

Lecture 12:  
Discrete Random Variables - Part VI

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# Independent r.v.s

- ▶ The random variables that are independent and have the same distribution are called independent and identically distributed, or i.i.d.
- ▶ There are four possibilities for two random variables:
  1. Independent and identically distributed
  2. Independent and not identically distributed
  3. Dependent and identically distributed
  4. Dependent and not identically distributed
- ▶ Example 1 (independent and identically distributed): Let  $X$  be the result of a dice roll, and let  $Y$  be the result of a second, independent dice roll. Then  $X$  and  $Y$  are i.i.d. } *same dice*  
*fair dice : support :  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$   $P(X=x) = \frac{1}{6}, \forall x \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$   
 $P(Y=y) = \frac{1}{6}, \forall y \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$*
- ▶ If  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ , then we can write  $X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$  where  $X_i$ 's are i.i.d.  $\text{Bern}(p)$ .

Independent r.v.s *fair dice : support :  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$   $P(X=x) = \frac{1}{6}, \forall x \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$   
*fair coin : support :  $\{0, 1\}$   $P(Y=y) = \frac{1}{2}, \forall y \in \{0, 1\}$ .**

- ▶ **Example 2 (independent and not identically distributed):** Let  $X$  be the result of a dice roll, and let  $Y$  be the number of heads in one coin flip (1 for  $H$  and 0 for  $T$ ). Then  $X$  and  $Y$  provide no information about each other, and  $X$  and  $Y$  do not have the same distribution.

- ▶ **Example 3 (dependent and identically distributed):** Let  $X$  be the number of  $H$ 's in  $n$  independent fair coin tosses, and let  $Y$  be the number of  $T$ 's in those same  $n$  tosses. Then  $X$  and  $Y$  are both distributed  $\text{Bin}(n, 1/2)$ , but they are highly dependent: if we know  $X$ , then we know  $Y$  perfectly.

e.g.,  $P(X=0) = (1-p)^n, P(Y=0) = p^n$

$$\Rightarrow P(X=0) \cdot P(Y=0) = p^n (1-p)^n$$

However,  $P(X=0, Y=0) = 0 \Rightarrow P(X=0) \cdot P(Y=0) \neq P(X=0, Y=0)$   
 $\Rightarrow X$  and  $Y$  are not independent

# Independent r.v.s

- ▶ **Example 4 (dependent and not identically distributed):** Let  $X$  be the number on a fair dice and let  $Y$  be the indicator random variable whether the number is odd. Then  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent, and  $X$  and  $Y$  do not have the same distribution.

- ▶  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent: In fact,  $Y$  is a function of  $X$

$$P(Y = \text{"odd"} | X = 2) = 0 \neq P(Y = \text{"odd"}) = P(\{1\} \text{ or } \{3\} \text{ or } \{5\}) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(Y=y|X=x) = \frac{P(Y=y, X=x)}{P(X=x)} = \frac{P(Y=y) \cdot P(X=x)}{P(X=x)} = P(Y=y) \Rightarrow X \text{ \& } Y \text{ are not independent.}$$

- ▶  $X$  and  $Y$  do not have the same distribution:  $X$  is uniformly distributed over the support  $\{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$  whereas  $Y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2)$ .

follows if  $X$  &  $Y$  are independent.

Note: conditional pmf will be discussed in Lecture 13 in details.

# Independent r.v.s

Example :

- In a roll of two fair dice, Let  $X$  be the number on the first dice and  $Y$  be the number on the second dice. Consider functions  $g(X, Y) = X + Y$  and  $h(X, Y) = X - Y$  and denote them as r.v.s  $G$  and  $H$ .

(a) Find  $p_G, p_H$  (directly).

(b) Find  $p_{G,H}$  and write in the table form. Then find marginal PMFs  $p_G, p_H$  from the joint PMF and verify your solution with the solution of (a).

(c) Are  $G = g(X, Y)$  and  $H = h(X, Y)$  independent?

(a): - To find  $p_G$  and  $p_H$ , we need to know the support of  $G, H$  and no. of ways each element can occur.

