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1   Course: Statistical_Inference
2   Lesson: Probability2
3
4   - Class: text
5   Output: "Probability. (Slides for this and other Data Science courses may be found at
6   github https://github.com/DataScienceSpecialization/courses. If you care to use them,
7   they must be downloaded as a zip file and viewed locally. This lesson corresponds to
8   Statistical_Inference/Probability.)"
9
10  - Class: text
11  Output: Recall that a random variable is a numerical outcome of an experiment. It can
12  be discrete (take on only a countable number of possibilities), or continuous (take
13  on any value on the real line or subset of it).
14
15  - Class: mult_question
16  Output: If you had a ruler of infinite precision, would measuring the height of
17  adults around the world be continuous or discrete?
18  AnswerChoices: continuous; discrete
19  CorrectAnswer: continuous
20  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='continuous')
21  Hint: The ruler of infinite precision is the hint. Can you list all possible heights?
22
23  - Class: mult_question
24  Output: Is the drawing of a hand of cards continuous or discrete?
25  AnswerChoices: discrete; continuous;
26  CorrectAnswer: discrete
27  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='discrete')
28  Hint: Can you enumerate the possible outcomes?
29
30  - Class: text
31  Output: Continuous random variables are usually associated with measurements of time,
32  distance, or some biological process since they can take on any value, often within
33  some specified range. Limitations of precision in taking the measurements may imply
34  that the values are discrete; we in fact consider them continuous.
35
36  - Class: text
37  Output: A probability mass function (PMF) gives the probability that a discrete
38  random variable is exactly equal to some value.
39
40  - Class: mult_question
41  Output: For instance, suppose we have a coin which may or may not be fair. Let  $x=0$ 
42  represent a 'heads' outcome and  $x=1$  represent a 'tails' outcome of a coin toss. If  $p$ 
43  is the probability of 'heads' which of the following represents the PMF of the coin
44  toss? The variable  $x$  is either 0 (heads) or 1 (tails).
45  AnswerChoices:  $(p^x)*(1-p)^{(1-x)}$ ;  $(p^{(1-x)})*(1-p)^x$ 
46  CorrectAnswer:  $(p^{(1-x)})*(1-p)^x$ 
47  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='(p^(1-x))*(1-p)^x')
48  Hint: The probability  $p$  is associated with a 'heads' outcome which occurs when  $x=0$ .
49  Which of the two expressions has an exponent of 1 for  $p$  when  $x$  is 0?
50
51  - Class: text
52  Output: A probability density function is associated with a continuous random
53  variable. To quote from Wikipedia, it "is a function that describes the relative
54  likelihood for this random variable to take on a given value. The probability of the
55  random variable falling within a particular range of values is given by ... the area
56  under the density function but above the horizontal axis and between the lowest and
57  greatest values of the range."
58
59  - Class: text
60  Output: We'll repeat two requirements of a probability density function. It must be
61  nonnegative everywhere, and the area under it must equal one."
62
63  - Class: figure
64  Output: Consider this figure - a rectangle with height 1 and width 2 with a diagonal
65  line drawn from the lower left corner (0,0) to the upper right (2,1). The area of the
66  entire rectangle is 2 and elementary geometry tells us that the diagonal divides the

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rectangle into 2 equal areas.
48 Figure: figure1.R
49 FigureType: new
50
51 - Class: mult_question
52 Output: Could the diagonal line represent a probability density function for a random
variable with a range of values between 0 and 2? Assume the lower side of the
rectangle is the x axis.
53 AnswerChoices: Yes; No
54 CorrectAnswer: Yes
55 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Yes')
56 Hint: Is the line nonnegative? Is the area under the diagonal 1?
57
58 - Class: figure
59 Output: Now consider the shaded portion of the triangle - a smaller triangle with a
base of length 1.6 and height determined by the diagonal. We'll answer the question,
"What proportion of the big triangle is shaded?"
60 Figure: figure2.R
61 FigureType: new
62
63 - Class: text
64 Output: This proportion represents the probability that throwing a piece of cat
kibble at the bigger triangle (below the diagonal) hits the blue portion.
65
66 - Class: mult_question
67 Output: We have to compute the area of the blue triangle. (Since the area of the big
triangle is 1, the area of the blue triangle is the proportion of the big triangle
that is shaded.) We know the base, but what is its height?
68 AnswerChoices: .5; .25; .8; I can't tell
69 CorrectAnswer: .8
70 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='.8')
71 Hint: The slope of a line is the "rise" (change in height) divided by the "run"
(change in width), so the diagonal's slope is 1/2. At x=1.6, the y value of the
diagonal is 1/2 * 1.6.
72
73 - Class: cmd_question
74 Output: What is the area of the blue triangle?
75 CorrectAnswer: .64
76 AnswerTests: equiv_val(.64)
77 Hint: Multiply the base by the height and divide by 2.
78
79 - Class: cmd_question
80 Output: So, what is the probability that the kibble we throw at the bigger triangle
will hit the blue portion?
81 CorrectAnswer: .64
82 AnswerTests: equiv_val(.64)
83 Hint: The area of the blue triangle divided by the area of the big triangle gives you
the probability.
84
85 - Class: text
86 Output: This artificial example was meant to illustrate a simple probability density
function (PDF). Most PDFs have underlying formulae more complicated than lines. We'll
see more of these in future lessons.
87
88 - Class: text
89 Output: The cumulative distribution function (CDF) of a random variable X, either
discrete or continuous, is the function F(x) equal to the probability that X is less
than or equal to x. In the example above, the area of the blue triangle represents
the probability that the random variable was less than or equal to the value 1.6.
90
91 - Class: mult_question
92 Output: In the triangle example from above, which of the following expressions
represents F(x), the CDF?
93 AnswerChoices: x*x/4; x*x/2; x*2x/2; x^2
94 CorrectAnswer: x*x/4
95 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='x*x/4')
96 Hint: The term 'x' is the base, x/2 is the height. Plug these into the formula for
the area of a triangle.
97

