

Review

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March 11, 2020

Probability

- S : sample space
- Sigma algebra \mathcal{B} : a collection of subsets of S that satisfies

- 1 $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$
- 2 If $A \in \mathcal{B}$, then $A^c \in \mathcal{B}$
- 3 If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$, then $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$.

Show that $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{B}$.

- P is a probability function if P satisfies

- 1 $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \in \mathcal{B}$
- 2 $P(S) = 1$
- 3 If $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{B}$ are pairwise disjoint, then $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$.

- Theorem

If P is a probability

- 1 $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i)$ for any partition C_1, C_2, \dots
- 2 $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum P(A_i)$.

Proof)

- $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i$
- $P(A) = P(A \cap S) = P(A \cap \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i) = P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (A \cap C_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i)$
- Consider $B_i = A_i \setminus (A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_{i-1})$
- $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$

- Conditional Probability $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B)/P(B)$.

- Example 1.3.4 (Three prisoners)

Three prisoners, A, B, and C, are on death row. The governor decides to pardon one of the three and chooses at random the prisoner to pardon. He informs the warden of his choice but requests that the name to be kept in secret for a few days.

The next day, A tries to get the warden to tell him who had been pardoned. The warden refuses. A then asks which of B or C will be executed. The warden thinks for a while, then tells A that B is to be executed.

What is the chance that A being pardoned given the information?

Probability

- $P(\text{The warden tells that B gets executed} \mid \text{A is pardoned}) = 1/2.$
- $P(\text{The warden tells that B gets executed} \mid \text{C is pardoned}) = 1$
- $P(\text{The warden tells that B gets executed}) = 1/2 * 1/3 + 1 * 1/3 = 1/2.$
- $P(\text{The warden tells that B gets executed and A is pardoned}) = 1/2 * 1/3 = 1/6$
- $P(\text{A is pardoned} \mid \text{The warden tells that B gets executed}) = 1/3.$

Watch the following video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Lb-6rxZxx0>

- Two events, A and B , are statistically independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.
- A **random variable** is a function from a sample space S into the real number.
- Cumulative distribution function $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$ for all x .
- Theorem
 $F(x)$ is a cdf if and only if
 - 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F(x) = 1$.
 - 2 $F(x)$ is a nondecreasing function of x .
 - 3 $F(x)$ is right continuous.

Distributions of functions of a random variable

- (Theorem) $X \sim f_X(x)$

$$Y := g(X).$$

Suppose there exists a partition, A_0, A_1, \dots, A_k of \mathcal{X} such that $P(X \in A_0) = 0$ and f_X is continuous on each A_i . Further, suppose there exist functions $g_1(x), \dots, g_k(x)$, defined on A_1, \dots, A_k , respectively, satisfying

- 1 $g(x) = g_i(x)$ for $x \in A_i$
- 2 $g_i(x)$ is monotone on A_i
- 3 $\mathcal{Y} = \{y : y = g_i(x) \text{ for some } x \in A_i\}$
- 4 $g_i^{-1}(y)$ has a continuous derivative on \mathcal{Y} for each $i = 1, \dots, k$

$$\text{Then } f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^k f_X(g_i^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g_i^{-1}(y) \right| & y \in \mathcal{Y} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (Example) X is a continuous random variable with pdf $f_X(x)$. Find pdf of $Y = X^2$.

Distributions of functions of a random variable

- $A_1 = \{x : x < 0\}$ and $A_2 = \{x : x > 0\}$
- $\mathcal{Y} = \{y : y > 0\}$
- $g_1^{-1}(y) = -\sqrt{y}$, $g_2^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y}$
- $\left| \frac{d}{dy} g_i^{-1}(y) \right| = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}$
- $f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}(f_X(-\sqrt{y}) + f_X(\sqrt{y}))$

Distributions of functions of a random variable

- (Example) Let X have the standard normal distribution,
 $f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-x^2/2), -\infty < x < \infty.$

Consider $Y = X^2$. Find the pdf of Y .

