

Stochastic Processes

MATH5835, P. Del Moral

UNSW, School of Mathematics & Statistics

Lectures Notes 2

Consultations (RC 5112):

Wednesday 3.30 pm \rightsquigarrow 4.30 pm & Thursday 3.30 pm \rightsquigarrow 4.30 pm

Citation of the day

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personal question

X random variable \Leftrightarrow Law(X) = **certain** ??

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X random variable \Leftrightarrow Law(X) = **certain** ??

Mathematics is a game played according to certain simple rules with meaningless marks on paper.

– *Hilbert, David (1862-1943)*

Some basic notation $:-) = \text{:-)$

Some basic notation :-) = i

$$\forall 1 \leq i \leq d \quad \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(Y = j)}_{=p_Y(j)} = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq d} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X = i)}_{=p_X(i)} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(Y = j | X = i)}_{=M(i,j)}$$

Some basic notation $\therefore = \text{!}$

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Matrix notation:

$$p_Y = [\mathbb{P}(Y = 1), \dots, \mathbb{P}(Y = d)]$$

$$= \underbrace{[\mathbb{P}(X = 1), \dots, \mathbb{P}(X = d)]}_{=p_X} \times \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 | X = 1) & \mathbb{P}(Y = 2 | X = 1) & \dots & \mathbb{P}(Y = d | X = 1) \\ \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 | X = 2) & \mathbb{P}(Y = 2 | X = 2) & \dots & \mathbb{P}(Y = d | X = 2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 | X = d) & \mathbb{P}(Y = 2 | X = d) & \dots & \mathbb{P}(Y = d | X = d) \end{pmatrix}}_{M=(M(i,j))_{i,j}}$$

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Matrix synthetic notation:

$$p_Y = p_X M$$

Some basic notation

$$\mathbb{E}(f(Y) \mid X = i) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq d} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(Y = j \mid X = i)}_{=M(i,j)} f(j)$$

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Matrix synthetic notation:

$$\mathbb{E}(f(Y) \mid X = i) = M(f)(i)$$

Some basic notation



Markov chain = "sequence of r.v."

$$X_0 \rightsquigarrow X_1 \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow X_{n-1} \rightsquigarrow X_n$$

Some basic notation



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$$\underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_n = j)}_{=p_{X_n}(j)} = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq d} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_{n-1} = i)}_{=p_{X_{n-1}}(i)} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_n = j \mid X_{n-1} = i)}_{=M_n(i,j)}$$

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Matrix synthetic notation:

$$p_{X_n} = p_{X_{n-1}} M_n = \dots = p_{X_0} M_1 M_2 \dots M_n$$

Some basic notation



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(f(X_n) \mid X_0 = i) &= \mathbb{E}\left(\overbrace{\mathbb{E}(f(X_n) \mid X_{n-1})}^{M_n(f)(X_{n-1})} \mid X_0 = i\right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(M_n(f)(X_{n-1}) \mid X_0 = i)\end{aligned}$$

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Stabilizing populations - Migration processes



- ▶ 193 countries (UN report 2013) c_i , $i = 1, \dots, 193$.
- ▶ $q_n(i)$ = average-population of country c_i at some time n (years/months/...).
- ▶ $M_n(i, j)$ = proportions of migrants from c_i to c_j at time n .

Some questions:

- ▶ Stabilization $\exists?$ $q_\infty(i)$ invariant w.r.t. migration process
- ▶ Chance for two migrants to meet in some country?

Migration - Stochastic process

$$\overbrace{\{l_{i,n}^1, l_{i,n}^2, l_{i,n}^3, \dots, l_{i,n}^{m_n(i)}\}}^{\text{individuals}} = \text{Country } c_i \text{ at time } n \text{ with pop. } m_n(i)$$

During the migration process

Each $l_{i,n}^k$ chooses the index $\hat{l}_{i,n}^k = j$ of a country $c_j \sim M_n(i, j)$

Simulation?

