

202unsold-bootstrap

B-MAT-400

Previously: random experiments

- Random experiment: procedure with a set of outcomes
- Ω : set of outcomes (sample space)
- ω : a specific outcome
- $P(\omega)$: probability of the outcome
- Event: subset of sample space
- $P(A) = \sum_{\omega \in A} P(\omega)$ (outcomes are mutually exclusives)

Discrete random variables

- Random variable: values that depends on the outcome of an experiment
 - Example: sum of 2 dice rolls
- Defined as function $X: \Omega \rightarrow E$
 - In the previous example, $E = \{2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12\}$
- If E is countable, X is a discrete random variable
 - The sum of 2 dice rolls is a discrete random variable

Probability distribution (law)

- Function that maps every value of a random variable to its probability

$$p(x) = P(X = x), x \in E$$

- Example: sum of 2 dice roll($X = x$)

$$p(2) = p(12) = \frac{1}{36} \qquad p(3) = p(11) = \frac{2}{36}$$

$$p(4) = p(10) = \frac{3}{36} \qquad p(5) = p(9) = \frac{4}{36}$$

$$p(6) = p(8) = \frac{5}{36} \qquad p(7) = \frac{6}{36}$$

- Probability of rolling less than 5:

$$P(X \leq 5) = \sum_{x \leq 5} p(x) = p(2) + p(3) + p(4) + p(5) = \frac{10}{36}$$

Joint probability distribution (joint law)

- Probability distribution for multiple random variables

$$p(x, y) = P((X = x) \cap (Y = y)), x \in E, y \in F$$

- Example: sum (X) and product (Y) of 2 dice rolls:

$$p(5,6) = \frac{2}{36}$$

$$p(6,9) = \frac{1}{36}$$

$$p(7,8) = 0$$

- Tip: For two discrete random variables, the distribution can be nicely presented in a two dimensional array

Marginal distribution (marginal law)

- Deducing the probability distribution of a random variable from a joint distribution

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(x) = P(X = x) &= \sum_{y \in F} P((X = x) \cap (Y = y)) \\ &= \sum_{y \in F} p(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

- Example: rolling 2 dice and getting 6 as a product

$$p_Y(6) = \sum_{x=2}^{12} p(x, 6) = p(5, 6) + p(7, 6) = \frac{4}{36}$$

Expected value

- The expected value of random variable is the weighted average of all possible values, with the probability as the weights

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in E} x \cdot p(x)$$

- Example: expected value of the sum of 2 dice rolls:

$$E[X] = 2 \frac{1}{36} + 3 \frac{2}{36} + 4 \frac{3}{36} + \dots + 11 \frac{2}{36} + 12 \frac{1}{36} = 7$$

Variance

- Measures how far from the expected value a random variable can deviate
- It is the expected value of the squared deviation of X from its expected value:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E[(X - E[X])^2] \\ &= \sum_{x \in E} (x - E[X])^2 \cdot p(x) \\ &= \left(\sum_{x \in E} x^2 \cdot p(x) \right) - E[X]^2 \end{aligned}$$

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- Compute the probability distribution of three random variables, their expected values and variance
 - X : price of a jacket (\$10, \$20, \$30, \$40, \$50)
 - Y : price of trousers (\$10, \$20, \$30, \$40, \$50)
 - Z : price of a suit (jacket and trousers)
- Given only the following joint probability distribution

$$p(x, y) = \frac{(a - x)(b - y)}{(5a - 150)(5b - 150)}$$

Exercises

- Implement a function that takes a, b, x, y as parameters and returns the value of $p(x, y)$
- Implement a function that takes a, b, x as parameters and returns the value of $p_X(x)$
- Implement a function that takes a, b, z as parameters and returns the value of $P(Z = z)$
 - Tip: $Z = X + Y$
- Implement a function that takes an array of values and probabilities and returns the expected value and the variance