L1. Probability review

Outline

- 1. Probability
- 2. Discrete distributions
- 3. Continuous distributions

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- 3. Continuous distributions

Probability as a measure of uncertainty

Probability: A numerical measure of uncertainty

Y: Random variable

y : Data assigned to random variable Y

$$p_Y(Y = y) = p(y)$$
 :Short notation

p(y) if y is continuous, p(y) is probability density function (PDF) if y is discrete, p(y) is probability mass function (PMF)

We going to use p(y) to represent both PDF and PMF

$$Y \sim \operatorname{dist}(\theta)$$
, θ is parameter for distribution $p_Y(Y = y | \theta) = p(y | \theta) = \operatorname{dist}(y | \theta)$ or $p_Y(Y = y; \theta) = p(y; \theta) = \operatorname{dist}(y; \theta)$

Example:

$$Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \to p(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(\mu - y)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta) \to p(y|\theta) = \binom{n}{y} \theta^y (1-\theta)^{n-y}$$

Useful results from Probability Theory for Bayesian Statistics

$$p(u|v) = \frac{p(u,v)}{p(v)}$$

$$p(v) = \int_{u} p(u, v) \ du$$

$$p(u|v) = \frac{p(v|u)p(u)}{\int_{u} p(u,v) du}$$

$$p(u,v) = p(u|v) p(v)$$

$$p(u, v, w) = p(u|v, w)p(v|w)p(w)$$

$$p(u) = \int_{v} p(u|v)p(v) dv, \qquad p(u) = \sum_{v} p(u|v)p(v)$$

Mean and Variance of conditional distributions

$$E(U) = \int up(u)du$$

$$E(g(U)) = \int g(u)p(u)du$$

$$var(U) = \int (u - E(U))^2 p(u) du$$

• $E(U) = E_V(E(U|V))$

$$: E(U) = \int \int up(u,v)dudv = \int \int up(u|v)du \ p(v)dv = \int E(U|v)p(v)dv = E_V(E(U|V))$$

•
$$var(U) = E(var(U|V)) + var(E(U|V))$$

$$var(x) = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

Mean and Variance of conditional distributions (scalar case)

$$E(U) = \int up(u)du$$

$$E(g(U)) = \int g(u)p(u)du$$

$$var(U) = \int (u - E(U))^2 p(u) du$$

•
$$E(U) = E_V(E(U|V))$$

$$: \mathbf{E}(U) = \int \int up(u,v)dudv = \int \int up(u|v)du \ p(v)dv = \int E(U|v)p(v)dv = \mathbf{E}_V(E(U|V))$$

$$p(u,v) = p(u|v)p(v)$$

•
$$var(U) = E(var(U|V)) + var(E(U|V))$$

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

$$\frac{E_{V}(var(U|V)) + var(E(E|V)) = E_{V}(E(U^{2}|V) - (E(U|V))^{2}) + E_{V}((E(U|V))^{2}) - (E_{V}(E(U|V))^{2})}{E_{V}(E(U|V))^{2} + E_{V}((E(U|V))^{2}) - (E(U))^{2}} \\
= E_{V}(U^{2}) - E_{V}((E(U|V))^{2}) + E_{V}((E(U|V))^{2}) - (E(U))^{2} \\
= E(U^{2}) - (E(U))^{2} \\
= var(U)$$

