

# Chapter 4: Multiple Random Variables

MATH 667-01  
Statistical Inference  
University of Louisville  
Textbook: Statistical Inference by Casella and Berger

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## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- *Definition:* An  $n$ -dimensional random vector is a function from a sample space  $S$  into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space.
- *Definition:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a discrete bivariate random vector. Then the function  $f(x, y)$  from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$  is called the *joint probability mass function* or *joint pmf* of  $(X, Y)$ . Sometimes, if necessary, the notation  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$  will be used.
- Let  $g(x, y)$  be a real-valued function defined for all possible values  $(x, y)$  of the discrete random vector  $(X, Y)$ . Then  $g(X, Y)$  is a random variable with expected value

$$Eg(X, Y) = \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} g(x, y) f(x, y).$$

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- *Theorem:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a discrete bivariate random vector with joint pmf  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$ . Then the marginal pmfs of  $X$  and  $Y$  are given by

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) \text{ and } f_Y(y) = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x, y).$$

- *Example:* Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete random variables with pmf

$$f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{11} I_{\{2,3\}}(x) I_{\{1,2\}}(y) I_{(0,x)}(y).$$

Compute  $EXY$  and  $EX$ . (Answers:  $\frac{49}{11}$  and  $\frac{31}{11}$ )

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- *Definition:* A function  $f(x, y)$  from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  is called a *joint probability density function* or *joint pdf of the continuous bivariate random vector*  $(X, Y)$  if, for every  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

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

- If  $g(x, y)$  be a real-valued function, then the *expected value of*  $g(X, Y)$  is

$$Eg(X, Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) f(x, y) \, dx \, dy.$$

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- *Example:* Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint probability density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{45}{16}xy(x - y)(2 - x) & \text{if } 0 < y < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

- The density function is shown in Figure 1.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

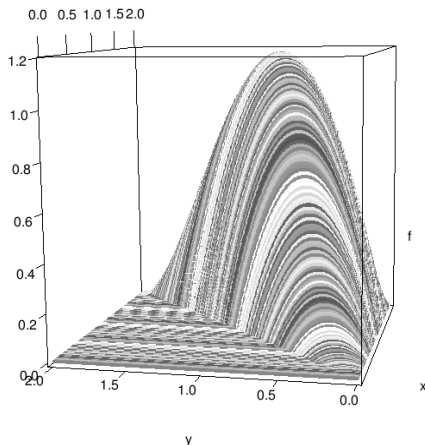


Figure 1: Density function for the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

*Example continued:*

Now suppose we want to compute the probability that  $X > Y^2$ . To compute this probability, we can integrate with respect to  $y$  first and consider the region of integration shown in Figure 2; the infinitesimal slices shown in Figure 2 correspond to the density shown in Figure 3.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

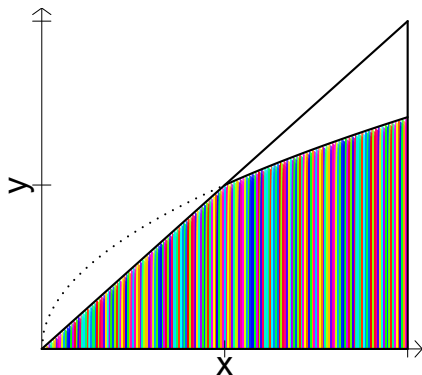


Figure 2: Region of integration that can be used to integrate with respect to  $y$  first.



## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

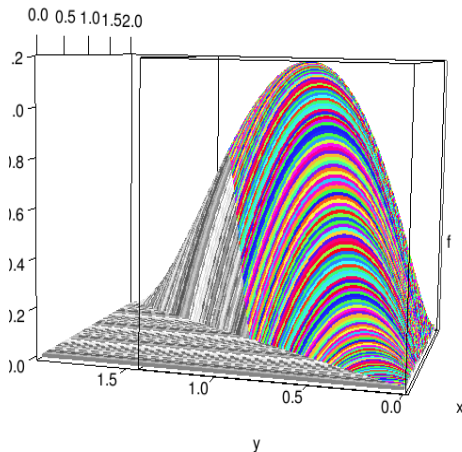


Figure 3: Density function for the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ , shown with the region of integration shaded with infinitesimal slices that can be used to integrate with respect to  $y$  first.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

