

CPS130 - Homework 3

Due: Thurs, 24 February 2005

1. Let X be a non-negative random variable such that $E[X]$ is well defined. Using this, prove, for all $t > 0$, *Markov's Inequality*:

$$\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{E[X]}{t}$$

2. Consider the Balls and Bins problem with m bins and n balls, with $n \geq m$. Assuming that when balls are thrown into the bins, they're placed uniformly. Now compute (in terms of m and n) the probability that:
 - a) There is a bin with *no* balls in it.
 - b) At least k of the bins are empty.
 - c) There is a bin with less than n/m balls in it.

Now consider if the probability is *not* uniformly distributed, but rather follows a geometric distribution; that is, the probability of landing in bucket 1 is p , bucket 2 is $(1-p)p$, bucket 3 is $(1-p)^2p$, and so on, until the bucket m is the remainder of the probability $(1 - \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (1-p)^i p)$.

- d) What is the probability that bucket i is empty?
 - e) What is the probability that no bucket is empty?
 - f) Compute the expected number of balls in each bucket.
3. Show how we can use two stacks to implement a Queue such that the amortized cost of each *Enqueue* and *Dequeue* is $O(1)$.
 4. Show how we can implement a dynamic set that efficiently supports three operations: *Enqueue*, *Dequeue* and *Min*. How can we implement this in:
 - a) *Enqueue* and *Dequeue* in $O(1)$ time, *Min* in $O(n)$ time.
 - b) *Enqueue* and *Dequeue* in $O(\log n)$ time, *Min* in $O(1)$ time.
 - c) All three operations in amortized $O(1)$ time.

Extra Credit Suppose you're given a list of n integers, some negative, some positive. We want to find any three distinct integers from the list so that $a + b + c = 0$. How can we do this in $O(n^3)$ time? Describe how we can reduce this to $O(n^2)$. Can we do better? *This problem is not easy, finish the actual homework problems before trying to do it.*