$$p(u|v) = \frac{p(u,v)}{p(v)} = \frac{p(v|u)p(u)}{\int_{v} p(u,v) dv}$$

Given probability

$$p(C) = \frac{1}{100} \rightarrow p(NC) = \frac{99}{100}$$

$$p(+|C) = \frac{90}{100} \rightarrow p(-|C) = \frac{10}{100}$$

$$p(+|NC) = \frac{8}{100} \rightarrow p(-|NC) = \frac{92}{100}$$

$$p(C) : \text{Probability of having cancer}$$

$$p(+|C) : \text{Positive result given no cancer}$$

$$p(+|NC) : \text{Positive result given no cancer}$$

$$p(C|+) = \frac{p(C,+)}{p(+)} = \frac{p(+|C)p(C)}{p(+)}$$

$$= \frac{p(+|C)p(C)}{p(+|C)p(C) + p(+|NC)p(NC)}$$

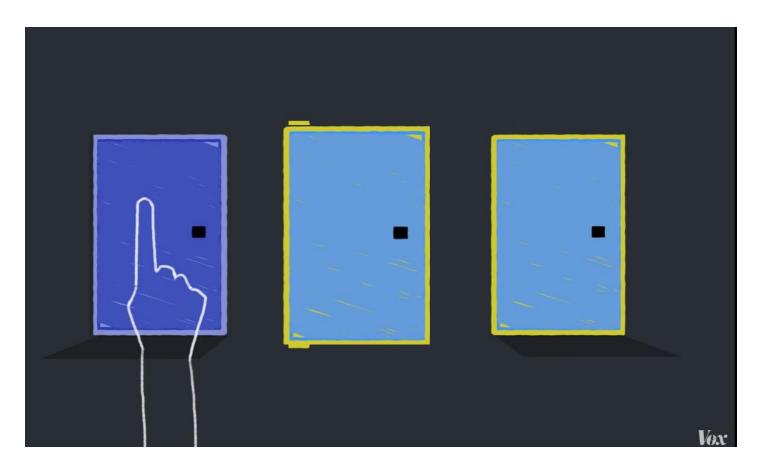
$$= \frac{\frac{90}{100} \times \frac{1}{100}}{\frac{90}{100} \times \frac{1}{100} + \frac{8}{100} \times \frac{99}{100}}$$

$$\approx 0.1$$

Isn't it too low?

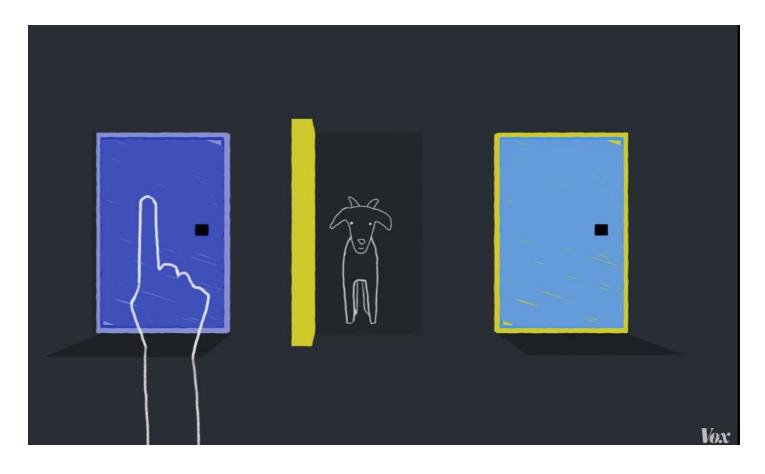


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggDQXlinbME



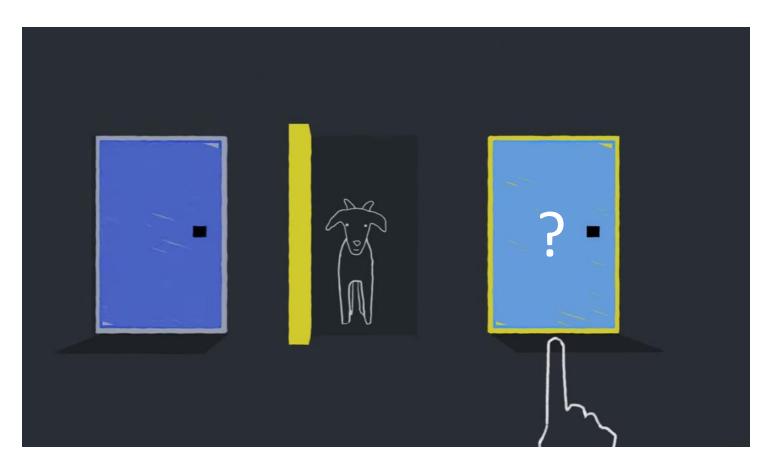


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggDQXlinbME





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggDQXlinbME



Assume we picked up Door 1 and then Monty shows us a goat behind Door 2

Event A: The car is behind Door 1 and

Event B: The Monty shows us a goat behind Door 2 (observation)

