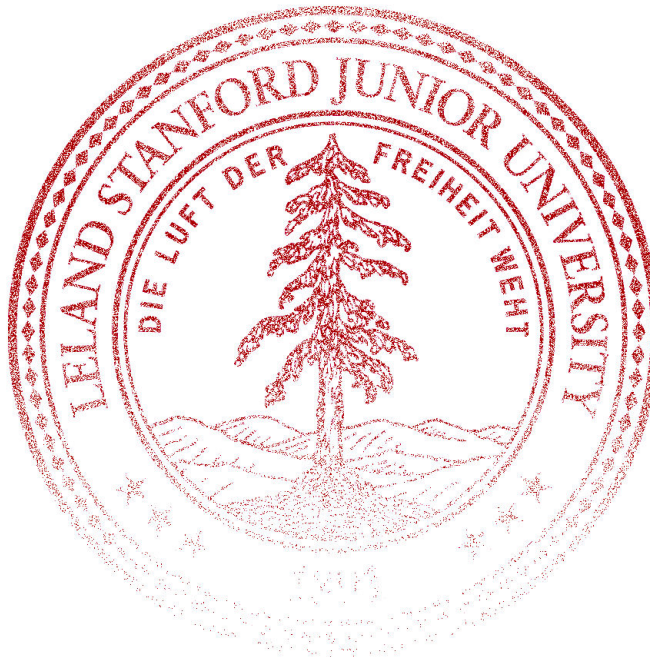


CS109 Final Exam

This is a closed calculator/computer exam. You are, however, allowed to use notes in the exam.

In the event of an incorrect answer, any explanation you provide of how you obtained your answer can potentially allow us to give you partial credit for a problem. For example, describe the distributions and parameter values you used, where appropriate. It is fine for your answers to include summations, products, factorials, exponentials, and combinations.

You can leave your answer in terms of Φ (the CDF of the standard normal) or Φ^{-1} (the inverse CDF). For example $\Phi\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$ is an acceptable final answer.



I acknowledge and accept the letter and spirit of the honor code. I pledge to write more neatly than I have in my entire life:

Signature: _____

Family Name (print): _____

Given Name (print): _____

Email (preferably your gradescope email): _____

1 True or False (36 points)

Answer True or False for each of the following questions. You must give a brief justification for your answer.

- a. (6 points) If two random variables X and Y are independent, then it is still possible for some assignments $X = x$ and $Y = y$ to be dependent.

False

All events must be independent as well.

- b. (6 points) The log likelihood function that is used to estimate p of a Bernoulli, for a set of observations, must always be 0 or smaller.

True

$$LL(p) = \log \prod_{i=1}^n P(X = x_i; p) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(X = x_i; p)$$

Because the bernoulli distribution is discrete, the likelihood of any point *must* be between 0 and 1 inclusive. This means the log likelihood of any point is *at most* 0. If you sum together non-positive numbers, the result is non-positive. (This is not strictly true for continuous distributions since the likelihood of a point can be greater than 1)

- c. (6 points) You sampled two sets of numbers from unknown distributions: $(a_1 \dots a_n)$ and $(b_1 \dots b_n)$. You observe a difference between their modes, and you decide to use bootstrapping to ascertain whether the modes of their respective distributions are truly different. If your algorithm estimates a p-value of 0.99, this implies that the modes of the underlying distributions are not meaningfully different.

True

A p-value of 0.99 would occur if the difference we observed between the modes of the two datasets is the kind of difference we would observe frequently by chance if the two sets of points were drawn from distributions with the same mode.

- d. (6 points) Let $X_1 \dots X_n$ be i.i.d. Then $(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i)$ is a new random variable which tends toward a normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 0 as n tends toward infinity.

False

The mean does not tend towards 0, but it is always the same value $E[X_i]$ regardless of n . This can even be shown for non-independent variables: $E[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \frac{1}{n} E[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i] = \frac{1}{n} n E[X_i] = E[X_i]$. The variance *does* tend toward 0 for large n (but the whole answer is still false).

It is worth mentioning that the central limit theorem does not hold for random variables that have undefined variance (we did not discuss these distributions in class), so it would also be technically correct to say that these i.i.d. R.V.s don't *always* tend toward Normal, making the statement false. This level of detail is beyond scope of this course.

