

## 1 Basic definitions

**Definition 1.1. Support** The set of values a random variable can take (set of all the numerical realizations of outcomes) e.g. for a binary random variable  $X$ , it's support is  $R_X = \{0, 1\}$

**Definition 1.2. Sample Point** In an experiment, a sample point is one of the possible outcomes of experiment denoted by  $\omega$

**Definition 1.3. Independent Events** Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent if and only if

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) * P(B) \quad (1)$$

**Definition 1.4. Jointly/Mutually Independent Events** Let  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  be  $n$  events.

$E_1, \dots, E_n$  are jointly independent (or mutually independent) if and only if for any sub-collection of  $k$  events ( $k \leq n$ )  $E_{i1}, \dots, E_{ik}$ :

$$P\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^k E_{ij}\right) = \prod_{j=1}^k P(E_{ij}) \quad (2)$$

**Definition 1.5. Random Variable** A random Variable  $X$  is a function from sample space  $\Omega$  to set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ , i.e  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

The real number  $X(\omega)$  associated with sample point  $\omega \in \Omega$  is called a realization of the random variable. The set of all possible realizations is called the support and denoted by  $R_X$

**Definition 1.6. Probability Mass Function** The PMF of a discrete random variable  $X$  is a function  $p_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

$$p_X = P(X = x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (3)$$

where  $P(X = x)$  is the probability of realization of random variable  $X$  will be equal to  $x$ . Basically PMF is numerical realizations  $\rightarrow$  respective Probabilities.

**Definition 1.7. Distribution Function/Cumulative Distribution Function** If  $X$  is a random variable, its distribution/cdf is a function  $F_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (4)$$

**Definition 1.8. Expected Value of a Random Variable** The expected value of random variable  $X$  is the weighted average of the values that  $X$  can take on where each possible realization value is weighted by its respective probability i.e.

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \sum_{x \in R_X} x p_X(x) \quad (5)$$

In other words, it is the weighted average of all possible numerical outcomes (in the support) weighted with respect to their respective probabilities

**Definition 1.9. Expected value of function of Random Variable** Expected value of function  $g(Y)$  say  $g(Y) = Y^2$ :

$$E[g(Y)] = \sum_{y \in R_Y} g(y)p(y) \quad (6)$$

**Definition 1.10. Linearity of Expectation** If  $X$  is a random variable and  $a \in R$  is a constant, then

$$E[aX] = aE[X] \quad (7)$$

In a more general setting:

If  $Y$  is a random variable such that  $Y = a + bX$ , where  $X$  is a random variable, and  $a$  and  $b$  are constants,

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= E[a] + E[bX] \\ &= a + bE[X] \\ E[Y] &= a + bE[X] \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

**Definition 1.11. Conditional expectation of Random Variable** Given random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , The conditional expectation of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is the weighted average of values that  $X$  can take on, where each possible value is weighted by its respective conditional probability (conditional on the information  $Y = y$ ), denoted by  $E[X|Y = y]$

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_{x \in R_x} xp_{X|Y=y}(x) \quad (9)$$

Another fact worth noting is that  $E[X|Y = y]$  when  $y$  is known is a number, but when  $y$  is unknown,  $E[X|Y]$  acts like a random variable that is a function of random variable  $Y$ . i.e.  $E[X|Y] = g(Y)$

**Definition 1.12. Total Expectation/Iterated Expectation** The law of total expectation/law of iterated expectation/tower rule/smoothing theorem/adam's law among other names states that if,  $X$  is a random variable whose expected value  $E[X]$  is defined, and  $Y$  is any random variable on same probability space then

$$E[X] = E[E[X|Y]] \quad (10)$$

This comes from the fact that if there are  $A_i$  is a finite countable partition of the sample space, then

$$E[X] = \sum_i E[X|A_i]P[A_i] \quad (11)$$

**Definition 1.13. Quantile** The  $p$ -Quantile of a Random Variable  $X$  is given  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $X$  having cumulative distribution function(cdf) to be  $F_X(x)$ , the  $p$ -Quantile is:

$$Q_X(p) = \min\{x \in R : F_X(x) \geq p\} \quad (12)$$

This translates roughly equivalently to the definition of percentiles. e.g 0.5-quantile is a median. 0.25-Quantiles are quartiles etc.

**Definition 1.14. Deviation of a Random Variable** The Deviation of a Random Variable is its difference from its mean value/Expected value. It is denoted by

$$\bar{X} = X - \mathbf{E}[X] \quad (13)$$

Deviation of Random Variable is also a random variable in it's own respect.

**Definition 1.15. Variance** It is a measure of dispersion of a random variable. Let  $X$  be a random variable. The variance of  $X$ , denoted by  $Var[X]$  is defined as follows:

$$Var[X] = \mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X])^2] = \mathbf{E}[\bar{X}^2] = \mathbf{E}[X^2] - \mathbf{E}[X]^2 \quad (14)$$

You can also think of it as mean of the square of the deviations of original random variable.

**Definition 1.16. Standard Deviation** It is a measure of dispersion of a random variable. Let  $X$  be a random variable. The standard deviation of  $X$ , denoted by  $stdev[X]$  or  $std[X]$  is defined as follows:

$$stdev[X] = \sqrt{Var[X]} \quad (15)$$

You can also think of it as rms deviation.

**Definition 1.17. Covariance** It is a measure of association between two random variables. Covariance of two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  is , provided Expected values are well defined,

$$Cov[X, Y] = \mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X]) * (Y - \mathbf{E}[Y])] = \mathbf{E}[\bar{X} * \bar{Y}] \quad (16)$$

where we say deviation of  $X$  is  $\bar{X} = X - \mathbf{E}[X]$  and

deviation of  $Y$  is  $\bar{Y} = Y - \mathbf{E}[Y]$

or in other words, covariance is expectation of product of deviations.

**Definition 1.18. Random Vector** It is a multidimensional generalisation of the concept of Random Variable. Associated probability functions have the word "joint" in front of them e.g. Joint PMF, Joint cdf etc correspond to a Random Vector.

## 2 Logistic

A logistic function or logistic curve is a common 'S' shaped curve with equation:

$$f(x) = \frac{L}{1 + e^{-k(x-x_0)}} \quad (17)$$

where

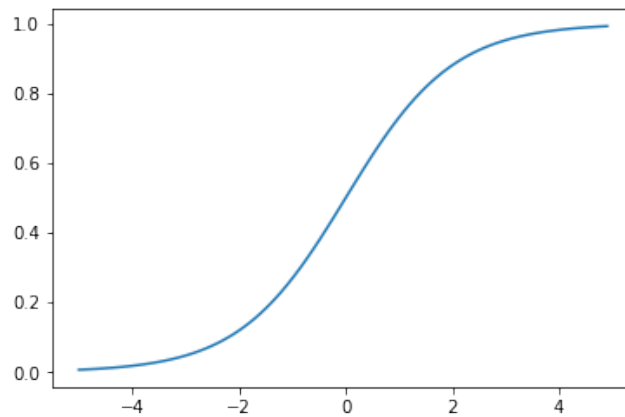
- $e$  = natural log
- $x_0$  = x-value of sigmoid's midpoint
- $L$  = the curve's maximum value
- $k$  = the steepness of the curve

## 2.1 Standard Logistic

The standard logistic function is the logistic function with parameters given ( $k = 1, x_0 = 0, L = 1$ ) i.e.

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \quad (18)$$

which when plotted looks like



**Why is logistic function so important?** Because it can take any real input  $x, (x \in R)$ , whereas the output always takes values between 0 and 1, and hence is interpretable as probability.