

Note

# Chapter 1

## Set Theory, Probability, and Single Experiment

### 1. From Set to Probability (of the single experiment)

(a)

Set Theory	Probability
Element	Outcome
Subset	Event
Universal Set	Sample Space

(b) Outcome and Event:

- i. Outcomes are always **Mutually Exclusive** since there are the smallest units (i.e., Elements) in the Set.
- ii. Event constitutes by different combinations of outcomes (through Union ( $\cup$ ) Operation).

(c)  $\mathbb{P}(\text{Event})$  is the possibility that the event appears in the sample space.

(d)  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$  since there is no element in *null set*, and  $\mathbb{P}(\text{Sample Space}) = 1$ .

### 2. From Set Operation to Probability Operation

(a) There are three Set Operations:  $A \cup B$ ,  $A \cap B$ ,  $A^c$ .

(b)  $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$ .

(c) **Union Bound:**  $\mathbb{P}(\cup_{i=1}^N A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_i)$ .

(d) **Mutually Exclusive:**  $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = 0$  so that  $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B)$ .

(e) **Collectively Exhaustive:**  $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = 1$ .

(f) **Partitions (i.e., Mutually Exclusive & Collectively Exhaustive):**  $\mathbb{P}(\cup_{i=1}^N A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_i) = 1$ .

### 3. Conditional Probability

(a)  $\mathbb{P}(A | B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(AB)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}$ .

(b) **If  $A_i$  are Mutually Exclusive:**  $\mathbb{P}(A | B) = \mathbb{P}(\cup_{i=1}^N A_i | B) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_i | B)$ .

(c) **If  $B_i$  are Partitions** (Law of Total Number),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}(A \mid B) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(AB)}{\mathbb{P}(B)} && \text{(Definition of Conditional Probability)} \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(AB) && (B \text{ is Collectively Exhaustive so } \mathbb{P}(B) = 1) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left(A \cdot \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i\right) && (B \text{ is Mutually Exclusive}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(AB_i) && (B \text{ is Partition}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A \mid B_i) \mathbb{P}(B_i). && \text{(Definition of Conditional Probability)}
 \end{aligned}$$

4. Bayes' Theorem:  $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(B \mid A) \mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}$ .

5. Independent:

- (a)  $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B)$ .
- (b)  $\mathbb{P}(A \cup B) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B)$ .
- (c)  $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(AB)}{\mathbb{P}(B)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(A) \mathbb{P}(B)}{\mathbb{P}(B)} = \mathbb{P}(A)$ .

## Chapter 2

# Sequential Experiments

1. Tree Diagrams
2. Counting Methods (**Essentially the outcomes in each experiment (i.e., sample space) are equiprobable**)
  - (a) Multiplication:  $n \times k_1 \times k_2 \times \dots$
  - (b) Sampling without Replacement
    - i. Permutation:  $\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ .
    - ii. Combination:  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \binom{n}{n-k}$ .
    - iii. Combination is Permutation without order. Combination is also called n choose k.
  - (c) Sampling with Replacement:  $n^k$
  - (d) Multiple Combination:
    - i.  $\binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m} = \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!}$  where  $n = \sum_{i=1}^m k_i$ .
    - ii. For the two cases situation,  $n = k_1 + k_2 \Rightarrow \binom{n}{k_1 k_2} = \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2!} \iff \binom{n}{k_1} \iff \binom{n}{k_2}$ .
3. Independent Trails (**Essentially the outcomes in each sample space are not necessarily equiprobable**)
  - (a) *Theorem 2.8:* The Probability of  $k_0$  failures and  $k_1$  successes in  $n = k_0 + k_1$  Independent Trails with success rate  $p$  is
 
$$\mathbb{P}(k_0, k_1) = \binom{n}{k_0} (1-p)^{k_0} p^{k_1} = \binom{n}{k_1} (1-p)^{k_0} p^{k_1}.$$
  - (b) *Theorem 2.9:*  $n = k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m$  and success rates are  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m$ , where  $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1$  has

$$\mathbb{P}(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m) = \binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m} p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_m^{k_m}.$$

