Probability and Random Process

COSE382

Joint, marginal, and conditional PMF

Definition 7.1.1 (Joint CDF). The *joint CDF* of r.v.s X and Y is the function $F_{X,Y}: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} : \to \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X \le x, Y \le y).$$

Definition 7.1.2 (Joint PMF). The *joint PMF* of discrete r.v.s X and Y is the function $p_{X,Y}: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} : \to \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$p_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X = x, Y = y).$$

The joint PMF of n discrete r.v.s is defined analogously.

Definition 7.1.3 (Marginal PMF). For discrete r.v.s X and Y, the marginal PMF of X is

$$P(X = x) = \sum_{y} P(X = x, Y = y).$$

The marginal PMF of X is the PMF of X, viewing X individually rather than jointly with Y.

Definition 7.1.4 (Conditional PMF). For discrete r.v.s X and Y, the conditional PMF of Y given X = x is

$$P(Y = y | X = x) = \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(X = x)}.$$

This is viewed as a function of y for fixed x.

Example 7.1.5 $(2 \times 2 \text{ table})$.

Suppose we randomly sample an adult male from U.S.

- -X: indicator of being a current smoker
- -Y: indicator of developing lung cancer someday.
- 1. Joint PMF: The following table the joint PMF of X and Y.

| | Y=1 | Y=0 | Total |
|-------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| X=1 | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{20}{100}$ | $\frac{25}{100}$ |
| X=0 | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{72}{100}$ | $\frac{75}{100}$ |
| Total | $\frac{8}{100}$ | $\frac{92}{100}$ | $\frac{100}{100}$ |

- 2. Marginal: The marginal distribution of X is Bern(0.25) and the marginal distribution of Y is Bern(0.08).
- 3. Conditional:

$$P(Y = 1|X = 1) = \frac{P(X = 1, Y = 1)}{P(X = 1)} = \frac{5/100}{25/100} = 0.2,$$

The conditional distribution of Y given X = 1 is Bern(0.2).

The conditional distribution of Y given X = 1 is Bern(0.04).

Definition 7.1.7 (Independence of discrete r.v.s). Random variables X and Y are independent if for all x and y,

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y).$$

If X and Y are discrete, this is equivalent to the condition

$$p_{XY}(x,y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y)$$

for all x and y, and it is also equivalent to the condition

$$P(Y = y|X = x) = P(Y = y)$$

for all y and all x such that P(X = x) > 0.

Example 7.1.9 (Chicken-egg) (VD)

- N: Number of eggs a chicken lays, $N \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$. Each egg hatches with p and fails to hatch with 1-p independently.
- X: Number of eggs that hatches, $X|(N=n) \sim \text{Bin}(n,p)$
- Y: Number of eggs that does not hatch $Y|(N=n) \sim \text{Bin}(n,1-p)$
- -X+Y=N

What is the joint PMF of X and Y?

Solution:

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(X = i, Y = j | N = n) P(N = n)$$

$$= P(X = i, Y = j | N = i + j) P(N = i + j)$$

$$= P(X = i | N = i + j) P(N = i + j)$$

$$= {i+j \choose i} p^i q^j \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{i+j}}{(i+j)!}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\lambda p} (\lambda p)^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda q(\lambda q)^j}}{j!} = P(X = i) P(Y = j)$$

Joint PDF

Definition 7.1.12 (Joint PDF). If X and Y are continuous with joint CDF $F_{X,Y}$, their *joint PDF* is the derivative of the joint CDF with respect to x and y

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F_{X,Y}(x,y).$$

We require valid joint PDFs to be nonnegative and integrate to 1:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) \ge 0$$
, and $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = 1$.

The joint PDF of two r.v.s is the function we integrate to get the probability of a two-dimensional region. For example,

$$P(X < 3, 1 < Y < 4) = \int_{1}^{4} \int_{-\infty}^{3} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy.$$

For a general set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$P((X,Y) \in A) = \iint_A f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy.$$

Marginal and Conditional PDF

Definition 7.1.13 (Marginal PDF). For continuous r.v.s X and Y with joint PDF $f_{X,Y}$, the marginal PDF of X is

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y)dy.$$

This is the PDF of X, viewing X individually rather than jointly with Y.

Definition 7.1.14 (Conditional PDF). For continuous r.v.s X and Y with joint PDF $f_{X,Y}$, the conditional PDF of Y given X = x is

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)}$$

This is considered as a function of y for fixed x.