- e. (6 points) Let $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda = 5)$ and let $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda = 5)$. $P(X = 0)$ is equal to $P(Y > 1)$

True

Intuitively, the probability of no occurrences in an interval is the same as the first occurrence happening after the interval. Mathematically, $P(X = 0) = \frac{5^0 e^{-5}}{0!} = e^{-5} = 1 - (1 - e^{-5}) = 1 - P(Y \leq 1) = P(Y > 1)$

- f. (6 points) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be (not necessarily independent) random variables each with mean 1. It must be the case that $P(X_1 + \dots + X_n \geq n)$ is greater than 0.

True

This is one of the more challenging problems.

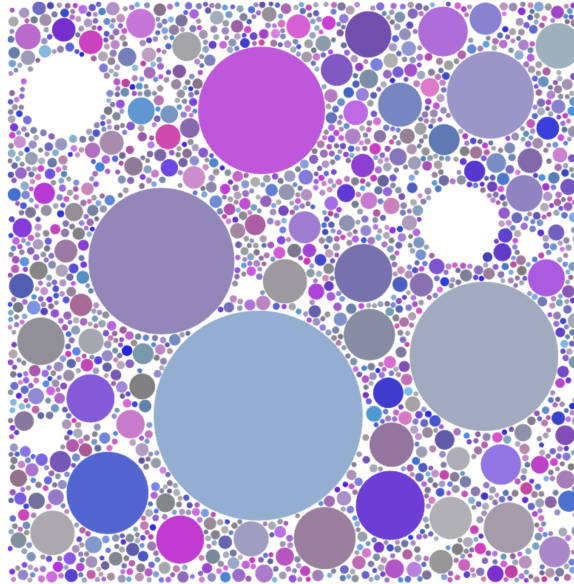
By linearity of expectation (Lecture 6), $\mathbb{E}(X_1 + \dots + X_n) = \mathbb{E}(X_1) + \dots + \mathbb{E}(X_n) = 1 + \dots + 1 = n$, regardless of any dependency among the X_i s. Then there must be at least some positive probability that $X_1 + \dots + X_n \geq n$, or else the mean of $X_1 + \dots + X_n$ would be less than n .

Some incorrect or insufficient arguments included:

- Invoking the Central Limit Theorem, which does not necessarily apply here because the X_i s are not necessarily independent, and n may not necessarily be large. Even if this was used to argue that the mean of the sum is n (which is true), we still deducted most of the points because using the CLT in an unjustified situation is a serious mistake (we don't want you to do that in real applications later in your careers!)
- Arguing that each X_i must be able to take on the value 1 with some probability (this is not true, e.g., consider a variable that is 2 half the time and 0 half the time)
- Arguing that each X_i must be able to take on a value 1 or greater with some probability (this is true), so there must be some outcome where this happens for all of them (this is not true, and does not address the issue of the variables potentially being dependent. e.g., consider a case where $X_1 = 2$ half the time and 0 the other half of the time, and $X_2 = 2$ half the time and 0 the other half of the time, but they are dependent such that X_1 is 2 when X_2 is 0, and vice versa. Then there is no such outcome, even though the situation is valid for the problem because both X_i s have mean 1.)
- Showing only one example where this holds, or bringing in additional assumptions about the size of n or the distributions of the variables.
- Claiming that the assertion is true because all probabilities must be between 0 and 1 (the argument must specifically show that $P(X_1 + \dots + X_n \geq n)$ is **not** 0)
- Anything handwavy / insufficiently rigorous, or an answer that essentially restated the claim. We realize that this is one of those assertions that "just has to be true", but the hardest part here is explaining it convincingly.

2 Algorithmic Art (32 points)

We want to generate probabilistic artwork, efficiently. We are going to use random variables to make a picture filled with non-overlapping circles:



In our art, the circles are different sizes. Specifically, each circle's **radius** is drawn from a Pareto distribution (which is described below). The placement algorithm is greedy: we sample 1000 circle sizes. Sort them by size, largest to smallest. Loop over the circle sizes and place circles one by one.

To place a circle on the canvas, we sample the location of the center of the circle. Both the x and y coordinates are uniformly distributed over the dimensions of the canvas. Once we have selected a prospective location we then check if there would be a collision with a circle that has already been placed. If there is a collision we keep trying new locations until you find one that has no collisions.

