

Expectation Value Strategy

1. Sample space? Relevant random variable X ?
2. Write X as a sum of indicator random variables
 - Create indicator random variables associated with events that cause X to increase.
3. Use linearity of expectation
4. Use $\mathbb{E}[X_E] = \Pr(E)$

Expectation Value Strategy

Suppose we create a string of length n consisting of the digits 1, 2, and 4, where

$$\Pr(\text{jth digit is 1}) = 1/j$$

$$\Pr(\text{jth digit is 2}) = (1 - 1/j)/2$$

$$\Pr(\text{jth digit is 4}) = (1 - 1/j)/2$$

What is the average (expected value) of the sum of digits in the string?