

Chapter 5 Joint Probability Distributions and Random Samples:

5.1 Jointly Distributed RVs:

Two discrete random variables:

Let X and Y be two discrete RVs on the same sample space S .

The joint probability mass function (pmf) $p(x,y)$ is defined

$$p(x,y) = P(X=x \text{ and } Y=y).$$

Like before, $p(x,y) \geq 0$, and $\sum_x \sum_y p(x,y) = 1$.

Example 1: Let X be the number of cats at a randomly selected

residence in a particular city. Let Y be the number of dogs at a

randomly selected residence in that city. The joint pmf is given in the

table:

		y			
p(x,y)		0	1	2	P _x (x)
x	0	.3	.05	.1	.45
	1	.15	.1	.1	.35
	2	.05	.05	.05	.15
	3	.05	0	0	.05
p _y (y)		.55	.2	.25	

Find $P(X=1 \text{ and } Y=2) = \boxed{.1}$

$$P(X=Y) = .3 + .1 + .05 = \boxed{.45} \quad (P(X=Y=0) + P(X=Y=1) + P(X=Y=2))$$

$$P(X=0) = .3 + .05 + .1 = \boxed{.45} \quad (P(X=0 \text{ and } Y=0) + P(X=0 \text{ and } Y=1) + P(X=0 \text{ and } Y=2))$$

The marginal probability mass function (pmf) of X , $p_X(x)$ is given by

$$p_X(x) = \sum_{y: p(x,y) > 0} p(x,y) \quad \text{for each possible } x.$$

(add row or column)

Similarly, the marginal pmf of Y is

$$p_Y(y) = \sum_{x: p(x,y) > 0} p(x,y) \quad \text{for each possible } y.$$

Example 2: Find the marginal pmfs for Example 1.

Two Continuous RVs:

Let X and Y be continuous RVs. A joint probability density function (pdf) is a function $f(x,y)$ such that for any two-dimensional set A ,

$$P((X,Y) \in A) = \iint_A f(x,y) dx dy$$

In particular

$$P(a \leq X \leq b \text{ and } c \leq Y \leq d) = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x,y) dy dx.$$

As before, $f(x,y) \geq 0$ for all x,y and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dx dy = 1$$

Example 3: Let X and Y have joint pdf

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} xy, & 0 < x < 1 \text{ and } 0 < y < 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find $P(\frac{1}{4} \leq X \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } Y < 1)$.

$$P(\frac{1}{4} \leq X \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } Y < 1) = \int_0^1 \underbrace{\int_{\frac{1}{4}}^{\frac{1}{2}} xy \, dx}_{\text{1st}} dy \quad \text{iterated integral}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \left. \frac{1}{2} y x^2 \right|_{x=\frac{1}{4}}^{x=\frac{1}{2}} dy = \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{8} y - \frac{1}{32} y \right) dy = \int_0^1 \frac{3}{32} y \, dy \\ = \frac{3}{32} \cdot \frac{1}{2} y^2 \Big|_0^1 = \frac{3}{32} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \boxed{\frac{3}{64}}$$

The marginal probability density functions of X and Y are

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dy, \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dx, \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty$$

Example 4: Let X and Y have joint pdf

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} xy, & 0 < x < 1 \text{ and } 0 < y < 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the marginal pdfs $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$.

$$f_X(x) = \int_0^2 xy \, dy = x \cdot \frac{y^2}{2} \Big|_{y=0}^{y=2} = x \cdot \frac{2^2}{2} - x \cdot \frac{0^2}{2} = 2x, \quad 0 < x < 1$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_0^1 xy \, dx = y \cdot \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} = y \cdot \frac{1}{2} - 0 = \frac{y}{2}, \quad 0 < y < 2$$

Independent Random Variables:

If X, Y are discrete RVs, then X and Y are independent if and only if

$$p(x, y) = p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y.$$

If X, Y are continuous, then X and Y are independent if and only if

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y.$$

If X, Y are not independent, then they are dependent.

Example 5: Are X and Y in example 1 independent or dependent? Why?

Dependent since $p(x, y) \neq p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(y)$. For example

$$P(X=3, Y=2) = 0 \quad \text{but}$$

$$P(X=3) \cdot P(Y=2) = (0.05)(0.25).$$

$$\text{So } p(3, 2) \neq p_X(3) \cdot p_Y(2).$$

Example 6: Let $X \sim \text{Exp}(5)$ and $Y \sim \text{Exp}(2)$ be independent.