Pareto Distribution

Notation: $X \sim \text{Pareto}(\alpha)$

Parameters: α , the shape parameter

Support: 1 to ∞

PDF: $f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{x^{\alpha+1}}$

CDF: $F(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x^\alpha}$

- a. (6 points) You sample a single radius from a Pareto distribution with $\alpha = 2$. What is the probability that the radius is 300 or greater?

$$\begin{aligned} &P(X \geq 300) \\ &1 - P(X < 300) \\ &1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{x^\alpha}\right) \\ &1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{300^2}\right) = \frac{1}{90000} \end{aligned}$$

- b. (6 points) If you sample 1000 radii (radii is plural of radius) from the same distribution, Pareto($\alpha = 2$), what is the probability that there are at most two circles whose radii are 300 or greater? Provide an equation that you could use to compute the exact answer. Let p be your answer from part (a).

Let Y be the number of circles with radius 300 or greater. $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n = 1000, p)$. What is $P(Y \leq 2)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y \leq 2) &= \sum_{i=0}^2 P(Y = i) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^2 \binom{1000}{i} p^i (1-p)^{1000-i} \end{aligned}$$

- c. (5 points) You are trying to place a circle and have not been able to find a place without collisions yet. We are going to estimate p , the probability of finding a space for your current circle, as a Beta (which has the Uniform prior). After 100 tries with zero successes, how confident are you that the true probability of success is < 0.01 ? You may leave your answer in terms of $\text{betaCdf}(x, a, b)$, a function that returns the CDF of a beta random variable with parameters a and b at value x .

Let X be the probability of finding a place for your circle.

$$X \sim \text{Beta}(a = 1, b = 101)$$

$$P(X < 0.01) = \text{betaCdf}(x = 0.01, a = 1, b = 101)$$

Do not disturb my circles

- d. (15 points) Your artwork is inspired by the size of sand particles which also follow a Pareto distribution. You would like the alpha in your artwork to match that of sand in your local beach. You go to the beach and collect 100 particles of sand and measure their size. Call the measured radii $x_1 \dots x_{100}$. Derive a formula for the MLE estimate of α .

$$\begin{aligned} LL &= \sum_i \log f(x_i) \\ &= \sum_i \log \frac{\alpha}{x_i^{\alpha+1}} \\ &= \sum_i \log \alpha - (\alpha + 1) \log(x_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial LL}{\partial \alpha} &= \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \left[\log \alpha - (\alpha + 1) \log(x_i) \right] \\ &= \sum_i \frac{1}{\alpha} - \log(x_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \sum_i \frac{1}{\alpha} - \log(x_i) \\ \sum_i \log(x_i) &= \frac{n}{\alpha} \\ \alpha &= \frac{n}{\sum_i \log(x_i)} \end{aligned}$$

3 How Lucky! (15 points)

Craps is a game where you roll two dice (and look at the sum). In the game, you don't want to roll a 7. If you roll a 7, you are out. The current world record for the most rolls **without a 7** is from Patricia Demauro who rolled 154 pairs of dice before she rolled her first 7.

- a. (5 points) What is the probability of getting a run consisting of 154 rolls without any 7s followed by a 7 on the 155th?

Let X be the result of dice 1.

Let Y be the result of dice 2.

$$P(X + Y = 7) = P(\{(1, 6), (2, 5), (3, 4), (4, 3), (5, 2), (6, 1)\}) = \frac{6}{36} = \frac{1}{6}$$

Let $Z \sim \text{Geo}(\frac{1}{6})$.

$$P(Z = 155) = \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{154} \frac{1}{6}$$

- b. (10 points) There have been (estimated) 10^9 games of craps played in the last decade. What is the probability that exactly two games out of 10^9 will have a run of length 154 without any 7s (followed by a 7 on the 155th)? Use an approximation that could be used to efficiently compute the answer. Let p be the answer to part (a).

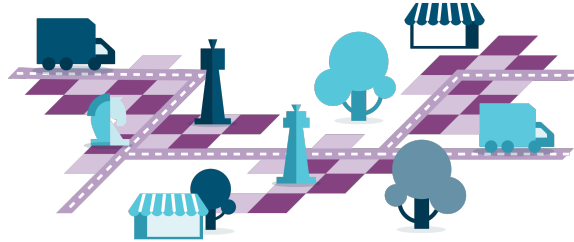
Let X be the number of times that we have a run of 154 with no 7's. Then $X \sim \text{Bin}(10^9, p)$.

