p \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda} & \text{if } x \geq 0. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore P(X=x, Z=z) = \begin{cases} 1-p & \text{if } x=0 \text{ and } z=0 \\ p \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \text{ and } z=1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{a). Case } x=0: P(X=x) = (1-p) + p \cdot e^{-\lambda}$$

$$\text{Case } x>0: P(X=x) = p \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda}$$

$$\therefore P(X=x) = \begin{cases} (1-p) + p \cdot e^{-\lambda} & \text{if } x=0. \\ p \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda} & \text{if } x>0. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

b) When  $\begin{cases} I=1, \tilde{X}=0 & (\text{analogous to the case } Z=0) \\ I=0, \tilde{X}=Y & (\text{analogous to the case } Z=1) \end{cases}$

Since  $I \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1-p)$ , the probability align

$$P(\tilde{X}=0) = P(I=1) + P(I=0) \cdot P(Y=0) = (1-p) + p \cdot e^{-\lambda}$$

$$P(\tilde{X}=x) = P(I=0) \cdot P(Y=x) = p \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda}, \text{ for } x > 0.$$

$\therefore \tilde{X}$  and  $X$  have the same PMF.

c)  $E[UV] = \sum_u \sum_v uv \cdot P(U=u, V=v)$

$\therefore U$  &  $V$  are independent r.v., we can know

$$P(U=u, V=v) = P(U=u) \cdot P(V=v)$$

$$\therefore E[UV] = \sum_u \left( u \cdot P(U=u) \sum_v v \cdot P(V=v) \right)$$

$$= \sum_u \left( u \cdot P(U=u) \cdot E[V] \right)$$

$$= E[V] \cdot \sum_u u \cdot P(U=u) = \underline{E[V] \cdot E[U]}.$$

## Problem2

Problem 2.

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1). For  $X, Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda=2)$ , the MGF are

$$M_X(t) = M_Y(t) = \exp(2(e^t - 1))$$

1. MGF of  $3X \Rightarrow M_{3X}(t) = M_X(3t) = \exp(2(e^{3t} - 1))$

2. MGF of  $4Y \Rightarrow M_{4Y}(t) = M_Y(4t) = \exp(2(e^{4t} - 1))$

Since  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, we have

$$M_Z(t) = M_{3X}(t) \cdot M_{4Y}(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow M_Z(t) &= \exp(2(e^{3t} - 1)) \cdot \exp(2(e^{4t} - 1)) \\ &= \exp(2(e^{3t} + e^{4t} - 2)) \end{aligned}$$

For r.v.  $W \sim \text{Poisson}(u)$ , the MGF is

$$M_W(t) = \exp(u(e^t - 1)), \text{ which is not match the } \exp(2(e^{3t} + e^{4t} - 2)). \text{ So } Z \text{ is NOT a Poisson r.v.}$$

$$b) \quad P_Y(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{b}{\pi^2 k^2} & \text{if } k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad [PA]$$

$$M_Y(t) = E[e^{tY}]$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{b}{\pi^2 k^2} \cdot e^{tk}$$

$$\geq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{b}{\pi^2 k^2} (1+tk) \quad \rightarrow e^x \geq 1+x \text{ for } x \geq 0$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{b}{\pi^2 k^2} + \frac{bt}{\pi^2 k}$$

$$\therefore \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{bt}{\pi^2 k} = \infty \text{ for all } t > 0, \text{ we can know}$$

$M_Y(t)$  doesn't exist for any  $y > 0$ ,

$\therefore$  MGF of  $Y$  doesn't exist



### Problem 3

Problem 3.

[15]

$$a). F_X(t) = F_{XY}(t, \infty) = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp(-t) & \text{if } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$F_Y(t) = F_{XY}(\infty, u) = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp(-u) & \text{if } u > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For  $X, Y$  to be independent, we need  $F_{XY}(t, u) = F_X(t) \cdot F_Y(u)$   
for all  $t, u \in \mathbb{R}$ , it will hold if  $\theta = 0$

$$b). \frac{\partial}{\partial t \partial u} F_{XY}(t, u) =$$

$$= \begin{cases} (1 + \theta(t+u-1) + \theta^2 + u) \cdot e^{-(t+u+\theta tu)} & \text{if } t > 0, u > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### Problem4

Problem 4.