Migration - Stochastic process

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Simulation?



$$m_{(n+1)}(i, j) = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq m_n(i)} 1_j(\hat{l}_{i,n}^k) = \text{Migrants } i \rightsquigarrow j$$

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$$m_{(n+1)}(j) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} m_{(n+1)}(i, j)$$

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$$m_{(n+1)}(j) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} m_{(n+1)}(i, j) \quad \underline{\text{If no birth \& death!}}$$

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Mean-average?

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$$\mathbb{E}(m_n(j)) = q_n(j) \implies q_n(j) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} q_{n-1}(i) M_n(i, j)$$

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If World pop. size $N_n = N$ fixed:

$$\frac{q_n(i)}{N} := p_n(i) = \text{Proba on } \{1, \dots, 193\}$$

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Stochastic model for a migrant X_n between countries

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_n = \mathbf{j})}_{=p_n(\mathbf{j})} = \sum_{1 \leq \mathbf{i} \leq 193} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_{n-1} = \mathbf{i})}_{=p_{n-1}(\mathbf{i})} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X_n = \mathbf{j} \mid X_{n-1} = \mathbf{i})}_{=M_n(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j})}$$

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$$p_n = p_{n-1} M_n$$

Migration - Stabilization $M_n = M$

$$p_n = p_{n-1}M \xrightarrow{n \uparrow \infty} p_\infty = p_\infty M = \text{left eigenvector of } M$$



Stationary population $q_\infty = N \times p_\infty$

Migration - Stabilization $M_n = M$

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- ▶ **Power method** $M^n(i, j) \rightarrow_{n \uparrow \infty} p_\infty(j)$

$$p_n = p_{n-1}M = p_{n-2}M^2 = \dots = p_0M^n$$



$$p_n(j) = \sum_i p_0(i) \underbrace{M^n(i, j)}_{\rightarrow_{n \uparrow \infty} p_\infty(j)} \rightarrow_{n \uparrow \infty} p_\infty(j)$$

- ▶ **Law of large numbers = Ergodic theorem (admitted today)**
= by simulation

proportions of visits to $c_j = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} 1_{c_j}(X_k) \rightarrow_{n \uparrow \infty} p_\infty(j)$

The evolution of 2 migrants

Walker X_n starting at $X_0 = \mathbf{i}$ & Walker X'_n starting at $X'_0 = \mathbf{i}'$

$$\begin{aligned} p_n(j) &= \mathbb{P}(X_n = j) = p_0 M^n(j) \quad \text{with} \quad p_0(j) = 1_{\mathbf{i}}(j) \\ p'_n(j) &= \mathbb{P}(X'_n = j) = p'_0 M^n(j) \quad \text{with} \quad p'_0(j) = 1_{\mathbf{i}'}(j) \end{aligned}$$

Natural questions:

- ▶ Do they forget their initial state?
- ▶ Can we define/couple their random evolution in the same probability space?
- ▶ What is their meeting time probabilities?

Forgetting their original country

$$p_n = p_{n-1}M \quad \oplus \quad \text{Hypothesis} \quad M(i,j) \geq \epsilon \underbrace{\lambda(i)}_{=1/193}$$

KEY ϵ -transition

$$M_\epsilon(i,j) = \frac{M(i,j) - \epsilon\lambda(j)}{1 - \epsilon}$$

Forgetting their original country

$$p_n = p_{n-1}M \oplus \text{Hypothesis } M(i,j) \geq \epsilon \underbrace{\lambda(i)}_{=1/193}$$

KEY ϵ -transition

$$M_\epsilon(i,j) = \frac{M(i,j) - \epsilon\lambda(j)}{1 - \epsilon} \Leftrightarrow M(i,j) = (1 - \epsilon) M_\epsilon(i,j) + \epsilon \lambda(j)$$

$$\Rightarrow pM = (1 - \epsilon) pM_\epsilon + \epsilon\lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow [p - p']M = (1 - \epsilon) [p - p']M_\epsilon$$

