

Probability

Bernoulli Random Variable

Grading: 30% Assignments, 25% Midterm (Oct 22th), 45% Final (Dec 12th - 19th)

Geometric Random Variable

* Memoryless:

Exponential Random Variable

* Memoryless:

Probability Fundamentals

1. Models and Basic Theorems:

The basic setup for probability is intuitive, main concepts involves:
sample space, counting, probability laws and axioms, additivity

2. Conditioning:

Definition: $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$

Multiplication rule: $P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A|B)$

Total probability theorem: $P(B) = \sum_i P(A_i) \cdot P(B|A_i)$

Bayes' Rule: $P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(A_i)P(B|A_i)}{\sum_i P(A_i)P(B|A_i)}$

3. Independence:

Definition: $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$

The occurrence (or not) of an event give no extra info.

Conditional independent: $P(A \cap B|C) = P(A|C) \cdot P(B|C)$

Collection of event: $P(A_i \cap A_j \dots \cap A_m) = \prod_{k=i}^m P(A_k)$

Pairwise independent: \nrightarrow independent

4. Combination and Permutation:

Permutation: $n!$

Combination: $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$

Sum of combination: $\sum \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$

Random Variables

1. Discrete Random Variables:

PMF: Probability Mass Function

Bernoulli, Uniform, Binomial, Geometric, Poisson

Expectation & Variance

Conditional PMF

Joint and Margin PMF for multiple variables

2. Continuous Random Variables

PDF: Probability Density Function

CDF: Cumulative Density Function

Uniform, Exponential, Normal

Conditional PDF: $f_{X|X \in A}(x) = \frac{f_X(x)}{P(A)}$ if $x \in A$

Joint and Margin PDF for multiple variables:

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^y \left[\int_{-\infty}^x f_{X,Y}(s,t) ds \right] dt$$

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

3. Derived Distribution

Discrete: $Y = g(X), P(Y = y) = P(X = g^{-1}(Y))$

Ex: $Y = aX + b, P(Y = y) = P(X = \frac{y-b}{a})$

Continuous: $f_Y(y) = \left| \frac{g^{-1}(y)}{dy} \right| f_X(g^{-1}(y))$

Ex: $Y = aX + b, f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X(\frac{y-b}{a})$

General Procedure:

a). Find CDF

b). Differentiate to find PDF

4. Sum of random variables

$Z = X + Y$, ——— X, Y are independent

Discrete: $p(z) = \sum_x p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(z-x)$

Continuous: $f(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(z-x) dx$

5. Covariance & Correlation

$cov(X, Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$

$cov(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$

$var(X_1 + \dots + X_n) = \sum_1^n var(X_i) + \sum_{i \neq j} cov(X_i, X_j)$

$$\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{cov(X,Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

6. Law of total variance

$Var[X] = E[Var[X|Y]] + Var[E[X|Y]]$

(variability within group + variability between groups)

7. Law of iterative expectation

$E[X] = E[E[X|Y]]$

8. Sum of random number of independent variables

X: the variable to be summed

N: the number of X being summed, N is a random variable

X and N are independent

Y: $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N$

$E[Y] = E[N]E[X]$

$Var[Y] = E[N]Var(X) + E[X]^2Var(N)$

Bayesian Statistics

1. Basic Setup:

a). Prior, Evidence, Posterior

b). MAP (gives smallest errors), LMS

c). Performance: conditional / overall prob of error

2. Recognizing Normal:

a). Recognizing Normal PDF $f_X(x) = c \cdot e^{-(\alpha x^2 + \beta x + \gamma)}$

b). The mean is $-\frac{\beta}{2\alpha}$, the variance is $\frac{1}{2\alpha}$

3. Linear Model: Normal + Additive Noise

a). $X = \Theta + W$, $\Theta, W \sim N(0, 1)$, independent

b). Given observation of X, to estimate $\theta \rightarrow f_{\Theta|X}(\theta|x)$

c). By Bayes' Rule: $f_{\Theta|X}(\theta|x) = \frac{f_{\Theta}(\theta) \cdot f_{X|\Theta}(x|\theta)}{f_X(x)}$

d). For each term: $f_{X|\Theta}(x|\theta) \rightarrow X = \theta + W \sim N(\theta, 1)$

f). Applying all: $f_{\Theta|X}(\theta|x) = \frac{c_{\Theta} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2}\theta^2} \cdot c_x \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\theta)^2}}{f_X(x)}$

