

Subject: Probability Theory

Topic: Conditional Probability

Given:

(X, Y, Z) be discrete random variables.

Statements:

- $p_{\{X,Y,Z\}}(x, y, z) = p_Y(y)p_{\{Z|Y\}}(z|y)p_{\{X|Y,Z\}}(x|y, z)$
- $p_{\{X,Y,Z\}}(x, y|z) = p_X(x)p_{\{Y|Z\}}(y|z)$
- $p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = p_{\{X|Z\}}(x|z)p_{\{Y|X,Z\}}(y|x, z)$
- $\sum_x p_{\{X|Y,Z\}}(x|y, z) = 1$
- $\sum_y \sum_x p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = 1$
- $p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = \frac{p_{\{X,Y,Z\}}(x, y, z)}{p_{\{Z\}}(z)}$
- $p_{\{X|Y,Z\}}(x|y, z) = \frac{p_{\{X,Y,Z\}}(x, y, z)}{p_{\{Y,Z\}}(y, z)}$

Analysis:

1. Statement:

$$p_{\{X,Y,Z\}}(x, y, z) = p_Y(y)p_{\{Z|Y\}}(z|y)p_{\{X|Y,Z\}}(x|y, z)$$

True

Explanation: This is the chain rule for joint probability distribution, which breaks down a joint probability into the product of conditional probabilities.

2. Statement:

$$p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = p_X(x)p_{\{Y|Z\}}(y|z)$$

False

Explanation: This statement would be true if (X) and (Y) were independent given (Z) , which is not generally the case unless specified.

3. Statement:

$$p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = p_{\{X|Z\}}(x|z)p_{\{Y|X,Z\}}(y|x, z)$$

True

Explanation: This is another form of the chain rule for conditional probabilities, expressing a joint conditional in terms of nested conditionals.

4. Statement:

$$\sum_x p_{\{X|Y,Z\}}(x|y, z) = 1$$

True

Explanation: The sum of the conditional probabilities over all possible values of (X) given (y) and (z) must equal 1 by the law of total probability.

5. Statement:

$$\sum_y \sum_x p_{\{X,Y|Z\}}(x, y|z) = 1$$

True

Explanation: The sum of the joint conditional probabilities over all possible values of (X) and (Y) given (z) must be 1 by the law of total probability.

6. Statement:

$$p_{X,Y|Z}(x, y | z) = \frac{p_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z)}{p_Z(z)}$$

True

Explanation: This is the definition of conditional probability, decomposing the joint distribution by dividing it over the marginal distribution of Z .

7. Statement:

$$p_{X|Y,Z}(x | y, z) = \frac{p_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z)}{p_{Y,Z}(y, z)}$$

True

Explanation: This is the definition of conditional probability for the variable X given Y and Z , dividing the joint distribution over the marginal distribution of Y and Z .

Final Solution:

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. True