

Show all of your work, and *please* staple your assignment if you use more than one sheet. Write your name, student ID, the course number, and the section on every sheet. Problems marked with \* will be graded and one additional randomly chosen problem will be graded.

1. \* Consider the following joint distribution for the weather in two consecutive days. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be the random variables for the weather in the first and the second days, with the weather coded as 0 for sunny, 1 for cloudy, and 2 for rainy.

X \ Y	Y		
	0	1	2
0	0.3	0.1	0.1
1	0.2	0.1	0
2	0.1	0.1	0

- Find the marginal probability mass functions for  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- Calculate the expectation and variance for  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- Calculate the covariance and correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$ . Are they correlated?
- Are the weather in two consecutive days independent?

**Answer:**

- (a) The marginal distributions for  $X$  and  $Y$  are

$x$	0	1	2
$p_X(x)$	0.5	0.3	0.2

$y$	0	1	2
$p_Y(y)$	0.6	0.3	0.1

- (b) The expectation and variance are

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X) &= (0)(0.5) + (1)(0.3) + (2)(0.2) = 0.7 \\
 E(X^2) &= (0)^2(0.5) + (1)^2(0.3) + (2)^2(0.2) = 1.1 \\
 Var(X) &= E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2 = 1.1 - 0.7^2 = 0.61 \\
 E(Y) &= (0)(0.6) + (1)(0.3) + (2)(0.1) = 0.5 \\
 E(Y^2) &= (0)^2(0.6) + (1)^2(0.3) + (2)^2(0.1) = 0.7 \\
 Var(Y) &= E(Y^2) - [E(Y)]^2 = 0.7 - 0.5^2 = 0.45
 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) We have:

$$Cov(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(XY) &= (0)(0)(0.3) + (0)(1)(0.5) + (0)(2)(0.1) \\
 &\quad + (1)(0)(0.2) + (1)(1)(0.1) + (1)(2)(0) \\
 &\quad + (2)(0)(0.1) + (2)(1)(0.1) + (2)(2)(0) \\
 &= 0.3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$Cov(X, Y) = .3 - (.7)(.5) = -0.05$$

$$\rho = Corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var(X)Var(Y)}} = \frac{-0.05}{\sqrt{(0.61)(0.45)}} = -0.095$$

- (d)  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent since  $Cov(X, Y) = -0.05 \neq 0$ ,  
or  
 $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent since

$$0 = \mathbb{P}(X = 2, Y = 2) \neq \mathbb{P}(X = 2)\mathbb{P}(Y = 2) = 0.2 \times 0.1 = 0.02$$

2. \* Using the joint distribution table given in problem 1, calculate the following probabilities:

- (a)  $\mathbb{P}(X = Y)$
- (b)  $\mathbb{P}(X < Y)$
- (c)  $\mathbb{P}(X > Y)$
- (d) Probability that the weather is sunny on two consecutive days.
- (e) Probability that the weather is cloudy on the first day, and rainy on the second day.

**Answer:**

- (a)  $\mathbb{P}(X = Y) = 0.3 + 0.1 + 0 = 0.4$
- (b)  $\mathbb{P}(X < Y) = 0.1 + 0.1 = 0.2$
- (c)  $\mathbb{P}(X > Y) = 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 0 = 0.4$
- (d)  $\mathbb{P}(X = 0, Y = 0) = 0.3$
- (e)  $\mathbb{P}(X = 1, Y = 2) = 0$

3. Suppose a fair coin is tossed 3 times. Let  $X$  = the number of heads on the last toss, and let  $Y$  = the total number of heads in the 3 tosses.

- (a) Write down the joint PMF for  $X$  and  $Y$  in table form.
- (b) Give  $p_X(x)$  and  $p_Y(y)$  in table form.
- (c) Find  $\mathbb{P}(Y = 1|X = 1)$ .
- (d) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent? Explain your answer.

**Answer:**

- (a) The joint PMF for  $X$  and  $Y$  is

$X \backslash Y$	0	1	2	3
0	1/8	2/8	1/8	0
1	0	1/8	2/8	1/8

- (b)

$x$	0	1
$p_X(x)$	1/2	1/2

$y$	0	1	2	3
$p_Y(y)$	1/8	3/8	3/8	1/8

- (c)

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1|X = 1) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(Y = 1, X = 1)}{\mathbb{P}(X = 1)} = \frac{1/8}{1/2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

- (d) No,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent since

$$p_{X,Y}(0,3) = 0 \neq (1/2)(1/8) = p_X(0)p_Y(3)$$

4. Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are two random variables and their joint pmf is given by this table:

$X \backslash Y$	2	3	4
1	1/12	1/6	0
2	1/6	0	1/3
3	1/12	1/6	0

- (a) Find the marginal probability mass functions for  $X$  and  $Y$ .  
 (b) Show that  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent.  
 (c) Give a joint probability table (like we have above for  $X$  and  $Y$ ) for random variables  $U$  and  $V$  that have the same marginal distributions as  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively *but are* independent.

