

CS 109 Midterm Review

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Outline

- General Strategies
- Counting and Events
- Probability Rules
- Random Variables

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Solving a CS109 problem



Step 1: Defining Your Terms

- What's a 'success'? What's the sample space?
- What does each random variable actually represent, in English? Every definition of an event or a random variable should have a **verb** in it. (' = ' is a verb)
- Make sure units match particularly important for λ

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Translating English to Probability

What the problem asks:	<u>What you should immediately</u> <u>think:</u>	
"What's the probability of"	P()	
"given", " if"		
"at least"	could we use what we know about everything less than?	
"approximate"	use an approximation!	
"How many ways"	combinatorics	

these are just a few, and these are why practice is the best way to prepare for the exam!

Translating English to Probability

People can have blue or brown eyes. What's the probability John has blue eyes if his mother has brown eyes?

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- 1. What events are we given?
- 2. What are we asked to solve?

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Sum Rule

outcomes = |A| + |B| $if |A \cap B| = 0$

I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 4 farm animals. How many costume choices?

Sum Rule	Inclusion-Exclusion Principle
$outcomes = A + B $ $if A \cap B = 0$	$ A + B - A \cap B $ for any $ A \cap B $
I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 4 farm animals. How many costume choices?	I can choose to dress up as one of 5 superheroes or one of 6 strong female movie leads. 2 of the superheroes are female movie leads. How many costume choices?

Product Rule

 $outcomes = |A| \times |B|$

if all outcomes of B are possible regardless of the outcome of A

I can choose to go to one of 3 parties and then trick-ortreat in one of 5 neighborhoods. How many different ways to celebrate?

Product Rule	Pigeonhole Principle	
outcomes = $ A \times B $ if all outcomes of B are possible regardless of the outcome of A	If m objects are placed into n buckets, then at least one bucket has at least <i>ceiling(m / n)</i> objects.	
I can choose to go to one of 3 parties and then trick-or- treat in one of 5 neighborhoods. How many different ways to celebrate?	If you have an infinite number of red, white, blue, and green socks in a drawer, how many must you pull out before being guaranteed a pair?	

Combinatorics: Arranging Items



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Probability basics

$$P(E) = \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n}$$

in the general case





Axioms: $0 \le P(E) \le 1$ P(S) = 1 $P(E^{C}) = 1 - P(E)$

Conditional Probability

definition: $P(E \mid F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$

Chain Rule:



* $P(EF) = P(E \cap F)$

 $P(EF) = P(E \mid F)P(F)$

We can either walk to class, or we can bike.

If we walk to class, we have a 75% chance of being late. If we bike, we have a 10% chance of being late.

We walk if we can't find our bike key, which happens 30% of the time.

What's our probability of being late to class?

We can either walk to class, or we can bike. If we walk to class, we have a 50% chance of being late. If we bike, we have a 10% chance of being late. We walk if we can't find our bike key, which happens 30% of the time. What's our probability of being late to class?

Event W = we walk to class. Event B = we bike = W^C .

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Event W = we walk to class. Event B = we bike = W^C. Event L = we are late to class. P(L | W) = 0.5, P(L | B) = 0.1. P(W) = 0.3. P(L) = ?

 $P(L) = P(L | W)P(W) + P(L | W^{C})P(W^{C})$



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 $P(L) = P(L | W)P(W) + P(L | W^{C})P(W^{C})$ = (0.5)(0.3) + (0.1)(0.7)



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 $P(L) = P(L | W)P(W) + P(L | W^{C})P(W^{C})$

= (0.5)(0.3) + (0.1)(0.7)

= 0.22



Event W = we walk to class. Event B = we bike = W^C. Event L = we are late to class. P(L | W) = 0.5, P(L | B) = 0.1.P(W) = 0.3.P(L) = ?

what if we can bike, walk, or take the Marguerite (> 2 options)?