## Chapter 3

# Discrete Random Variables

1. Discrete Random Variables: Assign numerical value to discrete outcomes
2. Probability Mass Function (PMF):

$$\sum_{x \in X} P_X(x) = 1.$$

3. Families of Discrete Random Variables and their PMF

(a) Bernoulli( $p$ ): **E.g., Flip a coin**

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1-p & x=0, \\ p & x=1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(b) Binomial( $n, p$ ): Get **x** successes in **n** Bernoulli( $p$ ) experiments  $\iff$  independent trials

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} & x=0, 1, \dots, n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Note:** Bernoulli( $p$ )  $\iff$  Binomial( $1, p$ ).

(c) Poisson( $\alpha$ ): Binomial( $n, p$ ) with small  $p$ , large  $n$ , and  $\alpha = np$

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha^x e^{-\alpha}}{x!} & x=0, 1, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(d) Geometric( $p$ ): Get the **1st** success at the **x-th** Bernoulli( $p$ ) experiment

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} p(1-p)^{x-1} & x=1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(e) Pascal( $k, p$ ): Get the **k-th** success at the **x-th** Bernoulli( $p$ ) experiment

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \binom{x-1}{k-1} p^k (1-p)^{x-k} & x=k, k+1, k+2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Note:** Geometric( $p$ )  $\iff$  Pascal( $1, p$ ).

(f) Discrete Uniform( $k, l$ ): outcomes are uniformly distributed on range ( $k, l$ ) **E.g., Roll a Die**

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1/(l-k+1) & x=k, k+1, k+2, \dots, l \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## 4. Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF):

$$F_X(x) = P_X[X \leq x] = \sum_{k=0}^x P_X(k).$$

$$F_X(b) - F_X(a) = \sum_{k=0}^b P_X(k) - \sum_{k=0}^a P_X(k) = \sum_{k=a+1}^b P_X(k) = P_X(a < X \leq b).$$

The CDF of Geometric( $p$ ) is worth to remember

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= P_X[X \leq x] \\ &= 1 - P_X[X > x] \\ &= 1 - \sum_{i=x+1}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1} \\ &= 1 - (1-p)^x \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1} \\ &= 1 - (1-p)^x. \end{aligned}$$

## 5. Average and Expectations

(a) In ordinary language, an **Average** is a single number taken as representative of a list of numbers.

i. Mode: The outcome appears the most often in the sample space

$$P_X(x_{mod}) \geq P_X(x).$$

ii. Median: The outcome which separates the higher half from the lower half of a sample space

$$P_X[X \leq x_{med}] \geq 1/2, \quad P_X[X \geq x_{med}] \geq 1/2.$$

iii. (Arithmetic) mean: The sum of all the outcomes divided by the number of outcomes

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i.$$

(b) Expectation: Weighted (Arithmetic) mean

i. Definition:

$$\mu_x = \mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x P_X(x). \quad (\text{First Moment of } X)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x^2 P_X(x). \quad (\text{Second Moment of } X)$$

ii. Important Expectations

A. Bernoulli( $p$ ):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = 0 \cdot P_X(0) + 1 \cdot P_X(1) = 0(1-p) + 1(p) = p.$$

B. Binomial( $n, p$ ):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = np.$$

C. Poisson( $\alpha$ ):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \alpha.$$

D. Geometric( $p$ ):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = 1/p.$$

E. Pascal(k, p):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = k/p.$$

F. Discrete Uniform(k, l):

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = (k + l)/2.$$

- (c) From an engineering perspective, **Mean (including Expectations, etc.)** is numerically easier to calculate, either using human brain or computers, than Mode and Median, when the sample space is humongous.
- (d) In most cases, average, mean and expectation refer to the same concept.