**Answer:**

(a)

$x$	1	2	3
$p_X(x)$	1/4	1/2	1/4

$y$	2	3	4
$p_Y(y)$	1/3	1/3	1/3

(b)  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent since

$$p_{X,Y}(2,3) = 0 \neq (1/2)(1/3) = p_X(2)p_Y(3)$$

(c)  $U$  and  $V$  have the same marginal distribution as  $X$  and  $Y$ . So, their marginal probabilities are:

$u$	1	2	3
$p_U(u)$	1/4	1/2	1/4

$v$	2	3	4
$p_V(v)$	1/3	1/3	1/3

In order for  $U$  and  $V$  to be independent, we need  $p_{U,V}(u,v) = p_U(u)p_V(v)$  for all  $(u,v)$  pairs. So, we construct the joint probability table for  $U$  and  $V$  as

- $p_{U,V}(1,2) = p_U(1)p_V(2) = (1/4)(1/3) = 1/12$
- $p_{U,V}(1,3) = p_U(1)p_V(3) = (1/4)(1/3) = 1/12$
- ...

$U \backslash V$	2	3	4
1	1/12	1/12	1/12
2	1/6	1/6	1/6
3	1/12	1/12	1/12

5. \* Suppose a continuous random variable  $X$  has the following probability density function

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} cx & 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the value of  $c$  that makes  $f_X(x)$  a valid probability density function. (Recall a property that a PDF must have)  
 (b) Give the CDF,  $F_X(x)$ .  
 (c) Find  $\mathbb{P}(0.5 \leq X \leq 1.5)$  using  $f_X(x)$ .  
 (d) Find  $\mathbb{P}(1 \leq X \leq 2)$  using  $F_X(x)$ .  
 (e) Find the value of  $x$  such that the probability of being less than  $x$  is .75  
 (f) Find  $\mathbb{E}(X)$ .  
 (g) Find  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Answer:**

- (a) For a PDF to be valid,  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x)dx = 1$ . We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^2 cx &= 1 \\ \frac{cx^2}{2} \Big|_0^2 &= 2c \\ \rightarrow 2c &= 1 \rightarrow c = \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

So the final valid PDF is

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b)  $X < 0 \rightarrow F_X(x) = 0, x > 2 \rightarrow F_X(x) = 1$ . For  $x \in [0, 2]$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned}F_X(t) &= P(X \leq t) \\ &= \int_0^t \frac{x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{x^2}{4} \Big|_0^t \\ &= \frac{t^2}{4}\end{aligned}$$

$$F_X(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \frac{t^2}{4} & 0 \leq t \leq 2 \\ 1 & t > 2 \end{cases}$$

$$(c) \int_{.5}^{1.5} \frac{x}{2} dx = \frac{x^2}{4} \Big|_{.5}^{1.5} = \frac{1.5^2}{4} - \frac{.5^2}{4} = .5625 - .0625 = 0.50$$

$$(d) \mathbb{P}(1 \leq X \leq 2) = F_X(2) - F_X(1) = \frac{2^2}{4} - \frac{1^2}{4} = 1 - .25 = 0.75$$

- (e) We want  $x$  such that  $\mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = .75$ . Set the CDF = .75 and solve for  $x$ .  
 $\frac{x^2}{4} = .75 \rightarrow x = \sqrt{4(.75)} = 1.73$

$$(f) \mathbb{E}(X) = \int_0^2 x f_X(x) dx = \int_0^2 \frac{x^2}{2} dx = \frac{x^3}{6} \Big|_0^2 = \frac{8}{6}$$

- (g) We already have  $\mathbb{E}(X)$ , we just need  $\mathbb{E}(X^2)$  and can use the short cut formula for variance.

$$\mathbb{E}(X^2) = \int_0^2 x^2 f_X(x) dx = \int_0^2 \frac{x^3}{2} dx = \frac{x^4}{8} \Big|_0^2 = 2$$

$$\text{So, } Var(X) = \mathbb{E}(X^2) - [\mathbb{E}(X)]^2 = 2 - \left(\frac{8}{6}\right)^2 = .222$$

6. A supplier of kerosene has a 150-gallon tank that is filled at the beginning of each week. His weekly demand shows a relative frequency behavior that increases steadily up to 100 gallons and then levels off between 100 and 150 gallons. If  $X$  denotes weekly demand in hundreds of gallons, the relative frequency of demand can be modeled by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1 & 1 < x \leq 1.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find  $F_X(x)$ . (Remember to cover all cases)  
 (b) Find  $\mathbb{P}(0.5 \leq X \leq 1.2)$ .

(c) Find  $\mathbb{E}(X)$ .

**Answer:**

(a)  $X < 0 \rightarrow F_X(x) = 0, x > 1.5 \rightarrow F_X(x) = 1$ .

For  $x \in [0, 1]$  we have  $\int_0^t x dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^t = \frac{t^2}{2}$

For  $x \in [1, 1.5]$  we have  $\int_0^1 x dx + \int_1^t 1 dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^1 + x \Big|_1^t = t - \frac{1}{2}$

$$F_X(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \frac{t^2}{2} & 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ t - \frac{1}{2} & 1 < t \leq 1.5 \\ 1 & t > 1.5 \end{cases}$$

(b)  $\mathbb{P}(0.5 \leq X \leq 1.2) = F_X(1.2) - F_X(.5) = (1.2 - \frac{1}{2}) - (.5^2/2) = 0.575$

(c) We have to be careful because the PDF has two parts:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(X) &= \int_0^{1.5} x f_X(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x^2 dx + \int_1^{1.5} x dx \\ &= \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_0^1 + \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_1^{1.5} \\ &= \frac{23}{24} = .9583 \end{aligned}$$