\Downarrow

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}_{n+1} - \mathbf{p}'_{n+1} &= [p_n - p'_n]M = (1 - \epsilon) [p_n - p'_n]M_\epsilon \\ &= (1 - \epsilon)^2 [p_{n-1} - p'_{n-1}]M_\epsilon^2 \\ &= (1 - \epsilon)^{n+1} [p_0 - p'_0]M_\epsilon^{n+1} \downarrow_{n \uparrow \infty} 0 \end{aligned}$$

Coupling the 2 migrations

- ▶ Coupling 2 r.v.
- ⇔ Defined using the "same" randomness.
- ▶ How to couple two individuals?



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- ⇔ Defined using the "same" randomness.
- ▶ How to couple two individuals?



Why? ↪ An illustration:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(X \in A) - \mathbb{P}(Y \in A) &= \mathbb{P}(X = Y \in A, X = Y) + \mathbb{P}(X \in A, X \neq Y) \\ &\quad - \mathbb{P}(Y = X \in A, Y = X) - \mathbb{P}(Y \in A, X \neq Y) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X \in A, X \neq Y) - \mathbb{P}(Y \in A, X \neq Y) \\ &= [\mathbb{P}(X \in A | X \neq Y) - \mathbb{P}(Y \in A | X \neq Y)] \times \mathbb{P}(X \neq Y)\end{aligned}$$

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$$\implies \|\text{Law}(X) - \text{Law}(Y)\|_{tv} := \sup_A |\mathbb{P}(X \in A) - \mathbb{P}(Y \in A)| \leq \mathbb{P}(X \neq Y)$$

Coupling 2 migrations

$$(X_n, X'_n) = (\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i}') \rightsquigarrow (X_{n+1}, X'_{n+1}) = (\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{j}')$$

recalling that

$$\begin{aligned}M(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}) &= (1 - \epsilon) M_\epsilon(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}) + \epsilon \lambda(\mathbf{j}) \\M(\mathbf{i}', \mathbf{j}') &= (1 - \epsilon) M_\epsilon(\mathbf{i}', \mathbf{j}') + \epsilon \lambda(\mathbf{j}')\end{aligned}$$

KEY ϵ -coupling transition

$$\mathbf{M}((\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i}'), (\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{j}')) := (1 - \epsilon) M_\epsilon(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}) M_\epsilon(\mathbf{i}', \mathbf{j}') + \epsilon \lambda(\mathbf{j}) \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{j}=\mathbf{j}'}$$

\Leftrightarrow God flips ϵ -Head coin to define their joint evolution!

Proof: Integration the evolution of X'_n we have

$$\sum_{\mathbf{j}'} \mathbf{M}((\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i}'), (\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{j}')) = M(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}) \quad \text{and vice-versa}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n \neq X'_n) \leq \mathbb{P}(\text{Never Head in } n \text{ trials}) = (1 - \epsilon)^n$$

Birth and Death processes

population at time n after migration

branching
→ **population at time n after birth and death**

$(n + 1)$ -th migration
→ population at time $(n + 1)$ after migration

individuals
 $\{l_{i,n}^1, l_{i,n}^2, l_{i,n}^3, \dots, l_{i,n}^{m_n(i)}\} = \text{Country } c_i \text{ at time } n \text{ with pop. } m_n(i)$

$l_{i,n}^k \rightsquigarrow N_{i,n}^k$ offsprings $\left(l_{i,n}^{k,1}, l_{i,n}^{k,2}, \dots, l_{i,n}^{k,N_{i,n}^k} \right)$

with branching rates depending on country c_i attraction at time n

$\mathbb{E}(N_{i,n}^k) = G_n(i)$ **Simulation?**

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individuals
 $\{l_{i,n}^1, l_{i,n}^2, l_{i,n}^3, \dots, l_{i,n}^{m_n(i)}\} = \text{Country } c_i \text{ at time } n \text{ with pop. } m_n(i)$