P6

a) Let  $X_i$  be the r.v. for  $i$ -th labeler voting for  $T_a$ .

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{-th labeler votes for } T_a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$p = P(X_i = 1) = \sigma(R(T_a) - R(T_b))$$

Let  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , the event  $E$  corresponds to  $S_n > \frac{n}{2}$

$E[S_n] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i] = n \cdot p$ , by Hoeffding's inequality.

$$P(|S_n - E[S_n]| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{n}\right). \text{ For } P(E).$$

We are interested in  $P(S_n > \frac{n}{2})$ . We can rewrite this as

$$P(S_n > \frac{n}{2}) = P(S_n - E[S_n] > \frac{n}{2} - E[S_n]) \geq 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{2(\frac{n}{2} - E[S_n])^2}{n}\right)$$

$\therefore E[S_n] = n \cdot p$ . So we can know.

$$P(E) = P(S_n > \frac{n}{2}) \geq 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{2(\frac{n}{2} - np)^2}{n}\right)$$

$$= 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{2(\frac{n}{2} - n \cdot \sigma(R(T_a) - R(T_b)))^2}{n}\right)$$

lower bound for  $P(E)$  ←

b)

[17]

Chebyshev:

Follow from (a). we know  $\text{Var}(X_i) = p(1-p)$ ,  
 $\text{Var}(S_n) = n \cdot \text{Var}(X_i) = n \cdot p(1-p)$ . For  $P(E)$ , we want  
 $P(S_n \geq \frac{n}{2}) = P(S_n - E[S_n] \geq \frac{n}{2} - E[S_n]) \geq 1 - \delta$ .

From Chebyshev's inequality:  $P(|S_n - E[S_n]| \geq t) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(S_n)}{t^2}$

we can get:  $P(S_n - E[S_n] \geq t) \geq 1 - \frac{n \cdot p(1-p)}{t^2}$ ,

Let  $t = \frac{n}{2} - E[S_n] = \frac{n}{2} - np$ . To achieve  $P(E) \geq 1 - \delta$

We need to solve:  $\delta \geq \frac{n \cdot p(1-p)}{(\frac{n}{2} - np)^2}$

$$\delta \geq \frac{n \cdot p(1-p)}{(\frac{n}{2} - np)^2} = \frac{np(1-p)}{n(\frac{1}{2} - p)^2}$$

$$\therefore n \geq \frac{p(1-p)}{\delta (\frac{1}{2} - p)^2}$$

Hoeffding inequality.

[18]

From part (a). we already have  $P(E) \geq 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{2(\frac{n}{2} - np)^2}{n}\right)$

To ensure  $P(E) \geq 1 - \delta$ , we need to solve:

$$\exp\left(-\frac{2(\frac{n}{2} - np)^2}{n}\right) \leq \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{2n(\frac{1}{2} - p)^2}{n} \leq \ln \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow -2n(\frac{1}{2} - p)^2 \leq \ln \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow n \geq \frac{-2 \ln \delta}{(\frac{1}{2} - p)^2}$$



c) Let  $S = \sum_{i=2}^{100} I_i$ , where  $I_i$  is independent Bernoulli r.v.

We want to know  $P(S > 90)$  upper bound.

We know  $P(S \geq a) \leq e^{-ta} M_S(t)$  for  $t > 0, t \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Because  $I_i$  is Bernoulli r.v., so the MGF of  $I_i$  is  $M_{I_i}(t) = E[e^{tI_i}] = (1-p) + pe^t$ .

the MGF of  $S$  will be  $M_S(t) = \prod_{i=2}^{100} M_{I_i}(t) = \prod_{j=1}^{100} (1-p_j + p_j e^t)$

So by Chernoff bound, we can get.

$$P(S > 90) \leq e^{-t \cdot 90} \cdot \prod_{j=2}^{100} (1-p_j + p_j e^t) \text{ for any } t > 0$$

$$\text{and } p_j = \sigma(R(T_j) - R(T_1)) \text{ for } j = 2, 3, \dots, 100$$



# Problem 5

Problem 5.