Theorem 7.1.17 (Continuous form of Bayes' rule and LOTP). For continuous r.v.s X and Y,

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X|Y}(x|y)f_Y(y)}{f_X(x)}$$
$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y)f_Y(y)dy.$$

Proof. By definition of conditional PDFs, we have

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x)f_X(x) = f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_{X|Y}(x|y)f|Y(y).$$

The continuous version of Bayes' rule follows immediately from dividing by $f_X(x)$. The continuous version of LOTP follows immediately from integrating with respect to y:

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y)dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y)f_Y(y)dy.$$

Definition 7.1.18 (Independence of continuous r.v.s). Random variables X and Y are independent if for all x and y,

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y).$$

If X and Y are continuous with joint PDF $f_{X,Y}$, this is equivalent to the condition

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$$

for all x and y, and it is also equivalent to the condition

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_Y(y)$$

for all y and all x such that $f_X(x) > 0$.

Proposition 7.1.20 Suppose that the joint PDF $f_{X,Y}$ of X and Y factors are

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = g(x)h(y)$$

for all x and y, where g and h are nonnegative functions. Then X and Y are independent.

Example 7.1.22 (Uniform on a region in the plane). Consider r.v.s X, Y with the joint PDF

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi} & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \le 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The marginal distributions are

$$f_X(x) = \int_{y=-\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{y=\sqrt{1-x^2}} \frac{1}{\pi} dy = \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-x^2}, -1 \le x \le 1.$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-y^2}, -1 \le y \le 1.$$

Suppose we observe X = x. The conditional distribution of Y given X = x is

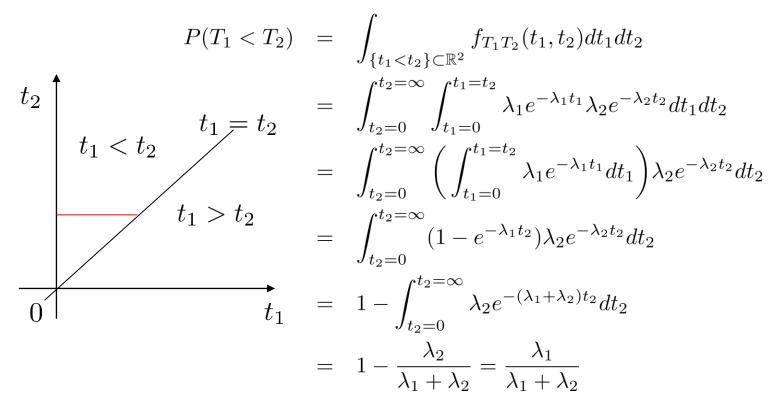
$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)} = \frac{\frac{1}{\pi}}{\frac{2}{\pi}\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

for $-\sqrt{1-x^2} \le y \le \sqrt{1-x^2}$ and 0 otherwise.

Example 7.1.23 (Comparing Exponentials of different rates) (VD).

Let $T_1 \sim \text{Expo}(\lambda_1)$ and $T_2 \sim \text{Expo}(\lambda_2)$ be independent. Find $P(T_1 < T_2)$.

Solution: We just need to integrate the joint PDF of T_1 and T_2 over the appropriate region, which is all (t_1, t_2) with $t_1 > 0, t_2 > 0$, and $t_1 < t_2$. This yields



2D LOTUS

Theorem 7.2.1 (2D LOTUS). Let $g: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$. If X and Y are discrete, then

$$E(g(X,Y)) = \sum_{x} \sum_{y} g(x,y) P(X=x,Y=y).$$

If X and Y are continuous with joint PDF $f_{X,Y}$, then

$$E(g(X,Y)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x,y) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy.$$

Example 7.2.2 (Expected distance between two Uniforms). (VD)

For $X, Y \stackrel{\text{i.i.d}}{\sim} \text{Unif}(0,1)$, find E(|X - Y|).

Solution: Since $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 1$ on the unit square $(x,y): x,y \in [0,1]$, 2D LOTUS gives

Let $M = \max(X, Y)$ and $L = \min(X, Y)$. Note that M + L = X + Y and M - L = |X - Y|,

$$E(M+L) = E(X+Y) = 1,$$

 $E(M-L) = E(|X-Y|) = 1/3.$

We have E(M) = 2/3 and E(L) = 1/3.

Example 7.2.3 (Expected distance between two Normals) (VD).

For $X, Y \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ find E(|X - Y|).

Solution:

We could again use 2D LOTUS, giving

$$E(|X - Y|) = \int_{y = -\infty}^{y = \infty} \int_{x = -\infty}^{x = \infty} |x - y| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2} dx dy,$$

but an easier solution uses the fact that the sum or difference of independent Normals is Normal, as we proved using MGFs. Then $X - Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 2)$. For $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

$$E(|Z|) = \int_{z=-\infty}^{z=\infty} |z| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} dz = 2 \int_{z=0}^{z=\infty} z \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} dz = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}},$$

Hence,
$$E(|X - Y|) = E(\sqrt{2}|Z|) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}}$$
.

