

1 Classical Probability

1. A binary experiment is conducted such that $p(0) = q$ and $p(1) = p = 1 - q$. Also n independent trials of this experiment are performed, and we are interested in the random variable K that counts the number of 1's that occur. K has $n + 1$ possible values $0, 1, \dots, n$.

(a) Show that the probability distribution for K is given by

$$p(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k q^{n-k}$$

(b) Find the mean and the variance of the binomial distribution.

(c) *Stirling's formula* provides an approximation of $n!$ for large n :

$$n! \approx \sqrt{2\pi n} n^n e^{-n}$$

Use this to find an approximate formula for the binomial coefficient. Once you have done this, estimate the value of k that maximizes the probability $p(k)$ for large n . What do you find?

2 Classical Information

(a) Prove Jensen's inequality:

$$\sum_i p_X(x_i) f(x_i) \geq f\left(\sum_i p_X(x_i) x_i\right)$$

where X is a random variable and $f(x)$ is a convex function.

(b) Prove Fano's inequality:

$$H(p_{err}) + p_{err} \log(|\mathcal{X}|) \geq H(X|Y)$$

with X a random variable with the probability density function $p_X(x)$ and $|\mathcal{X}|$ the number of elements in the range of X . Y is another random variable related to X , with the conditional probability $p_{Y|X}(y|x)$. $p_{err} = \text{Prob}(\hat{X} \neq X)$ is the error when we estimate X based on the observation of Y as $\hat{X} = f(Y)$.

3 Typical Sequences

A sequence of 16 binary symbols are sent out from a source which produces two independent binary symbols with $p(0) = p$ and $p(1) = 1 - p$ with $p > 0.5$. A typical sequence is defined to have two or fewer symbols of 1.

- (a) What is the most probable sequence that can be generated by this source and what is its probability?
- (b) What is the number of typical sequences that can be generated by this source?

Assume that one assigns a unique binary codeword for each typical sequence and neglect the non-typical sequences.

- (c) If the assigned codewords are all of the same length, find the minimum codeword length required to provide the above set with distinct codewords.
- (d) Determine the probability that a sequence is not assigned with a codeword.