

Lecture 1: Stat/Math 395

6.1

Joint Distributions

⇒ If we flip 1 coin, with probability p of being heads what distribution does this follow?

Denote X as the R.V. s.t. $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$$P(x) = p^x (1-p)^{1-x} \quad \left. \vphantom{P(x)} \right\} \text{probability mass function}$$

$$\hookrightarrow P(0) = 1-p, P(1) = p$$

⇒ What if we flip two coins?

Let X_1 be coin 1

Let X_2 be coin 2

What is $P(X_1, X_2)$? $\left. \vphantom{P(X_1, X_2)} \right\} \text{joint probability mass function}$

Joint Probability Mass Function

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be discrete RV's defined on the same sample space, Ω , then the **Joint PMF** is defined as:

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n)$$

• **Properties of the joint PMF:**

$$(1) P(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq 0 \quad \forall \quad x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \Omega$$

$$(2) \sum_{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n} P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1$$

Ex) Let's flip 2 coins with probability, p of getting a heads as before

Let X_1 be the result of coin 1 (0 for T, 1 for H)
" " X_2 " " coin 2

$$P(x_1, x_2) =$$

		X_2	
		0	1
X_1	0	$(1-p)^2$	$p(1-p)$
	1	$p(1-p)$	p^2

$$= p^{x_1+x_2} (1-p)^{2-(x_1+x_2)}$$

Expectation of Joint PMF's

$$E(g(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_n} g(x_1, \dots, x_n) P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Ex) Consider a 3 sided die which you roll twice, recording each roll as X_1 and X_2

Let $Y \in \{0, 1\}$ s.t.

$$Y = I(X_1 \geq X_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & X_1 \geq X_2 \\ 0 & X_1 < X_2 \end{cases}$$

↙ indicator variable

What is $P(X_1, Y)$?

X_1	Y	$P(X_1, Y)$
1	1	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot (P(X_2 \leq 1)) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{9}$
2	1	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot (P(X_2 \leq 2)) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$
3	1	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot P(X_2 \leq 3) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{3}$
1	0	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot P(X_2 > 1) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$
2	0	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot P(X_2 > 2) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{9}$
3	0	$\frac{1}{3} \cdot P(X_2 > 3) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 = 0$

$$\text{Let } g(x, y) = (x, y)$$

What is $E(g(x, y))$?

$$E(g(x, y)) = \sum_{x, y} x, y \cdot P(x, y)$$

$$= 1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{9}\right) + 2 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{9}\right) + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$= \frac{14}{9}$$

Marginal Joint PMF

If we have $p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, how do we evaluate

$p(x_i = x_i)$?

⇒ Marginal PMF of X_i :

$$P_{X_i}(k) = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n} p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, k, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

hold x_i constant
and sum all other
possibilities

Lemma

The pmf of X_i is the marginal pmf of X_i