

3. Problem 3.23, page 191 in the text.

Let the random variables X and Y have a joint PDF which is uniform over the triangle with vertices $(0,0)$, $(0,1)$, and $(1,0)$.

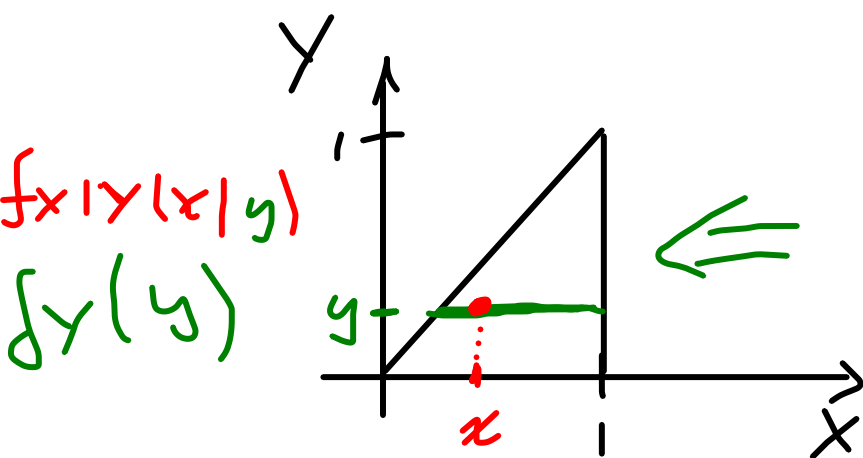
(a) Find the joint PDF of X and Y .

(b) Find the marginal PDF of Y .

(c) Find the conditional PDF of X given Y .

(d) Find $\mathbf{E}[X | Y = y]$, and use the total expectation theorem to find $\mathbf{E}[X]$ in terms of $\mathbf{E}[Y]$.

(e) Use the symmetry of the problem to find the value of $\mathbf{E}[X]$.

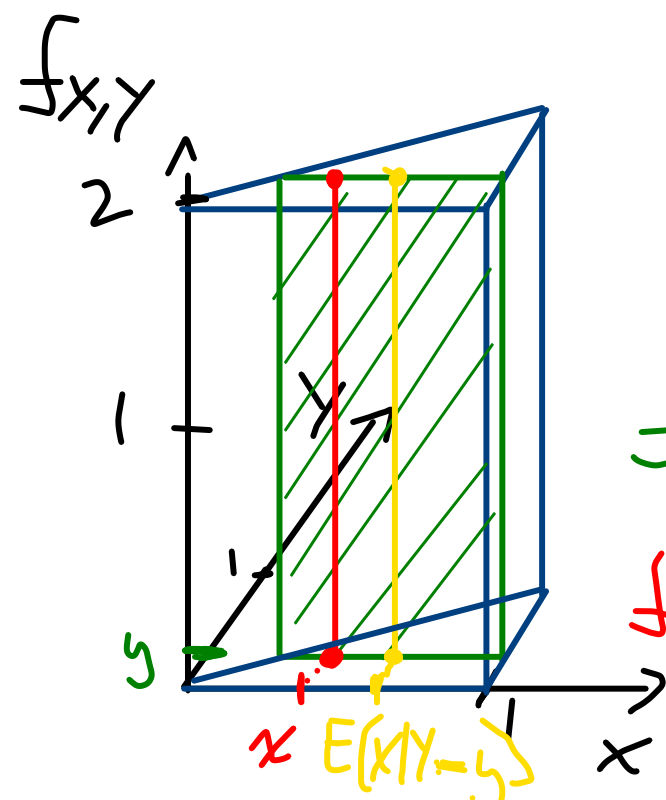


$$a) f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{\text{Area}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

$$b) f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dx = \int_0^{1-y} 2 dx = 2 \cdot x \Big|_0^{1-y} = 2 \cdot (1-y)$$

$$c) f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{2}{2(1-y)} = \frac{1}{1-y}$$

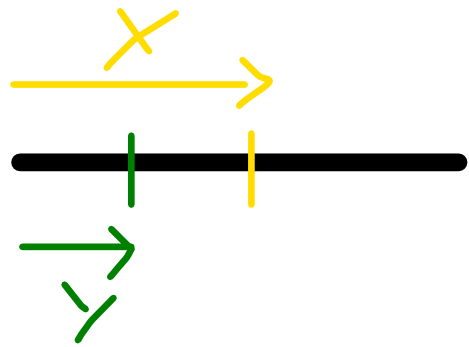
$$d) \mathbf{E}[X|Y=y] = \int x \cdot f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$



$$f_Y(y) = \text{Vol}(\Delta_y)$$

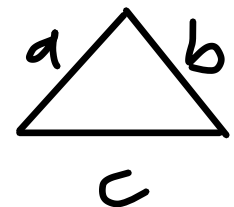
$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{\text{Vol}(\Delta_{x,y})}{\text{Vol}(\Delta_y)}$$

4. We have a stick of unit length, and we break it into three pieces. We choose randomly and independently two points on the stick using a uniform PDF, and we break the stick at these points. What is the probability that the three pieces we are left with can form a triangle?



$$\begin{aligned}
 P(T) &= P(X \geq \frac{1}{2}) \cdot P(Y | X \leq X) \\
 &= P(X \geq \frac{1}{2}) \cdot P(Y \leq X) \quad \text{Independence} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

T : Triangle



$$a + b > c$$

$$A + B > C$$

$$C = 1 - (A + B)$$

$$A + B > 1 - A - B$$

$$2A + 2B > 1$$

$$A + B > \frac{1}{2}$$

$$X \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$Y \leq X \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

1 Joint, Conditional, and Marginal Distributions

1. A random point (X, Y, Z) is chosen uniformly in the ball $B = \{(x, y, z) : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1\}$.
 - (a) Find the joint PDF of X, Y, Z .
 - (b) Find the joint PDF of X, Y .
 - (c) Find an expression for the marginal PDF of X , as an integral.

Stat 110 Strategic Practice 7, Fall 2011

Prof. Joe Blitzstein (Department of Statistics, Harvard University)

1 Joint, Conditional, and Marginal Distributions

2. Let X and Y be i.i.d. $\text{Unif}(0, 1)$. Find the expected value and the standard deviation of the distance between X and Y .

→ LOTUS

1 Joint, Conditional, and Marginal Distributions

4. A group of $n \geq 2$ people decide to play an exciting game of Rock-Paper-Scissors. As you may recall, Rock smashes Scissors, Scissors cuts Paper, and Paper covers Rock (despite Bart Simpson saying “Good old rock, nothing beats that!”).

Usually this game is played with 2 players, but it can be extended to more players as follows. If exactly 2 of the 3 choices appear when everyone reveals their choice, say $a, b \in \{Rock, Paper, Scissors\}$ where a beats b , the game is decisive: the players who chose a win, and the players who chose b lose. Otherwise, the game is indecisive and the players play again.

For example, with 5 players, if one player picks Rock, two pick Scissors, and two pick Paper, the round is indecisive and they play again. But if 3 pick Rock and 2 pick Scissors, then the Rock players win and the Scissors players lose the game.

→ Multinomial