Assume we picked up Door 1 and then Monty shows us a goat behind Door 2

Event A: The car is behind Door 1 and

Event B: The Monty shows us a goat behind Door 2

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

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

$$= \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|\text{Car bh D2})P(\text{Car bh D2}) + P(B|\text{Car bh D3})P(\text{Car bh D3})}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} + 0 \times \frac{1}{3} + 1 \times \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

 $P(\sim A|B) = \frac{2}{3}$: Probability that the goat is behind the door 3

Changing the door will double the probability of getting the car!

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The Bernoulli distribution

The probability distribution of a random variable which takes value 1 with success probability and value 0 with failure probability.

Notation

$$Y \sim B(p)$$

$$p_Y(Y = y) = p(y) = B(y|p) = p^y(1-p)^{1-y} \quad \text{for } y \in \{0,1\}$$

Parameters

$$p \in [0,1]$$
: Probability of success

$$E(Y) = p$$
$$var(Y) = p(1 - p)$$

The Binomial Distribution

The distribution on the number of successes in a sequence of n independent yes/no experiments

The total number of heads among n coin tossing

Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

 $p(y) = \text{Bin}(y|n, p) = \binom{n}{y} p^y (1-p)^{n-y} \qquad y \in \{0, 1, ..., n\}:$

Parameters

n > 0: Sample size (number of trials)

 $p \in [0,1]$: Probability of success

Mean and variance

$$E(Y) = np$$
$$var(Y) = np(1 - p)$$

n = 1, the binomial distribution is a Bernoulli distribution

The Poisson Distribution

Expresses the probability of a given number of events occurring in a fixed interval of time or space if these events occur with a known average rate (lambda)

- number of birth per hour on a given day in hospital
- disease cases within a given town
- Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$$

 $P(y) = \text{Poisson}(y|\lambda) = \frac{1}{y!}\lambda^y \exp(-\lambda)$
 $y \in \{0,1,2,...\},$

Parameters

$$\lambda > 0$$
 : rate

$$E(Y) = \lambda$$
$$var(Y) = \lambda$$

The Poisson Distribution

$$\sum_{y} p(y|\lambda) = \sum_{y} \frac{\lambda^{y} e^{-y}}{y!} = e^{-\lambda} \left[1 + \lambda + \frac{\lambda^{2}}{2!} + \frac{\lambda^{2}}{2!} + \cdots \right] = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda} = 1$$

$$\mathrm{E}[Y] = \sum_{y} y \frac{\lambda^{y} e^{-y}}{y!} = e^{-\lambda} \left[\lambda + \lambda^{2} + \frac{\lambda^{3}}{2!} + \frac{\lambda^{4}}{3!} + \cdots \right] = e^{-\lambda} \lambda \left[1 + \lambda + \frac{\lambda^{2}}{2!} + \frac{\lambda^{2}}{2!} + \cdots \right] = \lambda$$

The Geometric Distribution

The probability distribution of the number X of Bernoulli trials needed to get one success

Notation

Y~Geometric(
$$\lambda$$
)
$$p(y) = \text{Geometric}(y|\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)^{y-1}\lambda$$

$$y \in \{0,1,2,...\},$$

Parameters

 $\lambda > 0$: Probability of success

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$
$$var(Y) = \frac{1 - \lambda}{\lambda^2}$$

The Multinomial Distribution

Notation

$$Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_k) \sim \text{Multin}(n, p_1, \dots, p_k) \qquad y = (y_1, \dots, y_k) : \text{Vector!}$$

$$p(y) = \text{Multin}(y|n, p_1, \dots, p_k) = \binom{n}{y_1 \ y_2 \cdots y_k} p_1^{y_1} \cdots p_k^{y_k}$$

$$y_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^k y_i = n$$

Parameters

n > 0: Sample size (number of trials)