Since p is small, let $Y \approx X$ such that $Y \sim \text{Poi}(10^9 p)$.

$$P(X = 2) \approx P(Y = 2) = \frac{(10^9 p)^2 e^{-10^9 p}}{2!}$$

4 Probabilistic Supply Chains (25 points)

You are managing inventory of giant bolts in a company that produces airplanes (airplanes need giant bolts).



You have developed a probabilistic model of the joint probability between supply of bolts, S (how many bolts you will have in the next week) and demand for bolts, D (how many bolts you will need in the next week while constructing airplanes).

You can use the helper function `joint_pr(s, d)` which returns the joint probability $P(S = s, D = d)$. You may assume that both supply and demand are **discrete, integer** values in the range 0 to 100. You can't have negative bolts, and neither supply nor demand is ever more than 100. You can assume that all parameters passed to your functions are in the range 0 to 100. `joint_pr(s, d)` is defined for all s, d in range.

- a. (5 points) Write pseudocode for a function `supply_pr(s)` that returns $P(S = s)$, the marginal distribution for supply. The function takes in s , a value of S .

```
def supply_pr(s):  
    return sum(joint_pr(s, d) for d in range(101))
```

- b. (5 points) Write pseudocode for a function `demand_conditional_ex(s)` that returns $E[D|S = s]$, the conditional expectation of demand. The function takes in s , a value of S .

```
def demand_conditional_ex(s):  
    total = 0  
    for d in range(101):  
        total += joint_pr(s, d) * d  
    return total
```


- c. (7 points) Write pseudocode for a function `undersupply_pr()` that returns $P(D > S)$, the probability that demand > supply,

```
def undersupply_pr():
    total = 0
    for s in range(101):
        for d in range(s + 1, 101):
            total += join_pr(s,d)
    return total
```

- d. (8 points) The cost associated with having too few bolts is \$5000 because it means you will delay the construction of an aircraft. There is an additional cost of \$100 per bolt in your supply regardless of whether or not it is used. Write pseudocode for a function `expected_cost()` which returns your expected cost.

Let F be a Bernoulli that is 1 if we have too few bolts. Then $F = \begin{cases} 1 & D > S \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

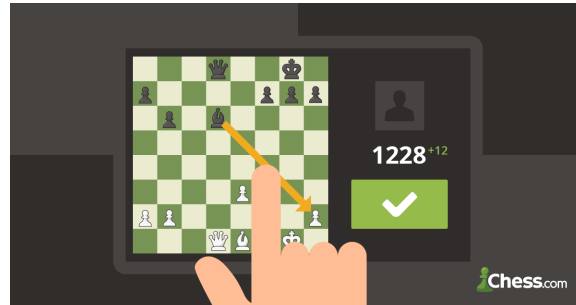
Let the cost $C = 100S + 5000F$

Then $E[C] = 100E[S] + 5000E[F] = 100E[S] + 5000P(F = 1) = 100E[S] + 5000P(D > S)$

```
def expected_cost():
    e_s = 0
    for i in range(101):
        e_s += supply_pr(i) * i
    e_f = undersupply_pr()
    return 100 * e_s + 5000 * e_f
```

5 Chess.com Puzzles (10 points)

Chess.com is a website for playing chess. They are trying to estimate how well a player can solve chess puzzles (puzzle ability) as a random variable, A , which can take on **integer** values in the range 0 to 2000 inclusive. Higher abilities mean the player is better at chess puzzles. Note that ability is **discrete**.



Assume that the probability that a player gets a particular puzzle correct, conditioned on their ability being equal to a , is:

$$p_{\text{correct}} = 0.1 + 0.9 \cdot \sigma(a - 1200)$$

$\sigma(x)$ is the sigmoid function:

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

Our user gets the puzzle correct. Write an expression to calculate the posterior belief that their ability equals a . In your calculation you should use the prior belief that chess.com had about their ability (their belief in the player's ability before they saw this puzzle result). Let $\text{prior}(i)$ be a function which returns the prior belief that $P(A = i)$.