Example 7.2.4 (Linearity via 2D LOTUS).

Let X and Y be continuous r.v.s

$$E(X+Y) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} (x+y) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} x f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy + \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} y f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy.$$

$$= E(X) + E(Y).$$

where we have used

$$\int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} y f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} y \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy$$
$$= \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} y f_{Y}(y) dy$$
$$= E(Y),$$

Example (Probability of tie for continuous r.v.) (VD).

Let X and Y be i.i.d. t continuous r.v.s, to prove P(X = Y) = 0 it is sufficient to show P(X < Y) = 1/2, since P(Y < X) = 1/2 by symmetry.

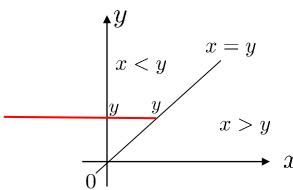
$$1 = P(X < Y) + P(Y < X) + P(X = Y)$$

$$P(X < Y) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=y} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=y} f_X(x) f_X(y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} f_X(y) \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=y} f_X(x) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} f_X(y) F_X(y) dy$$

$$= E(F_X(y)) = E(F_Y(y)) = \frac{1}{2}$$

We have used the fact $F_Y(Y) \sim \text{Unif}(0,1)$ (Theorem 5.3.1, Universality of Unifrom)



Covariance and correlation

Definition 7.3.1 (Covariance). The *covariance* between r.v.s X and Y is

$$Cov(X, Y) := E((X - EX)(Y - EY)) = Cov(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y).$$

• X and Y are uncorrelated if Cov(X,Y) = 0

Theorem 7.3.2. If X and Y are independent, then they are uncorrelated.

Proof.

$$E(XY) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} xy f_X(x) f_Y(y) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} y f_Y(y) \left(\int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} x f_X(x) dx \right) dy$$

$$= \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} x f_X(x) dx \int_{y=-\infty}^{y=\infty} y f_Y(y) dy$$

$$= E(X) E(Y).$$

Properties of Covariance

- 1. Cov(X, X) = Var(X)
- 2. Cov(X, Y) = Cov(Y, X)
- 3. Cov(X, c) = 0 for any constant c
- 4. Cov(aX, Y) = aCov(X, Y) for any constant a
- 5. Cov(X + Y, Z) = Cov(X, Z) + Cov(Y, Z)
- 6. Cov(X + Y, Z + W) = Cov(X, Z) + Cov(X, W) + Cov(Y, Z) + Cov(Y, W)
- 7. Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y) + 2Cov(X, Y)

$$Var(X_1 + \dots + X_n) = Var(X_1) + \dots + Var(X_n) + 2\sum_{i < j} Cov(X_i, X_j)$$

$$Var(X - Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2Cov(X, Y)$$

Definition 7.3.4 (Correlation). The correlation between r.v.s X and Y is

$$Corr(X, Y) = \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var(X)Var(Y)}}$$

(This is undefined in the degenerate cases Var(X) = 0 or Var(Y) = 0.)

Theorem 7.3.5 (Correlation bounds). For any r.v.s X and Y,

$$-1 \leq \operatorname{Corr}(X, Y) \leq 1.$$

Proof. Without loss of generality we can assume X and Y have variance 1, since scaling does not change the correlation. Let $\rho = \text{Corr}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(X, Y)$, then

$$Var(X+Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y) + 2Cov(X,Y) = 2 + 2\rho \ge 0,$$

$$Var(X - Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y) - 2Cov(X, Y) = 2 - 2\rho \ge 0.$$

Thus, $-1 \le \rho \le 1$.

Example 7.3.6 (Exponential max and min) (VD).

Let X and Y be i.i.d. Expo(1) r.v.s. Find the correlation between $\max(X, Y)$ and $\min(X, Y)$.

Solution: Let $M = \max(X, Y)$ and $L = \min(X, Y)$. By the memoryless property and previous results, we know that $L \sim \text{Expo}(2)$, $M-L \sim \text{Expo}(1)$, and M-L is independent of L. We now have

$$Cov(M, L) = Cov(M - L + L, L) = Cov(M - L, L) + Cov(L, L) = 0 + Var(L) = \frac{1}{4},$$

$$Var(M) = Var(M - L + L) = Var(M - L) + Var(L) = 1 + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{5}{4},$$

and

$$Corr(M, L) = \frac{Cov(M, L)}{\sqrt{Var(M)Var(L)}} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\sqrt{\frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}.$$

It makes sense that the correlation is positive because M is constrained to be at least as large as L.