6. Derived Random Variable:  $Y = g(X)$

- (a)  $P_Y(y) = P[Y = y] = P[Y = g(x)] = P[g^{-1}(Y) = g^{-1}(g(x))] = P[X = x] = P_X(x)$
- (b)  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \sum y P_Y(y) = \sum g(x) P_X(x)$
- (c)  $\mathbb{E}[X - \mu_x] = \sum_{x \in S_X} (x - \mu_x) P_X(x) = \sum_{x \in S_X} x P_X(x) - \mu_x \sum_{x \in S_X} P_X(x) = \mathbb{E}[X] - \mu_x \cdot 1 = \mu_x - \mu_x = 0$
- (d)  $\mathbb{E}[aX + b] = a\mathbb{E}[X] + b \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[b] = \mathbb{E}[0 \cdot X + b] = b$

7. Variance( $\sigma_x^2$ ) and Standard Deviation( $\sigma_x$ )

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_x^2 &= \text{Var}(X) \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu_x)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X^2 - 2\mu_x X + \mu_x^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - 2\mu_x \mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[\mu_x^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - 2\mu_x^2 + \mu_x^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mu_x^2 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $\text{Var}(X) \geq 0$

(c)  $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$

(d) Important Variance:

i. Bernoulli(p):

$$\text{Var}(X) = p(1 - p).$$

ii. Binomial(n,p):

$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p).$$

iii. Poisson( $\alpha$ ):

$$\text{Var}(X) = \alpha.$$

iv. Geometric(p):

$$\text{Var}(X) = (1 - p)/p^2.$$

v. Pascal(k,p):

$$\text{Var}(X) = k(1 - p)/p^2.$$

vi. Discrete Uniform(k,l):

$$\text{Var}(X) = (l - k)(l - k + 2)/12.$$

## Chapter 4

# Continuous Random Variables

### 4.1 Continuous sample space

**Axiom.** A random variable  $X$  is continuous if the range  $S_X$  consists of one or more intervals. For each  $x \in S_X$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(X = x) = 0$ .

### 4.2 The Cumulative Distribution Function

**Definition** (Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)). The CDF of random variable  $X$  is

$$F_X(x) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x).$$

**Theorem 4.2.1.** For any random variable  $X$ ,

1.  $F_X(-\infty) = 0$
2.  $F_X(\infty) = 1$
3.  $\mathbb{P}(x_1 < X \leq x_2) = F_X(x_2) - F_X(x_1)$

### 4.3 Probability Density Function

Start with a continuous random variable  $X$  with CDF  $F_X(x)$ . The probability of “ $X$  with volumn  $\Delta$ ” is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(x < X \leq x + \Delta) &= F_X(x + \Delta) - F_X(x) \\ &= \frac{F_X(x + \Delta) - F_X(x)}{(x + \Delta) - x} \cdot \Delta. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition** (Probability Density Function (PDF)).

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{F_X(x + \Delta) - F_X(x)}{\Delta} \\ &= \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.3.1.** For a continuous random variable  $X$  with PDF  $f_X(x)$ ,

1.  $f_X(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$
2.  $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(u) du$
3.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$

**Theorem 4.3.2.**

$$\mathbb{P}(x_1 < X \leq x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f_X(x) dx.$$



## 4.4 Expected Value

**Definition** (Expected value).

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

**Theorem 4.4.1** (Derived Random Variable).

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

**Theorem 4.4.2.** For any random variable  $X$ ,

1.  $\mathbb{E}[X - \mu_x] = 0$ ,
2.  $\mathbb{E}[aX + b] = a\mathbb{E}[X] + b$ ,
3.  $\text{Var}[X] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mu_x^2$ ,
4.  $\text{Var}[aX + b] = a^2 \text{Var}[X]$ .

## 4.5 Families of Continuous Random Variables

1. Continuous Uniform  $\text{Unif}(k, l)$ : A continuous counterpart of Discrete Uniform

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{l-k} & k \leq x \leq l \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$F_X(x) = \frac{x-k}{l-k}, \quad x \in (k, l)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = (l+k)/2.$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = (l-k)^2/12.$$

2. Exponential  $\text{Exp}(\lambda)$ : A continuous counterpart of  $\text{Geom}(1 - e^{-\lambda})$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$F_X(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}.$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = 1/\lambda.$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = 1/\lambda^2.$$