Let C be a random variable which is 1 if the player wins a game, and 0 otherwise.

$$\begin{aligned} P(A = \alpha | C = 1) &= \frac{P(C = 1 | A = \alpha)P(A = \alpha)}{P(C = 1)} \\ &= \frac{P(C = 1 | A = \alpha)P(A = \alpha)}{\sum_{i=0}^{2000} P(C = 1 | A = i)P(A = i)} \\ &= \frac{(0.1 + 0.9 \cdot \sigma(\alpha - 1200)) \cdot p_{\alpha}}{\sum_{i=0}^{2000} (0.1 + 0.9 \cdot \sigma(i - 1200)) \cdot p_i} \end{aligned}$$

- c. (5 points) What is an approximation for the distribution of the mean of 20 samples from Uniform(0,1)? If necessary, you can leave the parameters of the distribution in terms of v , the answer to (b).

Let $Z_1 \dots Z_n$ be i.i.d. $Uni(0, 1)$. Let $X = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i$.

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n E[Z_i] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n 0.5 = \frac{n}{n} 0.5 = 0.5$$

$$Var(X) = Var\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} Var\left(\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n Var(Z_i) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n v = \frac{n}{n^2} v = \frac{v}{n} = \frac{v}{20}$$

Using CLT, $X \sim N\left(\mu = 0.5, \sigma^2 = \frac{v}{20}\right)$

- d. (6 points) What is an approximation for the distribution of the mean from one population minus the mean from another population? Note: this value may be negative if the first population has a smaller mean than the second.

Let X_1 and X_2 be the means of the populations. $X_1 \sim N(\mu = 0.5, \sigma^2 = \frac{v}{20})$, $X_2 \sim N(\mu = 0.5, \sigma^2 = \frac{v}{20})$

$$E[X_1 - X_2] = E[X_1] - E[X_2] = 0 \quad Var(X_1 - X_2) = Var(X_1) + Var(X_2) = \frac{v}{10}$$

The sum (or difference) of independent normals is still normal: $Y \sim N(\mu = 0, \sigma^2 = \frac{v}{10})$

- e. (8 points) What is the smallest difference in means, k , that would look statistically significant if there were only two populations? In other words, the probability of seeing a difference in means of k or greater is < 0.05 .

One tricky part of this problem is to recognize the double sidedness to distance. We would consider it a significant distance if $P(Y < -k)$ or $P(Y > k)$.

$$P(Y < -k) + P(Y > k) = 0.05$$

$$F_Y(-k) + (1 - F_Y(k)) = 0.05$$

$$(1 - F_Y(k)) + (1 - F_Y(k)) = 0.05$$

$$2 - 2F_Y(k) = 0.05$$

$$F_Y(k) = 0.975$$

Now we need the inverse Φ to get the value of k out.

$$0.975 = \Phi\left(\frac{k - 0}{\sqrt{v/10}}\right)$$

$$\Phi^{-1}(0.975) = \frac{k}{\sqrt{v/10}}$$

$$k = \Phi^{-1}(0.975) \sqrt{v/10}$$

- f. (5 points) Give an expression for the probability that the smallest sample mean among 5 random populations is less than 0.2.

Let X_i be the sample mean of population i .

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\min\{X_1 \dots X_n\} < 0.2) &= P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^5 X_i < 0.2\right) \\
 &= 1 - P\left(\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^5 X_i < 0.2\right)^c\right) \\
 &= 1 - P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^5 X_i \geq 0.2\right) \\
 &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^5 P(X_i \geq 0.2) \\
 &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^5 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{0.2 - 0.5}{\sqrt{v/20}}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

- g. (7 points) Use the following functions to write code that estimates the probability that among 5 populations you find a difference of means which would be considered significant (using the bootstrapping method designed to compare 2 populations). Run at least 10,000 simulations to estimate your answer. You may use the following helper functions. Write pseudocode:

```

# the smallest difference in means that would look statistically significant
k = calculate_k()

# create a matrix with n_rows by n_cols elements, each of which is Uni(0, 1)
matrix = random_matrix(n_rows, n_cols)

# from the matrix, return the column (as a list) which has the smallest mean
min_mean_col = get_min_mean_col(matrix)

# from the matrix, return the row (as a list) which has the largest mean
max_mean_col = get_max_mean_col(matrix)

# calculate the p-value between two lists using bootstrapping (like in pset5)
p_value = bootstrap(list1, list2)