In summary: $f_{\Theta|X}(\theta|x) = c(x) \cdot e^{\text{quad}(\theta)}$, hence is normal distribution, both MAP and LMS give estimator $\frac{x}{2}$

4. Linear Model: multiple observations

$X_1 = \Theta + W_1$,

$X_2 = \Theta + W_2$,

...

$X_n = \Theta + W_1$, $\Theta \sim N(x_0, \sigma_0^2)$, $W_i \sim N(0, \sigma_i^2)$

As we can see, for each $f_{X_i|\Theta}(x_i|\theta)$ is still normal

Joint distribution: $f_{X_1, X_2 \dots X_n|\Theta}(x_1, x_2 \dots x_n|\theta) \sim N$

Using base rule, the posterior should be also normal

It is easy to verify that: estimator = $\frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{x_i}{\sigma_i^2}}{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}}$

Take away: observations, including prior, are weighted

Performance Measure:

$E[(\Theta - \hat{\Theta})|X = x] = E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})|X = x]$

$= Var[\Theta|X = x] = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}} = E[(\Theta - \hat{\Theta})]$

Take away: not related to observation!

5. Multiple Parameters $\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2 \dots$

a). Get priors of the parameters, and joint distribution

b). Use Bayes' Rule to write posterior

6. Linear Normal Model:

The posterior is normally distributed

7. Least Square Error:

1. Without any observation:

To get LSE: $E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})^2]$, we have $\hat{\theta} = E[\Theta]$

MSE: $E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})^2] = Var[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})] + E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})]^2 = Var[\Theta]$

2. With one observation:

To get LSE: $E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})^2|X = x]$, we have $\hat{\theta} = E[\Theta|X = x]$

MSE: $E[(\Theta - \hat{\theta})^2|X = x] = Var[\Theta|X = x]$

3. LSE With multiple observations or unknowns

$\hat{\theta}_j = E[\theta_j|X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n]$

Take Away: Property of LSE:

Let $\tilde{\Theta} = \Theta - \theta$ be the error of the LSE:

$E[\tilde{\Theta}] = 0$; $Cov[\tilde{\Theta}, \hat{\Theta}] = 0$; $Var[\Theta] = Var[\hat{\Theta}] + Var[\tilde{\Theta}]$

8. Linear Least Square Error:

Since LSE sometimes is hard to compute, we may want to constraint our estimator form to be linear: $\hat{\Theta} = aX + b$

We have the $\hat{\Theta}_L$ to be: $\min E[(\Theta - aX - b)^2]$, wrt a, b

Set $b = E[\Theta] - aE[X]$, then solve a to be: $\frac{Cov(\Theta, X)}{Var(X)}$

$E[\Theta] + \frac{Cov(\Theta, X)}{Var(X)}(X - E[X]) = E[\Theta] + \rho \frac{\sigma_{\Theta}}{\sigma_X}(X - E[X])$

MSE: $E[(\hat{\Theta}_L - \theta)^2] = (1 - \rho^2)Var[\Theta]$

Multiple Observation: $\min: E[(\Theta - a_1X_1 - \dots - a_nX_n - b)^2]$
Apply the same logic of how to derive b and a, solve the linear equation and get the result.

King's Sibling

The king comes from a family of 2 children, what is the probability that his sibling is female?

Expected trails to flip 3 heads in a row

Test