

# HOMEWORK 1 : KALPAK SEAL (8241-7219)

1. (Probability distribution function)

The uniform distribution for a continuous variable  $x$  is

$$p(x; a, b) = \frac{1}{b-a}, \quad a \leq x \leq b$$

Verify that this distribution is normalized (integrates to one), and find expressions for its mean and variance.

Given,

the uniform distribution for a continuous random variable  
is

$$p(x; a, b) = \begin{cases} 1 & ; a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & ; \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now,

$$\int_a^b p(x) dx = \int_a^b \frac{dx}{b-a} = \frac{1}{b-a} [x]_a^b = \frac{b-a}{b-a} = 1$$

$$= 1 \quad (\text{Ans})$$

Now,

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_a^b x \cdot \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{b-a} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_a^b$$

$$= \frac{(b-a)(b+a)}{2(b-a)} = \frac{a+b}{2} \quad (\text{why?})$$

Also,

$$E[X^2] = \int_a^b x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{(b-a)} \cdot \left( \frac{b^3}{3} - \frac{a^3}{3} \right)$$

We know,

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

$$= \frac{1}{b-a} \left\{ \frac{b^3}{3} - \frac{a^3}{3} \right\} - \left( \frac{a+b}{2} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{b^2 + ab + a^2}{3} - \frac{a^2 + 2ab + b^2}{4}$$

$$= \frac{4b^2 + 4ab + 4a^2 - 3a^2 - 6ab - 3b^2}{12}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 - 2ab + b^2}{12} = \frac{(a-b)^2}{12} \quad (\text{why?})$$

## 2. (Probability)

Probabilities are sensitive to the form of the question that was used to generate the answer (Source: Minka.) My neighbor has two children. Assuming that the gender of a child is like a coin flip, it is most likely, a priori, that my neighbor has one boy and one girl, with probability  $1/2$ . The other possibilities - two boys or two girls - have probabilities  $1/4$  and  $1/4$

- (a) Suppose I ask him whether he has any boys, and he says yes. What is the probability that one child is a girl?
- (b) Suppose instead that I happen to see one of his children run by, and it is a boy. What is the probability that the other child is a girl?

a) The sample space looks like  $\{BB, BG, GB, GG\}$

Now, since one child is a girl,

we need to omit  $BB$ .

So, the sample space becomes  $\{BG, GB, GG\}$

Now, the probability that one child is a girl

is therefore  $\frac{2}{3}$  (Ans)

b) Now, if it is given that one of his children is a boy.

The probability that the other child is a girl

$$\text{is } P(G|B) = \frac{P(G \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{Ans})$$

3. (Random variables and variance)

Show that the variance of a sum is  $\text{var}[X + Y] = \text{var}[X] + \text{var}[Y] + 2\text{cov}[X, Y]$  where  $\text{cov}[X, Y]$  is the covariance between X and Y

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{var}[X+Y] &= E[(X+Y - E[X+Y])^2] \\
 &= E[(X-E[X])^2 + (Y-E[Y])^2 + 2(X-E[X])(Y-E[Y])] \\
 &\quad \text{By linearity of expectation} \\
 &= \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y) + 2\text{cov}(X, Y).
 \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

4. (Variables and covariance)

Show that if two variables  $x$  and  $y$  are independent, then their covariance is zero.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cov}(X, Y) &= E[(X-E[X])(Y-E[Y])] \\
 &= E[XY] - E[XE[Y]] - E[E[X]Y] \\
 &\quad + E[E[X]E[Y]]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= E[XY] - E[X][Y]$$

Since,  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,  $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$

$$\therefore \text{cov}(X, Y) = E[X]E[Y] - E[X][Y] = 0 \quad \underline{\text{Q.E.D.}}$$

5. (Independent variables and variance)

Suppose that the two variables  $x$  and  $z$  are statistically independent. Show that the mean and variance of their sum satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[x+z] &= \mathbb{E}[x] + \mathbb{E}[z] \\ \text{var}[x+z] &= \text{var}[x] + \text{var}[z]\end{aligned}$$

