



Math Monday #4

Simpson's Index

In a community of penguins, there are three different types of penguins shown in the table below. Determine the Simpson's diversity index of the community.

Simpson's Index $1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n}{N}\right)^{2}$ n = total organisms of a particular species N = total number of organisms of all species

Penguin Species	Number of Individuals
Adele	6
Gentoo	8
Little	13

 $1 - \left[\left(\frac{6}{27} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{8}{27} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{13}{27} \right)^2 \right]$

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$$1 - \left[\left(\frac{6}{27} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{8}{27} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{13}{27} \right)^2 \right]$$

 $1 - [(0.222)^2 + (0.296)^2 + (0.481)^2]$

1 - [0.369] = 0.631

Common Mistake: Don't forget to subtract from 1 at the end

Example Problem

Simpson's Index

A student researcher wants to investigate the diversity of the school garden. Determine the Simpson's Index of Diversity from the garden data.



Species	Number of Individuals
Spider	2
Black Ant	6
Bee	1
Horsefly	16

 $1 - \left| \left(\frac{2}{25} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{6}{25} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{25} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{16}{25} \right)^2 \right|$

Example Problem

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$$1 - \left[\left(\frac{2}{25}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{6}{25}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{25}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{25}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{16}{25}\right)^2 \right]$$

 $1 - [(0.08)^2 + (0.24)^2 + (0.04)^2 + (0.64)^2]$

1 - [0.0064 + 0.0576 + 0.0016 + 0.4096]

1 - [0.4752] = 0.5248