

Prob. & Stats. - Week 7 Outline

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1 Expectation (continue)

1.1 Expectation for some special distributions (continue)

- $X \sim \text{Par}(\alpha)$

$$E(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1}$$

- There are distributions for which $E(X)$ may not exist. An example is the Cauchy Distribution: $f_X = 1/[\pi(1 + x^2)]$.

1.2 Expectation of functions

If X is a random variable, $g, h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are functions, a, b are constants then:

- Discrete Case

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x)p_X(x)$$

- Continuous Case

$$E[g(X)] = \int g(x)f_X(x)dx$$

- Properties

(P1) Linearity

$$E[a g(X) + b h(X)] = aE[g(X)] + bE[h(X)]$$

(P2) Change of Units:

$$E(aX + b) = aE(X) + b$$

(P3) If X is a random variable with $E(X) = \mu$, then the random variable

$$Y = X - \mu$$

is **centered**, that is,

$$E(Y) = 0$$

1.3 Useful Expectations

- The *n-th moment* of X : $E(X^n)$
- The *exponential moment* of X : $E(e^X)$

2 Variance

2.1 Definition

The variance of X is:

$$Var(X) = E[(X - E(X))^2]$$

2.2 Properties

(P1) Change of Units:

$$Var(aX + b) = a^2 Var(X)$$

(P2) Alternative expression

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

(P3) If X is a random variable with $E(X) = \mu$ and $Var(X) = \sigma^2$, then the random variable

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

is **normalized**, that is, it satisfies:

$$E(Z) = 0 \quad , \quad Var(Z) = 1$$

3 Means and Variances of important Laws

Law	E(X)	Var(X)
Ber(p)	p	$p(1 - p)$
Bi(n, p)	np	$np(1 - p)$
Geo(r)	$\frac{1}{r}$	$\frac{1-r}{r^2}$
Poi(λ)	λ	λ
Exp(λ)	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$
Par(α) $\alpha > 2$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}$	$\frac{\alpha}{(\alpha-1)^2(\alpha-2)}$
Par(α) $1 < \alpha \leq 2$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}$	∞
N(μ, σ^2)	μ	σ^2

4 Joint Distributions

4.1 Definitions

- Joint Probability Mass & Density Function

- Discrete case

X, Y are two discrete random variables on the same Ω .

The **joint probability mass function of X and Y** is a function:

$$p_{X,Y}(\cdot, \cdot) : A_X * B_Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

such that

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = \sum_{x \in A} \sum_{y \in B} p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

The joint mass is determined through the identities:

$$p_{X,Y}(a, b) = P(X = a, Y = b)$$

for any a, b in the respective alphabets.

- Continuous case

X, Y are two continuous random variables on the same Ω .

The **joint probability density function of X and Y** is a function

$$f_{X,Y}(\cdot, \cdot) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

such that

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = \int_B \int_A f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy$$

The joint density is determined by the identities

$$\int_{a_1}^{b_1} dx \int_{a_2}^{b_2} dy = P(a_1 \leq X \leq b_1, a_2 \leq Y \leq b_2)$$

for any real numbers $a_1 \leq b_1$ and $a_2 \leq b_2$.

- Marginal probability mass and density functions

- Discrete case:

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(a) &= \sum_b p_{X,Y}(a, b) \\ p_Y(b) &= \sum_a p_{X,Y}(a, b) \end{aligned}$$

- Continuous case:

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy \\ f_Y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx \end{aligned}$$

- Joint Cumulative Function

- Discrete Case

X, Y are two discrete random variables on the same Ω .

The **joint cumulative function of X and Y** is:

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = \sum_{a \leq x} \sum_{b \leq y} p_{X,Y}(a, b)$$

- Continuous Case

X, Y are two continuous random variables on the same Ω .

The **joint cumulative function of X and Y** is:

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{X,Y}(a, b) db da$$

- Generalization

- Discrete Case

X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are discrete random variables on the same Ω .

$$p_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n)$$

- Continuous Case

X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are continuous random variables on the same Ω .

$$P(X_1 \in A_1, X_2 \in A_2, \dots, X_n \in A_n) = \int_{A_n} \dots \int_{A_1} f_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

4.2 Independence

- Definition

Two random variables X and Y are **independent** if

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = P(X \in A)P(Y \in B), \quad \forall A, B$$

- Corollary

X and Y are independent iff one of the following equivalent conditions hold

- In general,

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = F_X(x) F_Y(y)$$

- For discrete case,

$$p_{X,Y}(x, y) = p_X(x) p_Y(y)$$

- For continuous case,

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x) f_Y(y)$$

4.3 Joint expectations

If X, Y are random variables, g, h are joint functions, a, b are constants, then:

- Discrete Case

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_x \sum_y g(x, y) p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

- Continuous Case

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \int \int g(x, y) f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy$$

- Properties

(P1) Linearity

$$E[a g(X, Y) + b h(X, Y)] = a E[g(X, Y)] + b E[h(X, Y)]$$

(P2) Reduction to marginals

$$E[g(X)] = \int g(x)f_X(x)dx$$

General conclusion: Need to use the density (or mass) involving only the variables that are present.

(P3) Relations to Independence

X and Y are independent, iff

$$E[g(X) h(Y)] = E[g(X)] E[h(Y)]$$

for all functions g and h .

Remark: In particular $E(XY) = E(X) E(Y)$ is **NOT** enough to conclude independence.

4.4 Covariance

- Definition

The **covariance of X and Y** is defined as:

$$Cov(X, Y) = E\{[X - E(X)][Y - E(Y)]\}$$

We say that X and Y are **uncorrelated** if:

$$Cov(X, Y) = 0$$

- Properties

(P0) In all cases

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

(P1) If X and Y are uncorrelated, then:

$$Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$$

(P2) If X and Y are independence, then X and Y are uncorrelated.

Remark:

This is only a **one-way** implication. The reverse is **NOT** correct.

(P3) Alternative Expression

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

(P4) Change of units:

$$Cov(a_1X + b_1, a_2Y + b_2) = a_1 a_2 Cov(X, Y)$$

(P5) Relation with variance:

$$Cov(X, X) = Var(X)$$