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what if we can bike, walk, or take the Marguerite (> 2 options)?

events for "scale factors" must be:

- mutually exclusive, and
- exhaustive



Bayes' Rule

$P(E \mid F) = \frac{P(F \mid E)P(E)}{P(F)}$

Bayes' Rule



Bayes' Rule



divide the event F into all the possible ways it can happen; use LoTP

Old Principles, New Tricks

Name of Rule	Original Rule	Conditional Rule
First axiom of probability	$0 \le P(E) \le 1$	$0 \le P(E \mid G) \le 1$
Complement Rule	$P(E) = 1 - P(E^C)$	$P(E \mid G) = 1 - P(E^C \mid G)$
Chain Rule	$P(EF) = P(E \mid F)P(F)$	$P(EF \mid G) = P(E \mid FG)P(F \mid G)$
Bayes Theorem	$P(E \mid F) = \frac{P(F \mid E)P(E)}{P(F)}$	$P(E \mid FG) = \frac{P(F \mid EG)P(E \mid G)}{P(F \mid G)}$

DeMorgan's Laws



$(E \cap F)^c = E^c \cup F^c$



Independence

Independence	Mutual Exclusion
P(EF) = P(E)P(F)	$ E \cap F = 0$
"AND"	"OR"





Independence

Independence	Conditional Independence
P(EF) = P(E)P(F)	$P(EF \mid G) = P(E \mid G)P(F \mid G)$ $P(E \mid FG) = P(E \mid G)$
"AND"	"AND [if]"

If E and F are independent.....

.....that does not mean they'll be independent if another event happens!

& vice versa

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Probability Distributions



Probability Distributions



Expectation & Variance

Discrete definition

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:P(x)>0} x * P(x)$$

Continuous definition

$$E[X] = \int_{x} x * p(x) dx$$

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Properties of Expectation

Properties of Variance

E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]

E[aX+b] = aE[X]+b

$$E[g(X)] = \sum g(x) * p_X(x)$$

 $Var(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$

 $Var(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$

 $Var(aX+b) = a^2 Var(X)$

All our (discrete) friends

Ber(p)	Bin(n, p)	Ροί(λ)	Geo(p)	NegBin (r, p)
P(X) = p	$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$	$\frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$	$(1-p)^{k-1}p$	$\binom{k-1}{r-1}p^r(1-p)^{k-r}$
E[X] = p	E[X] = np	$E[X] = \lambda$	E[X] = 1 / p	E[X] = r / p
Var(X) = p(1-p)	Var(X) = np(1-p)	$Var(X) = \lambda$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$
Getting candy or not at a random house	# houses out of 20 that give out candy	# houses in an hour that give out candy	# houses to visit before getting candy	# houses to visit before getting candy 3 times

All our (continuous) friends



Approximations

When can we approximate a binomial?

n is large



Continuity correction



Only applies to PDF - why?

Joint Distributions

- Discrete case: $p_{x,y}(a,b) = P(X = a, Y = b) \cdot P_x(a) = \sum_{y} P_{x,y}(a,y)$
- Continuous case: $P(a_1 < x \le a_2, b_1 < y \le b_2) = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \int_{b_1}^{b_2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$ $f_X(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(a, y) dy$
- For joint distributions to be independent, both their joint probability density function must be factorable and the bounds of the variables must be separable.

Convolutions

 $\begin{aligned} X \sim Bin(n_1, p), Y \sim Bin(n_2, p) &=> X + Y \sim Bin(n_1 + n_2, p) \\ X \sim Poi(\lambda_1), Y \sim Poi(\lambda_2) &=> X + Y \sim Poi(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \\ X \sim N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2), Y \sim N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2) &=> X + Y \sim N(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2) \\ f_{X+Y}(a) &= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy \quad \text{(general case)} \end{aligned}$

Practice Problems

How many ways are there to rearrange the letters of the alphabet such that none of the 5 vowels are next to each other? Think of the 5 vowels as dividers for buckets, and imagine at least one consonant must go in the middle four buckets. That means that there are $\binom{17+6-1}{6-1}$ arrangements of vowels and consonants (17 consonants into 6 buckets). Then there are 21! ways to arrange the consonants and 5! ways to arrange the vowels, so our final answer is

$$21!5!\binom{17+6-1}{6-1}$$

Assume SAT scores are normally distributed, with mean 500 and variance 1000. If two students take the exam, what is the probability that their combined score is greater than 1020?

Score of student 1~N(500,1000) Score of student 2~N(500,1000) Score of both students varies as N(500,1000) + N(500,1000) = N(1000,2000). P(N(1000,2000) > 1050) = 1 - P(N(1000,2000) < 1020.5)) $P(N(1000,2000) < 1020.5)) = P(Z < \frac{1020.5 - 1000}{\sqrt{2000}})$ = P(Z < .458) = .677

So our final probability is 1-.677 or .323

Are Hogwarts house and favorite pet independent?

	Dog	Cat	Fish
Gryffindor	.12	.12	.06
Slytherin	.04	.04	.02
Ravenclaw	.16	.16	.08
Hufflepuff	.8	.2	.04