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: $\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{i=1}^{N} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{P}(A_i)$.
 - (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): $\mathbb{P}\left(\cup_{i=1}^N A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_i) = 1$.
- 3. Conditional Probability
 - (a) $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(AB)}{\mathbb{P}(B)}$.
 - (b) If A_i are Mutually Exclusive: $\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{i=1}^N A_i \mid B) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{P}(A_i \mid B)$.

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

$$\mathbb{P}(A \mid B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(AB)}{\mathbb{P}(B)} \qquad \qquad \text{(Definition of Conditional Probability)}$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(AB) \qquad \qquad (B \text{ is Collectively Exhaustive so } P(B) = 1)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(A \cdot \cup_{i=1}^{N} B_i) \qquad \qquad (B \text{ is Mutually Exclusive})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{P}(AB_i) \qquad \qquad (B \text{ is Partition})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{P}(A \mid B_i) \mathbb{P}(B_i). \qquad \qquad \text{(Definition of Conditional Probability)}$$

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

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. $\binom{n}{k_1,k_2,\ldots,k_m} = \frac{n!}{k_1!k_2!\ldots k_m!}$ 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: $n=k_1+k_2+\cdots+k_m$ and success rates are p_1,p_2,\ldots,p_m , where $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i=1$ has

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

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**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note: Geometric $(p) \iff \operatorname{Pascal}(1, p)$.

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

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

4. Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF):

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

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

The CDF of Geometric (p) is worth to remember

$$F_X(x) = P_X[X \le x]$$

$$= 1 - P_X[X > x]$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{i=x+1}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1}$$

$$= 1 - (1-p)^x \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1}$$

$$= 1 - (1-p)^x.$$

- 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

$$P_X(x_{\text{mode}}) \ge P_X(x)$$
.

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

$$P_X[X \le x_{\text{med}}] \ge 1/2,$$
 $P_X[X \ge x_{\text{med}}] \ge 1/2.$

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:

$$\mu_x = \mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x P_X(x).$$
 (First Moment of X)
$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x^2 P_X(x).$$
 (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 (α):

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

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 (σ_x^2) and Standard Deviation (σ_x)
 - (a)

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

- (b) $Var(X) \geq 0$
- (c) $Var(aX + b) = a^2 Var(X)$
- (d) Important Variance:
 - i. Bernoulli (p):

$$Var(X) = p(1-p).$$

ii. Binomial (n, p):

$$Var(X) = np(1-p).$$

iii. Poisson (α):

$$Var(X) = \alpha$$
.

iv. Geometric (p):

$$Var(X) = (1 - p)/p^2$$
.

v. Pascal (k, p):

$$Var(X) = k(1-p)/p^2.$$

vi. Discrete Uniform (k, l):

$$Var(X) = (l - k)(l - k + 2)/12.$$

Continuous Random Variables

Continuous sample space 4.1

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

The Cumulative Distribution Function

Definition 4.1 (Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)). The CDF of random variable X is

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

Theorem 4.2. For any random variable X,

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

Probability Density Function 4.3

Start with a continuous random variable X with CDF $F_X(x)$. The probability of "X with volume \triangle " is defined as:

$$\mathbb{P}(x < X \le x + \triangle) = F_X(x + \triangle) - F_X(x)$$
$$= \frac{F_X(x + \triangle) - F_X(x)}{(x + \triangle) - x} \cdot \triangle.$$

Definition 4.3 (Probability Density Function (PDF)).

$$f_X(x) = \lim_{\Delta \to 0} \frac{F_X(x + \Delta) - F_X(x)}{\Delta}$$
$$= \frac{\mathrm{d} F_X(x)}{\mathrm{d} x}.$$

Theorem 4.4. For a continuous random variable X with PDF $f_X(x)$,

- 1. $f_X(x) \ge 0$ for all x
- 2. $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(u) \, du$
- $3. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \, \mathrm{d} x = 1$

Theorem 4.5.

$$\mathbb{P}(x_1 < X \le x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f_X(x) \, \mathrm{d} \, x.$$

4.4 Expected Value

Definition 4.6 (Expected value).

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

Theorem 4.7 (Derived Random Variable).

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

Theorem 4.8. For any random variable X,

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

4.5 Families of Continuous Random Variables

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.6 Gaussian Random Variables

Theorem 4.9 (Gaussian Integral).

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} \, \mathrm{d} \, x = \sqrt{\pi}.$$

Definition 4.10 (Gaussian Random Variable). X is a Gaussian (μ, σ) random variable if the PDF of X is

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

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

Theorem 4.11 (The Expectation and Variance of $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$).

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

Theorem 4.12. If X is $N(\mu, \sigma)$, Y = aX + b is $N(a\mu + b, a\sigma)$.

Theorem 4.13 (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,

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

And the CDF is

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

Theorem 4.14. 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

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

Theorem 4.15. $\Phi(-z) = 1 - \Phi(z)$.

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

Definition 4.16 (Unit Impulse (Delta) Function). Let

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

The **unit impulse function** is

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

Since

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) \, \mathrm{d} \, x = 1.$$

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

Theorem 4.17. For any continuous function g(x),

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

Definition 4.18 (Unit Step Function). The **unit step function** is

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

Theorem 4.19 (CDF of $\delta(x)$ and connection to the unit step function).