 $p_j \in [0,1]$, $\sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i = 1$: Probability of occurrence

$$E(Y_j) = np_j$$

$$var(Y_j) = np_j(1 - p_j)$$

$$cov(Y_i, Y_i) = -np_ip_i$$

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The Uniform Distribution

Notation

$$Y \sim U(\alpha, \beta)$$
$$p(y) = U(y|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha}$$
$$y \in [\alpha, \beta]$$

Parameters

$$\alpha, \beta \ (\beta > \alpha)$$
: Boundaries

$$E(Y) = \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}$$

$$var(Y) = \frac{(\beta - \alpha)^2}{12}$$

Notation

$$Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$p(y) = N(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y-\mu)^2\right)$$
$$y \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

Parameters

 μ : Mean (location)

 $\sigma > 0$: Standard deviation (scale)

$$E(Y) = \mu$$

$$var(Y) = \sigma^2$$

Notation

$$Y = (Y_1, ..., Y_k) \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$p(y) = N(y|\mu, \Sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(y - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(y - \mu)\right)$$

$$y = (y_1, ..., y_k) : \text{Vector!} \quad y_i \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

Parameters

 $\mu = (\mu_i, ..., \mu_k)$: Mean vector

 $\Sigma \geqslant 0$: Positive semi definite covariance matrix, $\Sigma_{i,j} = \text{cov}(x_i, x_j)$

$$E(Y) = \mu$$

$$var(Y) = \Sigma$$

A random vector $X = (X_1, ..., X_k)$ is a Gaussian random vector (or $X_1, ..., X_k$ are jointly Gaussian r.v.s.) if the joint pdf is of the form

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)\right)$$

Property 1: For a GRV, uncorrelation implies independence

This can be verified by substituting $\sigma_{ij}=0$ for all $i\neq j$ in the joint pdf. Then Σ becomes diagonal and so does Σ^{-1} , and the joint pdf reduces to the product of the marginal

$$X_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_{ii})$$

Property 2: Linear transformation of a GRV yields a GRV, i.e., given any $m \times n$ matrix A, where $m \leq n$ and A has full rank m, then

$$Z = AY \sim N(A\mu, A\Sigma A^T)$$

Because

$$E(Z) = E(AY) = AE(Y) = A\mu$$

$$\Sigma_{Z} = E[(Z - E(Z))(Z - E(Z))^{T}]$$

$$= E[(AY - A\mu)(AY - A\mu)^{T}]$$

$$= AE[(Y - \mu)(Y - \mu)^{T}]A^{T}$$

$$= A\Sigma A^{T}$$

(The proof is not complete; we need to show the joint PDF is in a right form

Example: Let

$$Y = N\left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Find the joint pdf of

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} Y$$

Rough proof of Property 2

1. Assume we have a random vector $X = (X_1, ..., X_k)$ is a Gaussian random vector (or $X_1, ..., X_k$ are jointly Gaussian r.v.s.) if the joint pdf is of the form

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\det(\Sigma)|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)\right)$$

2 To compute the probability of the transformed random vector y utilizing the existing pdf $p_X(x)$, there should be one-to-one relationship between X and Y

 $\rightarrow y = Ax$ have a solution only when $m \le n$ and A has full rank m., $x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y$

3. Assuming the left inverse $(A^TA)^{-1}A^T$ is equivalent to A^{-1} , we can compute the pdf for y using $p_X(x)$:

$$p_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|\det(A)|} p_X(A^{-1}y)$$

