

1. Suppose that  $X$  is a discrete random variable (rv) with range  $S_X \subset N := \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . Prove

$$E[X] = \sum_{i \in N} P[X \geq i]$$

Starting with the definition of  $E[X]$ :

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x \cdot p_X(x)$$

To get here, we rewrite  $\sum_{i \in N} P[X \geq i]$

$$\sum_{i \in N} P[X \geq i] = \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{x \geq i} p_X(x)$$

From the definition of  $N$ ,

$$\sum_{i \in N} \sum_{x \geq i} p_X(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{x \geq i} p_X(x)$$

Logically, this means that for each value of  $x = i$ ,  $p_X(x)$  will be added  $i$  times. For example,  $p_X(1)$  will only be included in the first summation.  $p_X(2)$  will be added in the first and second. And thus this simplifies to the definition of the expectation.

Mathematically, it needs a few more steps:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{x \geq i} p_X(x) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^x p_X(x) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} p_X(x) \sum_{i=1}^x 1 = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} p_X(x) \cdot x$$

Based on the definition  $S_X \subset N := \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,

$$\sum_{x=1}^{\infty} p_X(x) \cdot x = \sum_{x \in S_X} x \cdot p_X(x) = E[X]$$

2. Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are two discrete rvs, and  $S_X = S_Y = \{1, -1\}$

- (a) Suppose that  $E[X] = E[Y] = 0$ . Show that  $p_{X,Y}(1, 1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, -1)$  and  $p_{X,Y}(1, -1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, 1)$ . Since each rv has only two possible values, 1 and -1, each must have equal probability 0.5 in order for the expectation to be 0. If  $X$  and  $Y$  were independent, then this would be simple:  $p_{X,Y}(1, 1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, -1) = p_{X,Y}(1, -1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, 1) = 0.25$

However, even if they aren't independent, their conditional probabilities must be symmetric in order to give an expectation of 0. In other words:

$$p_Y(1) = p_{Y|X}(1|1) + p_{Y|X}(1|-1) = 0.5 \text{ and } p_Y(-1) = p_{Y|X}(-1|1) + p_{Y|X}(-1|-1) = 0.5$$

Since the expectation is 0, if  $p_{Y|X}(1|1) > p_{Y|X}(1|-1)$  ( $Y$  is more likely to be 1 if  $X$  is 1 than if it is -1), then  $p_{Y|X}(-1|1) < p_{Y|X}(-1|-1)$  is necessary to ensure that the total  $p_Y(1) = p_Y(-1) = 0.5$ . More specifically, if  $p_{Y|X}(1|1) \neq p_{Y|X}(1|-1)$ , then

$$p_{Y|X}(1|1) - p_{Y|X}(1|-1) = p_{Y|X}(-1|-1) - p_{Y|X}(-1|1)$$

Rearranging the earlier equations to solve for  $p_{Y|X}(1|1)$ ,  $p_{Y|X}(1|-1)$ ,  $p_{Y|X}(-1|1)$ , and  $p_{Y|X}(-1|-1)$ , then substituting into the equality above and simplifying yields:

$$p_{Y|X}(1|1) = p_{Y|X}(-1|-1) \text{ and } p_{Y|X}(1|-1) = p_{Y|X}(-1|1)$$

Each side of the above equations can be multiplied by  $p_X(1) = 0.5$  or  $p_X(-1) = 0.5$  to turn the conditional probability into the desired joint probability, proving that  $p_{X,Y}(1, 1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, -1)$  and  $p_{X,Y}(1, -1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, 1)$ .