- The support of  $X+Y$  is  $\{2, 3, \dots, 12\}$

The support of  $X-Y$  is  $\{-5, -4, \dots, 4, 5\}$

## Independent r.v.s

$G =$	value(g): $(x, y)$ :	no. of ways the value can occur:	$P_G(g)$ :
$X+Y:$			
2	$(1, 1)$	1	$1/36$
3	$(1, 2), (2, 1)$	2	$2/36$
4	$(1, 3), (3, 1), (2, 2)$	3	$3/36$
5	$(1, 4), (4, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2)$	4	$4/36$
6	$(1, 5), (5, 1), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 3)$	5	$5/36$
7	$(1, 6), (6, 1), (2, 5), (5, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3)$	6	$6/36$
8	$(2, 6), (6, 2), (3, 5), (5, 3), (4, 4)$	5	$5/36$
9	$(3, 6), (6, 3), (4, 5), (5, 4)$	4	$4/36$
10	$(4, 6), (6, 4), (5, 5)$	3	$3/36$
11	$(5, 6), (6, 5)$	2	$2/36$
12	$(6, 6)$	1	$1/36$

# Independent r.v.s

value (h): (x,y):		no. of ways the value can occur:		$p_H(h)$ :
H = X-Y:	-5	(1,6)	1	$1/36$
	-4	(1,5), (2,6)	2	$2/36$
	-3	(1,4), (2,5), (3,6)	3	$3/36$
	-2	(1,3), (2,4), (3,5), (4,6)	4	$4/36$
	-1	(1,2), (2,3), (3,4), (4,5), (5,6)	5	$5/36$
	0	(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (4,4), (5,5), (6,6)	6	$6/36$
	1	(2,1), (3,2), (4,3), (5,4), (6,5)	5	$5/36$
	2	(3,1), (4,2), (5,3),	4	$4/36$
	3	(4,1), (5,2), (6,3)	3	$3/36$
	4	(5,1), (6,2)	2	$2/36$
	5	(6,1)	1	$1/36$

Independent r.v.s

(b):

- Note that  $g=2$  if  $(x,y) = (1,1)$ .
- But if  $(x,y) = (0,1)$  then  $h=0$ .
- Hence  $P(G=2, H=0) = P((X,Y) = (1,1)) = 1/36$ .
- Note that  $P(G=2, H=i) = 0$  for all  $i \neq 0$ .
- With this reasoning we have the first column ( $g=2$ ).

Homework: Verify all the values in the table.  
(Use the reasoning similar to one in red text)

$G$   
||

$H =$

$h \backslash g$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	$P_H$
-5	0	0	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	0	0	$1/36$
-4	0	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	0	$2/36$
-3	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	$3/36$
-2	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	$4/36$
-1	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$5/36$
0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	$6/36$
1	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$5/36$
2	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	$4/36$
3	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	$3/36$
4	0	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	0	$2/36$
5	0	0	0	0	0	$1/36$	0	0	0	0	0	$1/36$
$P_G$	$1/36$	$2/36$	$3/36$	$4/36$	$5/36$	$6/36$	$7/36$	$4/36$	$3/36$	$2/36$	$1/36$	

$P_{G,H}$

- Similarly, we find  $P_{G,H}(g,h)$  for other values of  $g$  and  $h$ .



## Independent r.v.s

(c):

- By def<sup>n</sup>: If  $P(X+Y=x+y, X-Y=x-y) \neq P(X+Y=x+y) \cdot P(X-Y=x-y)$   
for some  $(x, y)$  then  $X+Y$  and  $X-Y$  are not independent.

- Intuitively, we can see dependence between  $X+Y$  and  $X-Y$ : For example, if  $X+Y=12$  then  $X-Y$  must be 0.  
if  $(x, y) = (6, 6)$

- Now, note that:  $P(X+Y=12, X-Y=1) = 0$   
 $P(\underbrace{X+Y=12}) \cdot P(\underbrace{X-Y=1}) = \frac{1}{36} \cdot \frac{5}{36}$   
if  $(x, y) = (6, 6)$   $(x, y) = (2, 1) \text{ or } (3, 2) \text{ or } (4, 3) \text{ or } (5, 4) \text{ or } (6, 5).$

- Hence,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.

## Example: joint and marginal distributions

- ▶ Recall: The **marginal PMF** of  $X$  is
$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \sum_y P(X = x, Y = y).$$
- ▶ Similarly, the **marginal CDF** of  $X$  is
$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x) = \sum_y P(X \leq x, Y = y).$$
- ▶ Example (Two Bernoulli r.v.s  $X$  and  $Y$ ): Find  $F_X(0)$ .

$X \backslash Y$	1	0
1	0.05	0.2
0	0.03	0.72

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(0) &= P(X \leq 0) \\ &= P(X = 0) \\ &= P(X = 0, Y = 0) + P(X = 0, Y = 1) \\ &= 0.72 + 0.03 \\ &= 0.75. \end{aligned}$$