

8/28/2019 Lecture 1

A discrete random variable (r.v.) X has a probability mass function (PMF) $\Rightarrow P(X) = P(X=x)$ and cumulative distribution function (CDF) $\Rightarrow F(x) = P(X \leq x)$

Support and PMF are related via $\sum_{x \in \text{Supp}[X]} P(x) = 1$

Also, $|\text{Supp}[X]| \leq |\mathbb{N}| \Leftrightarrow X$ is discrete.

The most fundamental discrete r.v. is the Bernoulli

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } p \\ 0 & \text{w.p. } 1-p \end{cases} = p^x (1-p)^{1-x}$$

$$\text{Supp}[X] = \{0, 1\}$$

* p is its parameter and belongs to the "parameter space."
 $p \in (0, 1)$

if $p=1$, $X \sim \text{Bern}(1) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } 1 \end{cases} = \text{Deg}(1) = \mathbb{I}_{X=1}$

if $p=0$, $X \sim \text{Bern}(0) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{w.p. } 1 \end{cases} = \text{Deg}(0) = \mathbb{I}_{X=0}$ [degenerate r.v.]

~~***~~ $X \sim \text{Deg}(L) = \{L \text{ with probability } 1\} = \mathbb{I}_{X=L}$

Ex) $P(X=3.7) = P(3.7) = p^{3.7} (1-p)^{-2.7} = 0.5$ if $p = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 3.7$ is not in the support

Let $\mathbb{I}_A = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } A \\ 0 & \text{if } A^c \end{cases}$ $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$
 $P(X) = p^x (1-p)^{1-x} \mathbb{I}_{x \in \text{Supp}[X]}$

Indicator function

Ex) $f(x) = \mathbb{I}_{x < 1}$
 $f(1.9) = 0$; $f(-1.3) = 1$

①

X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are discrete r.v.'s which have a joint mass function (JMF): $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$

$$= P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n)$$

If $X_1 \stackrel{d}{=} X_2 \stackrel{d}{=} \dots \stackrel{d}{=} X_n \Rightarrow P_{X_1}(x) = P_{X_2}(x) = \dots = P_{X_n}(x)$
 (identically distributed) * They share the same PMF.

X_1, X_2 iid \Rightarrow independent + identically distributed

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i)$$

Let $X_1, X_2 \sim \text{Bern}(p)$ and $T = X_1 + X_2 \Rightarrow P_T(t) = ?$

$$\text{Supp}[T] = \text{Supp}[X_1] + \text{Supp}[X_2] = \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$A+B = \{a+b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$$

X_1	X_2	$\langle X_1, X_2 \rangle$	$P_{X_1, X_2}(X_1, X_2)$	T	$P_T(t)$
1	1	$\langle 1, 1 \rangle$	p^2	2	p^2
1	0	$\langle 1, 0 \rangle$	$p(1-p)$	1	$p(1-p)$
0	1	$\langle 0, 1 \rangle$	$(1-p)p$	1	$p(1-p)$
0	0	$\langle 0, 0 \rangle$	$(1-p)^2$	0	$(1-p)^2$

~~$P_T(t)$~~ $P_T(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{w.p. } (1-p)^2 \\ 1 & \text{w.p. } 2p(1-p) \\ 2 & \text{w.p. } p^2 \end{cases}$

$$\sum_{t \in \text{Supp}[T]} P_T(t) = (1-p)^2 + 2p(1-p) + p^2 = 1 - 2p + p^2 + 2p - 2p^2 + p^2 = 1$$

$$P(T=t) = P_T(t) = \sum_{x_1 \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{x_2 \in \mathbb{R}} P_{x_1, x_2}(x_1, x_2) \mathbb{I}_{t=x_1+x_2}$$

$$= \sum_{x_1 \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{x_2 \in \mathbb{R}} P_{x_1, x_2}(x_1, t-x_2) \cdot \mathbb{I}_{x_2=t-x_1}$$

$x_1, x_2 \Rightarrow$ independent $\Rightarrow \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} P_{x_1, x_2}(x_1, t-x_2)$

$$= \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} P_{x_1}(x) P_{x_2}(t-x)$$

$x_1 = x_2 \Rightarrow \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} p(x) p(t-x)$

\Rightarrow General Discrete Convolution Formula

$$P_T(t) = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (p^x (1-p)^{1-x} \mathbb{I}_{x \in \{0,1\}}) (p^{t-x} (1-p)^{1-(t-x)} \mathbb{I}_{t-x \in \{0,1\}})$$

$$= \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}} p^x (1-p)^{1-x} p^{t-x} (1-p)^{1-(t-x)} \mathbb{I}_{t-x \in \{0,1\}}$$

$$= p^t (1-p)^{2-t} (\mathbb{I}_{x \in \{0,1\}} + \mathbb{I}_{t-x \in \{0,1\}})$$

$$= p^t (1-p)^{2-t} (\mathbb{I}_{t \in \{0,1\}} + \mathbb{I}_{t \in \{1,2\}})$$

$$= \begin{cases} (1-p)^2 & \text{if } t=0 \\ 2p(1-p) & \text{if } t=1 \\ p^2 & \text{if } t=2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$= \binom{2}{t} p^t (1-p)^{2-t}$$

\downarrow Binom(2, p)

$$\binom{2}{t} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t=0 \\ 2 & \text{if } t=1 \\ 1 & \text{if } t=2 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$