

MATH 103 L01 (Probability)

2.1 Events and Sample Space

Probability is defined on :

- The outcomes of an experiment (elements of a set)
- Sample space (universal set)
- Events, collection of outcomes (subsets of sample space)

Sample Space Ω (Omega),

A particular outcome $w \in \Omega$ is a sample point

An experiment taking place corresponds to one of the $w \in \Omega$ occurring

$A = [-5, 5]$ $B = \mathbb{Z}$ $C = [0, \infty)$ all subsets of \mathbb{R}

$$(A \cap B)^c = [(A \cup B) \cup (A^c \cap B^c)] \setminus (A \cap B)$$

In set form

$$= \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq -5, -4, \dots, 4, 5\}$$

Number form

3.1 The axioms of probability -

Let Ω be a sample space. The probability P is a real-valued function defined on subsets of Ω following three properties -

Axiom 1 (positivity) $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \subset \Omega$

Axiom 2 (normalisation) $P(\Omega) = 1$

Axiom 3 (countable additivity) if A_1 and A_2 are disjoint events, $P(A_1 \cup A_2) = P(A_1) + P(A_2)$

Generally if $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots \subset \Omega$ are events that are pairwise disjoint. ($A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ when $i \neq j$)

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

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Chapter 3: The Axiomatic approach

By the first part of axiom 3 when A_1, \dots, A_n are pairwise disjoint then:

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \text{ for any } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

This is the finite additivity of P .

3.2 Consequences of axioms -

Theorem 3.4 (Monotonicity) -

$$\text{If } A \subseteq B \text{ then } P(A) \leq P(B)$$

Theorem 3.5 (Complementary events)

$$P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$$

Theorem 3.8 (Partition Law)

$$P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$$

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$$P(A|B) = P(A \cap B) / P(B)$$

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A|B)P(B)}{P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)}$$

$$P(B|A)P(A) = P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

MATH 103 L01 → L05 Recap

2.1 Probability is defined by :

- * Outcomes of an experiment (elements of a set)
- * Sample space (universal set)
- * Events, collection of outcomes (subsets of sample space)

The set of all possible outcomes is Ω (omega) and is known as the sample space. A particular outcome $w \in \Omega$ is a sample point. The set of outcomes in the sample space are exhaustive and exclusive.

An event A is a subset of the possible outcomes contained in the sample space Ω . $A \subseteq \Omega$ occurs if $w \in \Omega$ satisfies $w \in A$.

Operations :

Union (OR), Intersection (AND)

A and B are mutually exclusive / disjoint if they have no outcomes in common ($A \cap B = \emptyset$)

A^c = Complement of A .

A partition of the sample space splits the sample space into disjoint subsets. Generally the K sets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_K form a partition of the set Ω if the sets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_K are mutually exclusive and exhaustive such :

$$A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset \text{ for all } i \neq j$$

and

$$\Omega = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_K$$

2.2 Discrete Uniform Law -

This applies to situations where Ω is finite and each of the n sample points are equally likely.

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|}$$

$|A|$ = number of sample points in A and $|\Omega|$ = number of sample points in Ω

$$P(\{w_i\}) = 1/|\Omega|$$

(Combinatorics) Counting Principle:

If an experiment involves two stages with N_1 and N_2 possible outcomes and the second outcome isn't influenced by the first (independent) then total outcomes = $N_1 N_2$

Counting Principle (Principle 2) The number of ways of arranging n objects in a line (permuting n objects) = $n!$

Binomial coefficient :

* Number of permutations of n objects composed of two types with r of one type and $n-r$ of the other.

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

Counting Principle (Principle 3) The number of ways of forming a committee of k people out of a population of n people is $\binom{n}{k}$

Chapter 3: Axiomatic Approach

3.1 Axioms of probability

The probability P is a real-valued function defined on subsets of Ω that satisfies the following three properties.