$l_{i,n}^k \rightsquigarrow N_{i,n}^k \text{ offsprings } \left(l_{i,n}^{k,1}, l_{i,n}^{k,2}, \dots, l_{i,n}^{k,N_{i,n}^k} \right)$

with branching rates depending on country c_i attraction at time n

$\mathbb{E}(N_{i,n}^k) = G_n(i)$ **Simulation?**



Birth and Death processes $N_n = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} m_n(\mathbf{i})$ random !

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_{(n+1)}(\mathbf{j}) &= \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq m_n(i)} \sum_{1 \leq l \leq N_{i,n}^k} 1_{\mathbf{j}} \left(l_{i,n}^{k,l} \right) \\
 &= \text{Sum of all } \mathbf{l}\text{-children of } \mathbf{k}\text{-migrants } \mathbf{i} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{j} \\
 &\quad \downarrow \mathbb{E}(\cdot)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$q_{(n+1)}(\mathbf{j}) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 193} q_n(i) G_n(i) M_{n+1}(i, \mathbf{j})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}(N_n) &= \sum_{\mathbf{j}} q_n(\mathbf{j}) \\
 &= \mathbb{E}(N_{n-1}) \times \sum_i \frac{q_n(i)}{\sum_j q_n(j)} G_n(i)
 \end{aligned}$$

World pop. size evolution?

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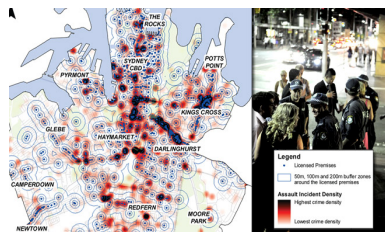
World pop. size evolution?

\rightsquigarrow Super and Sub Critical!! Worldometer check



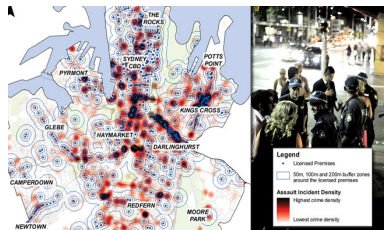
\rightsquigarrow Wolfram - Mathworld

The traps of reinforcement



- ▶ Reinforcement \rightsquigarrow make more frequent "positive" events.
- ▶ \subset Learning process, natural behavior, reward-based algo, . . .
- ▶ All events are related to the past, the experience, . . .

The traps of reinforcement



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- ▶ \subset Learning process, natural behavior, reward-based algo, ...
- ▶ All events are related to the past, the experience, ...



A (real) story:

- ▶ French tourist visit ever night one of the 2100 hotel pubs, taverns and bars in Sydney
- ▶ He is attracted by pubs visited in the past.

The traps of reinforcement

- ▶ What is the stochastic model?
- ▶ How to simulate it?
- ▶ Is there some math. formulae?

The traps of reinforcement - Stochastic model

Ingredients:

- ▶ Uniform r.v. U_n on $\{1, \dots, d\}$, with $d = 2100$ pubs.
- ▶ A "coin" with Head probability $\epsilon =$ Reinforcement rate.
- ▶ $X_n =$ Pub visited the n -th evening

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Self-reinforced model:

Given the pubs X_0, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1} visited at time $(n-1)$

$$X_n \sim \epsilon \frac{1}{n} \sum_{0 \leq p < n} \delta_{X_p} + (1 - \epsilon) U_n$$

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Self-reinforced model:

