

THE PROBLEMS OF CALCULUS AND APPROXIMATION
OF THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION

by

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1. Let $\{\Omega, K, P\}$ be a probability space generated by a experiment A and let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_N be the possible autcomes of random experiment A .

If the set $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_N\}$ formes a partition Π for the sure event Ω , then [2], [4]

$$(1.1) \quad H(\Pi) = H(X) = -k \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log_e p_i$$

where

$$(1.2) \quad p_i = P(A_i) \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N; \quad \sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1, \quad k = \log_2 e,$$

represents the amount of information furnished by the experiment A .

The quantity (1.1) is called the entropy of the partition Π and it measures either the uncertainty of the experiment A , if this experiment not yet performed or the amount of information of the experiment A , if this experiment has been performed. Also, we can speak as well that the quantity (1.1) represents the amount of information contained by the random variable X generated by the experiment A .

2. Application of Taylor's series to evaluation of $H(X)$

THEOREM 1. *If X is a discret random variable then*

$$(2.1) \quad H(X) = -\frac{k}{n} \left\{ (n - N) - n \cdot \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t (-np_i)^t \right\},$$

where n is a natural number.

Proof. Consider

$$(2.2) \quad p_i = \pi_i + \frac{1}{n}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N,$$

where $\pi_i \in \left[-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right]$ then when $p_i \in (0, 1]$.

Because the function $\log_e p_i$ is infinite derivable in the neighbourhood of the point $\frac{1}{n}$, it follows that the function

$$(2.3) \quad f(n\pi_i) = \log_e \left(\pi_i + \frac{1}{n}\right) = \log_e(1 + n\pi_i) - \log_e n$$

admits the expansion in the power series

$$(2.4) \quad f(n\pi_i) = -\log_e n + (n\pi_i) - \frac{(n\pi_i)^2}{2} + \frac{(n\pi_i)^3}{3} - \dots,$$

where the power series

$$(2.5) \quad \log_e(1 + n\pi_i) = (n\pi_i) - \frac{(n\pi_i)^2}{2} + \dots + (-1)^{s-1} \frac{(n\pi_i)^s}{s} + \dots$$

is convergent for $|n\pi_i| < 1$, respectively, for $|\pi_i| < \frac{1}{n}$.

Therefore, the function $p_i \log_e p_i$ has the following expansion

$$(2.6) \quad p_i \log_e p_i = -\frac{1 + n\pi_i}{n} \log_e n + \frac{1}{n} \left\{ n\pi_i + \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} (-1)^s \frac{(n\pi_i)^s}{s^{(2)}} \right\},$$

where $x^{(v)} = x(x-1)(x-2) \dots (x-v+1)$.

Having in view that

$$(2.7) \quad \sum_{i=1}^N n p_i = n - N$$

$$(2.8) \quad (-1)^s (n\pi_i)^s = (1 - n p_i)^s = \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t (-n p_i)^t,$$

and the development (2.6), we obtain for $H(X)$ the following form

$$(2.9) \quad H(X) = -\frac{h}{n} \left\{ (n - N) - n \cdot \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t (-n p_i)^t \right\}$$

Remark 1.2. Because the series (2.5) is convergent both for $|n\pi_i| < 1$ and for $n\pi_i = 1$, it follows that the Taylor's series which correspond to the function $\log_e p_i$, will be convergent if $p_i \in \left(0, \frac{2}{n}\right]$. This series will be convergent for $p_i \in (0, 1]$ only if $n = 2$.

Corollary 2.1. If $n = 2$, then $H(X)$ has the form

$$(2.10) \quad H(X) = 1 - \frac{h}{2} \left\{ (2 - N) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} C_s^t (-2 p_i)^t \right\}$$

where $h = \log_2 e$.

Remark 2.2. According to the Remark 2.1 it seems that the formula (2.9) is available only for $n = 2$, then when $p_i \in (0, 1]$.

