

Lecture 5: Random Variable, Part III

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EE210: Probability and Introductory Random Processes
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Roadmap

- Famous discrete random variables used in the community
 - Bernoulli, Uniform, Binomial, Geometric, Poisson, etc.
- Summarizing a random variable: Expectation and Variance
- Functions of a single random variable, Functions of multiple random variables
- Conditioning for random variables, Independence for random variables
- Continuous random variables
 - Normal, Uniform, Exponential, etc.
- Bayes' rule for random variables
- (Derived) Distribution of $Y = g(X)$ or $Z = g(X, Y)$
- Quantifying the degree of dependence between two rvs.
- Conditional expectation/variance
- (Random) Sum of random variables

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- Given the PDF of X , What is the PDF of $Y = g(X)$?
- Wait! Didn't we cover this topic? No. We covered just $\mathbb{E}[g(X)]$.
- Examples: $Y = X$, $Y = X + 1$, $Y = X^2$, etc.
- What are easy or difficult cases?
- Easy cases
 - Discrete
 - Linear: $Y = aX + b$

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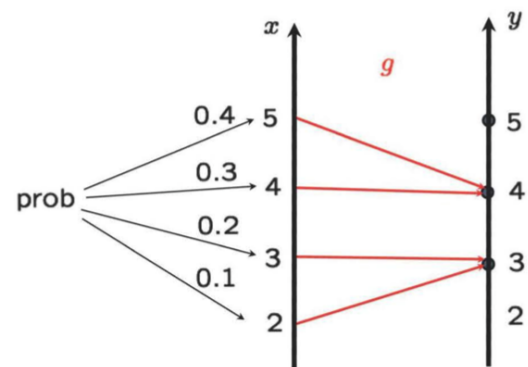
Discrete Case

- Take all values of x such that $g(x) = y$, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} p_Y(y) &= \mathbb{P}(g(X) = y) \\ &= \sum_{x: g(x)=y} p_X(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$p_Y(3) = p_X(2) + p_X(3) = 0.1 + 0.2 = 0.3$$

$$p_Y(4) = p_X(4) + p_X(5) = 0.3 + 0.4 = 0.7$$



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If $a > 0$, $F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(aX + b \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq \frac{y-b}{a}) = F_X(\frac{y-b}{a})$

$$\rightarrow f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$$

If $a < 0$, $F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(aX + b \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(X > \frac{y-b}{a}) = 1 - F_X(\frac{y-b}{a})$

$$\rightarrow f_Y(y) = -\frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$$

Therefore, $f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X(\frac{y-b}{a})$

Special case. X is normal. Then, Y is also normal, i.e., $Y \sim N(a\mu + b, a^2\sigma^2)$

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Step 1. Find the CDF of Y :

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(Y \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(g(X) \leq y)$$

Step 2. Differentiate: $f_Y(y) = \frac{dF_Y}{dy}(y)$

****** When $Y = g(X)$ is monotonic, a **general formula** can be drawn (see the textbook at pp 207)

Ex1. $X \sim \text{uniform}[0, 1]$. $Y = \sqrt{X}$.

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq y^2) = y^2$$

$$f_Y(y) = 2y, \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

Ex2. $X \sim \text{uniform}[0, 2]$. $Y = X^3$.

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(X^3 \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq \sqrt[3]{y}) = \frac{1}{2}y^{1/3}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{6}y^{-2/3}, \quad 0 \leq y \leq 8$$

Ex3. X with $f_X(x)$. $Y = X^2$.

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(X^2 \leq y) = \mathbb{P}(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y})$$

$$= F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y})$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} f_X(\sqrt{y}) +$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} f_X(-\sqrt{y}), \quad y \geq 0$$

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Basically, follow two step approach: (i) CDF and (ii) differentiate.

Ex1. $X, Y \sim \text{uniform}[0, 1]$, and $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$. $Z = \max(X, Y)$.

