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Exercise 4

problem 1a.

(1) X and Z are uncorrelated if their covariance is equal to zero.

The covariance between X and Z is given by,

$$\text{Cov}(X, Z) = E[XZ] - E[X]E[Z].$$

Since,

$$Z = ax^v + bx + c,$$

we have $E[Z] = aE[x^v] + bE[x] + c$;

Substituting this to the covariance,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X, Z) &= E[ax^v + bx + cX] - E[X](\\ &\quad aE[x^v] + bE[x] + c) \end{aligned}$$

Since, f is an even function,

we have, $E[X] = 0$

and, $E[X^3] = 0$.

Therefore, $\text{Cov}(X, Z) = bE[X^v]$.

So, X and Z are uncorrelated if and only if $b = 0$.

a and c can take any values from real numbers.



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problem 1a.

(2) Independence between two random variables means that the joint probability distributions of the two variables is same as the product of their marginal probability distributions.

$$\text{So, } f_{XZ}(x,z) = f_X(x)f_Z(z) \text{ for all } x \text{ and } z.$$

Here,

$$Z = ax^2 + bx + c,$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{XZ}(x,z) &= f_X(x)f_Z(z) \\ &= f_X(x)f_Z(ax^2 + bx + c) \end{aligned}$$

For X and Z to be independent, we need the right side of the equation to factorize into a product of separate functions of x and z . This factorization is only possible if $a=0$.

So, X and Z to be independent, $a=0$,

• b and c can take any real values,



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Problem 1b.

① This statement is False. Two random variables can be uncorrelated but still dependent.

Let X be a random variable uniformly distributed on the interval $[-1, 1]$ and $Z = X^3$.

$$\text{Here, } E[X] = 0.$$

$$E[XZ] = E[X^4] = 0$$

So, $\text{Cov}(X, Z) = 0$ and X, Z are uncorrelated.

But, Z depends on the value of X , which means they are not independent.

② This statement is True.

$$\text{Here, } \text{Cov}(X, Z) = E[XZ] - E[X]E[Z]$$

if X and Z are independent,

$$E[XZ] = E[X]E[Z]$$

$$\text{So, } \text{Cov}(X, Z) = 0.$$



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(3) This statement is True.

$$\text{Here, } \text{Var}(x+z) = E[(x+z)^2] - (E[x+z])^2 \\ = E[x^2 + 2xz + z^2] - (E[x] + E[z])^2.$$

$$= E[x^2] + 2E[xz] + E[z^2] - \\ (E[x])^2 - 2E[x]E[z] - (E[z])^2 \\ = (E[x^2] - (E[x])^2) + (E[z^2] - (E[z])^2) \\ + 2(E[xz] - E[x]E[z]) \\ = \text{var}(x) + \text{var}(z) + 2\text{cov}(x, z)$$

if, x and z are independent, $\text{cov}(x, z) = 0$.

$$\text{So, } \text{var}(x+z) = \text{var}(x) + \text{var}(z).$$

Therefore, if the variances of x and z are finite, and $\text{var}(x+z) = \text{var}(x) + \text{var}(z)$ then, x and z are uncorrelated.



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Problem 2

(1) To characterize all possible couplings between X and Y , we need to define a joint probability distribution, which is as follows:

$$P(X=0, Y=0) = \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$P(X=0, Y=1) = \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X=1, Y=0) = \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$P(X=1, Y=1) = \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

(2) The correlation between X and Y are defined as:

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \text{cov}(X, Y) / (\sigma(X) \times \sigma(Y))$$

where, $\text{cov}(X, Y)$ is the covariance of X and Y ,
 $\sigma(X)$ and $\sigma(Y)$ are the standard deviations
for X and Y respectively.

To minimize the correlation, we need to find a coupling which minimizes the numerator of the correlation formula,



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If we use the joint probabilities defined in part 1, we can see that when $X = Y$, i.e.

$$P(X=0, Y=0)$$

$$P(X=1, Y=1),$$

are the coupleings that maximize the numerator.

for $P(X=0, Y=0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X, Y) &= E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= (0 - \frac{1}{2})(0 - \frac{1}{3}) \times \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

~~= 1/36~~

$$= 1/36$$

for, $P(X=1, Y=1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X, Y) &= E[(1 - \frac{1}{2})(1 - \frac{2}{3}) \times \frac{1}{3}] \\ &= 1/18 \end{aligned}$$

These results in a positive correlation.

Conversely, for $X \neq Y$, the cov results in negative which implies a negative correlation (minimize), which are

$$P(X=0, Y=1)$$

$$P(X=1, Y=0)$$



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Explanation:

The maximization of correlation occurs when the two variables have a deterministic relationship, where the value of one variable completely determines the value of the other.

In this case, when $X=0, Y=0$ and $X=1, Y=1$, resulting in a positive correlation.

Similarly, minimum correlation occurs when there is a deterministic relationship of the opposite sign; when $X=0, Y=1$, $X=1, Y=0$, resulting in a negative correlation.

These couplings maximize and minimize the correlation because they have the deterministic relationship between the variables.

- ③ To make the two variables uncorrelated, we need the covariance resulting in zero.

As we have seen, for, $(X=0, Y=0)$ and $(X=1, Y=1)$, $\text{cov}(X, Y) \neq 0$.

$$\text{for, } (X=0, Y=1), \text{cov}(X, Y) = (0 - \frac{1}{2})(1 - \frac{2}{3}) \cdot \frac{1}{3} \\ = -\frac{1}{18}$$

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$$\text{for, } (x=1, Y=0), \text{cov}(X, Y) = (1 - \frac{1}{2})(0 - \frac{1}{3}) \cdot \frac{1}{6} \\ = -\frac{1}{36},$$

So, we can say, there ~~are~~ is no couplings that makes the random variables X and Y uncorrelated.

④

i) All the possible couplings:

$$P(X=0, Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(X=0, Z=1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 0 = 0$$

$$P(X=1, Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(X=1, Z=1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 0 = 0$$

$$\text{ii) } \text{cov}(X, Z) = E[(X - E[X])(Z - E[Z])]$$

for, $P(X=0, Z=0)$,

$$\text{cov}(X, Z) = (0 - \frac{1}{2}) \times (0 - 1) \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

for, $P(X=0, Z=1)$

$$\text{cov}(X, Z) = 0 \cdot 0$$

for, $P(X=1, Z=0)$

$$\text{cov}(X, Z) = (1 - \frac{1}{2}) \cdot (0 - 1) \times \frac{1}{2} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

for, $P(X=1, Z=1)$, $\text{cov}(X, Z) = 0$.



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Here, X and Z are independent.

As we can see,

$$P(X=0, Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} = P(X=0) \times P(Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(X=0, Z=1) = 0 = P(X=0) \times P(Z=1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 0 = 0$$

$$P(X=1, Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} = P(X=1) \times P(Z=0) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$P(X=1, Z=1) = 0 = P(X=1) \times P(Z=1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 0 = 0.$$

If X and Z are independent then they are uncorrelated (proved in problem 1b).