

Probability and Statistics

A quick wrap-up

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① Events and Probabilities

② Random Variables

③ Expectation

④ Jointly Distributed RV-s

⑤ Conditional Probability

Sample Space

- Set of all possible events
 - Toss a coin: $S = \{H, T\}$
 - Roll two dice:

$$S = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1, 1), (1, 2), \dots, (1, 6) \\ (2, 1), (2, 2), \dots, (2, 6) \\ \dots \\ (6, 1), (6, 2), \dots, (6, 6) \end{array} \right\}$$

- Flight time:

$$S = [0, \infty)$$

Events & Probabilities

event is a subset E of S

- Example: flight time b/w 1 and 2 hours:

$$E = [1, 2] \subset [0, \infty)$$

- Event of either E or F :

$$G = E \cup F$$

- Event of both E and F :

$$G = EF \equiv E \cap F$$

Probability

- Probability: $\{E : E \subseteq S\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$:
 - $0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$
 - $P(S) = 1$
 - For mutually exclusive events

$$P(\cup_n E_n) = \sum_n P(E_n) \quad (1)$$

Conditional Probability

- Bayes' theorem:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)}$$

- Example: family has 2 children. One of them is a boy. What is the probability that the other is a boy too?
- Example 1.13, p 13

Independent Events

- $P(EF) = P(E)P(F)$
- $P(E|F) = P(E)$
- Intuition: knowledge of F does not help to tell anything about E

Random Variable (RV)

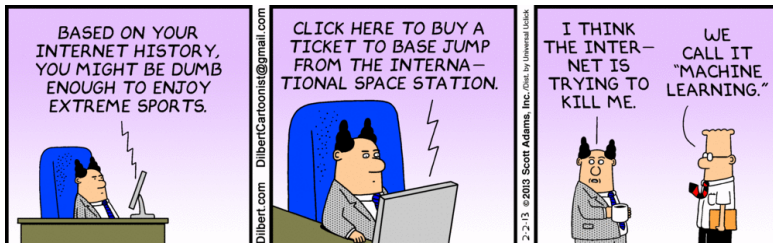
- Random Variable X is

$$X : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

(Note: it is neither random nor variable 😊)

- Examples:
 - number on die
 - sum of numbers on two dice
 - income
 - would this person be willing to buy a ticket?

Preferences are Modelled as RV



- Preferences are modelled as RV
- The probability is estimated by ML methods

Discrete RV

- Discrete: can take discrete (countable) values
- Probability mass function:

$$p(a) = P(X = a)$$

- Cumulative distribution function

$$F(a) = \sum_{i: x_i \leq a} p(x_i)$$

- Examples:
 - Bernoulli distribution:

$$p(0) = P(X = 0) = 1 - p$$

$$p(1) = P(X = 1) = p$$

- Binomial Distribution

Continuous RV

- Continuous: can take values on continuum (uncountable) set \mathbb{R}
- Probability density function

$$f(x) : P(x \in B) = \int_B f(x) dx$$

- A single value occurs with probability zero (*almost never*):

$$P(X = a) = \int_a^a f(x) dx = 0$$

Note: this is not the same as impossible event!

- Cumulative distribution function:

$$F(a) = P(X \leq a) = \int_{-\infty}^a f(x) dx$$

Continuous RV Examples

Uniform distribution: $X \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Normal distribution: $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

Expectation

- Discrete case:

$$\mathbb{E} X \equiv \sum_x x p(x)$$

- Example: expected value of coin toss (Bernoulli RV):

$$\mathbb{E} X = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

- Continuous case:

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

- Example: uniform distribution:

$$\mathbb{E} X = \int_0^1 x dx = \frac{1}{2} x^2 \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- Expectation is a property of RV
- It is *not* sample mean!
- But they are related:

Theorem

Law of Large Numbers:

$$\bar{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow \mathbb{E} X \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

Theorem

Expectation is linear operator

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

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var } X = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E} X)^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X])^2$$

Joint Distribution Function

$$F(a, b) = P(X \leq a, Y \leq b)$$

- Marginal distributions:

$$F_X(a) = P(X \leq a) = P(X \leq a, Y < \infty) = F(a, \infty)$$

Discrete Caes

- joint probability mass function

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

- Marginal mass function:

$$p_X(x) = \sum_y p(x, y)$$

Continuous Case

- joint probability density function

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

- Marginal density

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

Covariance

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

- Properties:
 - $\text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var } X$
 - $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(Y, X)$
 - $\text{Cov}(\lambda X, Y) = \lambda \text{Cov}(X, Y)$
 - $\text{Cov}(X, Y + Z) = \text{Cov}(X, Y) + \text{Cov}(X, Z)$

Conditional Probability

Conditional probability mass function

$$p_{X|Y} = P(X = x|Y = y) = \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} = \frac{p(x, y)}{p_Y(y)}$$

Conditional expectation

$$\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y] = \sum_x P(X = x|Y = y) = \sum_x x p_{X|Y}(x|y)$$