What is their joint pdf $f(x, y)$?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Exp}(\lambda) \\ f(x) &= \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x \geq 0 \\ F(x) &= 1 - e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

What is $P(X < 3 \text{ and } Y > 4)$?

$$f_X(x) = 5e^{-5x}, \quad x \geq 0$$

$$f_Y(y) = 2e^{-2y}, \quad y \geq 0$$

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) = \boxed{10e^{-5x-2y}} \quad x \geq 0 \text{ and } y \geq 0$$

$$P(X < 3 \text{ and } Y > 4) = \int_4^\infty \int_0^3 10e^{-5x} e^{-2y} dx dy = \dots$$

OR

$$P(X < 3 \text{ and } Y > 4) = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{independent}}}{P(X < 3)} \cdot P(Y > 4) = F_X(3) \cdot (1 - F_Y(4))$$

$$= (1 - e^{-5 \cdot 3}) \cdot e^{-2 \cdot 4}$$

$$= \boxed{(1 - e^{-15}) \cdot e^{-8}} \approx \boxed{0.000335}$$

More than 2 RVs:

These ideas also work if we have several RVs.

If X_1, \dots, X_n are discrete, their joint pmf is

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n).$$

If X_1, \dots, X_n are jointly continuous with pdf $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ then

$$P(a_1 \leq X_1 \leq b_1, \dots, a_n \leq X_n \leq b_n) = \int_{a_1}^{b_1} \dots \int_{a_n}^{b_n} f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_n \dots dx_1$$

The RVs X_1, \dots, X_n are all independent if and only if for every subset of them (every pair, every triple, ...) the joint pmf/pdf is the product of the marginal pmfs/pdfs.

The Multinomial Distribution

Review: If X is a Binomial RV with parameters n and p , this means

n trials with probability of success p

X is counting the number of successes.

For the multinomial distribution, we have n independent trials, each of which has r possible outcomes (e.g. r colors).

Each trial has the same probabilities: p_1 to be type 1, p_2 to be type 2, ...

p_r to be type r . $p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_r = 1$

We count how many of each type we get.

$$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) = \frac{n!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_r!} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_r^{x_r}$$

multinomial coefficient

Example 7: A grab-bag contains 10 small candies of 3 different types A, B, C.

Each candy has a 40% chance to be type A, a 50% chance to be type B, and a 10% chance to be type C.

What is the probability a randomly selected bag has 3 As, 5 Bs, and 2 Cs?

$$\frac{10!}{3! 5! 2!} \cdot (.4)^3 (.5)^5 (.1)^2$$

5.2 Expected Values, Covariance, and Correlation:

In Chapters 3-4, we saw how to calculate $E[h(X)]$ for functions h .

We can do similar calculations with multiple RVs.

Let X, Y be discrete with joint pmf $p(x, y)$. Then

$$E[h(X, Y)] = \sum_x \sum_y h(x, y) \cdot p(x, y).$$

If instead X, Y are jointly continuous with joint pdf $f(x, y)$, then

$$E[h(X, Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x, y) f(x, y) dx dy.$$

Example 1: Two friends play a game. Each takes a turn and scores either

0, 1, or 2 points. Let X be the points scored by the first friend and Y be

the points scored by the second friend. The joint pmf for X, Y is given in

the table. What is the expected value of the positive difference between their points,

$$E[|X - Y|]?$$

		y		
		0	1	2
x	0	.1	.05	.15
	1	.2	.1	.1
	2	0	.15	.15

points,

		$ X - Y $		
		y		
		0	1	2
x	0	0	1	2
	1	1	0	1
	2	2	1	0

$$\begin{aligned} E[|X - Y|] &= 0(0.1) + 1(0.05) + 2(0.15) + \dots + 0(0.15) \\ &= 0(0.1 + 0.1 + 0.15) + 1(.2 + .15 + .05 + .1) + 2(0 + 0.15) \\ &= 0 + 0.5 + 0.3 = \boxed{0.8} \end{aligned}$$

Example 2: On a certain exam, two subscores are given.

For a randomly selected test-taker, let X and Y be the subscores they receive.