4. Assuming the left inverse $(A^TA)^{-1}A^T$ is equivalent to A^{-1} , we can compute the pdf for y using $p_X(x)$:

$$p_{Y}(y) = \frac{1}{|\det(A)|} p_{X}(A^{-1}y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{|\det(A)|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{k} |\det(\Sigma)|}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} (A^{-1}y - \mu)^{T} \Sigma^{-1} (A^{-1}y - \mu)\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{k} |\det(A\Sigma A^{T})|}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} (y - A\mu)^{T} (A\Sigma A^{T})^{-1} (y - A\mu)\right]$$

$$\mu_Y = A\mu$$

$$\Sigma_Y = A\Sigma A^T$$

Property 3: Marginal of GRV are Gaussian, i.e., if Y is GRV then for any subset $\{i_1, i_2, ..., i_k\} \subset \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ of indexes, the RV

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} Y_{i_1} \\ Y_{i_2} \\ \vdots \\ Y_{i_k} \end{bmatrix}$$
 is GRV

Converse is not generally true

To show this we use Property 2. For example, let n=3 and $\mathbf{Z}=\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix}$, we can express Z as a linear transformation of Y:

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$Z = N\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{33} \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Property 4: Conditionals of a GRV are Gaussians, more specifically, if

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ - \\ Y_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ - \\ Y_2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} \mid \Sigma_{12} \\ - - - - \\ \Sigma_{21} \mid \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

where Y_1 is k-dim RV and Y_2 is an n-k dim RV, then

$$Y_2|\{Y_1=y\}\sim N(\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(y-\mu_1)+\mu_2,\Sigma_{22}-\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12})$$

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix} \sim N \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ - \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mid 2 \mid 1 \\ - \mid - - \\ 2 \mid 5 \mid 2 \\ 1 \mid 2 \mid 9 \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E\left(\begin{bmatrix} Y_2 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix} \middle| Y_1 = y\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (y - 1) + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2y \\ y + 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma\left(\begin{bmatrix} Y_2 \\ Y_3 \end{bmatrix} \middle| Y_1 = y\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The gamma distribution is frequently used to model waiting times.
- The arrival times in the Poisson process have gamma distributions

Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$p(y) = \text{Gamma}(y | \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta y} \qquad \Gamma(\alpha) = \int_{0}^{\infty} x^{\alpha - 1} e^{-x} dx$$

$$y > 0 \qquad \qquad \text{Gamma function } \Gamma(\alpha) \text{ is } \beta$$

Gamma function $\Gamma(\alpha)$ is a normalization constant to ensure that the total probability integrates to 1.

Parameters

 $\alpha > 0$: Shape parameter

 $\beta > 0$: Rate parameter (Inverse scale)

$$E(Y) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$
$$var(Y) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$$

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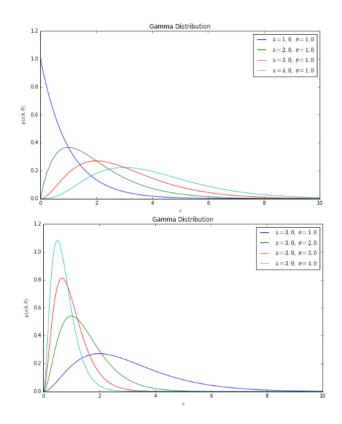
$$y > 0$$

Parameters

 $\alpha > 0$: Shape parameters

 $\beta > 0$: Inverse scale (rate) parameters

$$E(Y) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$
$$var(Y) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$$



- The gamma distribution is frequently used to model waiting times.
- The arrival times in the Poisson process have gamma distributions

$$Y \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$p(y) = \text{Gamma}(y | \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta y}$$

$$v > 0$$

Properties

- $\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha 1} e^{-x} dx$
- $\int_0^\infty x^{\alpha 1} e^{-\lambda x} dx = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\lambda^{\alpha}} \text{ for } \lambda > 0$
- $\Gamma(\alpha + 1) = \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$
- $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$, for n = 1,2,3,...