*Example continued:*

Then the probability can be computed as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}P(X > Y^2) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^x \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) \, dy \, dx + \int_1^2 \int_0^{\sqrt{x}} \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) \, dy \, dx \\&= \frac{45}{16} \left\{ \int_0^1 \int_0^x (2x^2y - x^3y - 2xy^2 + x^2y^2) \, dy \, dx \right. \\&\quad \left. + \int_1^2 \int_0^{\sqrt{x}} (2x^2y - x^3y - 2xy^2 + x^2y^2) \, dy \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{45}{16} \left\{ \int_0^1 \left[ x^2y^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^3y^2 - \frac{2}{3}xy^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^2y^3 \right]_0^x \, dx \right. \\&\quad \left. + \int_1^2 \left[ x^2y^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^3y^2 - \frac{2}{3}xy^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^2y^3 \right]_0^{\sqrt{x}} \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{45}{16} \left\{ \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{3}x^4 - \frac{1}{6}x^6 \right) \, dx + \int_1^2 \left( -\frac{2}{3}x^{5/2} + x^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^{7/2} - \frac{1}{2}x^4 \right) \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{45}{16} \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{15}x^5 - \frac{1}{36}x^6 \right]_0^1 + \left[ -\frac{4}{21}x^{7/2} + \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{2}{27}x^{9/2} - \frac{1}{10}x^5 \right]_1^2 \right\} \\&= \frac{45}{16} \left\{ \frac{7}{180} + \left( -\frac{64}{189}\sqrt{2} + \frac{2897}{3780} \right) \right\} \approx 0.918.\end{aligned}$$

Alternately, we can compute the probability by integrating with respect to  $x$  first and consider the infinitesimal slices and region of integration shown in Figures 4 and 5.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

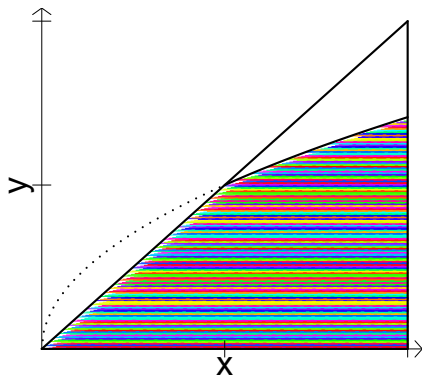


Figure 4: Region of integration that can be used to integrate with respect to  $x$  first.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

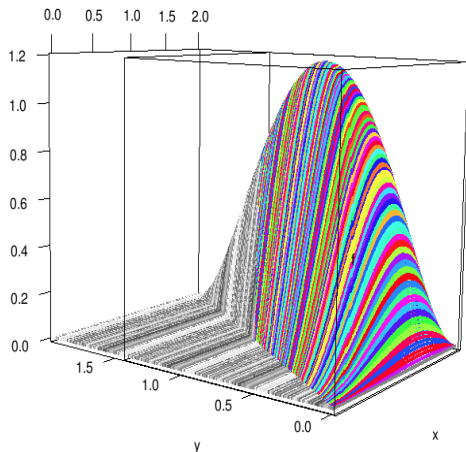


Figure 5: Density function for the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ , shown with the region of integration shaded with infinitesimal slices that can be used to integrate with respect to  $x$  first.

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

*Example continued:*

This is computed by calculating

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > Y^2) &= \int_0^1 \int_y^2 \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) \, dx \, dy \\ &\quad + \int_1^{\sqrt{2}} \int_{y^2}^2 \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) \, dx \, dy \approx 0.918. \end{aligned}$$

Alternately, we could compute this probability as follows.

$$P(X > Y^2) = 1 - P(X \leq Y^2) = 1 - \int_1^2 \int_{\sqrt{x}}^x \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) \, dy \, dx \approx 0.918.$$

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- The marginal pdfs of  $X$  and  $Y$  are defined by

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

and

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

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

*Example continued:*

Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint probability density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{45}{16}xy(x - y)(2 - x) & \text{if } 0 < y < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

When  $0 < x < 2$ , the marginal density of  $X$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_0^x \frac{45}{16}(2x^2y - x^3y - 2xy^2 + x^2y^2) dy \\ &= \frac{45}{16} \left[ x^2y^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^3y^2 - \frac{2}{3}xy^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^2y^3 \right]_0^x \\ &= \frac{45}{16} \left( \frac{1}{3}x^4 - \frac{1}{6}x^5 \right) \\ &= \frac{15}{32}x^4(2 - x) \end{aligned}$$

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

*Example continued:*

so that

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{15}{32}x^4(2-x) & \text{if } 0 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

The marginal density of  $X$  is shown in Figure 6.



## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

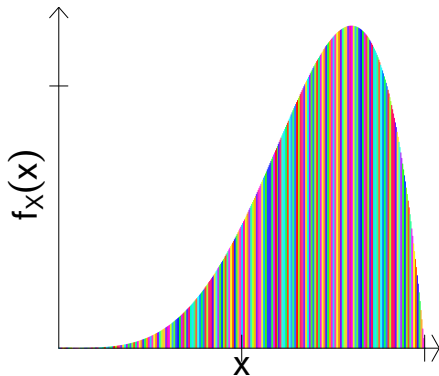


Figure 6: Density function for the marginal distribution of  $X$ .

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- The *joint cdf* (cumulative distribution function) is the function  $F(x, y)$  defined by

$$F(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$$

for all  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

- For a continuous bivariate random vector,  $F(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f(t, s) dt ds$ . From the bivariate Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, this implies that

$$\frac{\partial^2 F(x, y)}{\partial x \partial y} = f(x, y)$$

at the continuity points of  $f(x, y)$ .

## 4.1. Joint and Marginal Distributions

- The *joint moment generating function* of  $X$  and  $Y$  is

$$M_{X,Y}(t_1, t_2) = \mathbb{E}e^{t_1X+t_2Y}.$$

- The moments of  $X$  and  $Y$  can be obtained in a manner analogous to the univariate case:

$$\mathbb{E}(X^n Y^m) = \frac{\partial^{n+m}}{\partial^n \partial^m} M_{X,Y}(t_1, t_2) \big|_{t_1=t_2=0}.$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Definition:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a discrete bivariate random vector with joint pmf  $f(x, y)$  and marginal pmfs  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$ . For any  $x$  such that  $P(X = x) = f_X(x) > 0$ , the *conditional pmf of  $Y$  given that  $X = x$*  is the function of  $y$  defined by

$$f(y|x) = P(Y = y|X = x) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_X(x)}.$$

For any  $y$  such that  $P(Y = y) = f_Y(y) > 0$ , the *conditional pmf of  $X$  given that  $Y = y$*  is the function of  $x$  defined by

$$f(x|y) = P(X = x|Y = y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}.$$

- If  $g(Y)$  is a function of a discrete random variable  $Y$ , then the *conditional expected value of  $g(Y)$  given that  $X = x$*  is

$$E(g(Y)|x) = \sum_y g(y)f(y|x).$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Example:* Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete random variables with pmf

$$f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{11} I_{\{2,3\}}(x) I_{\{1,2\}}(y) I_{(0,x)}(y).$$

Then the conditional pmf of  $X$  given  $Y = 1$  is

$$f(x|1) = \frac{x}{5} I_{\{2,3\}}(x)$$

and the conditional pmf of  $X$  given  $Y = 2$  is

$$f(x|2) = I_{\{3\}}(x).$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Definition:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a continuous bivariate random vector with joint pdf  $f(x, y)$  and marginal pdfs  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$ . For any  $x$  such that  $f_X(x) > 0$ , the *conditional pmf of  $Y$  given that  $X = x$*  is the function of  $y$  defined by

$$f(y|x) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_X(x)}.$$

For any  $y$  such that  $f_Y(y) > 0$ , the *conditional pmf of  $X$  given that  $Y = y$*  is the function of  $x$  defined by

$$f(x|y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}.$$

- If  $g(Y)$  is a function of a continuous random variable  $Y$ , then the *conditional expected value of  $g(Y)$  given that  $X = x$*  is

$$E(g(Y)|x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(y)f(y|x) dy.$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Example:* Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint probability density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{45}{16}xy(x-y)(2-x) & \text{if } 0 < y < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

When  $0 < y < x$ , the conditional density function of  $Y$  given  $X = x$  is

$$f_{Y|X=x}(y) = \frac{\frac{45}{16}xy(x-y)(2-x)}{\frac{15}{32}x^4(2-x)} = \frac{6y(x-y)}{x^3}$$

so that

$$f_{Y|X=x}(y) = \begin{cases} 6x^{-3}y(x-y) & \text{if } 0 < y < x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

The conditional density of  $Y$  given  $X = 1$  is shown in Figures 8 and 9.