- * Positivity $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \subseteq \Omega$
- * Normalisation $P(\Omega) = 1$
- * Countable Additivity If A_1 and A_2 are disjoint
$$P(A_1 \cup A_2) = P(A_1) + P(A_2)$$

Finite additivity: whenever A_1, \dots, A_n are pairwise disjoint
$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$$

Theorem 3.4 (Monotonicity)

$$\text{If } A \subseteq B \text{ then } P(A) \leq P(B)$$

Theorem 3.5 (Complementary Events)

$$P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$$

Theorem 3.8 (Partition Law)

$$P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$$

Theorem 3.9 (Total probability Theorem)

Consider pairwise disjoint events B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n and $\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i$ then for any event $A \subseteq \Omega$

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A \cap B_i)$$

Generally if $\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$
$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap B_i)$$

Theorem 3.11 (Addition Law)

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

3.3 Conditional Probability -

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

and by consequence

$$P(A \cap B) = P(B|A)P(A) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

Theorem 3.18 (Law of Total Probability) -

$$P(A) = P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)$$

3.4 Bayes Theorem -

If A and B are events in the sample space with $P(A), P(B) > 0$ then,

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A|B)P(B)}{P(A)}$$

Proof :

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} \quad P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(B|A)P(A) = P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B) \quad \square$$

3.5 Independent events -

In the special case when $P(A|B) = P(A)$

we say A is independent of B. A and B are independent events if and only if

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$

Chapter 4: Discrete Random Variables -

A random variable R is a function $R: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

For each outcome in the sample space $\omega \in \Omega$

it associates a unique real number $R(\omega)$

Every time an experiment is conducted exactly one value of the random variable is observed this is called a realisation of the random variable.

$$R((i,j)) = i+j$$

$S((i,j)) = \max\{i,j\}$ the bigger of the two values.

The range of values of $\{R(\omega) : \omega \in \Omega\}$ is known as the induced sample space of R , written S

Discrete random variables are when S is finite.

4.2 Probability mass functions -

The probability mass function (pmf) of a discrete random variable, R is defined by

$$p_R(r) = P(R=r)$$

for all $r \in S$

note, $p_R(r) \geq 0$

$$1 = P(\Omega) = P(R=r_1) \cup P(R=r_2) \cup P(R=r_3)$$

$$= p_R(r_1) + p_R(r_2) + p_R(r_3) + \dots$$

$$p_R(r) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{r \in S} p_R(r) = 1$$

e.g. $\Omega = \{a, b, c, d\}$ $R(a) = 2$ $R(b) = 4$ $R(c) = 3$ $R(d) = 2$

$S = \{2, 3, 4\}$ so,

$$P_R(2) = P(\{a, d\}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P_R(3) = P(\{c\}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P_R(4) = P(\{b\}) = \frac{1}{4}$$

4.3 Probability of an event.

Lemma 4.10 -

Let $E \subseteq S$ be an event in the induced sample space

probability of E ,

$$P(R \in E) = \sum_{r \in E} P_R(r)$$

Cumulative distribution function (cdf) of a random variable R is a function $F_R : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$F_R(m) = P(R \leq m)$$

The cdf is given by,

$$F_R(m) = P(R \leq m) = \sum_{r=0}^m P_R(r)$$

a cdf has properties.

$$F_R(r_1) \leq F_R(r_2) \text{ etc.}$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow -\infty} F_R(r) = 0$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} F_R(r) = 1$$

4.4 Expectation.

outcomes $r_1, r_2 \dots$ The mean observed value of R

$$\frac{r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_n}{n} = \sum_{r \in S} r n_r$$

$$= \sum_{r \in S} r P_R(r)$$

Expectation

$$E(R) = \sum_{r \in S} r P_R(r) = \sum_{w \in \Omega} R(w) P(\{w\})$$

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Chapter 5: Models for discrete random variables -

Following identities useful in further developments -

$$\text{Arithmetic progression: } \sum_{i=1}^n i = n(n+1)/2$$

$$\text{Sum of Squares: } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = n(n+1)(2n+1)/6$$

$$\text{Exponential Series: } \exp(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^i}{i!}$$

$$e = \exp(1)$$

Partial Geometric sum:

$$S_m = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^m x^i = \frac{1 - x^{m+1}}{1 - x}$$

Geometric sum:

$$S_\infty = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i = \frac{1}{1 - x} \text{ for } |x| < 1$$

