LECTURE 6

• Readings: Sections 2.4-2.6

Lecture outline

- Review: PMF, expectation, variance
- Conditional PMF
- Geometric PMF
- Total expectation theorem
- Joint PMF of two random variables

Review

- Random variable *X*: function from sample space to the real numbers
- PMF (for discrete random variables): $p_X(x) = P(X = x)$
- Expectation:

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \sum_{x} x p_X(x)$$

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{x} g(x)p_X(x)$$

$$E[\alpha X + \beta] = \alpha E[X] + \beta$$

•
$$\mathbf{E}[X - \mathbf{E}[X]] =$$

$$\operatorname{var}(X) = \operatorname{E}\left[(X - \operatorname{E}[X])^{2}\right]$$
$$= \sum_{x} (x - \operatorname{E}[X])^{2} p_{X}(x)$$
$$= \operatorname{E}[X^{2}] - (\operatorname{E}[X])^{2}$$

Standard deviation: $\sigma_X = \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$

Random speed

- d = 200, T = t(V) = 200/V
- $\mathbf{E}[V] =$
- var(V) =
- $\sigma_V =$

Average speed vs. average time

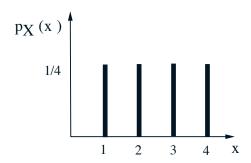
 Traverse a 200 mile distance at constant but random speed ${\cal V}$



- time in hours = T = t(V) =
- $\mathbf{E}[T] = \mathbf{E}[t(V)] = \sum_{v} t(v) p_V(v) =$
- $\mathbf{E}[TV] = 200 \neq \mathbf{E}[T] \cdot \mathbf{E}[V]$
- $E[200/V] = E[T] \neq 200/E[V]$.

Conditional PMF and expectation

- $p_{X|A}(x) = P(X = x \mid A)$
- $E[X \mid A] = \sum_{x} x p_{X|A}(x)$



• Let $A = \{X \ge 2\}$

$$p_{X|A}(x) =$$

$$\mathbf{E}[X \mid A] =$$

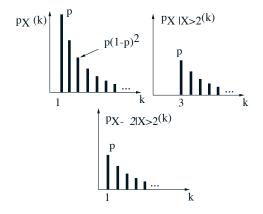
Geometric PMF

 X: number of independent coin tosses until first head

$$p_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1}p, \qquad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

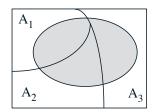
$$E[X] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k p_X(k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k (1-p)^{k-1} p$$

• Memoryless property: Given that X > 2, the r.v. X - 2 has same geometric PMF



Total Expectation theorem

• Partition of sample space into disjoint events A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n



$$P(B) = P(A_1)P(B \mid A_1) + \dots + P(A_n)P(B \mid A_n)$$

$$p_X(x) = P(A_1)p_{X|A_1}(x) + \dots + P(A_n)p_{X|A_n}(x)$$

$$E[X] = P(A_1)E[X \mid A_1] + \dots + P(A_n)E[X \mid A_n]$$

• Geometric example:

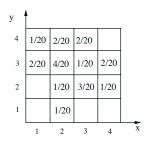
$$A_1: \{X = 1\}, A_2: \{X > 1\}$$

 $E[X] = P(X = 1)E[X \mid X = 1]$
 $+P(X > 1)E[X \mid X > 1]$

• Solve to get E[X] = 1/p

Joint PMFs

• $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = \mathbf{P}(X = x \text{ and } Y = y)$



- $\sum_{x}\sum_{y}p_{X,Y}(x,y)=$
- $p_X(x) = \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x,y)$
- $p_{X|Y}(x \mid y) = P(X = x \mid Y = y) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_Y(y)}$
- $\bullet \quad \sum_{x} p_{X|Y}(x \mid y) =$

6.041 / 6.431 Probabilistic Systems Analysis and Applied Probability Fall 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.