The joint pdf for X, Y is $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 4xy, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$\text{What is } E[XY]? \quad E[XY] = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 xy \cdot 4xy \, dx \, dy$$

$$= 4 \int_0^1 y^2 \int_0^1 x^2 \, dx \, dy = 4 \int_0^1 x^2 \, dx \cdot \int_0^1 y^2 \, dy = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{\frac{4}{9}}$$

Covariance: When we have multiple RVs, we might wonder how strongly related they are.

If X, Y are RVs with means μ_x and μ_y , then the Covariance of X and Y is

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)]$$

Note: $\text{Cov}(X, X) = E[(X - \mu_x)(X - \mu_x)] = E[(X - \mu_x)^2] = \text{Var}(X)$

Like with variance, there is a shortcut formula for covariance

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$$

Most of the time this is easier to use.

Example 3: Let X, Y be as in Example 1:

Find $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$.

		Y			
		0	1	2	
	0	.1	.05	.15	.3
	1	.2	.1	.1	.4
	2	0	.15	.15	.3
		.3	.3	.4	
		marginal pmf for Y			

marginal pmf for X

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X] \cdot E[Y]$$

$$E[XY] = 0 \cdot 0 \cdot 0.1 + 0 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.05 + 0 \cdot 2 \cdot 0.15 + 1 \cdot 0 \cdot 0.2 + 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.1 + 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 0.1 + 2 \cdot 0 \cdot 0.15 + 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.15 + 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 0.15$$

$$= 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.3 + 0.6 = 1.2$$

$$E[X] = 0 \cdot 0.3 + 1 \cdot 0.4 + 2 \cdot 0.3 = 1$$

$$E[Y] = 0 \cdot 0.3 + 1 \cdot 0.3 + 2 \cdot 0.4 = 1.1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X, Y) &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] \\ &= 1.2 - 1(1.1) = \boxed{0.1} \end{aligned}$$

Example 4: Let X, Y be as in Example 2. Find $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$.

The joint pdf for X, Y is $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 4xy, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

We found $E[XY] = \frac{4}{9}$.

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X] \cdot E[Y]$$

$$E[X] = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 x \cdot 4xy \, dx \, dy \quad E[XY] = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 xy \cdot 4xy \, dx \, dy = \frac{4}{9}$$

$$= \int_0^1 4y \cdot \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} dy = \int_0^1 4y \cdot \frac{1}{2} dy = \frac{4}{2} \cdot \frac{y^2}{2} \Big|_{y=0}^{y=1} = \frac{4}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{2}$$

$$E[Y] = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 y \cdot 4xy \, dy \, dx = \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{Cov}(X, Y) = \frac{4}{9} - \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = 0$$

Correlation:

Covariance helps us understand how two random variables are related, but the covariance value depends greatly on the units of measurement.

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]$$

To address this, we use correlation instead.

The correlation coefficient of X and Y is

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \rho_{X,Y} = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \cdot \sigma_Y}$$

"rho"

Example 5: Say X and Y are RVs with these properties:

$$E[X] = 4 \quad \text{Var}(X) = 25 = \sigma_X^2 \quad \sigma_X = 5$$

$$E[Y] = -2 \quad \text{Var}(Y) = 9 = \sigma_Y^2 \quad \sigma_Y = 3$$

$$E[XY] = -1$$

What is $\text{Corr}(X, Y)$? $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \cdot \sigma_Y} = \frac{-1 - (4)(-2)}{5 \cdot 3} = \boxed{\frac{7}{15}}$$

Some Correlation Facts:

- If a and c are both positive or both negative, then

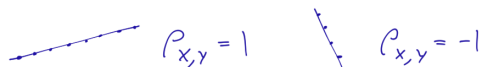
$$\text{Corr}(aX + b, cY + d) = \text{Corr}(X, Y)$$

- For any RVs X, Y (where $E[X], E[Y], E[XY]$ exist and are finite),

$$-1 \leq \rho_{X,Y} \leq 1.$$

- X and Y are uncorrelated if $\rho_{X,Y} = 0$.

- If X, Y are independent, then $\rho_{X,Y} = 0$. But $\rho_{X,Y} = 0$ does not imply X, Y are independent.


$$\rho_{X,Y} = 1 \quad \rho_{X,Y} = -1$$

- $\rho = 1$ or -1 if and only if $Y = aX + b$ for real numbers a and b with $a \neq 0$.