

ASSIGNMENT-16

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1 QUESTION No-8.6 (GATE PROBABILITY)

Suppose X and Y are two random variables such that $aX + bY$ is a normal random variable for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Consider the following statements P,Q,R and S:

(P): X is a standard normal random variable.

(Q): The conditional distribution of X given Y is normal.

(R): The conditional distribution of X given $X + Y$ is normal.

(S): $X - Y$ has mean 0.

Which of the above statements ALWAYS hold TRUE?

1) both P and Q 3) both Q and S

2) both Q and R 4) both P and S

2 SOLUTION

Definition 1. Two random variables X and Y are said to be bivariate normal, or jointly normal, if $aX + bY$ has a normal distribution for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

(P) X is a standard normal random variable.
Let,

$$a = 1, b = 0 \quad (2.0.1)$$

$$\Rightarrow X \text{ is normal.} \quad (2.0.2)$$

Similarly let

$$a = 0, b = 1 \quad (2.0.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow Y \text{ is normal.} \quad (2.0.4)$$

The given information is not sufficient to conclude whether X is a standard normal random variable. Thus this statement does not hold true always.

(Q) The conditional distribution of X given Y is normal.

Theorem 2.1. Let X and Y be two bivariate normal random variables then there exist independent

standard normal random variables Z_1 and Z_2 such that

$$X = \sigma_X(\rho Z_1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} Z_2) + \mu_X \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$Y = \sigma_Y Z_1 + \mu_Y \quad (2.0.6)$$

By using theorem 2.1 we show that the statement Q is true. Thus given $Y = y$, we have

$$Z_1 = \frac{y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}, \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow X = \sigma_X\left(\rho \frac{y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_Y} + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} Z_2\right) + \mu_X. \quad (2.0.8)$$

Since Z_1 and Z_2 are independent we have,

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sigma_X \left(\rho \frac{y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_Y} \right) + \sigma_X \left(\sqrt{1 - \rho^2} E[Z_2] \right) + \mu_X \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$= \mu_X + \rho \sigma_X \frac{y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}, \quad (2.0.10)$$

$$\text{Var}(X|Y = y) = (1 - \rho^2) \sigma_X^2. \quad (2.0.11)$$

where μ_X and σ_X denote the mean and standard deviation of random variable X similarly μ_Y and σ_Y denote the mean and standard deviation of random variable Y and thus

$$X|Y \sim N\left(\mu_X + \rho \frac{\sigma_X}{\sigma_Y} (Y - \mu_Y), \sigma_X \left(\sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \right)\right) \quad (2.0.12)$$

Thus the statement holds true always. The result is verified using python below

(R) The conditional distribution of X given $X + Y$ is normal.

Let,

$$a = 1, b = 1 \quad (2.0.13)$$

$$\Rightarrow X + Y \text{ is normal} \quad (2.0.14)$$

and let $Z = X + Y$ then $f_{X|Z}$ is also normal which follows from the previous statement. Thus the statement holds true always. The result is verified using

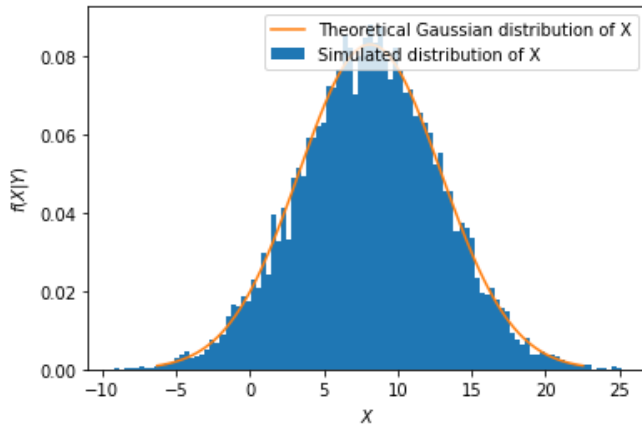


Fig. 2.1: Graphical representation(Q) - X given Y is normal.

python below

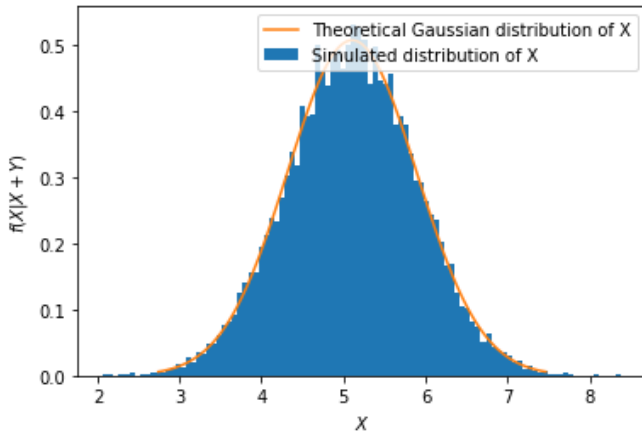


Fig. 2.2: Graphical representation(R) - X given $X+Y$ is normal.

(S) $X - Y$ has mean 0.

In general

$$E[aX + bY] = aE[X] + bE[Y] \quad (2.0.15)$$

$$Var(aX + bY) = a^2 Var(X) + 2abCov(X, Y) + b^2 Var(Y) \quad (2.0.16)$$

For $a = 1$ and $b = -1$ we have

$$E[X - Y] = E[X] - E[Y] \quad (2.0.17)$$

$$Var(X - Y) = Var(X) - 2Cov(X, Y) + Var(Y) \quad (2.0.18)$$

Mean of $X - Y$ is 0 only when X and Y are independent standard normal variable and the given information is not sufficient to conclude. Thus this statement does not hold true always.