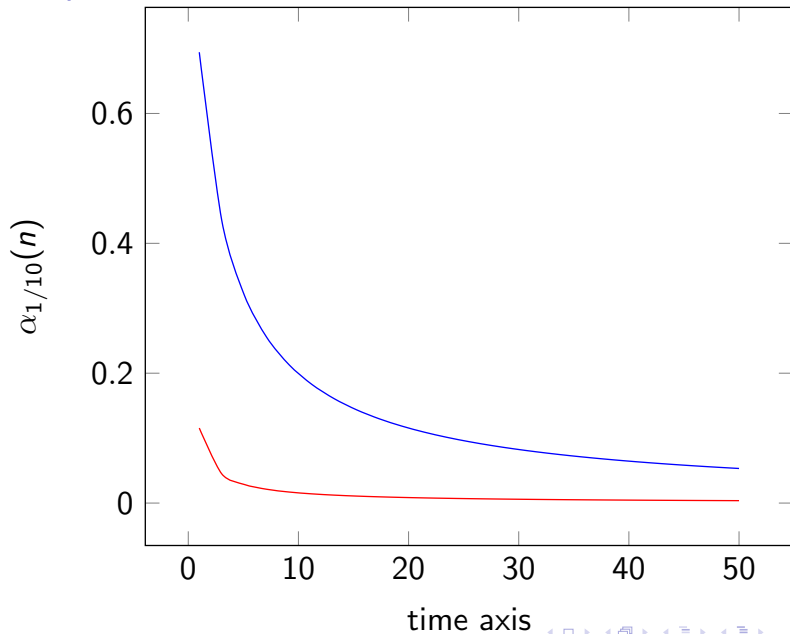
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$$X_n \sim \epsilon \frac{1}{n} \sum_{0 \leq p < n} \delta_{X_p} + (1 - \epsilon) U_n$$

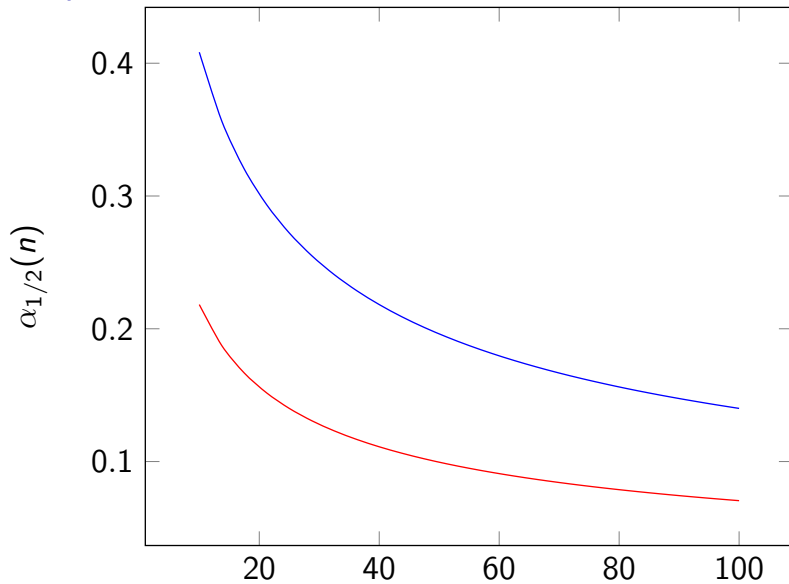
Simulation & Analysis?



The traps of reinforcement - $\epsilon = 10\%$



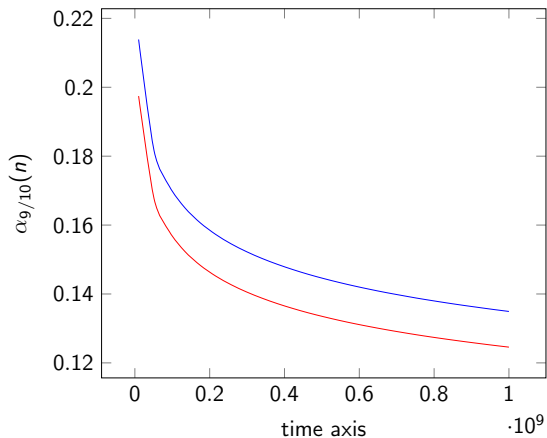
The traps of reinforcement - $\epsilon = 50\%$