If we have in view the condition (1.2) it follows that among the probabilities p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N exist at the most a probability p_h so that $p_h \geq \frac{1}{2}$, ($N > 2$).

If the probability p_h is sufficient near to one, then, evident, the others probabilities p_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, $i \neq h$, will be situated sufficient near to zero. In other words, if $p_h \rightarrow 1$, then is possible to find a natural number n so that all probabilities p_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$; $i \neq h$, to be situate in the interval $\left(0, \frac{2}{n}\right]$.

Corollary 2.2. If X is a discret random variable which satisfies the conditions

$$p_i > 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N; \quad \sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$$

and if

$$1^0 \quad p_h = \max \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N\}, \quad p_h \in [1 - \epsilon, 1], \quad \epsilon > 0,$$

2^o there is a natural number n so that $p_i \in \left(0, \frac{2}{n}\right]$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$; $i \neq h$, then, for the measure $H(X)$, we have the following form

$$(2.11) \quad H(X) = -\frac{h}{n} \left\{ (1 - N) + n p_h \log_e p_h + n(1 - p_h) [\log_e n - 1] + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t (-n p_i)^t \right\}$$

Corollary 2.3. If $n = N$, N — the number of the possible values of discrete random variable X , then the amount of information, $H(X)$, has the form

$$(2.12) \quad H(X) = \log_2 N - \frac{k}{N} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=2}^s C_s^t(-Np_i)^t \right\}.$$

More, if X_1 is a random variable uniformly distributed, then $H(X_1) = \log_2 N$.

Corollary 2.4. For any random variable X , we have

$$(2.13) \quad H(X) \leq \log_2 N = H(X_1),$$

where X_1 is uniformly distributed.

Proof. This corollary is a fundamental property of the measure $H(X)$, [1]. In our case, the proof of the inequality (2.13) to come back to show that $D \geq 0$, where

$$(2.14) \quad D = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t(-Np_i)^t = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{\infty} (-1)^s \frac{(N\pi_i)^s}{s^{(2)}}.$$

Indeed, the sign of D depends by the sign of power series

$$\sum_{s=2}^{\infty} (-1)^s \frac{(N\pi_i)^s}{s^{(2)}},$$

which, for $|N\pi_i| < 1$, is convergent and consequently, his sum, $S(N, \pi_i)$, satisfies the condition

$$0 < S(N\pi_i) < \frac{(N\pi_i)^2}{1 \cdot 2}.$$

This last inequality proves Corollary 2.4.

3. The Approximation of $H(X)$

It is known that if the function $f(x)$ has the derivatives till the order $m + 1$ inclusively, in the vicinity of the point x_0 , then it is expandable in Taylor series [3] and we have

$$(3.1) \quad f(x) = f(x_0) + \frac{x - x_0}{1!} f'(x_0) + \dots + \frac{(x - x_0)^m}{m!} f^{(m)}(x_0) + r_m(x),$$

where

$$(3.2) \quad r_m(x) = \frac{(x - x_0)^{m+1}}{(m + 1)!} f^{(m+1)}[x + \theta(x - x_0)], \quad 0 < \theta < 1,$$

is Lagrange's form of the remainder.

THEOREM 3.1. Let X be a discrete random variable. Then the measure, $H(X)$, of the amount of information of X , has the form

$$(3.3) \quad H(X) = H_m(X) + R_m(n\pi_i),$$

where

$$(3.4) \quad H_m(X) = -\frac{k}{n} \left\{ (n - N) - n \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^m (-1)^s \frac{(n\pi_i)^s}{s^{(2)}} \right\},$$

$$(3.5) \quad R_m(n\pi_i) = (-1)^m \frac{k}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N (n\pi_i)^{m+1} \left[\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} \cdot \frac{1 + n\pi_i}{1 + \theta n\pi_i} \right],$$

$0 < \theta < 1$, and $n\pi_i = np_i - 1$.

Proof. As an application of the formula (3.1), let us expand into the power series the function $p_i \log_e p_i$.