```

```

n_significant = 0
k = calculate_k()
for i in range(N_TRIALS):
    dataset = random_matrix(20, 5)
    col_max = get_max_mean_col(dataset)
    col_min = get_min_mean_col(dataset)
    diff = np.mean(col_max) - np.mean(col_min)
    if diff >= k: n_significant += 1
print(n_significant / N_TRIALS)

```

7 Calibration of ML Algorithms (26 points)

The heart disease model that you built for HW6 is going to be used by medical doctors! For their purposes the output probability, $P(Y=1|X=x)$, of the logistic regression model is much more useful than the class prediction. Imagine two patients which are both predicted to be class $Y=1$. For one patient the logistic regression model says the probability that $Y=1$ is 0.99 and for the other it is only 0.60. In class we measured the accuracy of the predictions. Can we measure if the output probabilities are accurate as well?

To do so we look at all the output probabilities for our model on patients in the test set. We bucket all patients into five groups based on the output probability and then observe how many patients in that group actually had $Y=0$ and $Y=1$. For example the patient with a 0.99 output probability would go into the “very high p” group because the output probability is very high. Here is information for all five groups:

Group name	Average Logistic Regression Output Prob. for Group	Count($Y = 0$) for Group	Count($Y = 1$) for Group
Very low p	0.1	70	30
Low p	0.3	30	20
Borderline	0.5	20	20
High p	0.7	20	30
Very High p	0.9	30	70

Logistic Regression Output Probability is the average output probability for all patients in the group. Count($Y=0$) is the number of patients in the group who had a true label 0.

- a. (6 points) What is the accuracy of the model on the 100 patients in the “very high p” group?

All students in this group are predicted to have $Y = 1$. As such:
Accuracy = $70 / 100 = 0.7$

- b. (6 points) What is the probability of seeing 70 patients with $Y = 1$ and 30 patients with $Y = 0$ assuming the true probability of $Y = 1$ was actually 0.9?

$$L = \binom{100}{70} 0.9^{70} 0.1^{30}$$

- c. (4 points) Based on your analysis of this group do you think that the probabilities output by the model are too high or too low? Explain in a sentence or so.

At first it might seem that the model is overconfident, but note the different group sizes. The true frequencies of $Y = 1$ are 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, respectively. So the model underpredicts for classes below 0.5 and overpredicts for classes above 0.5. (The wording suggested focusing on the “very high” group, but you did not have to.)

- d. (10 points) We need to fix our probabilities. One solution is to “calibrate” the model on our test set. To do so, we are going to use a method call Platt Scaling. We will train a separate model which takes the logistic regression output probability and turns it into a better probability.

$$p_{\text{better}} = \sigma(\theta \cdot p_{\text{output}})$$

It only has one parameter, θ . Chose the value of θ that optimizes the likelihood of the **class labels** in the **test** set. Explain briefly how to learn this parameter θ . Include any derivations which would be necessary if one were to implement your strategy.

We can use gradient ascent to choose the values of θ that make the test data the most likely.

Let $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$ be values from the test dataset. Let $p_b^{(i)}$ and $p_o^{(i)}$ be shorthand for p_{better} and p_{output} respectively for datapoint (i) .

The log likelihood is going to be the same as for logistic regression, but on these points from the test set:

$$LL(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n y^{(i)} \log p_b^{(i)} + (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - p_b^{(i)})$$

Next we need $\frac{\partial LL}{\partial \theta}$. We can start with just one datapoint:

$$\frac{\partial LL}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial LL}{\partial p_b} \cdot \frac{\partial p_b}{\partial \theta}$$

We can solve for both parts separately:

$$\frac{\partial LL}{\partial p_b} = \frac{y}{p_b} - \frac{1 - y}{1 - p_b}$$

$$\frac{\partial p_b}{\partial \theta} = p_b \cdot (1 - p_b) \cdot p_o$$

That's all folks. Algorithmic Art is based off a painting by Tyler Hobbs and our inspiration for this problem is thanks to Erin McCoy. The story of craps is true and it is thought to be one of the most improbably runs in betting history. One of the issues with our current supply chain is that folks were not reasoning about uncertainty. Chess.com is working with the piech lab to understand how people learn. P-hacking is a real problem – people find a spurious result and never publish the other hypotheses that they checked. Calibration is a great analysis to use for any machine learning model. Thank you all for the wonderful quarter and we hope you have a fantastic break. This was a great class and the teaching team really appreciated how positive, curious and intelligent you all were. All the best.