

[Homework] Variance, covariance, and correlation coefficient

1. For X and Y with $E[X] = 1$, $Var(X) = 5$, $E[Y] = 2$, $Var(Y) = 2$, and $\rho = 0.5$, find

- (a) $E[1 + 2X + 3Y]$
 (b) $Var(1 + 2X + 3Y)$.

Sol.

2. We flip a fair coin many times and let X_i be the i -th flip record, where H and T are recorded as 1 and 0. Let Y_i be $Y_i = 2X_i - 1$, i.e., the i -th flip record where H and T are recorded as 1 and -1 . Calculate the mean and variance of related random variables, i.e., fill up the blank in below table.

| Random variable | Mean | Variance |
|-------------------------------------|------|------------|
| Y_i | 0 | 1 |
| $\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ | 0 | n |
| $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i}{\sqrt{n}}$ | 0 | \sqrt{n} |

3. Let X_i be independent with same mean 0, variance 2, and let $Y_n = X_n + X_{n+1} + \dots + X_{n+2}$. For $j \geq 0$, calculate $Cov(Y_n, Y_{n+j})$.
4. Let X be the number of heads minus the number of tails obtained when a fair coin is tossed n times. Calculate the mean and variance of X .

Sol.

Let i be the number of tails. Then $n - i$ is the number of heads and $X = n - 2i$.

$$P(X = i) = \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-i} = \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X) &= \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x) \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^n (n - 2i) \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \\
 &= \left\{ n \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} - 2 \sum_{i=0}^n i \cdot \binom{n}{i} \right\} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \\
 &= \{ n \cdot 2^n - 2 \cdot n \cdot 2^{n-1} \} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \\
 &= 0 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}(X) &= \sum_x x^2 \cdot P(X = x) - (EX)^2 \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^n (n - 2i)^2 \binom{n}{i} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n - 0^2 \\
&= \left\{ n^2 \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} - 4n \sum_{i=0}^n i \cdot \binom{n}{i} + 4 \sum_{i=0}^n i^2 \cdot \binom{n}{i} \right\} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \\
&= \left\{ n^2 \cdot 2^n - 4n \cdot n \cdot 2^{n-1} + 4 \cdot (n^2 + n) 2^{n-2} \right\} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \\
&= n
\end{aligned}$$

5. We flip a fair coin until heads appears 10 times. Let X be the number of tails during these flips. Calculate the mean and variance of X .

Sol.

$$\begin{aligned}
Y &\sim NB(r = 10, p = \frac{1}{2}) \\
X &\sim HG
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(X = n) &= P(Y = n + 10) \\
&= \binom{n + 10 - 1}{r - 1} p^r (1 - p)^{(n+10)-r} \\
&= \binom{n + 9}{9} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{(n+10)}
\end{aligned}$$

6. If X_i , $1 \leq i \leq 4$, have mean 3 and variance 2 and if the correlation ρ between two are all 0.5, compute

(a) $\text{Cov}(X_1 + X_2, X_2 + X_3)$.

(b) $\text{Cov}(X_1 + X_2, X_3 + X_4)$.

7. Consider a graph having n vertices labeled $1, 2, \dots, n$, and suppose that, between each of the $\binom{n}{2}$ pairs of distinct vertices, an edge is independently present with probability p . The degree of vertex i , designated as D_i , is the number of edges that have vertex i as one of their vertices.

(a) What is the distribution of D_i ?

(b) Find $\rho(D_i, D_j)$, the correlation between D_i and D_j .

8. A group of eighteen students contains seven business majors; the rest are liberal arts majors. Five students will be drawn from the group and let X be the number of business majors in the sample.
 - (a) Calculate $P(X = 3)$.
 - (b) What is the distribution of X ?
 - (c) What is EX ?
 - (d) What is $Var(X)$?
9. A pond contains 100 fish, of which 30 are carp. If 20 fish are caught, what are the mean and variance of the number of carp among the 20?
10. A box contains 5 red and 5 blue marbles. Two marbles are withdrawn randomly. If they are the same color, then you win \$1.10; if they are different colors, then you win $-\$1.00$. (That is, you lose \$1.00.) Calculate
 - (a) the expected value of the amount you win.
 - (b) the variance of the amount you win.

[Extra] Variance, covariance, and correlation coefficient

1. A sample of 3 items is selected at random from a box containing 20 items of which 4 are defective. Find the expectation and variance of the number of defective items in the sample.