• Let.  $g(x, z) = x+z$

$$\text{Let } E[x+z] = E[g(x, z)] = \sum_x \sum_z (x+z) P_{X,Z}(x, z)$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_z x P_{X,Z}(x, z) + \sum_x \sum_z z P_{X,Z}(x, z)$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_z P_{X,Z}(x, z) + \sum_z z \sum_x P(x, z) = \sum_x P(x) + \sum_z P(z)$$

$$= E[X] + E[Z]$$

~~...  
...  
...~~ (Ans)

$$\bullet \quad \text{var}(x+z) = E[(x+z)^2] = E[X^2 + 2xz + z^2]$$

$$= E[X^2] + 2E[XZ] + E[Z^2]$$

Now, since  $X$  and  $Z$  are statistically independent,

$$E[X] = E[Z] = 0$$

$$E[XZ] = E[X] \cdot E[Z] = 0$$

$$\text{So, } \text{var}(x+z) = E[X^2] + E[Z^2]$$

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

~~...~~

## 6. (Concept class/Objective function)

Alex goes to a casino and finds out about a new type of gambling game.

In the game, Alex can randomly choose an integer, let's say  $x$  and feed that number to a machine. The machine in turn runs a program which takes the given number as input and transforms that number using a fixed function  $\mathcal{F} : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  (which takes an integer as argument and returns an integer) and then adds some integer noise  $\epsilon$  to that and produces the final output. So given an integer  $x$  the overall output of the program is of the form:  $y = \mathcal{F}(x) + \epsilon$ , where  $x, y, \epsilon \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now, Alex's job is to predict the output  $y$ . Based on how accurate his prediction is, he gets some reward. It is evident that Alex does not know the exact functional form of  $\mathcal{F}$  and hence is planning to employ a machine learning model to improve his predictions in order to maximize his reward. Fortunately, Alex somehow has the some information about the functional form of  $\mathcal{F}$  that the program uses to generate its output. The function  $\mathcal{F}$  has the following property:

$$\mathcal{F}(\alpha x_1) + \alpha \mathcal{F}(x_2) = \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{F}(x_1 + x_2)) \forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (1)$$

where  $\alpha$  is an integer constant unknown to Alex.

Naturally, Alex chooses the set of all functions that satisfy the equation 1 as the concept class  $\mathcal{C}$  of his machine learning model. For training the model Alex plays against the machine  $N$  times. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  be the input values in those  $N$  trials and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N$  be the corresponding outputs from the machine. The model is trained with those  $(x_i, y_i), i \in 1, 2, \dots, N$  pairs. Alex uses mean squared loss as objective for training the model. So basically Alex's model would choose the function  $\mathcal{G}$  for its prediction, which minimizes the mean squared error over the training data  $((x_i, y_i), i \in 1, 2, \dots, N)$  among all the functions in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Formally,

$$\mathcal{G} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

Given a random integer  $\hat{x}$  as input what should be the prediction of the model after training is done ?

Hint: Plug  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = n$  and  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = n - 1$ . Can you infer the functional form of  $\mathcal{F}$  from this?

Given,

$$F(\alpha x_1) + \alpha F(x_2) = F(F(x_1 + x_2)), \quad \forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Put,  
 $x_1=0, x_2=n$

$$\text{So, } F(0) + \alpha F(n) = F(F(n)) \rightarrow i$$

And, for  $x_1=1, x_2=n-1$

$$F(\alpha) + \alpha F(n-1) = F(F(n)) \rightarrow ii$$

Now,

Equating it and ii)

$$F(0) + \alpha F(n) = F(\alpha) + \alpha F(n-1)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(n) = f(n-1) + \frac{1}{\alpha} \{ F(\alpha) - F(0) \}$$

L  
Now,

Since 'n' is a natural number.

This  $f(n)$  will contain multiple function involving  
straight line, parabola, ..., convex function.

Now, if I choose the convex functions to buff me guarantee a reach to the global minima.

- $f$  is called **convex** if:

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in X, \forall t \in [0, 1] : f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \leq tf(x_1) + (1 - t)f(x_2)$$



Thus I will choose functions that is of this form.

So,

To compute the prediction, we need to compute the derivative w.r.t ' $f$ ', and according solve and get the prediction for the corresponding input.

## 7. (Probability)

Let  $X$  be a set and let  $A = (A_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  whose union is  $X$  where all  $A_i, i \in \mathbb{N}$  are mutually disjoint. You can convince yourself that the set of all finite or countable unions of the members of  $A$ , including the empty set,  $\emptyset$ , is  $\sigma$ -algebra (you don't need to prove this). A  $\sigma$ -algebra of this type, generated by taking all the finite or countable unions of a set of atoms

( $A_i$ 's in this case), is called atomic. Prove that the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}_R$  is not atomic.