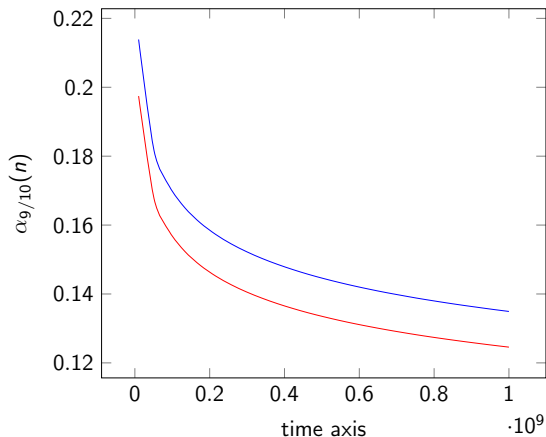
time axis



The traps of reinforcement - $\epsilon = 90\%$



The traps of reinforcement - $\epsilon = 90\%$



Conclusion of the day by Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

Never look back unless you are planning to go that way.

Casino roulette - Double or Nothing

- ▶ Ashley Revell (after "some" beers in a London pub)
 ↪ Double or Nothing in Vegas.

Casino roulette - Double or Nothing

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 \rightsquigarrow Double or Nothing in Vegas.
- ▶ **Chances to win on the red color ($18 + 18 = 36$)?**

Casino roulette - Double or Nothing

- ▶ Ashley Revell (after "some" beers in a London pub)
 \rightsquigarrow Double or Nothing in Vegas.
- ▶ Chances to win on the **red** color (**18** + 18 = 36)?



$$US = 18/(36 + 2) = 0.474 < CEE = 18/(36 + 1) = 0.486 < 0.5$$

Casino roulette - Predictions?



- ▶ Starting with $\$1 \leq x < \100 :
Chance to win \$100 before ruin?
- ▶ How long it takes?

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↪ [Worlfram - Mathworld](#)



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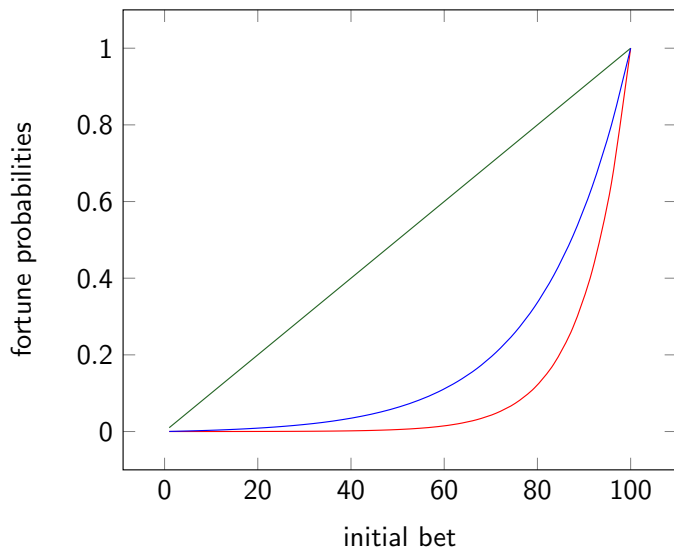
↪ **Worfram - Mathworld**