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

And thus

$$\delta(x) = \frac{\mathrm{d}\,u(x)}{\mathrm{d}\,x}.$$

Corollary 4.20. The theorem 4.19 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

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

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

$$= \sum_{x_i \in S_X} x_i P_X(x_i)$$

Theorem 4.21. For a random variable X (not specified whether it is discrete or continuous), we have

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

Theorem 4.22. X is a **mixed** random variable if and only if $f_X(x)$ contains both impulses and nonzero, finite values.

Multiple Random Variables

5.1 Joint CDF

Definition 5.1 (Joint CDF). The joint CDF of random variables X and Y is

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

The joint CDF is a **complete** probability model for any pair of random variables X and Y.

Theorem 5.2. For any pair of random variables, X and Y, the following properties hold:

- (a) $0 \le F_{X,Y}(x,y) \le 1$,
- (b) $F_{X,Y}(\infty,\infty)=1$,
- (c) $F_{X,Y}(-\infty, y) = F_{X,Y}(x, -\infty) = 0$,
- (d) $F_X(x) = F_{X,Y}(x,\infty)$ and $F_Y(y) = F_{X,Y}(\infty,y)$,
- (e) $F_{X,Y}(x,y)$ is non-decreasing in x and y.

5.2 Joint PMF

Definition 5.3 (Joint PMF). The joint PMF of random variables X and Y is

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

The joint PMF is a **complete** probability model for any pair of discrete random variables X and Y.

Theorem 5.4. For discrete random variables X and Y and any set B in the X, Y plane, the probability of the event is

$$\mathbb{P}([B]) = \sum_{(x,y)\in B} P_{X,Y}(x,y).$$

Apparently, the joint PMF is non-negative and sums to one.

$$\sum_{x \in S_X} \sum_{y \in S_Y} P_{X,Y}(x,y) = 1.$$

5.3 Marginal PMF

Theorem 5.5. For discrete random variables X and Y with joint PMF $P_{X,Y}(x,y)$,

$$P_X(x) = \sum_{y \in S_Y} P_{X,Y}(x,y), \qquad P_Y(y) = \sum_{x \in S_X} P_{X,Y}(x,y).$$

For discrete random variables, the marginal PMF $P_X(x)$ and $P_Y(y)$ are probability models for the individual random variables X and Y, but they only provide an **incomplete** probability model for the pair of random variables X and Y.

5.4 Joint PDF

Definition 5.6 (Joint PDF). The joint PDF of continuous random variables X and Y is a function $f_{X,Y}(x,y)$ with the property

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{x} \int_{-\infty}^{y} f_{X,Y}(u,v) \, \mathrm{d} u \, \mathrm{d} v.$$

Apparently, we have

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

The joint PDF is a **complete** probability model for any pair of continuous random variables X and Y.

Theorem 5.7. The probability that the continuous random variables (X,Y) are in A

$$\mathbb{P}([A]) = \iint_A f_{X,Y}(x,y) \, \mathrm{d} x \, \mathrm{d} y.$$

The joint PDF is non-negative and integrates to one.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) \, \mathrm{d} x \, \mathrm{d} y = 1.$$

5.5 Marginal PDF

Theorem 5.8. For continuous random variables X and Y with joint PDF $f_{X,Y}(x,y)$,

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

For continuous random variables, the marginal PDFs $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$ are probability models for the individual random variables X and Y, but they only provide an **incomplete** probability model for the pair of random variables X and Y.

5.6 Independent Random Variables

Definition 5.9 (Independent Random Variables). Random variables X and Y are independent if and only if

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_X(x)P_Y(y);$$
 (Discrete)
 $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y).$ (Continuous)

It's easy to show that if X and Y are independent, then

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

5.7 Expected Value of a Function of Two Random Variables

Theorem 5.10 (Expected Value of a Function of Two Random Variables). The expected value of a function g(X,Y) of two random variables X and Y is

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X,Y)] = \sum_{x \in S_Y} \sum_{y \in S_Y} g(x,y) P_{X,Y}(x,y);$$
 (Discrete)

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X,Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x,y) f_{X,Y}(x,y) \, \mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}y.$$
 (Continuous)

Theorem 5.11.

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i(X, Y)\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i \mathbb{E}[g_i(X, Y)].$$

Theorem 5.12. For any two random variables X and Y,

$$\mathbb{E}[aX + bY] = a\mathbb{E}[X] + b\mathbb{E}[Y].$$

5.8 Covariance, Correlation and Independent

Definition 5.13 (Covariance). The covariance of two random variables X and Y is

$$\sigma_{xy} = \operatorname{Cov}[X, Y] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])] = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y].$$

Theorem 5.14. The variance of the sum of two random variables is

$$Var[aX + bY] = a^2 Var[X] + b^2 Var[Y] + 2ab Cov[X, Y].$$

Definition 5.15 (Correlation Coefficient). The correlation coefficient of two random variables X and Y is

$$\rho_{xy} = \operatorname{Corr}[X, Y] = \frac{\operatorname{Cov}[X, Y]}{\sqrt{\operatorname{Var}[X] \operatorname{Var}[Y]}} = \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}.$$

Note: In some definition of correlation coefficient, ρ_{xy} is defined as $\rho_{xy}=\sigma_{xy}$ (e.g. , in stochastic analysis where state space is unit free).

Theorem 5.16.

$$-1 \le \rho_{xy} \le 1$$
.

Theorem 5.17. If X and Y are independent, then

- (a) $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$,
- (b) Cov[X, Y] = 0,
- (c) $\operatorname{Var}[aX + bY] = a^2 \operatorname{Var}[X] + b^2 \operatorname{Var}[Y]$.