(10)

a).

Step 1. We know  $N$  is the smallest integer st  $S_N > 1$ , which implies for  $N=n$ ,  $S_{n-1} \leq 1$  and  $S_n > 1$ .

So the  $P(N=n) = P(S_{n-1} \leq 1 \cap S_n > 1)$ , it also means we need all cases that the sum less than 1 after  $n-1$ , and exclude the cases that less than 1 after  $n$ . So it can also write as.

$$P(N=n) = P(S_{n-1} \leq 1 \cap S_n > 1) = P(S_{n-1} \leq 1) - P(S_n \leq 1)$$

Step 2. To proof  $P(S_n \leq 1) = \frac{1}{n!}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , let  $S_n = U_1 + U_2 + \dots + U_n$ , the PDF  $f_{S_n}(x)$  is obtained by repeating convolving the PDF of  $S_{n-1}$  with uniform distribution.

We first need to proof  $f_{S_n}(x) = \frac{x^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$  for  $0 \leq x \leq n$ .

1. base case:  $S_1 = U_1$ ,  $f_{S_1}(x) = 1 = \frac{x^{1-1}}{(1-1)!} = \frac{x^0}{0!}$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

2. Assume  $f_{S_{n-1}}(x) = \frac{x^{n-2}}{(n-2)!}$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq n-1$

[P1]

by convolution theorem, we can know  $S_n = S_{n-1} + U_n$ .

$$\text{So } f_{S_n}(x) = \int_0^1 1 \cdot f_{S_{n-1}}(x-t) dt = \int_0^1 1 \cdot \frac{(x-t)^{n-2}}{(n-2)!} dt, \text{ for } \begin{matrix} 0 \leq x-t \\ x-t \leq n-1 \end{matrix}$$

Which  $t \in [\max(0, x-(n-1)), \min(1, x)]$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq n$ .

We can get  $t \in [0, x]$ , so we can rewrite

$$f_{S_n}(x) = \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \int_0^x (x-t)^{n-2} dt$$

Let  $u = x-t$ ,  $du = -dt$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{S_n}(x) &= \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \int_x^0 u^{n-2} (-du) = \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \int_0^x u^{n-2} du \\ &= \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \cdot \frac{x^{n-1}}{n-1} \\ &= \frac{x^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \end{aligned}$$

so we can get  $f_{S_n}(x) = \frac{x^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$  by induction.

$$\therefore P(S_n \leq 1) = \int_0^1 \frac{x^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} dx = \frac{1}{n!}$$

step 3. for step 1 and step 2. we can get

$$P(N=n) = P(S_{n-1} < 1) - P(S_n < 1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(n-1)!} - \frac{1}{n!}$$

$$= \frac{n-1}{n!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[N] &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot P(N=n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot \frac{n-1}{n!} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 - n}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{n!} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n!} \\ &= 2e - e \\ &= e \end{aligned}$$

- b).
1. Generate uniform r.v.  $U_1, U_2, U_3, \dots$  repeatedly.
  2. Compute the cumulative sum  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n U_i$
  3. Stop at smallest  $n$  where  $S_n > 1$ , and record  $N=n$ .
  4. Repeat for a large number of trials.
  5. Compute average mean ( $N$ ) to estimate  $e$ .

#### (5-b Programming part)

All implementations are in the ZIP file.

Following table is my estimates of  $e$  under  $10^1$ ,  $10^3$ ,  $10^5$ , and  $10^7$  sample trials

Number of trials	Estimate $e$
$10^1$	2.8
$10^3$	2.728
$10^5$	2.71844
$10^7$	2.7183075

We can clearly see that as the number of trials increase, the estimate  $e$  is closer to the actual Euler's number  $e = 2.71828$ .

## Problem6

All implementations are in the ZIP file.

