

Multivariate cdf and pmf

If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are rvs, then their joint cdf is defined as

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = Pr \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n [X_i \leq x_i] \right)$$

for all $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are *discrete* rvs, then their joint pmf is defined as

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = Pr \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n [X_i = x_i] \right)$$

for all $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

Connections between multivariate cdf and pmf

$$F(0.5, 1.1) = \Pr(\underbrace{Y_1 \leq 0.5, Y_2 \leq 1.1}_{})$$

$$\Pr([Y_1 = 0] \cap \{[Y_2 = 0] \cup [Y_2 = 1]\})$$

$$\Pr(\underbrace{\{[Y_1 = 0] \cap [Y_2 = 0]\}}_{A_1} \cup \underbrace{\{[Y_1 = 0] \cap [Y_2 = 1]\}}_{A_2})$$

$$A_1 \cap A_2 = \emptyset$$

$$= \Pr(A_1) + \Pr(A_2) - \underbrace{\Pr(A_1 \cap A_2)}_0 = 1/9 + 2/9 = 3/9$$

	y ₁		
y ₂	0	1	2
0	1/9	2/9	1/9
1	2/9	2/9	0
2	1/9	0	0

Connection between multivariate pdf and cdf

If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are *continuous* rvs with differentiable joint cdf F , then their joint pdf is defined as

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\partial^n F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2 \dots \partial x_n}$$

for all $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

Q: How to obtain the joint cdf from the joint pdf? Integrate:

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) dt_1 \dots dt_n$$

Exercise: Find the joint cdf of X_1 and X_2 if the joint pdf is

$$f(x_1, x_2) = e^{-x_1} e^{-x_2} \cdot \mathbb{I}\{x_1 > 0\} \cdot \mathbb{I}\{x_2 > 0\}.$$

Marginal cdf/pmf/pdf of X_1 is just the univariate cdf/pmf/pdf of X_1 . This wording is used when the cdf/pmf/pdf of X_1 is obtained from the joint cdf/pmf/pdf of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n .

Marginal cdf from the joint cdf

Let $F_{12}(x_1, x_2)$ be the joint cdf of X_1 and X_2 .

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(x_1) &= \Pr(X_1 \leq x_1) = \Pr([X_1 \leq x_1] \cap [X_2 \leq \infty]) \\ &= F_{12}(x_1, \infty). \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: in the previous exercise, find the marginal cdf of X_1 from the joint cdf of X_1 and X_2 .

Marginal pmf from the joint pmf

Exercise: find the marginal pmf of Y_1 if the joint pmf of Y_1 and Y_2 is given in the table below.

$$\text{let } A_{ij} = [Y_1 = i] \cap [Y_2 = j]$$

y_2	y_1			
	0	1	2	
0	1/9	2/9	1/9	4/9
1	2/9	2/9	0	4/9
2	1/9	0	0	1/9

$$Pr(Y_1 = 0) = Pr([Y_1 = 0] \cap ([Y_2 = 0] \cup [Y_2 = 1] \cup [Y_2 = 2]))$$

$$Pr(\bigcup_{j=0}^2 A_{0j}) = Pr(A_{00}) + Pr(A_{01}) + Pr(A_{02}) \\ = 1/9 + 2/9 + 1/9 = 4/9$$

$$Pr(Y_1 = 1) = 4/9$$

$$Pr(Y_1 = 2) = 1/9$$

Marginal pdf from the joint pdf

Let f_{12} be the joint pdf of X_1 and X_2 .

Find f_1 , the marginal pdf of X_1 :

$$f_1(x_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{12}(x_1, t) dt$$

Exercise: find the marginal pdf of X_1 if the joint pdf of X_1 and X_2 is $f(x_1, x_2) = e^{-x_1} e^{-x_2} \cdot \mathbb{I}\{x_1 > 0\} \cdot \mathbb{I}\{x_2 > 0\}$.

Conditional pdf/pmf f_C of $X_{k+1}, X_{k+2}, \dots, X_n$ given $X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_k = x_k$ is defined as

$$f_C(x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n | x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{f_J(x_1, \dots, x_k, \dots, x_n)}{f_M(x_1, \dots, x_k)},$$

assuming the denominator is positive. Here, f_J is the joint pdf/pmf of X_1, \dots, X_n and f_M is the joint pdf/pmf of X_1, \dots, X_k .

If $n = 2$ and $k = 1$, this becomes $f_C(x_2 | x_1) = f_J(x_1, x_2) / f_M(x_1)$.

If A and B are random events, $\Pr(A | B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)}$

Q: Where does this definition come from?

If X_1 and X_2 are discrete,

let $B = [X_1 = x_1]$; $A = [X_2 = x_2]$;

$$f_C(x_2 | x_1) = \Pr(X_2 = x_2 | X_1 = x_1) = \frac{\Pr([X_1 = x_1] \cap [X_2 = x_2])}{\Pr([X_1 = x_1])}$$

If X_1 and X_2 are continuous rvs,

let $B = [X_1 \in (x_1 - \delta, x_1 + \delta)]$ so that $\Pr(B) > 0$

$A = [X_2 \in (x_2 - \delta, x_2 + \delta)]$

Statistical Independence

The rvs X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n with respective marginal cdfs F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n and joint cdf F are mutually independent iff

$$\underset{\text{LHS}}{F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \underset{\text{RHS}}{F_i(x_i)}$$

for every $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$. This is often referred to as factorization criterion for independence.

$$\text{LHS} = \Pr \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n [X_i \leq x_i] \right) = \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr (X_i \leq x_i) = \text{RHS}$$

Recall

Σ -notation: $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n$.