Weighted Geometric sum:

$$(1-x)^{-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i \quad (1-x)^{-2} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i x^{i-1}$$

$$2(1-x)^{-3} = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} i(i-1)x^{i-2} \quad (\text{By differentiating})$$

Binomial Expansion:

$$(p+q)^n = \binom{n}{0} p^n q^0 + \binom{n}{1} p^{n-1} q^1 + \dots$$

$$\text{Variance} = \text{MSMSM} \quad E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

e.g. find expectation and variance of $P(X=r) = \frac{1}{m+1}$

$$E(X) = \sum_{r=0}^m r \frac{1}{m+1} = \frac{1}{m+1} \times \frac{1}{2} m(m+1) = \frac{m}{2}$$

$$E(X^2) = \sum_{r=0}^m r^2 \frac{1}{m+1} = \frac{1}{m+1} \times \frac{1}{6} m(m+1)(2m+1) = \frac{m(2m+1)}{6}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{m(2m+1)}{6} - \frac{m^2}{4} = \frac{m(m+2)}{12}$$

5.3 Bernoulli Random variables -

An experiment of sample space $\{0, 1\}$ and probability of one is Θ ($0 \leq \Theta \leq 1$). This is termed a Bernoulli random variable.

$$PR(0) = 1 - \Theta \quad PR(1) = \Theta \quad R \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\Theta)$$

$$E(X) = 0(1 - \Theta) + 1\Theta = \Theta$$

$$E(X^2) = 0^2(1 - \Theta) + 1^2\Theta = \Theta$$

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

5.4 Binomial Random variables -

An experiment of n independent Bernoulli trials with each having probability Θ . Sample space = $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$
 $R \sim \text{Bin}(n, \Theta)$

$$\text{e.g. } PR(0) = FFF = (1 - \Theta)^3 \quad PR(1) = FFT = 3\Theta(1 - \Theta)^2$$

etc. This is a Binomial model.

$$PR(r) = \binom{n}{r} \Theta^r (1 - \Theta)^{n-r} \quad E(R) = n\Theta \quad \text{Var}(R) = n\Theta(1 - \Theta)$$

5.5 Geometric Random variables -

An experiment on independent Bernoulli trials.

This continues until there is a success and counts the number of trials upto and not including the success. $R(FFFFT) = 4$.

$$PR(r) = (1 - \Theta)^r \Theta \quad E(R) = \frac{1 - \Theta}{\Theta} \quad \text{Var}(R) = \frac{1 - \Theta}{\Theta^2}$$

5.6 Poisson Random variables -

$$PR(r) = \frac{\lambda^r \exp(-\lambda)}{r!} \quad R \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$$

5.9 Summary -

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Chapter 6: Continuous Random Variables

In continuous events we focus on probabilities of events instead of probabilities of single outcomes.
 $P(X \leq x)$.

For discrete random variables the cumulative distribution function $F_R(r) = P(R \leq r)$ for discrete values r .

6.2 - Cumulative Distribution Function

properties of $F_X(x)$:

$$0 \leq F_X(x) \leq 1 \text{ with } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$$

Probability of intervals

$$P(a < X \leq b) = P(X \leq b) - P(X \leq a)$$

6.3 Probability density function -

$$f(x) := \int_{-\infty}^x f(s) ds$$

e.g suppose $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } x < 1 \\ 1/x^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Then for $x > 1$ $F(x) = 0$

when $x \geq 1$

$$\int_{-\infty}^x f(s) ds = \int_1^x f(s) ds = \left[-\frac{1}{s} \right]_1^x = 1 - \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{For } x \geq 1 \quad \int f(x) dx = -\frac{1}{x} + C$$

Definition:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x)$$

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x)(s) ds$$

e.g

$$P(X \leq 10) = f_X(10) = \int_{-\infty}^{10} f_X(s) ds$$

Key Idea: $P(x < X \leq x + \delta) = \int_x^{x+\delta} f_X(s) ds = f_X(x)\delta$
 for some very small interval δ .