- (b) Assume  $E[X] = E[Y] = 0$ . Let  $p = 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1)$ . Find  $Var(X)$  and  $Var(Y)$ . Write  $Cov(X, Y)$  in terms of  $p$ .

$$Var(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = 1 - 0 = 1 \text{ and } Var(Y) = E[Y^2] - E[Y]^2 = 1 - 0 = 1$$

$$Cov(X, Y) = \sigma_{X,Y} = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] = E[X \cdot Y]$$

$$E[X \cdot Y] = \sum x \cdot y \cdot p_{X,Y}(x, y) = p_{X,Y}(1, 1) - p_{X,Y}(1, -1) - p_{X,Y}(-1, 1) + p_{X,Y}(-1, -1)$$

Since we showed that  $p_{X,Y}(1, 1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, -1)$  and  $p_{X,Y}(1, -1) = p_{X,Y}(-1, 1)$  above, this can be simplified.

$$p_{X,Y}(1, 1) - p_{X,Y}(1, -1) - p_{X,Y}(-1, 1) + p_{X,Y}(-1, -1) = 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1) - 2p_{X,Y}(1, -1)$$

In addition,

$$p_{X,Y}(1, 1) + p_{X,Y}(1, -1) + p_{X,Y}(-1, 1) + p_{X,Y}(-1, -1) = 1 = 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1) + 2p_{X,Y}(1, -1)$$

$$2p_{X,Y}(1, -1) = 1 - 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1)$$

Substituting this into  $\sigma_{X,Y}$  and replacing  $2p_{X,Y}(1, 1)$  with  $p$  gives:

$$Cov(X, Y) = \sigma_{X,Y} = 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1) - (1 - 2p_{X,Y}(1, 1))p - (1 - p) = 2p - 1$$

3. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two discrete rv with joint PMF

$$p_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0.1 & x = 1, 2, \dots, 10, y = 1, 2, \dots, 10, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (a) What is the PMF of  $W = \min(X, Y)$ ?

There are 100 possible combinations for  $x = 1, 2, \dots, 10, y = 1, 2, \dots, 10$ . Only one has a minimum value of 10. Nineteen have a minimum value of 1. And so on in between.

$$p_W(w) = \begin{cases} 0.19 & w = 1 \\ 0.17 & w = 2 \\ 0.15 & w = 3 \\ 0.13 & w = 4 \\ 0.11 & w = 5 \\ 0.9 & w = 6 \\ 0.7 & w = 7 \\ 0.5 & w = 8 \\ 0.3 & w = 9 \\ 0.1 & w = 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) What is the PMF of  $Z = \max(X, Y)$ ?

Same result as W, but with the order reversed.

$$p_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0.19 & z = 10 \\ 0.17 & z = 9 \\ 0.15 & z = 8 \\ 0.13 & z = 7 \\ 0.11 & z = 6 \\ 0.9 & z = 5 \\ 0.7 & z = 4 \\ 0.5 & z = 3 \\ 0.3 & z = 2 \\ 0.1 & z = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

4. Tom and Mary want to have 2 girls together. Each time they have a baby, it is a girl with a probability of 0.6. They stop having any more babies when they have two girls. Let  $N_1$  be the number of boys till the first girl and  $N_T$  the total number of children they have together.

- (a) Let  $B = \{\text{third baby is a boy}\}$ . What is the conditional joint PMF  $p_{N_1, N_T|B}(n_1, n_T)$ ?

This limits the available values for  $N_1$  and  $N_T$ . Because the third child is a boy,  $N_1 \neq 2$  and  $N_T > 3$ . This sets the minimum for  $N_1$  and reduces the possible permutations for where the first girl was born.

$$p_{N_1, N_T|B}(n_1, n_T) = \begin{cases} (0.316)(0.4)^{n_T-4}(0.6) & n_1 = 0, 1, n_T \geq 4 \text{ (One of the 1st two children is a girl)} \\ (0.4)^{n_T-3}(0.6)^2 & n_1 \geq 3, n_T \geq n_1 + 2 \text{ (Neither of the 1st two children is a girl)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) Compute  $E[N_1|B]$  and  $E[N_T|B]$ .