We have

$$(3.6) \quad p_i \log_e p_i = -\frac{1 + n\pi_i}{n} \log_e n + \frac{1}{n} \left\{ n\pi_i + \frac{(n\pi_i)^2}{1 \cdot 2} - \frac{(n\pi_i)^3}{2 \cdot 3} + \dots \right. \\ \left. + (-1)^m \frac{(n\pi_i)^m}{(m-1) \cdot m} + \bar{r}_m(n\pi_i) \right\},$$

where

$$(3.7) \quad \bar{r}_m(n\pi_i) = (-1)^{m-1} (n\pi_i)^{m+1} \left[\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} \cdot \frac{1 + n\pi_i}{1 + \theta n\pi_i} \right].$$

The expansion (3.6) with the remainder (3.7), give us just the form (3.3) of the measure $H(X)$.

Corollary 3.1. Because $n\pi_i = np_i - 1$, it follows that the measure $H(X)$ has and the form

$$(3.8) \quad H(X) = -\frac{k}{n} \left\{ (n - N) - n \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^m \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=0}^s C_s^t(-np_i)^t \right\} + R_m(np_i - 1)$$

where

$$(3.9) \quad R_m(np_i - 1) = -\frac{k}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{t=0}^{m+1} C_{m+1}^t(-np_i)^t \left[\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} \cdot \frac{np_i}{1 + \theta(np_i - 1)} \right],$$

$0 < \theta < 1$

Remark 3.1. If X is a random variable uniformly distributed, then $H(X)$, given in the relation (3.8), to come return to $H(X) = \log_2 N$.

Corollary 3.2. The relation (3.3) give us the possibility to approximate the measure $H(X)$ in the following form

$$(3.10) \quad H(X) \approx H_m(X) = -\frac{k}{n} \left\{ (n-k) - n \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^m (-1)^s \frac{(n\pi_i)^s}{s^{(2)}} \right\}.$$

The error in this case is just the value of the remainder (3.5).

Remark 3.2. The remainder $R_m(n\pi_i)$, given in the relation (3.5), can be write in the following form

$$(3.11) \quad R_m(n\pi_i) = (-1)^n \frac{k}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N (n\pi_i)^{m+1} \left[\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} \cdot g(\theta, \pi_i) \right],$$

where the function

$$(3.12) \quad g(\theta, \pi_i) = \frac{1 + n\pi_i}{1 + \theta n\pi_i}, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, N),$$

is defined for $\theta \in (0, 1)$ and $n\pi_i = np_i - 1$.

Now, insted of the function $g(\theta, \pi_i)$, we introduce a new function namely

$$(3.13) \quad \bar{g}(\theta, p_i) = \frac{np_i}{1 + \theta(np_i - 1)} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \theta = 1, p_i \in (0, 1] \\ np_i = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \theta = 0, p_i = 0 \\ n, & \text{if } \theta = 0, p_i = 1 \end{cases} \\ g(\theta, p_i), & \text{if } \theta \in (0, 1) \end{cases}$$

where $n\pi_i = np_i - 1$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

If $\theta = 1$, then for any $p_i \in (0, 1]$, respectively, for any $\pi_i \in \left[-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right]$, we have $\bar{g}(1, p_i) = 1$. Making this change the remainder $R_m(n\pi_i)$ can be written as

$$(3.14) \quad \bar{R}_m(n\pi_i) = (-1)^m \frac{k}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(n\pi_i)^{m+1}}{m(m+1)}.$$

Now, replacing in the relation (3.3), the remainder $R_m(n\pi_i)$ through the new form (3.14), we obtain the following approximation for $H(X)$.

$$(3.15) \quad H(X) \approx H_{m+1}(X) = -\frac{k}{n} \left\{ (n-N) - n \log_e n + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=2}^{m+1} \frac{1}{s^{(2)}} \sum_{t=2}^m C_s^t (-np_i)^t \right\}.$$

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Received 8. VI. 1977.

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