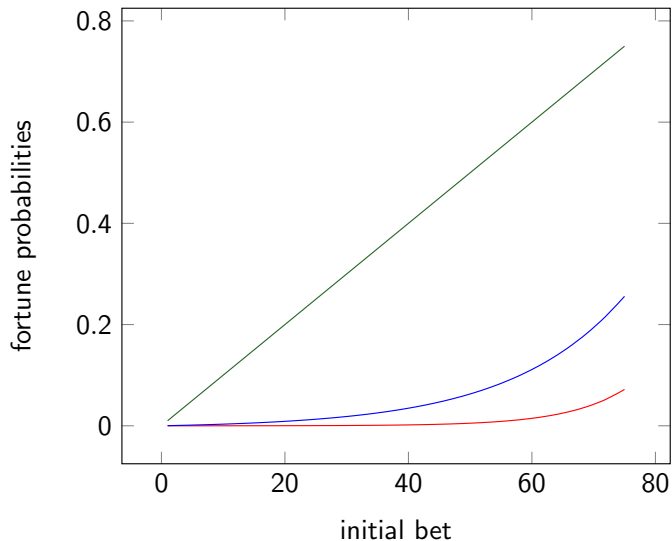
⊕ **Martingales betting systems** = Project N° 5 🌶️

- ▶ St.Petersburg martingales
- ▶ The Grand Martingale
- ▶ The d'Alembert Martingale
- ▶ The Whittacker Martingale

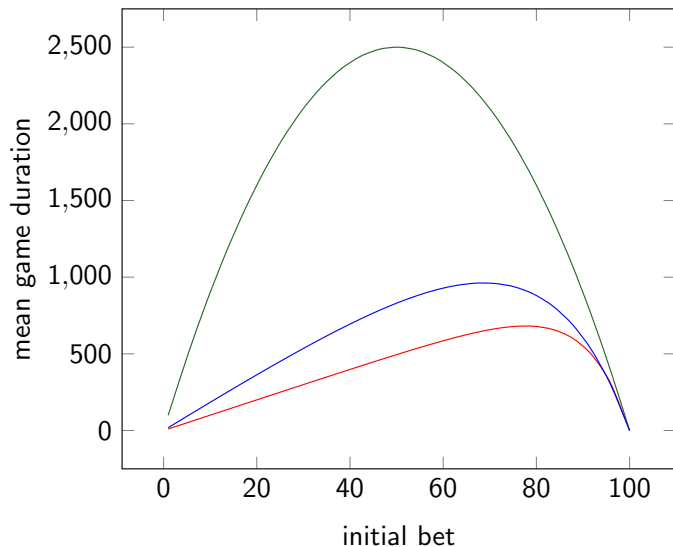
Casino roulette - some predictions



Casino roulette - some predictions



Casino roulette - some predictions



Proofs \subset Martingale theory

A gambling model = Random walk!

$$Y_n = Y_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_n \Leftrightarrow \Delta Y_n = Y_n - Y_{n-1} = X_n$$

with some initial fortune $Y_0 = y_0$ & \perp bettor's profits per unit of time

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n = +1) = p \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(X_n = -1) = q = 1 - p \in]0, 1[$$

Information at time n encoded in $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{E}(\Delta Y_n \mid \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) \\ = \mathbb{E}(X_n) \\ = p - q = \rho \end{array} \right\} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } p = 1/2 = q \Leftrightarrow \text{martingale} \\ > 0 & \text{when } p > q \Leftrightarrow \text{sub-martingale} \\ < 0 & \text{when } p < q \Leftrightarrow \text{super-martingale} \end{cases}$$

Some martingale properties

$$\forall \mathbf{r.v.} \quad M_n = M_0 + \Delta M_1 + \dots + \Delta M_n \quad \text{with} \quad \Delta M_n = M_n - M_{n-1}$$

Martingale w.r.t. some filtration of the information

$$\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(X_0, \dots, X_n) \quad \text{with} \quad M_n = \varphi_n(X_0, \dots, X_n)$$

\Updownarrow

$$\mathbb{E}(\Delta M_n \mid \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{E}(M_n \mid \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = M_{n-1} + \mathbb{E}(\Delta M_n \mid \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = M_{n-1}$$

Some martingale properties

$\forall r.v.$ $M_n = M_0 + \Delta M_1 + \dots + \Delta M_n$ with $\Delta M_n = M_n - M_{n-1}$

