

Proof: If part

Let $\mu = E(X)$.

Now $(X - \mu)^2 = X^2 - 2\mu X + \mu^2$

\Rightarrow By the thm (on linearity of expectation) stated in Pg (151), $(X - \mu)^2$ has finite mean and hence X has finite variance.

Also in this case,

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$$

$$= E[X^2 - 2\mu X + \mu^2]$$

$$= E(X^2) - 2\mu E(X) + \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - 2\mu^2 + \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

Only if part

$$X^2 = (X - \mu)^2 + 2\mu X - \mu^2$$

\Rightarrow By the thm stated in Pg (151),

X has finite 2nd moment.

Cor: If X has finite 2nd moment, then X has finite variance, which is given by

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2.$$

Proof: Follows from Thm stated in ~~Pg 170~~ Pg (172) + the Exc stated at the end of Pg (162).

Cor: For any r.v. X with finite 2nd moment, $E(X^2) \geq (E(X))^2$.

Proof: $E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = \text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2] \geq 0$
 $\Rightarrow E(X^2) \geq (E(X))^2$

Remark: Equality holds in the last corollary of Pg (174), i.e., $E(X^2) = (E(X))^2 < \infty$ if and only if $E[(X-\mu)^2] = 0$, which can be shown to be equivalent to $P(X=\mu)=1$, (i.e., ~~when~~ if and only if X is degenerate),
(constant)

Exc:

Exc: ① Suppose X is a discrete r.v. with finite 2nd moment. Then show that $E(X^2) = (E(X))^2$ holds if and only if X is a degenerate r.v.

② Suppose X is a cont r.v. ^{with a cont pdf and} ~~with~~ finite 2nd moment. Then show that

$$E(X^2) > (E(X))^2.$$

Remark: The above exc ^{essentially} shows that for a discrete or cont r.v. X , $\text{Var}(X) \geq 0$ and $\text{Var}(X) = 0$ iff X is degenerate. ~~r.v.~~
This result holds for any r.v. X .

Example: $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \lambda)$. Compute $\text{Var}(X)$.

Solution: A pdf of X is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{\lambda^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\lambda x} x^{\alpha-1} \quad \text{if } x > 0.$$

Since X is a positive r.v., we have

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\lambda x} x^\alpha dx$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{\lambda \Gamma(\alpha)} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha+1}}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} e^{-\lambda x} x^{(\alpha+1)-1} dx}_{\text{pdf of Gamma}(\alpha+1, \lambda) \text{ dist.}}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)}{\lambda \Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}.$$

Again,

$$E(X^2) = \int_0^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\lambda x} x^{\alpha+1} dx$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2)}{\lambda^2 \Gamma(\alpha)} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha+2}}{\Gamma(\alpha+2)} e^{-\lambda x} x^{(\alpha+2)-1} dx}_{\text{pdf of Gamma}(\alpha+2, \lambda) \text{ dist?}}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2)}{\lambda^2 \Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\lambda^2} < \infty. \quad [\because \Gamma(\alpha+2) = \alpha(\alpha+1) \Gamma(\alpha)]$$

Therefore, X has finite variance by the first corollary of Pg (174) and

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$= \frac{\alpha^2 + \alpha}{\lambda^2} - \frac{\alpha^2}{\lambda^2} = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}.$$

.. We have thus shown the following.

Fact: $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \lambda) \Rightarrow E(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}$, $V(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}$.

Remark: When $n = \alpha \in \mathbb{N}$, we can compute $E(X)$ using linearity of expectation as follows.

Suppose $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Exp}(\lambda)$.

Then $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \lambda)$

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{n}{\lambda}.$$

Again, the above calculation did not use the independence of X_i 's - we shall use it when $\text{Var}(X)$ is computed using the additivity of variance under independence.

Exc: Suppose $X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$. Compute $E(X)$ and $\text{Var}(X)$. (Simplification is not needed.)

[Hint: You may use $B(r, s) = \frac{\Gamma(r) \Gamma(s)}{\Gamma(r+s)}$]

Covariance and Correlation as Measures of Association

Suppose (X, Y) is a random vector and we would like to measure the ^{amount of} association between X and Y .

The most basic such measure is called covariance, which is defined below.

Defⁿ: Suppose X and Y are jointly distributed distributed r.v.s with finite means μ_x and μ_y , respectively. Then we say that X and Y have finite covariance if $(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)$ has finite mean. And in this case, we define

Covariance of X and Y

$$= \text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)].$$

Remarks: ① If $X \equiv Y$, that is if $P(X=Y)=1$, then

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X).$$

② Interpretation of Covariance

(a) If X and Y are positively associated, i.e., if a lower value of X tend to give rise to a lower value of Y and a higher value of X tend to give rise to ^a higher value of Y , then $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ is going to be positive. This is because whenever $X > \mu_X$, we will have $Y > \mu_Y$ ~~most~~ with higher probability and whenever $X < \mu_X$, we will have $Y < \mu_Y$ with higher probability, and therefore the product $(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)$ will be positive ~~most~~ with high probability making $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]$ positive as well. This will be the case in the example of drainage network model given in Pg (15) - (18); see also the ~~re~~ remark in Pg (19).

(b) If X and Y are negatively associated, i.e., if lower value of one of them tend to give rise to a higher value of the other and vice-versa, then $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ is going to be negative. The reason is ~~very~~ ^{is} analogous to the one given in Pg (180) except that the product $(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)$ will be more likely to be negative leading to its expectation, i.e., $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$, ^{to be} ~~being~~ negative as well. This will be the case in the example on Polya's urn scheme given in Pg (9) - (13); see also ~~the~~ Note (3) of Pg (14).

(c) Note that (a) and (b) above give the ~~inter~~ interpretation of the sign of covariance. The ~~interpretation~~ interpretation of the value of covariance is tricky. While covariance is a measure of association, it does get affected by scaling (for example, $\text{Cov}(27X, 42Y) = (27 \times 42) \text{Cov}(X, Y)$) making it difficult to understand and interpret the ~~mean~~ value of covariance, which is clearly not unit-free.