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta y} dy = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{0}^{\infty} y^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta y} dy$$
$$= \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\beta^{\alpha}} = 1$$

$$E(Y) = \int_{0}^{\infty} y \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta y} dy$$

$$= \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{0}^{\infty} y^{\alpha} e^{-\beta y} dy$$

$$= \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{\beta^{\alpha+1}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta^{\alpha+1}}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} y^{\alpha} e^{-\beta y} dy$$

$$= \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)}{\beta^{\alpha+1}} \qquad \because \Gamma(\alpha+1) = \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$$

$$= \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

$$Gamma(y|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta y}$$

$$Gamma(y|\alpha+1,\beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha+1}}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} y^{\alpha+1-1} e^{-\beta y}$$

The Exponential Distribution

- Model the time between the occurrence of events in an interval of time, or the distance between events in space.
 - ✓ The duration of a phone call to a help center
 - ✓ The time between successive failures of a machine
- The exponential random variable can be viewed as a continuous analogue of the geometric distribution

Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$

 $p(y) = \text{Exp}(y|\lambda) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda y} & y \ge 0 \\ 0 & y < 0 \end{cases}$

Parameters

$$\lambda > 0$$
: the rate parameter

Mean, variance and mode

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$
$$var(Y) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$Gamma(1, \lambda) = Exp(\lambda)$$

The Beta Distribution

The beta distribution is a suitable model for the random behavior of percentages and proportions (i.e., a distribution of probabilities)

Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \qquad Y \in [0,1]$$

$$p(y) = \text{Beta}(y|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} y^{\alpha-1} (1-y)^{\beta-1}$$

$$B(\alpha, \beta) = \int_0^1 x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1} dx \qquad \text{Beta function } B(\alpha, \beta) \text{ is a normalization constant to ensure that the total probability integrates to 1.}$$

$$B(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}$$

Parameters

$$\alpha, \beta > 0$$
: Shape parameters

$$E(Y) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$$
$$var(Y) = \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)}$$

The Inverse Gamma Distribution

- the distribution of the reciprocal of a variable distributed according to the gamma distribution
- Widely used for Bayesian statistics

Notation

$$Y \sim \text{Inv} - \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$$
 $Y > 0$
 $p(y) = \text{Inv} - \text{Gamma}(y | \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{-(\alpha+1)} e^{-\beta/y}$

Parameters

 $\alpha > 0$: Shape parameters

 $\beta > 0$: Inverse scale (rate) parameters

$$E(Y) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha - 1} \quad \text{for } \alpha > 1$$

$$var(Y) = \frac{\beta^2}{(\alpha - 1)^2 (\alpha - 2)} \quad \text{for } \alpha > 2$$

The Dirichlet Distribution

- Multivariate generalization of the Beta distribution
- Probability distribution of probability distribution

$$\begin{array}{ll} \theta \sim \mathrm{Beta}(\alpha,\beta) & 0 \leq \theta \leq 1 \\ Y \sim \mathrm{Bin}(n,\theta) & Y = (Y_1,\ldots,Y_k) \sim \mathrm{Multin}(n,\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_k) \end{array} \qquad \Sigma_i^k \theta_i = 1$$

Notation

$$Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_k) \sim \text{Dirichlet}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$$

$$p(y) = \text{Dirichlet}(y | \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha)} y_1^{\alpha_1 - 1} \dots y_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}$$

$$B(\alpha) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \dots \Gamma(\alpha_k)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \dots, \alpha_k)}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_k)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \dots \Gamma(\alpha_k)} y_1^{\alpha_1 - 1} \dots y_k^{\alpha_k - 1}$$

$$B(\alpha) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \dots \Gamma(\alpha_k)}{\Gamma(\alpha_0)}$$

$$y=(y_1,...,y_k)$$
 is a probability simplex : $y_j \in [0,1], \quad \sum_{j=1}^k y_j = 1$

Parameters

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k), \alpha_i > 0, \quad \alpha_0 = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i$$

$$E(Y_j) = \frac{\alpha_j}{\alpha_0}, \quad var(Y_j) = \frac{\alpha_j(\alpha_0 - \alpha_j)}{\alpha_0^2(\alpha_0 + 1)}$$

The Dirichlet Distribution

