

**1. Permutations and combinations**

There are  $n! = \prod_{i=1}^n i = 1.2.3.4 \dots n$  permutations of  $n$  objects.

There are  $\binom{n}{k} = n!/(k!(n-k)!)$  ways of choosing a given  $k$  objects from  $n$ .

**2. Joint and conditional probabilities**

If  $C$  and  $D$  are any events:  $P(C \cup D) = P(C) + P(D) - P(C \cap D)$ .

The conditional probability of  $C$  given  $D$  is  $P(C | D) = P(C \cap D) / P(D)$ .

$C$  and  $D$  are independent if  $P(C \cap D) = P(C).P(D)$ .

**3. Laws and theorems**

Suppose  $E_1, \dots, E_k$  is a partition of  $\Omega$ . That is  $E_i \cap E_j$  is empty, and  $E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_k = \Omega$ .

The law of total probability states that:  $P(D) = \sum_{j=1}^k P(D \cap E_j) = \sum_{j=1}^k P(D | E_j) P(E_j)$

Bayes' Theorem states that:  $P(E_i | D) = P(D | E_i) P(E_i) / P(D)$

**4. Random variables and distributions**

	discrete (mass)	continuous (density)
Probability mass/density function	pmf: $P(X = x) = p_X(x)$	pdf: $f_X(x)$
Probability $P(X \in B)$	$\sum_{x \in B} p_X(x)$	$\int_{x \in B} f_X(x) dx$
Cumulative dist. func. CDF, $P(X \leq x)$	$F_X(x) = \sum_{w \leq x} p_X(w)$	$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(w) dw$
Joint mass/density func. of $(X, Y)$	$p_{X,Y}(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$	$f_{X,Y}(x, y)$
Marginal mass/density of $X$	$p_X(x) = \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x, y)$	$f_X(x) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy$
Independence of $X$ and $Y$	$p_{X,Y}(x, y) = P(X = x)P(Y = y)$	$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$
Must hold for all $x$ and all $y$		

**5. Moments of random variables:** (provided the relevant sums/integrals converge absolutely.)

Expectation: $E(X)$	$\sum_x x P(X = x)$	$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$
$E(g(X))$	$\sum_x g(x) P(X = x)$	$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx$

**For any random variables  $X$ :**

Variance:  $\text{var}(X) = E((X - E(X))^2) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$

Note also:

$$\begin{aligned} E(aX + b) &= a E(X) + b, \\ \text{var}(aX + b) &= a^2 \text{var}(X). \end{aligned}$$

**For any random variables  $X, Y, Z$  and  $W$ :**

Covariance:  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = E((X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$

Correlation:  $\rho(X, Y) = \text{cov}(X, Y) / \sqrt{\text{var}(X)\text{var}(Y)}$ ,  $-1 \leq \rho(X, Y) \leq 1$

Note also:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X + Y) &= E(X) + E(Y), \\ \text{var}(X + Y) &= \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y) + 2\text{cov}(X, Y) \\ \text{cov}(aX + b, cW + d) &= ac \text{cov}(X, W), \\ \text{cov}(X + Y, W + Z) &= \text{cov}(X, W) + \text{cov}(X, Z) + \text{cov}(Y, W) + \text{cov}(Y, Z) \end{aligned}$$

6. Standard distributions:	pmf or pdf	mean	variance
(a) Binomial; $B(n, p)$ index $n$ , parameter $p$	$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$ $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$	$np$	$np(1-p)$
(b) Hypergeometric $(N, k, n)$ ; sample $n$ from $N$ , $p = k/N$	$P(X = x) = \binom{k}{x} \binom{N-k}{n-x} / \binom{N}{n}$ $x = \min(0, k+n-N), \dots, \max(n, k)$	$nk/N \equiv np$	$np(1-p) \frac{N-n}{N-1}$
(c) Poisson with parameter $\mu$ , $Po(\mu)$	$P(X = x) = \exp(-\mu) \mu^x / x!$ $x = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$	$\mu$	$\mu$
(d) Geometric; $Geom(p)$ ; parameter $p$	$P(X = k) = p(1-p)^{k-1}$ $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$	$1/p$	$(1-p)/p^2$
(e) Neg. Binomial; $NegB(r, p)$ ; index $r$ , parameter $p$	$P(X = k) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}$ $k = r, r+1, r+2, \dots$	$r/p$	$r(1-p)/p^2$
(f) Multinomial: $Mn(n, (p_1, \dots, p_k))$ $\sum_i p_i = 1 \quad \sum_i n_i = n$	$P(X_i = n_i, i = 1, \dots, k) =$ $(n! / (n_1! \dots n_k!)) p_1^{n_1} \dots p_k^{n_k}$	$X_i \sim Bin(n, p_i), i = 1, \dots, k$	
(g) Uniform on $(a, b)$ ; $U(a, b)$ ;	$f_X(x) = 1/(b-a), \quad a < x < b$	$(b+a)/2$	$(b-a)^2/12$
(h) Exponential; $\mathcal{E}(\lambda)$ rate parameter $\lambda$	$f_X(x) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda x)$ $0 \leq x < \infty$	$1/\lambda$	$1/\lambda^2$
(j) Normal; $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$	$f_X(x) = (1/\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}) \exp(-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2)$ $-\infty < x < \infty$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$