Π -notation: $\prod_{i=1}^n a_i = a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n$.

Factorization criterion for independence via pdfs

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be continuous rvs with respective marginal pdfs f_i and joint pdf f . Show that

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i) && \text{if and only if} \\ f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(x_i). \end{aligned}$$

Mutual independence vs pairwise independence

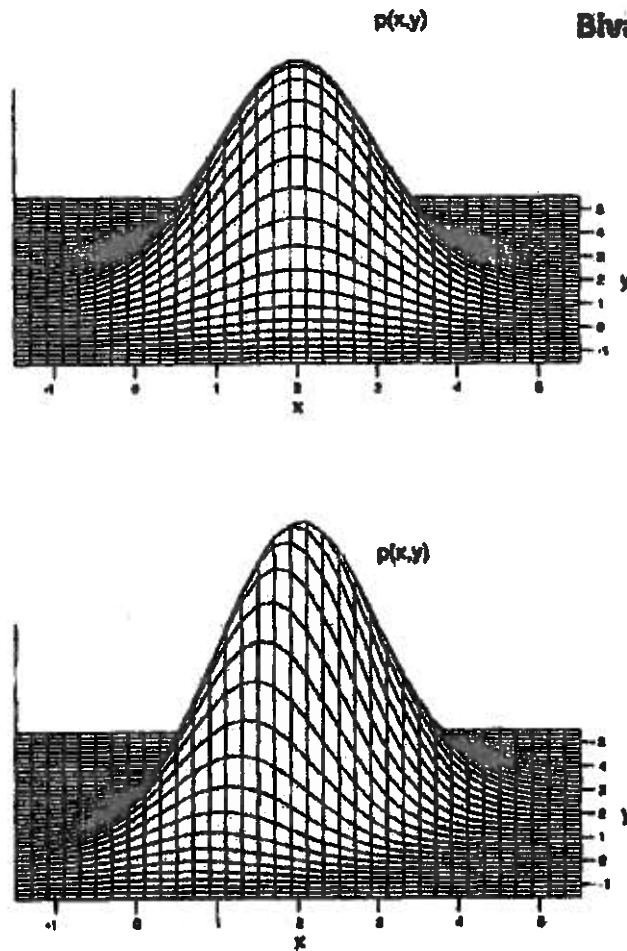
The rvs X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n with respective marginal cdfs F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n and joint cdf F are pairwise independent iff

$$\Pr(X_i \leq x_i, X_j \leq x_j) = \Pr(X_i \leq x_i) \cdot \Pr(X_j \leq x_j)$$

for every pair $i \neq j$ and all $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

Q: Which is stronger, mutual or pairwise independence?

Bivariate normal distribution



$$p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \left\{ \left(\frac{x-\mu_1}{\sigma_1} \right)^2 - 2\rho \frac{(x-\mu_1)}{\sigma_1} \frac{(y-\mu_2)}{\sigma_2} + \left(\frac{y-\mu_2}{\sigma_2} \right)^2 \right\} \right]$$

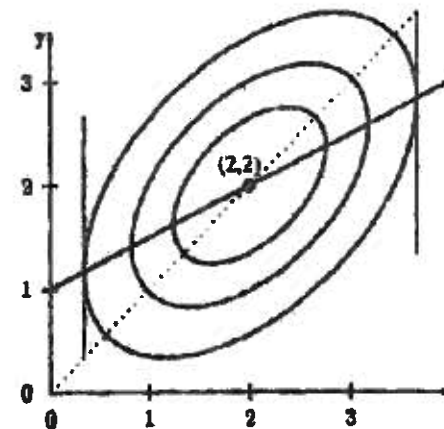


Figure B.4.1 A plot of the bivariate normal density $p(x, y)$ for $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 2$, $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 1$, $\rho = 0$ (top) and $\rho = 0.5$ (bottom).

Figure B.4.2 25%, 50%, and 75% probability level-curves, the regression line (solid line), and major axis (dotted line) for the $\mathcal{N}(2, 2, 1, 1, 0.5)$ density.

Some characteristics of random variables/vectors

1. joint, marginal and conditional cdfs
2. joint, marginal and conditional pdfs or pmfs (if the rvs are continuous or discrete)
3. moments - if they are well-defined (“exist”); e.g., expectation functions of moments; e.g., variance, covariance, correlation
4. moment-generating function (mgf) - if it is defined in a neighborhood of zero (i.e., “exists”).
5. quantile function (for a rv but not a vector); loosely, this can be thought of as the inverse of the cdf

Population moments

Let X be a rv with a pdf or pmf f and let k be a positive integer. The k -th (population) moment of X , denoted by $E(X^k)$, is defined as follows:

If X is a discrete rv and

$$\sum_{x \in \text{supp}(f)} |x|^k f(x) < \infty, \quad \text{then} \quad E(X^k) = \sum_{x \in \text{supp}(f)} x^k f(x).$$

If X is a continuous rv and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^k f(x) dx < \infty, \quad \text{then} \quad E(X^k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k f(x) dx.$$

Important: in general, rvs need not have all or any moments to “exist” (i.e., be well-defined).

Example: non-existence of moments

Consider a Cauchy distribution with pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{1+x^2}, \quad \text{defined for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$