$N_1$  is related to a geometric rv, the birth of the first girl. Ignoring  $B$ ,  $E[N_1 + 1] = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{5}{3}$ . However, the expectation is calculated as a sum,  $E[X] = \sum_{x \in S_x} x \cdot p_X(x)$ . The effect of  $B$  is to remove one of the possible values of  $N_1$ . Specifically,  $N_1 \neq 2$  or the first girl can't be the third child. Since the original expectation is a sum of all possible values, the conditional expectation can be obtained by subtracting the disallowed one.

$$E[N_1 + 1] = \frac{\frac{5}{3} - 3p_{N_1+1}(3)}{1 - p_{N_1+1}(3)} = \frac{\frac{5}{3} - 3(0.4^2 \cdot 0.6)}{1 - (0.4^2 \cdot 0.6)} = \frac{\frac{5}{3} - 0.288}{1 - 0.096} = 1.525$$

This is the expected value for the birth of the first girl given  $B$ .  $E[N_1|B]$  will therefore be  $1.525 - 1 = 0.525$ .  $N_T$  is a pascal rv, with an expected value of  $\frac{2}{0.6} = 3\frac{1}{3}$ . The condition  $B$  removes the possibility of  $N_T = 2, 3$ , so these values should be removed from the expectation and the probability of the others bumped up.

$$E[N_T|B] = \frac{3\frac{1}{3} - (2p_{N_T}(2) + 3p_{N_T}(3))}{1 - (p_{N_T}(2) + p_{N_T}(3))} = \frac{3\frac{1}{3} - (2(0.6)^2 + 3(0.4)(0.6)^2)}{1 - ((0.6)^2 + (0.4)(0.6)^2)} = \frac{3\frac{1}{3} - (0.72 + 0.432)}{1 - (0.36 + 0.144)} = \frac{2.181}{0.496} = 4.40$$

- (c) Find the conditional PMFs  $p_{N_1|N_T}(n_1|5)$  and  $p_{N_T|N_1}(n_T|2)$ .

If  $N_T = 5$ , then  $N_1$  can be 0, 1, 2 or 3. Each of these is equally likely.

$$p_{N_1|N_T}(n_1|5) = \begin{cases} 0.25 & n_1 = 0, 1, 2, 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

From a given value of  $N_1$ ,  $N_T$  is a geometric rv with parameter 0.6.

$$p_{N_T|N_1}(n_T|2) = \begin{cases} (0.4)^{n_T-4}(0.6) & n_T = 4, 5, 6, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

5. The number of dry days following a rainy day is geometrically distributed with a parameter that depends on the amount of rain we have. Suppose that it is raining today. The amount of rain  $Y$  we will get today is 0.2, 0.5, and 0.8 inches with probability 0.3, 0.3, and 0.4, respectively, e.g.,  $P(\text{we get 0.2 inches of rain today}) = 0.3$ . Suppose that the parameter of the geometric rv  $X$ , which is the number of dry days we will have after today before another rainy day, is equal to the amount of rain we have today.

- (a) Find the joint PMF of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

Working from  $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = p_{X|Y}(x|y)p_Y(y)$ ,

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} (1-y)^{x-1}y & x = 0, 1, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Substituting in the values for  $y$  and multiplying by their respective probabilities:

$$p_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} (0.3)(0.8)^{x-1}(0.2) & y = 0.2, x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ (0.3)(0.5)^x & y = 0.5, x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ (0.4)(0.2)^{x-1}(0.8) & y = 0.8, x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) Compute  $E[X]$ .

The expectation of a geometric series is  $\frac{1}{p}$ . Since the parameter for  $X$  depends on  $Y$ :

$$E[X] = \sum_{Y \in S_Y} p_Y(y) \frac{1}{y} = (0.3) \frac{1}{0.2} + (0.3) \frac{1}{0.5} + (0.4) \frac{1}{0.8} = 1.5 + 0.6 + 0.48 = 2.58$$

- (c) Compute the correlation coefficient of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

Correlation Coefficient  $\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{Cov(X,Y)}{\sqrt{Var(X) \cdot Var(Y)}}$ . For this, we need the Expectation and Variance of both  $X$  and  $Y$ , as well as the Covariance.  $E[X]$  was calculated in part (b).

$$E[Y] = (0.3)(0.2) + (0.3)(0.5) + (0.4)(0.8) = 0.06 + 0.15 + 0.32 = 0.53$$

$$E[Y^2] = (0.3)(0.2)^2 + (0.3)(0.5)^2 + (0.4)(0.8)^2 = 0.012 + 0.075 + 0.256 = 0.343 \text{ and } (E[Y])^2 = 0.281$$

$$\text{Therefore } Var[Y] = 0.343 - 0.281 = 0.062$$

Finding  $Var[X]$  is worse.  $(E[X])^2 = 6.66$ . That's the easy part. To find  $E[X^2]$ , break it into a sum:

