

Properties of Expected values and Variance

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Similar facts hold for discrete random variables.

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$$E(Y) = \int \int \int \dots \int r(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 \dots dx_n$$

where $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$ is the joint probability density function.

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Easy properties of expected values:

If $\Pr(X \geq a) = 1$ then $E(X) \geq a$.

If $\Pr(X \leq b) = 1$ then $E(X) \leq b$.

Properties of $E(X)$

A little more surprising (but not hard and we have already used):

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What about products? Only works out well if the random variables are **independent**. If $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n$ are independent random variables then:

$$E\left(\prod_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \prod_{i=1}^n E(X_i).$$

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- For **independent** $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n$

$$\sigma^2(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + \dots + X_n) = \sigma^2(X_1) + \sigma^2(X_2) + \sigma^2(X_3) + \dots + \sigma^2(X_n).$$

Note that the last statement tells us that

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Thus $\sigma^2(X) = \sum \sigma^2(X_i) = npq$.

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$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) &= \int \int \dots \int (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n) f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) dx_1 dx_2 \dots dx_n \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \int \int \dots \int x_i f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) dx_1 dx_2 \dots dx_n. \end{aligned}$$

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