

Monty Hall Problem

“lets make a deal!”

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3 doors...

- There are three doors 1, 2, 3
- Hosts puts good stuff behind one door g , junk behind other two
- Contestant picks a door
- Host shows junk behind a different door (call it s)
- Contestant can switch, should they?

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What is experiment/Atomic events?

- Assume host picks good door g uniformly at random so
$$p(g=1) = p(g=2) = p(g=3) = 1/3$$
- If one unpicked junk door the host shows it, if two unpicked junk the host randomly pickes one (50/50) to show
- Let's try it: Pick partners, everybody play contestent twice: switch once and don't switch once

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- If one unpicked junk door the host shows it, if two unpicked junk the host randomly pickes one (50/50) to show
- Assume contestant initially picks door 1 (to simplify)

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Outcome Space (contestant initially picks 1)

Prob's	g=1	g=2	g=3	Marginal prob s's
s=1	0	0	0	0
s=2	1/6	0	1/3	1/2
s=3	1/6	1/3	0	1/2
Marginal prob g's	1/3	1/3	1/3	1

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Conditional distribution



Prob's	g=1	g=2	g=3	Marg
s=1	0	0	0	0
s=2	1/6	0	1/3	1/2
s=3	1/6	1/3	0	1/2
Marg.	1/3	1/3	1/3	1

$P(g=3|s=2) = P(g=3 \text{ and } s=2) / P(s=2) = 2/3$,
 $P(g=1|s=2) = P(g=1 \text{ and } s=2) / P(s=2) = 1/3$
 So switching is twice as good as not switching

Note: $P(g|s=2)$ and $P(s|g=1)$ are conditional distributions on $\{1,2,3\}$

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Exercise:

- Repeat analysis for the following modification to host:
 whenever doors 2 and 3 both junk,
 always show door 2 rather than
 picking randomly

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For Learning:

Prob's	hypotheses			Marg
s=1	0	0	0	0
s=2	1/6	0	1/3	1/2
s=3	1/6	1/3	0	1/2
Marg.	1/3	1/3	1/3	1

But joint probabilities usually not known..

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For Learning 2

Prob's	h_1	h_2	...	Marg
d_1	?	?	?	?
d_2	?	?	?	?
...	?	?	?	?
Marg. (priors)	$P(h_1)$	$P(h_2)$...	1

Have priors $P(h_i)$ and (usually) conditional probabilities $P(d_j | h_i)$; want $P(h_i | d_j)$

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For Learning 3

	h_1	h_2	Have	Marg
d_1	?	?	$P(d_2 h_2)$?
d_2	?	?	?	$P(d_2)$
...	?	?	?	?
Marg. (priors)	$P(h_1)$	$P(h_2)$...	1

Exists but
Not known

$P(h_2 | d_2) = P(d_2 | h_2) P(h_2) / P(d_2)$ (Bayes' rule)
Although $P(d_2)$ not know, it is the same constant for every h_i : $P(h_2 | d_2)$ proportional to $P(d_2 | h_2) P(h_2)$

Posterior:
 $P(h_2 | d_2) = P(d_2 | h_2) P(h_2) / \sum_i (P(d_2 | h_i) P(h_i))$

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