

Prob and Stat Inference

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Chapter 4

4.1 Bivariate Distributions of the Discrete Type

Definition 4.1-1

Let X and Y be two random variables defined on a discrete sample space. Let S denote the corresponding two-dimensional space of X and Y , the two random variables of the discrete type. The probability that $X=x$ and $Y=y$ is denoted by $f(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$. The function $f(x, y)$ is called the *joint probability mass function* (joint pmf) of X and Y and has the following properties: (a) $0 \leq f(x, y) \leq 1$ (b) $\sum \sum_{(x,y) \in S} f(x, y) = 1$ (c) $P[(X, Y) \in A] = \sum \sum_{(x,y) \in A} f(x, y)$

Definition 4.1-2

Let X and Y have the joint probability mass function $f(x, y)$, with Space S . The probability mass function of X alone, which is called the *marginal probability mass function of X* , is defined by

$$f_x(x) = \sum_y f(x, y) = P(X = x)$$

where the summation is taken over all possible y values for each given x in the x space S_x . That is, the summation is over all (x, y) in S with a given x value. Similarly, the *marginal probability mass function of Y* is defined by

$$f_y(y) = \sum_x f(x, y) = P(Y = y), y \in S_Y,$$

where the summation is taken over all possible x values for each given y in the y space S_Y . The random variables X and Y are independent if and only if

$$P(X = x, Y = y) = P(X = x)P(Y = y)$$

or, equivalently,

$$f(x, y) = f_x(x)f_y(y), x \in S_X, y \in S_Y;$$

otherwise, X and Y are said to be dependent.

mean

variance

trinomial pmf

4.2 The correlation coefficient

covariance

correlation coefficient... ρ

least squares regression line

4.3 Conditional Distributions

Definition 4.3-1

The conditional probability mass function of X , given that $Y=y$, is defined by

$$g(x|y) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f_Y(y)}, \text{ provided that } f_Y(y) > 0.$$

Similarly, the conditional probability mass function of Y , given that $X=x$, is defined by

$$h(y|x) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f_X(x)}, \text{ provided that } f_X(x) > 0.$$

Law of Total Probability for Expectation

Theorem 4.3-1

Let X and Y be random variables of discrete type such that $E(Y)$ exists. Then $E[E(Y|X)] = E(Y)$.

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} E[E(Y|X)] &= \sum_{S_X} [\sum_{S_Y} y \cdot h(y|x)] f_X(x) \\ &= \sum_{S_X} \sum_{S_Y} [y \frac{f(x,y)}{f_X(x)}] \cdot f_X(x) \\ &= \sum_{S_X} \sum_{S_Y} y \cdot f(x,y) = \sum_{S_Y} y \sum_{S_X} f(x,y) \\ &= \sum_{S_Y} y \cdot f_Y(y) = E(Y) \end{aligned}$$

Law of Total Probability of Variance

If X and Y are random variable of discrete type, then

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

provided that all of the expectations and variances exist.

Proof Using the linearity of mathematical expectation and the Law of Total Probability for Expectation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[Var(Y|X)] &= E\{E(Y^2|X) - [E(Y|X)]^2\} \\ &= E[E(Y^2|X)] - E\{[E(Y|X)]^2\} \\ &= E(Y^2) - E\{[E(Y|X)]^2\}. \end{aligned}$$

By the same token, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Var[E(Y|X)] &= E\{[E(Y|X)]^2\} - \{E[E(Y|X)]\}^2 \\ &= E\{[E(Y|X)]^2\} - [E(Y)]^2 \end{aligned}$$

Adding the equations, we find that

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

4.4 Bivariate Distributions of the Continuous Type

joint probability density function

(a) $f(x,y) \geq 0$ where $f(x,y)=0$ when (x,y) is not in the support (space) S of X and Y .

(b)

marginal pdfs