⟨Solution⟩

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}(f_X(-\sqrt{y}) + f_X(\sqrt{y})) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-y/2), 0 < y < \infty$$

- (Theorem) Let X have a continuous cdf $F_X(x)$ and define the random variable Y as $Y = F_X(X)$. Then Y is uniformly distributed on $(0,1)$, that is, $P(Y \leq y) = y, 0 < y < 1.$

⟨Proof⟩

$$P(F_X(X) \leq y) = P(X \leq F_X^{-1}(y)) = F_X(F_X^{-1}(y)) = y$$

Moment generating function

- $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$, $-h < t < h$ and $h > 0$.
- (Theorem) X has mgf of $M_X(t)$
 $EX^n = M_X^{(n)}(0)$,
where $M_X^{(n)}(0) = \frac{d^n}{dt^n} M_X(t)|_{t=0}$
- (Theorem) $F_X(x)$ and $F_Y(y)$: two cdfs all whose moments exist.
 - 1 If X and Y have bounded support,
 $F_X(u) = F_Y(u)$ for all $u \Leftrightarrow EX^r = EY^r$
 - 2 If the moment generating function exist
 $M_X(t) = M_Y(t)$ for all t in some neighborhood of 0, then
 $F_X(u) = F_Y(u)$ for all u .

Moment generating function

- (Theorem) $\{X_i, i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ sequence of r.v.
 $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} M_{X_i}(t) = M_X(t)$ for all t in a neighborhood of zero and $M_X(t)$ is an mgf.
Then there is a unique cdf F_X whose moments are determined by $M_X(t)$ and for all x where $F_X(x)$ is continuous
 $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_i}(x) = F_X(x)$.

Some useful theorems

Theorem 2.4.2 (Dominated Convergence Theorem)

Suppose that $h(x, y)$ is continuous at y_0 for each x , and there exists a function $g(x)$ satisfying

1 $|h(x, y)| \leq g(x)$ for all x and y

2 $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) dx < \infty$

Then $\lim_{y \rightarrow y_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x, y) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lim_{y \rightarrow y_0} h(x, y) dx$.

Theorem 2.4.3

Suppose $f(x, \theta)$ is differentiable at $\theta = \theta_0$

$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, \theta_0 + \delta) - f(x, \theta_0)}{\delta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta)|_{\theta = \theta_0}$ exists for every x .

There exists a function $g(x, \theta_0)$ and a constant δ_0 such that

■ $\left| \frac{f(x, \theta_0 + \delta) - f(x, \theta_0)}{\delta} \right| \leq g(x, \theta_0)$ for all x and $|\delta| < \delta_0$,

■ $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, \theta_0) dx < \infty$

Then $\frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, \theta) dx|_{\theta = \theta_0} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta)|_{\theta = \theta_0} dx$

Some useful theorems

Corollary 2.4.4

Suppose $f(x, \theta)$ is differentiable in θ and there exists a function $g(x, \theta)$ such that $|\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta)|_{\theta=\theta'}| \leq g(x, \theta)$ for all θ' such that $|\theta' - \theta| \leq \delta_0$ and $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, \theta) dx < \infty$

then $\frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, \theta) dx|_{\theta=\theta_0} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta)|_{\theta=\theta_0} dx$

■ Example 3.4.5 $f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda}$

Calculate $\frac{d}{d\lambda} EX^n = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} x^n \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} dx$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left(x^n \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} \right) dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{\lambda^2} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda} - 1 \right) e^{-x/\lambda} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda^2} EX^{n+1} - \frac{1}{\lambda} EX^n. \end{aligned}$$

Some useful theorems

- $\frac{x^n}{\lambda^2} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda} - 1 \right) e^{-x/\lambda} \leq \frac{x^n}{(\lambda - \delta_0)^2} \left(\frac{x}{(\lambda - \delta_0)} - 1 \right) e^{-x/(\lambda + \delta_0)}$ for some $0 < \delta_0 < \lambda$.
- Take $g(x, \lambda) = \frac{x^n}{(\lambda - \delta_0)^2} \left(\frac{x}{(\lambda - \delta_0)} - 1 \right) e^{-x/(\lambda + \delta_0)}$
- $\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left(x^n \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-x/\lambda} \right) \right|_{\lambda=\lambda'} \leq g(x, \lambda)$ for $|\lambda - \lambda'| < \delta_0$