

Comp Sci 212

1. Birthday Paradox 2. Random Variables

Announcements

- Midterm October 19 - (up to October 12)
- Google form if taking make-up
- Submission by 5:15 (or 9:05)
- Typed version

Birthday Paradox

In a room of n people, what's the prob. that two people have the same birthday?

- Raise hand if you want to share birthday
- Unmute you, say birthday (or random)
- Hear your birthday called, mention in chat

- View birthdays as a sequence where i th element is the birthday of person i .
- D be set of birthdays, $|D| = 365$
- Sample space D^n , uniform distribution
- E = set of sequences w/ distinct birthdays

$$\Pr[E] = \frac{|E|}{|D|^n}$$

$$|E| = |D| \cdot (|D|-1) \cdot (|D|-2) \cdots (|D|-n+1)$$

by generalized product rule

$$\Pr[E] = \frac{|D| \cdot (|D|-1) \cdot (|D|-2) \cdots (|D|-n+1)}{|D|^n}$$

$$= \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{|D|-i}{|D|} = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{i}{|D|}\right)$$

multiply for each i from 0 to 1

$$\begin{aligned} & \rightarrow \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{i}{|D|}\right) \\ & \leq \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} e^{-\frac{i}{|D|}} \\ & = e^{-(0 + \frac{1}{|D|} + \frac{2}{|D|} \cdots \frac{n-1}{|D|})} \\ & = e^{-\frac{n(n-1)}{2|D|}} = e^{-\frac{n(n-1)}{2|D|} \leq -1} = \frac{1}{e} \end{aligned}$$

$1-x \leq e^{-x}$

If $\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \geq |D|$, probability is at most $\frac{1}{e}$.

probability of a pair w/ same birthday is at least $1 - \frac{1}{e}$.

$\rightarrow n \geq \sqrt{2|D|} + 1$
 $|D| = 365$, $n \geq 27$, pair w/ same birthday.

Birthday Principle

If there are d days in a year, and $\sqrt{2d}$ people in a room, the probability that two people share a birthday is about $1 - \frac{1}{e}$.

S = sample space, uniform dist. over S .

How to estimate $|S|$, how many samples do we need?

- Keep sampling until you think you've seen all samples - at least $|S|$ samples
- Keep sampling until you see a repeat.
- $\sqrt{2|S|}$ samples

Def. A random variable R is a total function on a probability space.

$$R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Ex. } S = \{H, T\}^{100}, R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, R(s) = \{\# \text{ of } H\text{'s in } s\}$$

$$\Pr[R=50] = \Pr[E_1] \quad E_1 = \{s \mid s \in S, R(s)=50\}$$

$$\Pr[R \leq 25] = \Pr[E_2] \quad E_2 = \{s \mid s \in S, R(s) \leq 25\}$$

$$\Pr[R \text{ is odd}] = \Pr[E_3] \quad E_3 = \{s \mid s \in S, R(s) \text{ is odd}\}$$

$$\Pr[R=50], \text{ uniform dist.} \quad \text{slippy coin dist.}$$

$$= \frac{|E_1|}{|S|} = \frac{\binom{100}{50}}{2^{100}}$$

$$\Pr[\text{all heads}] = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr[\text{all tails}] = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr[\text{everything else}] = 0$$

$$\Pr[R=50] = 0.$$

$\rightarrow$ set of all sequences w/ 50 H's, 50 T's

bijection to subsets of $[100]$ of size 50.

$$\text{Ex. } M: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad M(s) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if all coins the same} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Pr[M=1] = \Pr[E] \quad E = \{\text{all heads, all tails}\}$$

$$\text{uniform dist. } \Pr[M=1] = \frac{2}{2^{100}} = 2^{-99}$$

$$\text{slippy dist. } \Pr[M=1] = 1.$$

Def. Two random variables A, B are independent if

$$R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, R(s) = \# \text{ of heads in } s$$

$$S = \{H, T\}^{100}$$

Thm. R and M are not independent uniform dist.

$$\text{Proof. } \Pr[R=2 \text{ and } M=1] = 0$$

$$\Pr[R=2] \neq 0 \quad \Pr[M=1] \neq 0$$

$$\Pr[R=2] \cdot \Pr[M=1] \neq 0.$$

□

Thm. R and M are independent under slippy coin dist.

Def. Two random variables A, B are independent if

$$\Pr[A=x_1] \cdot \Pr[B=x_2] = \Pr[A=x_1 \text{ and } B=x_2]$$

for all x_1, x_2

$$\Pr[L=1] \cdot \Pr[M=1] \neq 0.$$

□

Thm. R and M are independent under sticky coin dist.

Proof. $\Pr[R=k \text{ and } M=0] = 0$ for all k .

$$\Pr[M=0] = 0, \text{ so } \Pr[R=k] \cdot \Pr[M=0] = 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[R=k \text{ and } M=1] &= \Pr[R=k] \\ &= \Pr[R=k] \cdot \Pr[M=1] \end{aligned}$$

□