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98 - Class: text
99 Output: If you're familiar with calculus you might recognize that when you're
    computing areas under curves you're actually integrating functions.
100
101 - Class: text
102 Output: When the random variable is continuous, as in the example, the PDF is the
    derivative of the CDF. So integrating the PDF (the line represented by the diagonal)
    yields the CDF. When you evaluate the CDF at the limits of integration the result is
    an area.
103
104 - Class: cmd_question
105 Output: To see this in the example, we've defined the function mypdf for you. This
    is the equation of the line represented by the diagonal of the rectangle. As the PDF,
    it is the derivative of  $F(x)$ , the CDF. Look at mypdf now.
106 CorrectAnswer: mypdf
107 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='mypdf')
108 Hint: Type 'mypdf' at the R prompt.
109
110 - Class: cmd_question
111 Output: Now use the R function integrate to integrate mypdf with the parameters lower
    equal to 0 and upper equal to 1.6. See if you get the same area (probability) you got
    before.
112 CorrectAnswer: integrate(mypdf,0,1.6)
113 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='integrate(mypdf,0,1.6)')
114 Hint: Type 'integrate(mypdf,0,1.6)' at the R prompt.
115
116 - Class: text
117 Output: The survivor function  $S(x)$  of a random variable  $X$  is defined as the function
    of  $x$  equal to the probability that the random variable  $X$  is greater than the value  $x$ .
    This is the complement of the CDF  $F(x)$ , in our example, the portion of the lower
    triangle that is not shaded.
118
119 - Class: mult_question
120 Output: In our example, which of the following expressions represents the survival
    function?
121 AnswerChoices: 1-x*x/4; 1-x*x/2; 1-x*2x/2; 1-x^2
122 CorrectAnswer: 1-x*x/4
123 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='1-x*x/4')
124 Hint: Since areas under PDF's must be 1 and the survival function is the complement
    of the CDF, the survival function and the CDF sum to 1.
125
126 - Class: text
127 Output: The quantile  $v$  of a CDF is the point  $x_v$  at which the CDF has the value  $v$ .
    More precisely,  $F(x_v)=v$ . A percentile is a quantile in which  $v$  is expressed as a
    percentage.
128
129 - Class: mult_question
130 Output: What percentile is the median?
131 AnswerChoices: 50-th; 25-th; 95-th; I can't tell
132 CorrectAnswer: 50-th
133 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='50-th')
134 Hint: The median is the point at which half of the outcomes are above and half are
    below.
135
136 - Class: cmd_question
137 Output: What is the 50th percentile of the CDF  $F(x)=(x^2)/4$  from the example above?
138 CorrectAnswer: 1.414214
139 AnswerTests: equiv_val(sqrt(2))
140 Hint: Solve for the  $x$  such that  $x^2=4*.5=2$ 
141
142 - Class: mult_question
143 Output: What does this mean with respect to the kibble we're tossing at the triangle?
144 AnswerChoices: Half of it falls to the left of 1.41; All of it falls to the left of
    1.41; All of it falls to the right of 1.41; All of it falls on the vertical line at
    1.41
145 CorrectAnswer: Half of it falls to the left of 1.41
146 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Half of it falls to the left of 1.41')
147 Hint: Recall the meaning of median (half).
148

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149 - Class: text
150   Output: We'll close by repeating some important points.
151
152 - Class: text
153   Output: A probability model connects data to a population using assumptions.
154
155 - Class: text
156   Output: Be careful to distinguish between population medians and sample medians.
157
158 - Class: text
159   Output: A sample median is an estimator of a population median (the estimand).
160
161 - Class: text
162   Output: Congrats! You've concluded this lesson on probability.
163
164 - Class: mult_question
165   Output: "Would you like to receive credit for completing this course on
166     Coursera.org?"
167   CorrectAnswer: NULL
168   AnswerChoices: Yes;No
169   AnswerTests: coursera_on_demand()
170   Hint: ""
171
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