* $\mathbb{P}(X \leq z) = \mathbb{P}(Y \leq z) = z, z \in [0, 1]$.

$$F_Z(z) = \mathbb{P}(\max(X, Y) \leq z) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq z, Y \leq z) \\ = \mathbb{P}(X \leq z)\mathbb{P}(Y \leq z) = z^2$$

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 2z, & \text{if } 0 \leq z \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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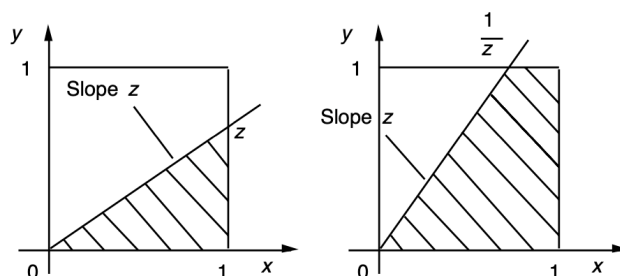
Basically, follows two step approach: (i) CDF and (ii) differentiate.

Ex2. $X, Y \sim \text{uniform}[0, 1]$, and $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$.
 $Z = Y/X$.

$$F_Z(z) = \mathbb{P}(Y/X \leq z) \\ = \begin{cases} z/2, & 0 \leq z \leq 1 \\ 1 - 1/2z, & z > 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 1/2, & 0 \leq z \leq 1 \\ 1/(2z^2), & z > 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Depending on the value of z , two cases need to be considered separately.



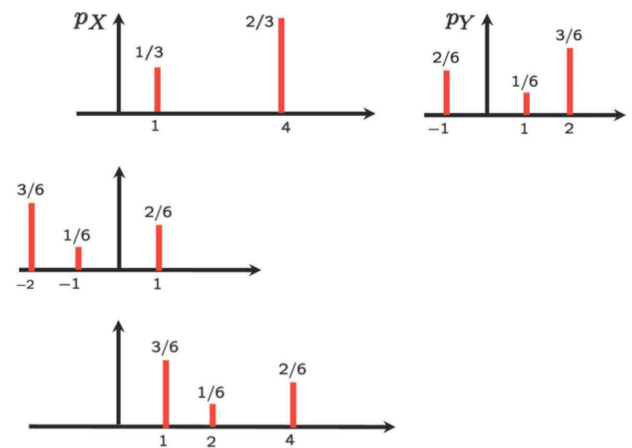
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- A very basic case with many applications
- Assume that $X, Y \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_Z(z) &= \mathbb{P}(X + Y = z) \\
 &= \sum_{\{(x,y): x+y=z\}} \mathbb{P}(X = x, Y = y) \\
 &= \sum_x \mathbb{P}(X = x, Y = z - x) \\
 &= \sum_x \mathbb{P}(X = x) \mathbb{P}(Y = z - x) \\
 &= \sum_x p_X(x) p_Y(z - x)
 \end{aligned}$$

- $p_Z(z)$ is called **convolution** of the PMFs of X and Y .

- Interpretation (for a given z)
- (i) Flip (horizontally) $p_Y(y)$ ($p_Y(-x)$)
- (ii) Put it underneath $p_X(x)$ ($p_Y(-x + z)$)



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- Same logic as the discrete case

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) f_Y(z - x) dx$$

- Very special, but useful case
 - X and Y are **normal**.

Sum of two independent normal rvs

$X \sim N(\mu_X, \sigma_X^2)$ and $Y \sim N(\mu_Y, \sigma_Y^2)$
Then, $X + Y \sim N(\mu_X + \mu_Y, \sigma_X^2 + \sigma_Y^2)$

- Why normal rvs are used to model the sum of random noises.
- (Extension) The sum of **finitely many** independent normals is also normal.

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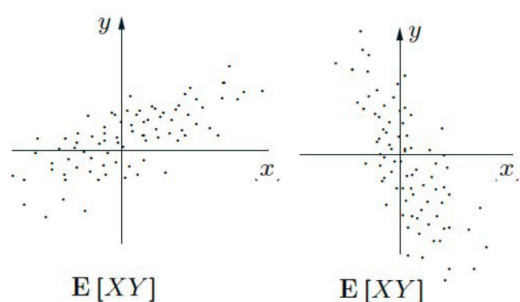
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Making a Metric of Dependence Degree

- Goal: Given two rvs X and Y , assign some number that quantifies the degree of their dependence
- Reqs.
 - a) Increases (resp. decreases) as they become more (resp. less) dependent.
 - b) 0 when they are independent.
 - c) Shows the direction of dependence by + and -
 - d) Always bounded by some numbers, e.g., $[-1, 1]$
- Good engineers: Good at making good metrics
 - Metric of how our society is economically polarized
 - A lot of metrics in our professional sports leagues (baseball, basketball, etc)
 - Cybermetrics in MLB (Major League Baseball):
<http://m.mlb.com/glossary/advanced-stats>

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- Simple case: $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mu_X = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mu_Y = 0$
- Dependent: Positive (If $X \uparrow$, $Y \uparrow$) or Negative (If $X \uparrow$, $Y \downarrow$)
- What about $\mathbb{E}[XY]$? Seems good.
 - $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y] = 0$ when $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$
 - More data points (thus increases) when $xy > 0$ (both positive or negative)



(Q) What about $\mathbb{E}[X + Y]$?