(a) What are the mean regrets of your Epsilon Greedy algorithm under the three MAB problem instances provided in “MAB.ipynb” and under  $\epsilon = 0.01, 0.03, 0.1, 0.3$ ? Please also compare the performance of Epsilon Greedy algorithm with that of the EmpiricalMeans algorithm.

Following table is the experiment result of my implementation under different  $\epsilon$  and different three MAB problem:

epsilon	easy but widely adopted problem	An other problem	very hard problem
0.01	223.65	90.288	417.38
0.03	229.5	149.52	215.47
0.1	442.15	375.87	140.03
0.3	1214.9	1028.6	227.17

Table1. Mean regrets of my Epsilon Greedy algorithm in different condition.

We can see that small  $\epsilon$  ( $\epsilon = 0.01, 0.03$ ) have a good result in simpler environments, I think it's because small  $\epsilon$  prioritize exploitation (favoring the current best arm) and reduces regret because it quickly converges to high-reward arms. But in hard environments insufficient exploration prevents it from discovering better arms, leading to higher regret. While  $\epsilon = 0.1$  has a good result in hard environments. But in simpler environments it causes the increasing of the regret. In large  $\epsilon$  ( $\epsilon = 0.3$ ) ensures thorough exploration, it comes at a high cost in simpler environments, where high-reward arms are easily identifiable. And the hard environments doesn't benefit much from large  $\epsilon$ .

So, I think smaller  $\epsilon$  values might be ideal for environments with clear optimal arms, minimizing unnecessary exploration. Moderate  $\epsilon$  achieves the best balance in difficult environments with closely spaced arm rewards. Large  $\epsilon$  leads to high regret across all environments due to over-exploration.



Following table is the comparison of my implementation and EmpiricalMeans and UCB algorithm (the  $\epsilon$  here I set 0.01):

Algorithm	easy but widely adopted problem	An other problem	very hard problem
My implementation	223.65	90.288	417.38
EmpiricalMeans	307.81	155.31	435.77
UCB	327.14	231.21	490.1

Table2. Comparison of Mean regrets on 3 different algorithms.

We can see the above table, my Epsilon Greedy algorithm outperform at all MAB problem. I also compare to the UCB algorithm (as the given sample code), my Epsilon Greedy algorithm also outperform at all MAB problem. It means that the Epsilon-Greedy algorithm with appropriate  $\epsilon$  can outperforms EmpiricalMeans and UCB in most environments. But I also observe that for hard environment, differences between the algorithms narrow, all algorithms struggle in this environment.

**(b) Use a diminishing exploration rate in the Epsilon Greedy algorithm, i.e.,  $\epsilon(t) = t^{-\alpha}$  with  $\alpha > 0$ ? Then, what are the mean regrets under  $\alpha = 0.1, 0.5, 1.0$ , and  $2.0$ ? Can you point out some interesting things from your experimental results?**

Following table is the experiment result of my implementation under different  $\alpha$  and different three MAB problem:

epsilon	easy but widely adopted problem	An other problem	very hard problem
0.1	1775.3	1500.6	307.86
0.5	161.02	115.51	218.17
1.0	262.9	75.89	657.08
2.0	376.65	141.78	823.91

Table3. Mean regrets of my Epsilon Greedy algorithm in different alpha.

As the above table shows that the choice of  $\alpha$  in the diminishing exploration rate ( $\epsilon(t) = t^{-\alpha}$ ) significantly affects performance across the three MAB problems. A small  $\alpha$  (0.1) diminishes exploration too slowly, leading to high regret in simpler environments but decent performance in complex ones like the hard environment. Conversely, large  $\alpha$  values (1.0, 2.0) reduce exploration too quickly, resulting in better performance in simpler problems but high regret in harder ones due to insufficient sampling of suboptimal arms. Interestingly,  $\alpha=0.5$  gets the best result in all environment. I think it's because it strikes the balance, achieving the lowest regrets overall by adapting

exploration to problem complexity effectively. This shows that the optimal  $\alpha$  depends on the specific environment, with appropriate values performing well across diverse settings.