3. Erlang  $\text{Erlang}(n, \lambda)$ : A continuous counterpart of  $\text{Pascal}(n, 1 - e^{-\lambda})$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda(\lambda x)^{n-1} e^{-\lambda x}}{(n-1)!} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{(\lambda x)^k e^{-\lambda x}}{k!} = \mathbb{P}_{\text{poisson}}(k \geq n).$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = n/\lambda.$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = n/\lambda^2.$$

## 4.6 Gaussian Random Variables

**Theorem 4.6.1** (Gaussian Integral).

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}.$$

**Definition** (Gaussian Random Variable).  $X$  is a Gaussian( $\mu, \sigma$ ) random variable if the PDF of  $X$  is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

$X$  is also called Normal( $\mu, \sigma$ ) random variable. We will use  $N(\mu, \sigma)$  in the following content.

**Theorem 4.6.2** (The Expectation and Variance of  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$ ).

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mu, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2.$$

**Theorem 4.6.3.** If  $X$  is  $N(\mu, \sigma)$ ,  $Y = aX + b$  is  $N(a\mu + b, a\sigma)$ .

**Theorem 4.6.4** (Standard Normal Random Variable). The  $N(\mu, \sigma)$  with  $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$  is called standard normal random variable  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . The PDF is,

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right).$$

And the CDF is

$$\Phi(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{u^2}{2}\right) du.$$

**Theorem 4.6.5.** If  $X$  is  $N(\mu, \sigma)$ , the CDF of  $X$  is

$$F_X(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right).$$

The probability that  $X$  is in the interval  $(a, b]$  is

$$\mathbb{P}(a < X \leq b) = \Phi\left(\frac{b-\mu}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{a-\mu}{\sigma}\right).$$

**Theorem 4.6.6.**  $\Phi(-z) = 1 - \Phi(z)$ .

## 4.7 Delta Function, Mixed(Being Discrete and Continuous at the same time) Random Variable

**Definition** (Unit Impulse (Delta) Function). Let

$$d_\epsilon(x) = \begin{cases} 1/\epsilon & -\epsilon/2 \leq x \leq \epsilon/2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The **unit impulse function** is

$$\delta(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} d_\epsilon(x).$$

Since

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1.$$

The  $\delta(x)$  is indeed a PDF given it is also non-negative.

**Theorem 4.7.1.** For any continuous function  $g(x)$ ,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)\delta(x - x_0) dx = g(x_0).$$

**Definition** (Unit Step Function). The **unit step function** is

$$u(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ 1 & x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 4.7.2** (CDF of  $\delta(x)$  and connection to the unit step function).

$$\int_{-\infty}^x \delta(v) dv = u(x).$$

And thus

$$\delta(x) = \frac{du(x)}{dx}.$$

**Corollary 4.7.2.1.** The theorem 4.7.2 allows us to define a generalized PDF that applies to discrete random variables as well as to continuous random variables. Consider the CDF of a discrete random variable,  $X$ . It is constant (let's say 0 for now) everywhere except at point  $x_i \in S_X$ , where it has jumps of height  $P_X(x_i)$ . Using the **unit step function**, the CDF of  $X$  is

$$F_X(x) = \sum_{x_i \in S_X} P_X(x_i)u(x - x_i).$$

And the PDF can be defined with  $\delta(x)$  as

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{x_i \in S_X} P_X(x_i)\delta(x - x_i).$$

Then the Expectation will be

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \sum_{x_i \in S_X} P_X(x_i)\delta(x - x_i) dx \\ \mathbb{E}[X] &= \sum_{x_i \in S_X} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x P_X(x_i)\delta(x - x_i) dx \\ &= \sum_{x_i \in S_X} x_i P_X(x_i) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.7.3.** For a random variable  $X$  (not specified whether it is discrete or continuous), we have

$$\begin{aligned} q &= \mathbb{P}(X = x_0) && \text{(General expression)} \\ &= P_X(x_0) && \text{(PMF)} \\ &= F_X(x_0^+) - F_X(x_0^-) && \text{(CDF)} \\ &= f_X(x_0) = q\delta(0). && \text{(PDF \& delta function)} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.7.4.**  $X$  is a **mixed** random variable if and only if  $f_X(x)$  contains both impulses and nonzero, finite values.