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- Solution: Centering. $X \rightarrow X - \mu_X$ and $Y \rightarrow Y - \mu_Y$

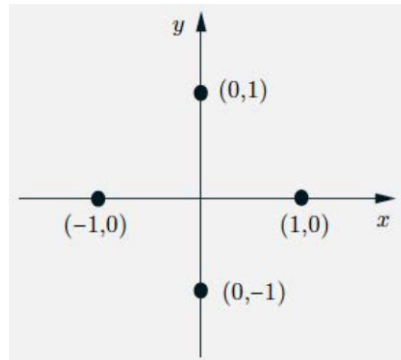
Covariance

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X]) \cdot (Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])]$$

- After some algebra, $\text{cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$
- $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \implies \text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$
- $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0 \implies X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$? NO.
- When $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$, we say that X and Y are uncorrelated.

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- $p_{X,Y}(1, 0) = p_{X,Y}(0, 1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, 0) = p_{X,Y}(0, -1) = 1/4$.
- $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[Y] = 0$, and $\mathbb{E}[XY] = 0$. So, $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$
- Are they independent? No, because if $X = 1$, then we should have $Y = 0$.



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$$\text{cov}(X, X) = 0$$

$$\text{cov}(aX + b, Y) = \mathbb{E}[(aX + b)Y] - \mathbb{E}[aX + b]\mathbb{E}[Y] = a \cdot \text{cov}(X, Y)$$

$$\text{cov}(X, Y + Z) = \mathbb{E}[X(Y + Z)] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y + Z] = \text{cov}(X, Y) + \text{cov}(X, Z)$$

$$\text{var}[X + Y] = \mathbb{E}[(X + Y)^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X + Y])^2 = \text{var}[X] + \text{var}[Y] - 2\text{cov}(X, Y)$$

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- n people throw their hats in a box and then pick one at random
- X : number of people with their own hat
- (Q) $\text{var}[X]$
- Key step 1. Define a rv $X_i = 1$ if i selects own hat and 0 otherwise. Then, $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$.
- Key step 2. Are X_i s are independent?
- $X_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1/n)$. Thus, $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 1/n$ and $\text{var}[X_i] = \frac{1}{n}(1 - \frac{1}{n})$

- For $i \neq j$,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}(X_i, X_j) &= \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j] - \mathbb{E}[X_i] \mathbb{E}[X_j] \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X_i = 1 \text{ and } X_j = 1) - \frac{1}{n^2} \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X_i = 1) \mathbb{P}(X_j = 1 | X_i = 1) - \frac{1}{n^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}[X] &= \text{var}\left[\sum X_i\right] \\ &= \sum \text{var}[X_i] + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{cov}(X_i, X_j) \\ &= n \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) + n(n-1) \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)} = 1\end{aligned}$$

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- Reqs. a), b), and c) satisfied.
- d) Always bounded by some numbers, e.g., $[-1, 1]$
- Dimensionless metric. How? Normalization, but by what?

Correlation Coefficient

$$\rho(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{(X - \mu_X)}{\sigma_X} \cdot \frac{Y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right] = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{var}[X]\text{var}[Y]}}$$

- $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$
- $|\rho| = 1 \implies X - \mu_X = c(Y - \mu_Y)$ (linear relation, VERY related)

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A Special Random Variable

- Consider a rv Y , such that

$$Y = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 1, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 2, & \text{w.p. } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- If $h(y) = y^2$, then a new rv $h(Y)$ is:

$$h(Y) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 1, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 4, & \text{w.p. } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- Consider other rv X , such that

$$g(y) = \mathbb{E}[X|Y = y] = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } y = 0 \\ 8, & \text{if } y = 1 \\ 9, & \text{if } y = 2 \end{cases}$$

- Then, a rv $g(Y)$ is:

$$g(Y) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 8, & \text{w.p. } 1/4 \\ 9, & \text{w.p. } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- The rv $g(Y)$ looks special, so let's notate it with some fancy one.

