

Recitation 2: Solutions for the exercise problems

Shunkei Kakimoto

Solution to Exercise 1

By the definition of CDF, $\Phi(z)$ can be written as $\Phi(z) = Pr(Z \leq z)$.

Answers:

Part (a)

$$Pr(Z \leq b) = \Phi(b)$$

Part (b)

$$Pr(Z \leq b) = \int_{-\infty}^b \phi(z) dz$$

Part (c)

$$Pr(a \leq Z \leq b) = Pr(Z \leq b) - Pr(Z \leq a) = \Phi(b) - \Phi(a)$$

Part (c)

$$Pr(a \leq Z \leq b) = \int_a^b \phi(z) dz$$

Solution to Exercise 2

Idea We want to derive the PDF of Y which is defined by $Y = X^2$. Since $0 \leq X \leq 1$, $0 \leq Y \leq 1$. Recall the definition of PDF. Let $G(y)$ be the CDF of Y and $g(y)$ be the PDF of Y . Then, $g(y) = \frac{d}{dy}G(y)$ by the definition of PDF. That is, once you get $G(y)$, you can derive $g(y)$. So, let's start with the CDF of Y .

Answers:

By the definition of CDF,

$$G(y) = Pr(Y \leq y).$$

Substituting $Y = X^2$,

$$\begin{aligned} G(y) &= Pr(X^2 \leq y) \\ &= Pr(0 \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) \end{aligned}$$

(The last equality is because of the fact that $X^2 \leq y \iff -\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}$ and the condition $X \geq 0$.)

Since we know that X is uniformly distributed ($X \sim U[0, 1]$), the PDF of X is 1 for $0 \leq X \leq 1$. Also, note that the range $[0, \sqrt{y}]$ is contained in the range of the PDF of X . So,

$$G(y) = Pr(0 \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) = \int_0^{\sqrt{y}} 1 dx = \sqrt{y}. \quad (1)$$

Thus, PDF of Y is

$$g(y) = \frac{d}{dy} G(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \quad (0 \leq y \leq 1)$$

Solution to Exercise 3

Answers:

Part (a)

$$\begin{aligned} Cov(X, Y) &= E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= E[XY - XE[Y] - E[X]Y + E[X]E[Y]] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] - E[X]E[Y] + E[X]E[Y] & (\because \text{linearity of expectation}) \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] \\ &= E[XY] & (\because E[X] = 0 \text{ or } E[Y] = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Also, note that $Cov(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$.

Part (b)

By definition,

$$corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var[X]Var[Y]}}$$

If $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$, then, $Cov(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = E[X]E[Y] - E[X]E[Y] = 0$. (Note that if $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$, $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$).

Therefore, if $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$,

$$corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var[X]Var[Y]}} = 0$$

Part (c)

Here, I show $Var[X + Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2Cov(X, Y)$ without assuming $E[X] = E[Y] = 0$.

By definition,

$$\begin{aligned}
Var[X + Y] &= E\left[\left(X + Y - E[X + Y]\right)^2\right] \\
&= E\left[\left(X + Y - E[X] - E[Y]\right)^2\right] && (\because \text{linearity of expectation}) \\
&= E\left[\left(X - E[X] + (Y - E[Y])\right)^2\right] \\
&= E\left[(X - E[X])^2 + (Y - E[Y])^2 + 2(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])\right] \\
&= E[(X - E[X])^2] + E[(Y - E[Y])^2] + 2E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] && (\because \text{linearity of expectation}) \\
&= Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2Cov(X, Y)
\end{aligned}$$

Part (4)

If X and Y are uncorrelated, $corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var[X]Var[Y]}} = 0 \iff cov(X, Y) = 0$.

Therefore, using the result of Part (3),

$$Var[X + Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2Cov(X, Y) = Var[X] + Var[Y]$$

Solution to Exercise 4