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Some martingale properties

$$\forall \mathbf{r.v.} \quad M_n = M_0 + \Delta M_1 + \dots + \Delta M_n \quad \text{with} \quad \Delta M_n = M_n - M_{n-1}$$

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\Downarrow **Theo (Doob's optional stopping)**

$$\mathbb{E}(M_T) = \mathbb{E}(M_0) \quad \text{For regular "stopping times" } T$$

Fair game martingales (1/2)

► **Martingale** Y_n

$$\Delta Y_n = X_n \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbb{P}(X_n = +1) = \mathbb{P}(X_n = -1) = 1/2$$

► **Martingale** $Z_n = Y_n^2 - n$

$$\begin{aligned} \blacktriangledown \quad [Y_n^2 - n] &= (Y_{n-1} + \Delta Y_n)^2 - n \\ &= [Y_{n-1}^2 - (n-1)] + 2Y_{n-1}\Delta Y_n + (\Delta Y_n)^2 - 1 \\ \Rightarrow \Delta Z_n &= 2Y_{n-1} \Delta Y_n + X_n^2 - 1 \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(\Delta Z_n \mid \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = 0 \quad \blacktriangle \end{aligned}$$

► **Stopping time**

$T_{a,b}$ = first time Y_n hits the boundaries $[a, b]$ ^{ex.} $[0, 100] \ni Y_0$

Fair game martingales (2/2)

► **Martingale Y_n**

$$y_0 = \mathbb{E}(Y_{T_{a,b}}) = b \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) + a (1 - \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b))$$

↓

$$\mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) = (y_0 - a)/(b - a)$$

► **Martingale $Z_n = Y_n^2 - n$**

$$\begin{aligned} y_0^2 - 0 &= \mathbb{E}(Y_{T_{a,b}}^2) - \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b}) \\ &= b^2 \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) + a^2 (1 - \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b)) - \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b}) \end{aligned}$$

↓

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b}) &= b^2 \frac{y_0 - a}{b - a} + a^2 \frac{b - y_0}{b - a} - y_0^2 \\ &= \dots \\ &= (b - y_0)(y_0 - a) \end{aligned}$$

Unfair game martingales (1/2)

► **Martingale** $\tilde{Y}_n = Y_n - (p - q)n$

$$\blacktriangledown \Delta \tilde{Y}_n = X_n - \mathbb{E}(X_n) = X_n - (p - q) \blacktriangle$$

► **Martingale** $Z_n = (q/p)^{Y_n}$

$$\blacktriangledown (q/p)^{Y_n} = (q/p)^{Y_{n-1} + \Delta Y_n}$$

$$= (q/p)^{Y_{n-1}} (q/p)^{X_n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta Z_n = (q/p)^{Y_{n-1}} ((q/p)^{X_n} - 1) \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(\Delta Z_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = 0 \blacktriangle$$

Unfair game martingales (2/2)

- ▶ **Martingale** $Z_n = (q/p)^{Y_n}$

$$\begin{aligned}(q/p)^{y_0} &= \mathbb{E} \left((q/p)^{Y_{T_{a,b}}} \right) \\ &= (q/p)^b \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) + (q/p)^a (1 - \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b)) \\ \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) &= \frac{(q/p)^{y_0} - (q/p)^a}{(q/p)^b - (q/p)^a}\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Martingale** $\tilde{Y}_n = Y_n - (p - q) n$

$$\begin{aligned}y_0 - (p - q) \times 0 &= \mathbb{E}(Y_{T_{a,b}}) - (p - q) \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b}) \\ &= b \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) + a (1 - \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b)) \\ &\quad - (p - q) \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b})\end{aligned}$$

↓

$$(p - q) \mathbb{E}(T_{a,b}) = (b - y_0) \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b) + (a - y_0) (1 - \mathbb{P}(Y_{T_{a,b}} = b))$$