Joint MGF: MGF for joint distribution

Definition 7.5.6 (Joint MGF). The *joint MGF* of a random vector $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)$ is the function which takes a vector of real values $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_k)$ and returns

$$M_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{t}) = E(e^{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{X}^T}) = E(e^{t_1X_1 + \dots + t_kX_k})$$

Especially, for two random variables X and Y, the joint MGF is given as

$$M_{X,Y}(t_1, t_2) = E(e^{t_1 X + t_2 Y}) = \int \int e^{t_1 x + t_2 y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$$

Property When **X** is a random vector of independent random variables, then the joint MGF is given as a product of MGF's.

$$M_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{t}) = E(e^{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{X}^{T}}) = E(e^{t_{1}X_{1} + \dots + t_{k}X_{k}}) = E(\prod_{i=1}^{k} e^{t_{k}X_{k}})$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^{k} E(e^{t_{k}X_{k}}) = \prod_{i=1}^{k} M_{X_{k}}(t_{k})$$

Furthermore, if a joint MGF is given as a product of marginal MGFs, the marginal random variables are independent.

Multivariate Normal (Jointly Gaussian)

Definition 7.5.1 (Jointly Gaussian distribution).

A random vector $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)$ is said to have a *jointly Gaussian or Multivariate Normal* (MVN) distribution if every linear combination of the X_j has a Gaussian distribution. That is,

$$t_1X_1 + \cdots + t_kX_K$$

is a Gaussian distribution for any choice of constants t_1, \ldots, t_k .

- A Special case is k = 2; this distribution is called the *Bivariate Normal* (BVN).
- If (X_1, \ldots, X_k) is jointly Gaussian, then each X_i is Gaussian.
- (X_1, \ldots, X_k) may not jointly Normal, even if X_1, \ldots, X_k are Gaussian.

Example 7.5.2 (Non-example of jointly Gaussian). Example of two Gaussian r.v.s X and Y whose joint distribution is not jointly Gaussian. Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$, and let

$$S = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with probability } 1/2\\ -1 & \text{with probability } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

be a random sign independent of X. Then Y = SX is a standard Normal r.v.;

$$P(Y < t) = P(SX < t) = P(X < t|S = 1)\frac{1}{2} + P(-X < t|S = -1)\frac{1}{2}$$
$$= \Phi(t)\frac{1}{2} + P(X > -t)\frac{1}{2} = \Phi(t)$$

However, (X, Y) is not jointly Gaussian because P(X + Y = 0) = P(S = -1) = 1/2, which implies that X + Y can't be Gaussian (or, any continuous distribution).

Theorem 7.5.7. Within an MVN random vector, uncorrelated implies independent. If (X, Y) is Bivariate Normal and Corr(X, Y) = 0, then X and Y are independent.

Proof. Let (X,Y) be Bivariate Normal with $E(X) = \mu_1, E(Y) = \mu_2$, $Var(X) = \sigma_1^2$, $Var(Y) = \sigma_2^2$, and $Corr(X,Y) = \rho$. The joint MGF is

$$M_{X,Y}(s,t) = E(e^{sX+tY}) = \exp\left(s\mu_1 + t\mu_2 + \frac{1}{2}Var(sX+tY)\right)$$
$$= \exp\left(s\mu_1 + t\mu_2 + \frac{1}{2}(s^2\sigma_1^2 + t^2\sigma_2^2 + 2st\sigma_1\sigma_2\rho)\right).$$

If $\rho = 0$, the joint MGF reduces to

$$M_{X,Y}(s,t) = \exp\left(s\mu_1 + t\mu_2 + \frac{1}{2}(s^2\sigma_1^2 + t^2\sigma_2^2)\right) = M_X(s)M_Y(t)$$

which implies $E(e^{sX}e^{tY}) = E(e^{sX})E(e^{tY})$. Therefore X and Y are independent.

Example 7.5.8 (Independence of sum and difference). Let $X, Y \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ Find the joint distribution of (X + Y, X - Y).

Solution: Since (X + Y, X - Y) is Bivariate Normal and

$$Cov(X + Y, X - Y) = Var(X) - Cov(X, Y) + Cov(Y, X) - Var(Y) = 0,$$

X + Y is independent of X - Y. Furthermore, they are i.i.d. $\mathcal{N}(0, 2)$.

Similarly, we have that if $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma^2)$ and $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma^2)$ are independent (with the same variance), then X + Y is independent of X - Y.