- What about? $X_{\text{exp}}(Y)$, $\mathbb{E}[X_Y]$, $\mathbb{E}_X[Y]$?

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Conditional Expectation

A random variable $g(Y) = \mathbb{E}[X|Y]$, called **conditional expectation of X given Y** , takes the value $g(y) = \mathbb{E}[X|Y = y]$, if Y happens to take the value y .

- A function of Y
- A random variable
- Thus, having a distribution, expectation, variance, all the things that a random variable has
- Often confusing because of the notation

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Expectation of Conditional Expectation

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|Y]] = \mathbb{E}[X], \quad \text{Law of iterated expectations}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|Y]] &= \sum_y \mathbb{E}[X|Y = y] p_Y(y) \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X] \end{aligned}$$

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- Stick of length l
 - Uniformly break at point Y , and break what is left uniformly at point X .
 - $\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y] = y/2$
 - $\mathbb{E}[X|Y] = Y/2$
 - $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|Y]] = \mathbb{E}[Y/2] = \frac{1}{2} \frac{l}{2} = l/4$
- Forecasts on sales: calculating expected value, given any available information
 - X : February sales
 - Forecast in the beg. of the year: $\mathbb{E}[X]$
 - End of Jan. new information $Y = y$ (Jan. sales)
Revised forecast: $\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y]$
Revised forecast $\neq \mathbb{E}[X]$
 - Law of iterated expectations
 $\mathbb{E}[\text{revised forecast}] = \text{original one}$

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$$\text{var}[X] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]$$

$$\text{var}[X|Y = y] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X|Y = y])^2 | Y = y]$$

Conditional Variance

A random variable $g(Y) = \boxed{\text{var}[X|Y]}$ and called $\text{conditional variance of } X \text{ given } Y$, takes the value $g(y) = \text{var}[X|Y = y]$, if Y happens to take the value y .

- A function of Y
- A random variable
- Thus, having a distribution, expectation, variance, all the things that a random variable has

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	$\mathbb{E}[X Y]$	$\text{var}[X Y]$
Expectation	$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}(X Y)]$	$\mathbb{E}[\text{var}(X Y)]$
Variance	$\text{var}[\mathbb{E}(X Y)]$	$\text{var}[\text{var}(X Y)]$

Law of total variance

$$\text{var}[X] = \mathbb{E}[\text{var}(X|Y)] + \text{var}[\mathbb{E}(X|Y)]$$

Proof.

$$\text{var}(X|Y) = \mathbb{E}[X^2|Y] - (\mathbb{E}[X|Y])^2$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{var}(X|Y)] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[X|Y])^2] \quad (1)$$

$$\text{var}[\mathbb{E}(X|Y)] = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[X|Y])^2] - (\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}(X|Y)])^2 = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[X|Y])^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X])^2 \quad (2)$$

$$(1) + (2) = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X])^2 = \text{var}[X]$$

- N : number of stores visited (**random**)
- X_i : money spent in store i , independent of other X_j and N , X_i s are identically distributed with $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu$
- $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots X_N$. What are $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ and $\text{var}[Y]$?
- $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y|N]] = \mathbb{E}[N\mathbb{E}[X_i]] = \mathbb{E}[N]\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu\mathbb{E}[N]$
- $\text{var}[Y] = \mathbb{E}[\text{var}(Y|N)] + \text{var}[\mathbb{E}(Y|N)] = \mathbb{E}[N]\text{var}[X_i] - \mu^2\text{var}[N]$
 $\text{var}(\mathbb{E}[Y|N]) = \text{var}(N\mu) = \mu^2\text{var}[N]$
 $\text{var}[Y|N] = N\text{var}[X_i]$
 $\mathbb{E}[\text{var}(Y|N)] = \mathbb{E}[N\text{var}[X_i]] = \mathbb{E}[N]\text{var}[X_i]$

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Questions?

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- 1) What are the key steps to get the derived distributions of $Y = g(X)$ or $Z = g(X, Y)$?
- 2) How can we compute the distribution of $Z = X + Y$ when X and Y are independent?
- 3) What are covariance and correlation coefficient? Why do we need them?
- 4) Please explain the concepts of conditional expectation and conditional variance.