

MIDTERM 2

PROBABILITY

PROPERTIES OF RANDOM VARIABLES

Discrete RV Review

$$p_X(x) = P(\{X = x\})$$

↑ "the prob. of X being x"

PMF → probability mass function

Expectation, Mean, & Variance

Expectation → the weighted average of the possible values of X. AKA the Mean

$$E[X] = \sum_x p_X(x)$$

2nd Moment → the expected value of the rv X^2 .

$$E[X^2] = \sum_x x^2 p_X(x)$$

Variance → the spread of an X around the mean.

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$$

↳ easiest to use

Standard Deviation → a measure of spread in the orig. units.

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}$$

Mean & Variance of Brand Name RV

Bernoulli:

$$E[X] = p \quad E[X^2] = p$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = p(1-p)$$

Discrete Uniform

$$E[X] = \frac{a+b}{2} \quad E[X^2] = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{k=a}^b k^2$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \left(\frac{1}{b} \sum_{k=a}^b k^2\right) - \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2$$

Poisson

$$E[X] = \lambda \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda$$

Binomial

$$E[X] = np \quad \text{Var}(X) = np(1-p)$$

Geometric

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{p} \quad E[X^2] = \frac{2}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

Some Important Properties...

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x)p_X(x)$$

↳ if $y = ax + b$...

$$E[Y] = aE[X] + b \quad \text{Var}(Y) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$$

CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLES

Probability Density Function

We use a continuous rv when arv X can take infinitely many possible values.

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f_X(x) dx$$

probability that X is between a and b

since calculated as an integral we know that prob. of exactly $a = 0$

$$P(X=a) = \int_a^a f_X(x) dx = 0$$

Brand Name CRV's

Continuous Uniform RV

an experiment where every number between a and b are equally likely → $X = \# \text{ selected}$

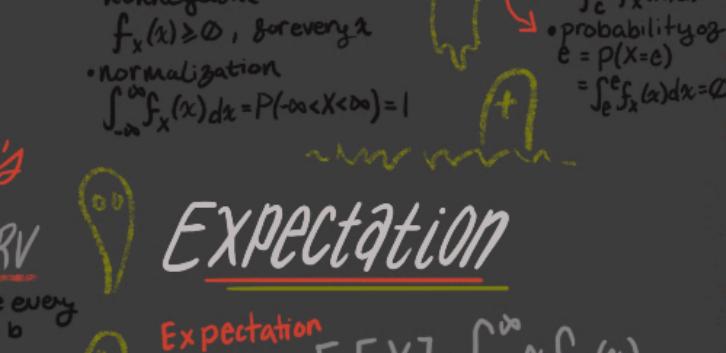
$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & \text{if } a \leq x \leq b \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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There is one more very important RV that we'll cover in the next part...



To Qualify as a PDF

• nonnegative $f_X(x) \geq 0$, for every x

• normalization $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = P(-\infty < X < \infty) = 1$

• probability ≥ 0 $E = P(X=c) = \int_c^c f_X(x) dx = 0$

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