

# ST2334 Summary Notes

AY23/24 Sem 1, github.com/gerteck  
Coverage: C1 all, C2 all, C3 (Sec1, 2)

## 1. Basic Probability Concepts

- **Sample Space:**  $S$  All possible outcomes of stat. expt.
- **Null Event:** Event that contains no element, empty set,  $\emptyset$
- **Axioms of Probability:**  
For any event  $X$ ,  $0 \leq P(X) \leq 1$ .  $P(S) = 1$ .  
If  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  (Mut Excl),  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$ .
- Finite sample space with equally likely outcomes:  $P(A) = (\frac{\# \text{sample points } A}{\# \text{total sample points } S})$ . (e.g. birthday problem)

## Event Operation & Relationships

- **Event Operations:** Union, Intersection, Complement.
- **Event Relationships:** Contained:  $A \subset B$   
Equivalence:  $A \subset B$  with  $A \supset B \rightarrow A = B$   
Mutually Exclusive:  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .
- **De Morgan's Law:**  $(A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$  and  $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$

## Counting Methods

- Multiplication Principle: (Sequential Events)
- Addition Principle: (Pairwise Disjoin sets)
- **Permutation:**  ${}_nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$
- **Combination:**  $\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$

## Conditional Probability

- Understand conditional as reduced sample space.

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(A|B)P(B)}{P(A)}$$

## Independence

$$A \perp B \leftrightarrow P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$
$$A \perp B \leftrightarrow P(A|B) = P(A)$$

## Law of Total Probability

- **Partition:** If  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  mutually exclusive,  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = S$ , then  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are partitions.
- If  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are partitions of  $S$ , then for any event  $B$ :

$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(B \cap A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(B|A_i)P(A_i)$$

## Bayes' Theorem

Let  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be partitions of  $S$ . For any event  $B$ :

$$P(A_k|B) = \frac{P(B|A_k)P(A_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

For when  $n = 2$ ,  $\{A, A'\}$  becomes a partition of  $S$ .

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A)P(B|A)}{P(A)P(B|A) + P(A')P(B|A')}$$

## 2. Random Variables

A function  $X$ , which assigns a real number to every  $s \in S$  is called a random variable.

- **Range space:**  $R_x = \{x | x = X(s), s \in S\}$
- Likewise, the set  $X \in A$ , for  $A$  being a subset of  $R$ , is also a subset of  $S : s \in S : X(s) \in A$ .

## Probability Distribution

Two main types of RV used in practice: discrete and continuous.

- Probability assigned to each possible  $X$
- Given RV  $X$  with range of  $R_x$ :  
**Discrete:** Numbers in  $R_x$  are finite or countable  
**Continuous:**  $R_x$  is interval

## (Discrete) Probability Mass Function $f(x)$ :

$$f(x) \begin{cases} P(X = x), & \text{for } x \in R_x \\ 0, & \text{for } x \notin R_x \end{cases}$$

1.  $f(x_i) = P(X = x_i) \geq 0$  for  $x_i \in R_x$
2.  $f(x_i) = 0$  for  $x_i \notin R_x$
3.  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f(x_i) = 1$  (PSum = 1)
4.  $\forall B \subseteq \mathbb{R}, P(X \in B) = \sum_{x_i \in B \cap R_x} f(x_i)$

## (Continuous) Probability Density Function $f(x)$ :

- Given  $R_x$  is interval. Quantifies probability that  $X$  is in some range.
- $p.f.$  must satisfy:
  1.  $f(x) \geq 0$ ,  $f(x) = 0$  for  $x \notin R_x$
  2. No need  $f(x) \leq 1$  (Concerned with area)
  3.  $\int_{R_x} f(x)dx = 1$  (Integration over  $R_x = 1$ )
  4.  $\forall a, b$  s.t.  $a \leq b$ ,  $P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x)dx$
- **Note:**  $P(X = x_0) = \int_{x_0}^{x_0} f(x)dx = 0$
- Hence, to check if a function is a pdf,
  1.  $f(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \in R_x$ ,  $f(x) = 0$  for  $x \notin R_x$
  2.  $\int_{R_x} f(x)dx = 1$ .

## Cumulative Distribution Function

Describes distribution of a RV  $X$ : cumulative distribution function (cdf), applicable for discrete or continuous RV.

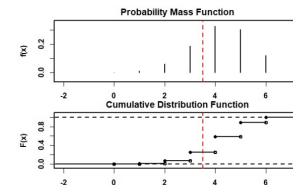
$$F(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

$F(x)$  is non-decreasing and  $0 \leq F(x) \leq 1$

- Probability fn & cumulative distribution fn have one-to-one correspondence. For any probability fn given, the cdf is uniquely determined, vice versa.

## CDF Discrete RV: Step Function $F(x)$

$$F(x) = \sum_{t \in R_x; t \leq x} f(t)$$

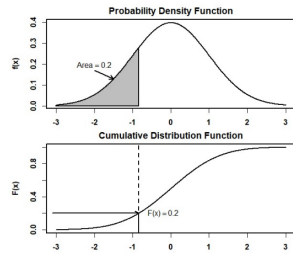


- $P(a \leq X \leq b) = P(X \leq b) - P(X < a)$
- $P(a \leq X \leq b) = F(b) - F(a-)$
- $P(a \leq X \leq b) = F(b) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a-} F(x)$
- $0 \leq f(x) \leq 1$
- c.d.f has to be **right continuous** (• —)

## CDF Continuous RV: $F(x)$

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(t)dt$$

$$\text{impt} : f(x) = \frac{d(F(x))}{dx}$$



- $P(a \leq X \leq b) = P(a < X < b) = F(b) - F(a)$
- $0 \leq f(x)$ .  
e.g.  $f(x) = 3x^2$  is a valid p.f. since  $\int_{R_x} f(x)dx = 1$

## Expectation $\mu$ & Variance $\sigma$

### Expectation of Random Variable: $\mu$

- **Mean of discrete RV:**

$$\mu = E(X) = \sum_{x \in R_x} x_i f(x_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X \geq i)$$

- **E.g.:** X discrete RV with p.m.f.  $f(x)$  and range  $R_X$   
 $\mu = E(g(x)) = \sum_{x \in R_x} g(x)f(x)$

- **Mean of continuous RV:**

$$\mu = E(X) = \int_{x \in R_x} x f(x) dx$$

- **E.g.:** X continuous RV with p.d.f.  $f(x)$  and range  $R_X$   
 $\mu = E(g(x)) = \int_{x \in R_x} g(x)f(x)dx$

- **Properties of Expectation:**

- $E(aX + b) = aE(X) + b$
- Linearity of expectation:  $E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$

### Variance of Random Variable: $\sigma$

$$\sigma_X^2 = V(X) = E[(X - \mu_X)^2]$$

- **Variance of discrete RV:**

$$V(X) = \sum_{x \in R_x} (x - \mu_X)^2 f(x)$$

- **Variance of continuous RV:**

$$V(X) = \int_{x \in R_x} (x - \mu_X)^2 f(x) dx$$

- $V(X) \geq 0$  and  $V(X) = 0$  when  $X$  is a constant
- $V(aX + b) = a^2 V(X)$
- **alt. form:**  $V(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$
- **Standard Deviation:**  $\sigma_X = \sqrt{V(X)}$

## Next Section

- 
-