

Unit 2, Extra Notes

Numerical Methods and Statistics

The purpose of this document is to show you how English sentences represent probability equations
Consider the probability distribution

$$P(X = x, Y = y, Z = z) \quad (1)$$

with no assumptions of independence, the following is true

Sentence	Equation
1. What is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 2$, and $Z = 0$?	$P(X = 2, Y = 2, Z = 0)$
2. What is the probability of $X = 1, Y = 5$?	$\sum_z P(X = 1, Y = 2, Z = z)$
3. What is the probability of $X = 1, Y = 5$?	$\sum_z P(X = 1, Y = 2 Z = z) P(Z = z)$
4. If $Z = 4$, what is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 4$?	$P(X = 2, Y = 4 Z = 4)$
5. If $Z = 4$, what is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 4$?	$P(X = 2, Y = 4) / P(Z = 4)$
6. What is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 4$, given Z is 4?	$P(X = 2, Y = 4 Z = 4)$
7. If $Y = 2$ and $Z = 0$, what is the probability of X ?	$P(X = x Y = 2, Z = 0)$
8. If $Y = 2$ and $Z = 0$, what is the probability of X ?	$P(X = x, Y = 2, Z = 0) / P(Y = 2, Z = 0)$

If we assume that X and Y are conditionally independent on Z , the following is true:

$$P(X = x, Y = y | Z = z) = P(X = x | Z = z) P(Y = y | Z = z) \quad (2)$$

The equations above are always true, but the following can be simplified

Sentence	Equation
3. What is the probability of $X = 1, Y = 5$?	$\sum_z P(X = 1 Z = z) P(Y = 2 Z = z) P(Z = z)$
4. If $Z = 4$, what is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 4$?	$P(X = 2 Z = 4) P(Y = 4 Z = 4)$
6. What is the probability of $X = 2, Y = 4$, given Z is 4?	$P(X = 2 Z = 4) P(Y = 4 Z = 4)$
7. If $Y = 2$ and $Z = 0$, what is the probability of X ?	$P(X = x Z = 0)$