

Expected Value and Variance

Ansar Shahzadi

School of Electrical Engineering & Computer
Science

National University of Science and
Technology (NUST)

Expected Value and Variance

- ▶ Expected Value of Discrete Random Variables
- ▶ Variance and Standard Deviation of Discrete Random Variables
- ▶ Expected Value of continuous Random Variables
- ▶ Variance and Standard Deviation of Continuous Random Variables

Expected Value of Discrete Random Variables

The mean, or expected value, of a discrete random variable is

$$\mu = E(x) = \sum xp(x).$$

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum fx}{\sum f} = \frac{\text{Sum of all observation}}{\text{total no of observation}}$$

$$\text{Mean} = \sum \frac{f}{\sum f} \cdot x$$

$$\text{Mean of discrete p.d} = \sum xp(x)$$

x	$f(x)$	$xf(x)$
x_1	$f(x_1)$	$x_1f(x_1)$
x_2	$f(x_2)$	$x_2f(x_2)$
...
x_n	$f(x_n)$	$x_nf(x_n)$
Total	1	$E(X)$ $= \sum x_i f(x_i)$

Example: die

Mean=3.5

x	$p(x)$	$xp(x)$
1	1/6	1/6
2	1/6	2/6
3	1/6	3/6
4	1/6	4/6
5	1/6	5/6
6	1/6	6/6
Total	1	21/6=3.5

Variance and Standard Deviation

- ▶ The **variance** of a discrete random variable x is

$$\sigma^2 = E[(x - \mu)^2] = \sum (x - \mu)^2 p(x).$$

- ▶ The **standard deviation** of a discrete random variable x is

$$\sqrt{\sigma^2} = \sqrt{E[(x - \mu)^2]} = \sqrt{\sum (x - \mu)^2 p(x)}.$$

Example: die

Variance= 2.91

x	$p(x)$	$xp(x)$	$(x-\mu)$	$(x-\mu)^2p(x)$
1	1/6	1/6	-2.5	1.041
2	1/6	2/6	-1.5	0.3751
3	1/6	3/6	-0.5	.04167
4	1/6	4/6	0.5	.01467
5	1/6	5/6	1.5	0.3751
6	1/6	6/6	2.5	1.041
Total	1	21/6=3.5		2.9

Example: die

$$\text{Variance} = \sigma^2 = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$\text{Variance} = \frac{91}{6} - \left(\frac{21}{6}\right)^2 = \frac{105}{36} = 2.91$$

x	p(x)	xp(x)	x ²	x ² p(x)
1	1/6	1/6	1	1/6
2	1/6	2/6	4	4/6
3	1/6	3/6	9	9/6
4	1/6	4/6	16	16/6
5	1/6	5/6	25	25/6
6	1/6	6/6	36	36/6
Total	1	21/6=3.5		91/6

Question

The repair cost of electrical components is \$50, \$200, and \$250 with respective probability values of 0.3, 0.2, and 0.5. Find the expected value and variance of following distribution?

Solution

Expected Value: \$180

Variance: \$7600

Standard Deviation= \$87.17

x	$f(x)$	$xf(x)$	$(x-\mu)$	$(x-\mu)^2f(x)$
50	0.3	15	-130	5070
200	0.2	40	20	80
250	0.5	125	70	2450
Total	1	180		7600

Question 2

A multiple-choice quiz has 5 question, each with 4 possible answers of which only one is correct.

- ▶ Let X denotes the number of correct answers, what is the expected number of correct answers.
- ▶ If Y denotes the marks and each question have 5 marks, then find the expected marks of a student.

Solution

Expected number of correct answers= 1.25

Expected Marks= 6.25

X	p(x)	xp(x)	Y	yp(y)
0	0.237305	0	0	0
1	0.395508	0.395508	5	1.977539
2	0.263672	0.527344	10	2.636719
3	0.087891	0.263672	15	1.318359
4	0.014648	0.058594	20	0.292969
5	0.000977	0.004883	25	0.024414
	1	1.25	75	6.25

Expected Values of continuous Random Variables

If the X is continuous with probability density function is $f(x)$ thus

$$\mu = E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x)dx$$

Provided the integral converges

Variance and Standard Deviation

$$\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = \text{variance}$$

Where

$$\mu = E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x)dx$$

$$E(X^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x)dx$$

$$\text{S.D} = \sigma = \sqrt{E(X^2) - (E(X))^2}$$

Question 3

The arrival time of a student in a class is uniformly distributed with first 10 minutes. Find the mean and standard deviation.

Solution

The p.d.f of X is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{10} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 10 \\ 0 & \text{for all other values} \end{cases}$$

$$E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^0 x \cdot 0 dx + \int_0^{10} x \cdot \frac{1}{10} dx + \int_{10}^{\infty} x \cdot 0 d(x)$$

$$E(x) = 0 + 5 + 0$$

$$E(x) = 5$$

Mean= average arrival time of a student in a class is 5 minutes

Solution

$$\text{Standard deviation} = \sqrt{E(X^2) - (E(X))^2}$$

Here we know that, $E(X)=5$

$$\begin{aligned} E(x^2) &= \int_{-\infty}^0 x^2 \cdot 0 dx + \int_0^{10} x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{10} dx + \int_{10}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot 0 dx \\ &= 0 + \frac{1000}{30} + 0 = \frac{100}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$E(x^2) = 0 + \frac{1000}{30} + 0 = \frac{100}{3}$$

$$\text{Standard deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{100}{3} - 5^2} = \frac{25}{3} = 8.33$$