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{Y \in S_Y} E[X^2|Y=y]p_Y(y)$$

This breaks it into the respective geometric terms. Then use  $E[(X^2)] = E(X) + [E(X(X1))]$ . Then find the solution on stack exchange.

$$\text{For a geometric rv } X, E[X(X1)] = \frac{2(1-p)}{p^2} \text{ and } E[(X^2)] = E(X) + [E(X(X1))] = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{2(1-p)}{p^2} = \frac{2-p}{p^2}$$

In this case,  $p = y$ , so we sum the results for each value of  $y$  multiplied by their respective probability:

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{Y \in S_Y} E[X^2|Y=y]p_Y(y) = (0.3) \frac{2-0.2}{0.2^2} + (0.3) \frac{2-0.5}{0.5^2} + (0.4) \frac{2-0.8}{0.8^2} = 13.5 + 1.8 + .75 = 16.05$$

$$\text{Finally, } Var[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = 16.05 - 6.66 = 9.39$$

Now we just need the covariance,  $\sigma_{X,Y} = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$ . And I don't even know where to begin with this. But the Correlation Coefficient will be the Covariance divided by the product of the variances.

6. Suppose that next years revenue  $R$  of a company depends on its rating  $X$  this year. If the rating  $X$  is 3, its revenue has a binomial distribution with parameter  $(n, p) = (100, 0.5)$ . If the rating is 2, the revenue is geometrically distributed with parameter  $1/30$ . If its rating is 1, the revenue is uniformly distributed on  $\{0, 1, \dots, 50\}$ .

Because the probabilities for the values of  $X$  are not specified, I will be using  $p_X(x)$  for  $x \in [1, 2, 3]$  in my equations.

- (a) Find the joint PMF of  $R$  and  $X$ .

Like 5(a) but with  $R$  changing type.

$$p_{X,R}(x, r) = \begin{cases} (p_X(3)) \binom{100}{r} (0.5)^{100} & x = 3, r = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 100\} \\ (p_X(2)) (1 - \frac{1}{30})^{r-1} (\frac{1}{30}) & x = 2, r = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ (p_X(1)) (\frac{1}{51}) & x = 1, r = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 50\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) Compute  $E[R]$ .

Like 5(b), treat this as a sum of  $E[R|X]$  multiplied by the probabilities of  $X$ :

$$E[R] = \sum_{X \in S_X} E[R|X]p_X(x) = E[R|X=1]p_X(1) + E[R|X=2]p_X(2) + E[R|X=3]p_X(3)$$

$$E[R] = 25p_X(1) + 30p_X(2) + 50p_X(3)$$

(c) Find the conditional PMF  $p_{X|R}(x|100)$ .

For this, we need the Bayes Rule:  $p_{X|R}(x|r) = p_{R|X}(r|x) \frac{p_X(x)}{p_R(r)}$ . Thus,  $p_{X|R}(1|100) = p_{R|X}(100|1) \frac{p_X(1)}{p_R(100)}$ ,  $p_{X|R}(2|100) = p_{R|X}(100|2) \frac{p_X(2)}{p_R(100)}$  and  $p_{X|R}(3|100) = p_{R|X}(100|3) \frac{p_X(3)}{p_R(100)}$ . The first of these is clearly 0 because  $R$  cannot be 100 if  $X$  is 1. Start by calculating the conditional probabilities for  $R$ :

$$p_{R|X}(100|3) = 0.5^{100} = 7.89 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ This is essentially } 0$$

$$p_{R|X}(100|2) = \left(\frac{29}{30}\right)^{99} \frac{1}{30} = 0.00116$$

$p_{R|X}(100|2)$  is small, but greater than 0 and more than  $10^{27}$  times larger than  $p_{R|X}(100|3)$ . Therefore, we can ignore the rest of the Bayes Rule calculation and conclude that if  $R = 100$ , then  $X = 2$ .

$$p_{X|R}(x|100) = \begin{cases} 1 & x = 2 \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$