

1. Repeated coin flips

We flip a fair coin (probability of heads or tails is 0.5) eight times. Determine the probability of the following events:

- a) The number of heads is equal to the number of tails.
- b) The number of heads is greater than the number of tails.
- c) For $i \in [4]$, the i -th and $(9 - i)$ -th flips have the same result.
- d) There are at least four heads in a row.

2. Simulating a fair coin with a biased one

We flip a biased coin which lands on heads with probability p .

- a) How do we simulate a single flip of a fair coin by flipping the biased coin multiple times?
- b) What is the expected number of flips needed?

3. Simulating a biased coin with a fair one

We flip a fair coin repeatedly to simulate one landing on heads with probability $p \in \mathbb{R}$. How do we proceed? Determine the number of flips needed.

4. Useful bounds

- a) Prove $n! \leq 2^{n \log_2 n}$.
- b) Prove $(1 - p)^n \leq e^{-pn}$ for $p \in \mathbb{R}$.

5. Complexity classes

Definitions of the probability complexity classes are on the other side.

- a) Show that the following definition is equivalent to the definition of ZPP:
 - Always runs in polynomial time.
 - **TRUE** instance is accepted by the algorithm with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}$, otherwise it says "don't know".
 - **FALSE** instance is rejected by the algorithm with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}$, otherwise it says "don't know".
- b) Prove the following inclusions:
 - $P \subseteq ZPP$
 - $RP \subseteq NP$
 - $ZPP = RP \cap \text{co-RP}$
 - $RP \cup \text{co-RP} \subseteq BPP$

Definitions

- A problem is in **BPP** if $\exists$ algorithm satisfying:
 - Always runs in polynomial time.
 - If the correct answer is **TRUE** , algorithms accepts with probability at least $\frac{2}{3}$.
 - If the correct answer is **FALSE** , algorithms accepts with probability at most $\frac{1}{3}$.
- A problem is in **RP** if $\exists$ algorithm satisfying:
 - Always runs in polynomial time.
 - If the correct answer is **TRUE** , algorithms accepts with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}$.
 - If the correct answer is **FALSE** , algorithms always rejects.
- A problem is in **ZPP** if $\exists$ algorithm satisfying:
 - Only the expectation of the running time is polynomial.
 - Always answers correctly.