

Stat 230: Probability

Lecture 27

Jeremy VanderDoes

University of Waterloo

Monday, July 11th

Example

Suppose that X and Y have a joint probability function defined in the table below:

$f(x,y)$		x		
		0	2	3
y	0	.1	.2	.05
	2	.3	.1	.25

Find:

(1) $f_Y(2|X = 2)$

(2) $f_U(4)$ where $U \sim 2X - Y$

Last time we talked about:

- (1) Conditional probability
- (2) Multinomial distribution
- (3) Functions of joint variables

For today:

- (1) Functions of joint variables
- (2) Expectation Functions of joint variables
- (3) Covariance
- (3) Correlation

Review

- Today: Quiz 5
- Next Monday: Quiz 6

Example

Suppose X and Y are independent, and that $X \sim \text{Pois}(\mu)$ and $Y \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$. Show $X + Y \sim \text{Pois}(\mu + \lambda)$.

Theorem

If $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ and $Y \sim \text{Binomial}(m, p)$, and X and Y are independent, then $X + Y \sim \text{Binomial}(n + m, p)$.

Expectation

Definition

Suppose X and Y are jointly distributed random variables with joint probability function $f(x, y)$. Then for a function $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$E(g(X, Y)) = \sum_{(x,y)} g(x, y)f(x, y)$$

More generally, if $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and X_1, \dots, X_n have joint probability function $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then

$$E(g(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \sum_{(x_1, \dots, x_n)} g(x_1, \dots, x_n)f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Expectation

Example

Suppose X and Y have joint probability function given by the following table:

$f(x,y)$		x		
		0	1	2
y	0	.2	.3	.1
	2	.25	.13	.02

Compute $E(XY)$.

Remark

Properties of Expected Values of Jointly Distributed Random Variables:

- (1) $E[a \cdot g_1(X, Y) + b \cdot g_2(X, Y)] = a \cdot E(g_1(X, Y)) + b \cdot E(g_2(X, Y)).$
- (2) $E(X + Y) = \sum_x x f_X(x) + \sum_y y f_Y(y) = E(X) + E(Y)$

Covariance

Definition

If X and Y are jointly distributed, then $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ denotes the **covariance** between X and Y . It is defined by

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

Remark (Shortcut formula)

As before it can be shown:

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$$

Covariance

Example

Suppose X and Y have joint probability function given by the following table:

$f(x,y)$		x		
		0	1	2
y	0	0.2	0.3	0.1
	2	0.25	0.13	0.02

Compute $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$.

Theorem

If X and Y are independent, then $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$.

The converse statement is FALSE, namely if $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ then X and Y are not necessarily independent. Counter example: Let X satisfy $P(X = -1) = P(X = 0) = P(X = 1) = 1/3$, and let $Y = X^2$.

Correlation

Definition

The **correlation** of X and Y is denoted $\text{corr}(X, Y)$, and is defined by

$$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{SD(X)SD(Y)}$$

It follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality that $-1 \leq \text{corr}(X, Y) \leq 1$, and if $|\text{corr}(X, Y)| = 1$, $X = aY + b$.