6.4 Expectation and Variance -

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x) dx \quad E(X^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx$$

Quantiles: x_p is the $100p\%$ quantile defined by $F_x(x_p) = p$.

Median: $F(x_{0.5}) = 0.5$

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Chapter 7 : Models for continuous random variables -

7.1 Uniform Distribution :

A continuous random variable for which all outcomes in a given range have equal chance of occurring is said to be uniformly distributed

X has a uniform distribution over (a, b) if

$$\text{the pdf} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & a < x < b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and write $X \sim U(a, b)$

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_X(x) dx = \int_a^b x \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{b+a}{2}$$

$$E(X^2) \dots = \frac{b^2 + ab + a^2}{3}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

7.2 Exponential Distribution :

A random variable X has an exponential distribution with rate β if its pdf is given by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} C \exp(-\beta x) & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad X \sim \text{Exp}(\beta)$$

where $\beta > 0$ and C = normalising constant.

Lack of Memory :

A key property of the exponential distribution is its lack of memory property.

A random variable satisfies this property if :

$$P(X > s+t | X > t) = P(X > s)$$

Gamma function : $\Gamma(\alpha)$

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty t^{\alpha-1} \exp(-t) dt$$

Expectation and variance of $\text{Exp}(\beta)$ rvs :

The r^{th} moment is defined as $E(X^r)$

$$E(X^r) = \beta \int_0^\infty x^r \exp(-\beta x) dx$$

$$\text{Lemma : } \int_0^\infty x^{r-1} \exp(-\beta x) dx = \frac{\Gamma(r)}{\beta^r}$$

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{\beta} \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \text{ for exponential random variables.}$$

7.3 Gamma Distribution :

A random variable X has a gamma distribution with shape parameter α and rate parameter β if it's

pdf is given by $f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta x) & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

where $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta > 0$. We write $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$

Lemma 7.9 -

$$\int_0^\infty f_X(x) dx = 1$$

r^{th} moment of a gamma random variable.

$$E(X^r) = \frac{\Gamma(r+\alpha)}{\beta^r \Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$$E(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \quad E(X^2) = \frac{(\alpha+1)\alpha}{\beta^2} \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$$

7.4 Normal Distribution -

A random variable X has a normal distribution (Gaussian distribution)

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

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Chapter 8 : (More than one random variable)

8.1 Joint mass probability functions -

Let X and Y be discrete random variables defined on the sample space Ω . The joint probability mass function is

$$p_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X=x, Y=y)$$

Properties :

- * For all x and y $0 \leq p_{X,Y}(x,y) \leq 1$
- * $\sum_{\text{all } xy} p_{X,Y}(x,y) = 1$
- * $P\{(X,Y) \in A\} = \sum_{(x,y) \in A} p_{X,Y}(x,y)$

Marginal probability mass functions:

$$p_X(x) = \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} p_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

$$p_Y(y) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} p_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

8.2 Independence -

Two random variables X and Y are independent if the events $\{X \in A\}$ and $\{Y \in B\}$ are independent for all sets A and B

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = P(X \in A)P(Y \in B)$$

for all sets A, B .

Theorem 8.4 -

Two discrete random variables X and Y are independent iff $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y)$ for all x and y .

If X and Y are discrete random variables the conditional pmfs

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_Y(y)} \quad p_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_X(x)}$$

Theorem 8.8 - Two continuous random variables X and Y are independent iff

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$$

This result is used in likelihood-based estimates in statistics.

8.3 Weak law of large numbers -

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be jointly distributed random variables with finite expectation and variance.

$$\star E(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_n)$$

\star If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are independent

$$\text{Var}(X_1 + X_2 + \dots) = \text{Var}(X_1) + \text{Var}(X_2) + \dots$$

Let X_i be the measured value on the i^{th} experiment.

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n}(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)$$

$$E(\bar{X}) = \mu$$

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$P(|\bar{X} - \mu| > k\sigma) \leq \frac{1}{k^2 n}$$

As n gets large, probability that sample average \bar{X} is more than $k\sigma$ away from expected value decreases to 0. Since k is arbitrary we can say \bar{X} converges to μ . This is called the weak law of large numbers.