Let,  $\mathcal{B}_R$  be a collection of all finite/countable unions of sets in  $A = (A_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , where the  $A_i$ 's are mutually disjoint, non-empty subsets of  $R$ , unifying to  $R$ .

Particularly, each set in  $A$  is a Borel set in itself in  $R$ .

Now,

Let  $U = \left\{ \{p\} : 0 < p < 1 \right\}$ .

Then each singleton in  $U$  is a borel set, being closed w.r.t  $R$ .

So, for each  $\phi \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\{p\}$  is a union of a finite or countable subset of  $A_i$ .

• But since the  $A_i$  are non-empty by itself,  
 $\{p\}$  cannot be a union of more than one  $A_i$ ,  
else there would be more than one element  
of  $\{p\}$ .

Hence, for each  $p \in (0,1)$ ,

there can be a "injective" association  
of a set  $A_i \in A$  with  $\{p\} = A_i$ .

But,  
 $V$  is uncountable and  $A$  is countable.

$\therefore A$  is not одомн ~~one~~

( $A_i$ 's in this case), is called atomic. Prove that the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}_R$  is not atomic.

8. Your friend, Carlsen performs an experiment in which he repeatedly flips a biased coin until a head appears. He notes down the outcome of each trial of his experiment. Naturally the set of outcomes (call it  $\Omega$ ) contains elements like H, TH, TTH and so on (where H denotes the occurrence of a Head and T is for a Tail). Now Carlsen needs help to equip himself with the required mathematical framework to deal with probabilities.
- (a) Construct a  $\sigma$ -algebra ( $\mathcal{F}$ ) on  $\Omega$  so that Carlsen will be able to assign probabilities to (at the very least) all possible singleton sets  $\{\omega\}$  where  $\omega \in \Omega$ , and prove that  $\mathcal{F}$  is indeed a  $\sigma$ -algebra.
  - (b) Is the set  $\mathcal{F}$  countable? Justify your answer.
  - (c) Now Define a probability measure  $P : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . Justify why you think P is a probability measure.
  - (d) Give a random variable  $X$  on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  as defined by you so far. Now use the same probability as defined in (c) induced by the random variable  $X$  to show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} P(X \leq x) = 1$$

Also calculate the value of  $E(X)$  for the above setup.

$$\Omega = \{H, TH, TTH, \dots\}$$

a) Creating a  $\sigma$ -algebra on this sample space.

• thus both  $\Omega \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$

• Considering any singleton set like  $\{T, H\} \in \mathcal{F}$  and thereby, its complement  $\{T, H\}^c \in \mathcal{F}$ .

• Also,  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \{P_i\} \in \mathcal{F}$  where  $P_i \cap P_{i+1} = \emptyset$ .

∴  $\mathcal{F}$  is our required  $\sigma$ -algebra.

b) Now our sample space ' $\Omega$ ' is a countably finite.

The power set of  $\Omega$  is  $2^{\Omega}$  which is uncountably infinite.

Since the set of all possible subsets of  $\Omega$  lies in  $\mathcal{F}$ , therefore,  $\mathcal{F}$  is not countable.

c) Consider  $\{\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P\}$  to be a probability measure.

For any event  $\omega \in \Omega$  of size 'i',

$$P(\omega) = (1-p)^{i-1} \cdot p.$$

Now,

$$\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(\omega) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (1-p)^{i-1} \cdot p.$$

$$= p \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (1-p)^i = p \cdot \frac{1}{(1-(1-p))}$$

$P(\Omega)$  is 1,

$$= 1$$

$\{\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P\}$  is a probability measure.

d) The samples from  $\Omega$  are disjoint and  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(i) = P(\Omega)$ .

$$P(X_i) = p \cdot (1-p)^{i-1}. \quad \forall i=1, 2, 3. \quad E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i \cdot (1-p)^{i-1} \cdot p = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} k_i p_k$$

9. Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  be a sequence of events. Prove that,  
 $P(\liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_n) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P(A_n)$

Let's assume that  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  is the probability space.

Now,  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .

We know,

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k \in \mathcal{F}$$

and  $\bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k \subset \bigcap_{k \geq n+1} A_k$  for any  $n \geq 1$ .

By continuity of probability  $P$ ,

$$\bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k \subset A_n$$

$$\hookrightarrow P\left(\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k\right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k\right)$$

$$= \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcap_{k \geq n} A_k\right)$$

$$\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n)$$