

MEAN & VARIANCE

Mean of a R.v. X or Expected Value of X .

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$$

(~~denoted~~ denoted as μ or μ_X)

Recall, for a discrete valued r.v., the density can be written as

$$f_X(x) = \sum_i p_i \delta(x - x_i) \quad \text{where}$$

also, $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \delta(x - x_i) dx = x_i$

$P(X = x_i) = p_i$
comes from
PMF

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = \sum_i p_i x_i, \quad \text{where } p_i = P(X = x_i) \quad (\text{PMF})$$

for a discrete R.v.

Eg. $X \sim \text{Unif}(a, b) \longrightarrow f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & a < x < b \\ 0 & \text{o.w} \end{cases}$

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = \int_a^b x \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{(b-a)} \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_a^b = \frac{(b^2 - a^2)}{2(b-a)} = \frac{(b+a)}{2}$$

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eg X is discrete r.v. taking values 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, each with probability $1/6$

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^6 P_i x_i = \sum_{i=1}^6 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) x_i = \frac{1}{6} (1+2+\dots+6) = 3.5$$

CONDITIONAL MEAN

Conditional Mean of a r.v. X assuming an event M is given by

$$E(X|M) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \underbrace{f_x(x|M)}_{\text{conditional density}} dx$$

For discrete valued r.v.'s,

$$E(X|M) = \sum_i x_i \underbrace{P(X=x_i|M)}_{\text{Conditional PMF}}$$

Frequency Interpretation of Mean

Suppose a random experiment is associated with a r.v. X

Exp. is conducted N times and the outcomes are ~~$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_N$~~
 $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$

Suppose X takes M values x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M
(r.v.)

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$$\overline{X} = \frac{x^{(1)} + x^{(2)} + \dots + x^{(N)}}{N}$$

\uparrow

average
of
outcomes

$$= \frac{n_1 x_1 + n_2 x_2 \dots + n_M x_M}{N}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^M x_i \left(\frac{n_i}{N} \right), \quad n_i = \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ of times} \\ x_i \text{ is} \\ \text{the} \\ \text{outcome} \end{array}$$

for N large. $\rightarrow \frac{n_i}{N} \rightarrow P(X=x_i)$

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^M x_i P(X=x_i)$$

Mean of $g(x)$

$$Y = g(X) \Rightarrow E(Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y) dy$$

this is
approach 1, i.e.
find CDF/PDF
of Y &
then find its
Mean

Another approach

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

i.e., to find the mean of $g(x)$, one does
not necessarily need to obtain the PDF of $g(x)$.

Similarly, for discrete valued r.v.

$$E[g(x)] = \sum_i g(x_i) P(X=x_i)$$

IMPORTANT PROPERTY of MEAN

LINEARITY: For ANY n r.v.'s X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n

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

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Notations $\Rightarrow \text{Var}(X), \sigma_x^2$

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VARIANCE of a Random Variable

For a R.v. X with mean $\mu = E(X)$, the variance is defined as

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma_x^2 \triangleq E[(X - \mu)^2] > 0$$

Interpretation: For a R.v. X with a mean μ ,

- * $(X - \mu) \rightarrow$ represents the deviation from the mean
- * This deviation could be positive or negative
- * Expected value of $\underbrace{(\text{deviation})^2}_{\text{or } (X - \mu)^2} = \text{Variance}$

or Expected Squared Deviation
 \Leftrightarrow Variance.

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)} = \sqrt{E[(X - \mu)^2]}$$

\uparrow
Standard deviation

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represents the Root of the mean-squared deviation of X around its mean μ .

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$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$$

$$= E[X^2 - 2\mu X + \mu^2]$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2E[\mu X] + E[\mu^2]$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2\mu E[X] + \mu^2$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2\mu \times \mu + \mu^2$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2\mu^2 + \mu^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(X) &= E[X^2] - \mu^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - (E(X))^2\end{aligned}$$

~~Constatly~~ Since
 $\text{Var}(X) \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E(X^2) \geq (E(X))^2} \quad \text{this holds for any random variable } X.$$

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(Uniform)

Eg: $X \sim \text{unif}(-c, c) \Rightarrow \mu = E(x) = \int_{-c}^c 1 \cdot dx = \underset{=0}{c-c}$
 i.e. $\mu = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sigma^2 &= E(x^2) - \mu^2 \\ &= E(x^2) - 0 = E(x^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-c}^c \frac{x^2}{2c} dx = \frac{1}{2c} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} \right) \Big|_{-c}^c = \frac{2c^3}{2 \times 3c} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\sigma^2 = \frac{c^2}{3}}$$

Eg: $X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } p \\ 0 & \text{w.p. } q = (1-p) \end{cases}$

(Bernoulli)

$$\mu = E(x) = 1 \times p + 0 \times q = p$$

$$E(x^2) = 1^2 \times p + 0^2 \times q = p$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sigma^2 &= E(x^2) - (E(x))^2 \\ &= p - p^2 = p(1-p) = pq \end{aligned}$$

Eg (Poisson)

$$P(X=k) = e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}, \quad k=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$E(X) = \lambda$$

$$E(X^2) = \lambda^2 + \lambda$$

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X) = \lambda$$

To prove the above:

$$e^{\lambda} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \quad (\text{Taylor expansion of } e^{\lambda})$$

Differentiate w.r.t. λ

$$e^{\lambda} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^{k-1}}{k!} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \cdot \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{k \cdot \lambda^k}{k!} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda} \cdot \lambda^k}{k!} \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \cdot P(X=k) = E(X) \end{aligned}$$

Again differentiate w.r.t λ

$$e^{\lambda} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k(k-1) \lambda^{k-2}}{k!}$$

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$$e^{\lambda} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \right) = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(- \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \right) \quad \text{(again differentiate w.r.t. } \lambda \text{)}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\lambda} = -\frac{1}{\lambda^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^{k-1}}{k!}$$

$$e^{\lambda} = -\frac{1}{\lambda^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^{k-1}}{k!}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k^2 \lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}}{\lambda^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k^2 \lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}}_{\downarrow E(X^2)} = \lambda^2 + \underbrace{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k \lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} \right)}_{\Rightarrow E(X) = \lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X^2) = \lambda^2 + \lambda$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{Var}(X) &= E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 \\ &= \lambda^2 + \lambda - \lambda^2 = \lambda \end{aligned}$$