

Mathematical Expectation or Expected Value of a random variable

Let X be a rv. Then the mathematical expectation of X is defined as

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i p(x_i) & ; \text{ if } x \text{ is a drv.} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx & ; \text{ if } x \text{ is a crv} \end{cases}$$

Properties:

(i). $E(C) = C$

(ii). $E(CX) = CE(X)$

(iii). $E(X+Y) = E(X)+E(Y)$

Generalization:

$$E(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_n)$$

$$\text{i.e. } E(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i)$$

(iv). $E(XY) = E(X).E(Y)$ iff X and Y are independent

Variance:

Let X be a rv. Then the variance of X , denoted by σ^2 , is given by

$$\begin{aligned} V(X) &= E(X - E(X))^2, \\ &= E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 \end{aligned}$$

Properties:

(i). $V(C)=0$

(ii). $V(CX) = C^2V(X)$

(iii). $V(X + Y) = V(X) + V(Y)$ iff X and Y independent

$$= E(X + Y)^2 - (E(X + Y))^2$$

$$= E(X^2) + E(Y^2) + 2E(XY) - (E(X))^2 - (E(Y))^2 - 2E(X)E(Y)$$

$$= E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 + E(Y^2) - (E(Y))^2 + 2[E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)]$$

$$= V(X) + V(Y) + 0$$

$$\therefore V(X + Y) = V(X) + V(Y)$$

Also $V(aX+bY) = a^2V(X)+b^2V(Y)$ iff X and Y are independent

Covariance of (XY)

$$\text{Cov}(XY) = E[(X-E(X))(Y-E(Y))]$$

$$= E(XY) - E(X).E(Y)$$

Note 1: If X and Y are independent then $\text{Cov}(XY)=0$. However, $\text{Cov}(XY)=0$ does not necessarily mean that the rvs are independent.

Note 2: If X and Y are any two rvs then we have

$$V(X+Y) = V(X) + V(Y) + 2[E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)] = V(X) + V(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(XY)$$

$$\text{Also, } V(aX + bY) = a^2V(X) + b^2V(Y) + 2ab \text{Cov}(XY)$$

Mean and Variance of Binomial distribution:

Let $X \sim B(n, p)$

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}; x=0,1,2,\dots,n$$

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^n x p(x) = \dots = np$$

Thus mean of B.D is np

$$\text{Now, } V(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$\text{where, } E(X^2) = \sum_{x=0}^n x^2 \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x} = \dots = n(n-1)p^2 + np$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore V(X) &= n(n-1)p^2 + np - (np)^2 \\ &= npq \end{aligned}$$

Thus for the B.D. mean $>$ variance; for $0 < p < 1$

Mean and variance of Uniform distribution:

Let $X \sim U[a, b]$

$$\text{We have } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}; & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & ; \text{ elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

The mean of uniform distribution is

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f(x) dx = \int_a^b x \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$\text{Now, } V(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$\text{where, } E(X^2) = \int_a^b x^2 \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ab + a^2)$$

$$\text{Thus } V(X) = \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ab + a^2) - \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}$$

$$V(X) = \frac{1}{12} (b-a)^2$$