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

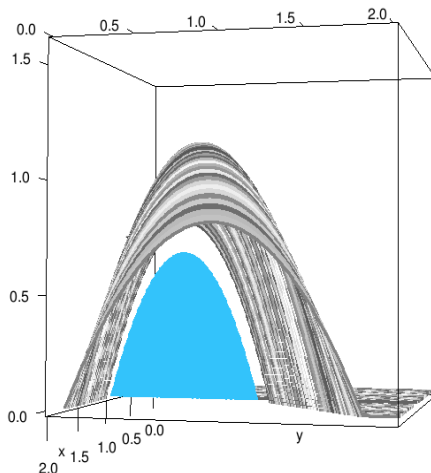


Figure 8: Conditional density function for distribution of  $Y$  given  $X = 1$ , shown with respect to the original joint density.



## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

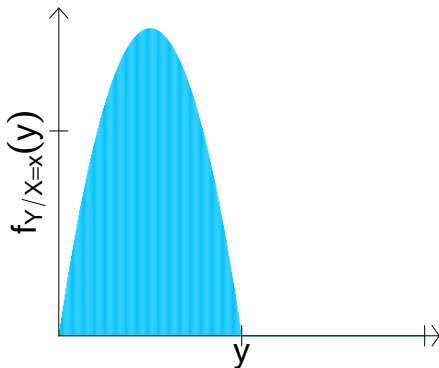


Figure 9: Conditional density function for distribution of  $Y$  given  $X = 1$ .

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

*Example continued:*

The moments of this conditional distribution can be computed as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y^n|X = x] &= \int_0^x 6x^{-3}y^{1+n}(x-y) dy \\ &= 6x^{-3} \int_0^x (xy^{1+n} - y^{2+n}) dy \\ &= 6x^{-3} \left[ \frac{xy^{2+n}}{2+n} - \frac{y^{3+n}}{3+n} \right]_0^x \\ &= \frac{6x^n}{(2+n)(3+n)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it follows that  $E[Y|X = x] = \frac{x}{2}$ ,  $E[Y^2|X = x] = \frac{3x^2}{10}$ , and

$$\text{Var}[Y|X = x] = \frac{3x^2}{10} - \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{x^2}{20}.$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Definition:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a bivariate random vector with joint pdf or pmf  $f(x, y)$  and marginal pdfs or pmfs  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$ . Then  $X$  and  $Y$  are called *independent random variables* if, for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y).$$

- *Lemma:* Let  $(X, Y)$  be a bivariate random vector with joint pdf or pmf  $f(x, y)$ . Then  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables if and only if there exist functions  $g(x)$  and  $h(y)$  such that, for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x, y) = g(x)h(y)$ .
- *Theorem:* Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables.
  - a. For any  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $B \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  
 $P(X \in A, Y \in B) = P(X \in A)P(Y \in B)$ , that is the events  $\{X \in A\}$  and  $\{Y \in B\}$  are independent events.
  - b. Let  $g(x)$  be a function only of  $x$  and  $h(y)$  be a function only of  $y$ . Then

$$E(g(X)h(Y)) = (Eg(X))(Eh(Y)).$$

## 4.2. Conditional Distributions and Independence

- *Theorem:* Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables with moment generating functions  $M_X(t)$  and  $M_Y(t)$ . Then the moment generating function of  $Z = X + Y$  is given by

$$M_Z(t) = M_X(t)M_Y(t).$$

- *Theorem:* Let  $X \sim n(\mu, \sigma^2)$  and  $Y \sim n(\gamma, \tau^2)$  be independent normal random variables. Then the random variable  $Z = X + Y$  has a  $n(\mu + \gamma, \sigma^2 + \tau^2)$  distribution.

## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

- *Convolution method:* If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are discrete non-negative integer-valued random variables with probability function  $f(x_1, x_2)$ , then, for an integer  $k$ ,

$$P[X_1 + X_2 = k] = \sum_{x_1=0}^k f(x_1, k - x_1).$$

- If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are continuous random variables with joint density  $f(x_1, x_2)$ , then  $Y = X_1 + X_2$  has density

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x_1, y - x_1) dx_1.$$

## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

- *Example:* Suppose  $X$  follows a Binomial( $n, p$ ) distribution,  $Y$  follows a Bernoulli( $p$ ) distribution, and  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}P(X + Y = k) &= P(X = k - 1, Y = 1) + P(X = k, Y = 0) \\&= P(X = k - 1)P(Y = 1) + P(X = k)P(Y = 0) \\&= \left( \binom{n}{k-1} p^{k-1} (1-p)^{n-k+1} \right) p + \left( \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \right) (1-p) \\&= \left( \binom{n}{k-1} + \binom{n}{k} \right) p^k (1-p)^{n-k+1} \\&= \binom{n+1}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k+1}.\end{aligned}$$

So,  $X + Y$  follows a Binomial( $n + 1, p$ ) distribution.

## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

- Bivariate continuous case: Suppose  $(X, Y)$  has density  $f(x, y)$  and  $U = u(X, Y)$  and  $V = v(X, Y)$  where  $u$  and  $v$  have inverses such that there is an  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  where  $x = h_1(u(x, y), v(x, y))$  and  $y = h_2(u(x, y), v(x, y))$ . Then the joint density of  $U$  and  $V$  is

$$g(u, v) = f(h_1(u, v), h_2(u, v)) |J|$$

where

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}.$$

## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

- *Example:* Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent Exponential random variables each with mean 3 so that their joint density function is

$$f(x, y) = \left( \frac{1}{3} e^{-x/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{3} e^{-y/3} \right) = \frac{1}{9} e^{-(x+y)/3}$$

for  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ . Consider the bivariate transformation  $U = X + Y$  and  $V = Y$ . Then  $u = x + y$  and  $v = y$  imply that  $x = u - v$  and  $y = v$  so that

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} = (1)(1) - (-1)(0) = 1.$$



## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

*Example continued:*

Thus, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy &= f(u - v, v) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \, du \, dv \\ &= \frac{1}{9} e^{-u/3} |1| \, du \, dv = \frac{1}{9} e^{-u/3} \, du \, dv \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$g(u, v) = \frac{1}{9} e^{-u/3}$$

for  $u > v > 0$  ( $x = u - v > 0$  and  $y = v > 0$ ). Then suppose we want the marginal density for the sum  $U = X + Y$ . We obtain this by integrating out the  $v$  and get

$$g_U(u) = \int_0^u g(u, v) \, dv = \frac{1}{9} u e^{-u/3}$$

for  $u > 0$ . Thus,  $U$  follows a  $\text{Gamma}(\alpha = 2, \beta = \frac{1}{3})$  distribution.

## 4.3. Bivariate Transformations

- *Theorem:* Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables. Let  $g(x)$  be a function only of  $x$  and  $h(y)$  be a function only of  $y$ . Then the random variables  $U = g(X)$  and  $V = h(Y)$  are independent.

## 4.5. Covariance and Correlation

- $EX = \mu_X$ ,  $EY = \mu_Y$ ,  $\text{Var } X = \sigma_X^2$ ,  $\text{Var } Y = \sigma_Y^2$
- Assume  $0 < \sigma_X^2 < \infty$  and  $0 < \sigma_Y^2 < \infty$
- The *covariance of*  $X$  and  $Y$  is the number defined by

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

- *Definition:* The *correlation of*  $X$  and  $Y$  is the number defined by

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

The value  $\rho_{XY}$  is also called the *correlation coefficient*.

## 4.5. Covariance and Correlation

- *Theorem:* For any random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = EXY - \mu_X \mu_Y.$$

- *Theorem:* If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables, then  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$  and  $\rho_{XY} = 0$ .
- *Theorem:* If  $X$  and  $Y$  are any two random variables, and  $a$  and  $b$  are any two constants, then

$$\text{Var}(aX + bY) = a^2 \text{Var } X + b^2 \text{Var } Y + 2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y).$$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables, then

$$\text{Var}(aX + bY) = a^2 \text{Var } X + b^2 \text{Var } Y.$$

- *Theorem:* For any random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ,
  - $-1 \leq \rho_{XY} \leq 1$ .
  - $|\rho_{XY}| = 1$  if and only if there exists numbers  $a \neq 0$  and  $b$  such that  $P(Y = aX + b) = 1$ . If  $\rho_{XY} = 1$  then  $a > 0$ , and if  $\rho_{XY} = -1$  then  $a < 0$ .

## 4.5. Covariance and Correlation

- *Example:* Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint probability density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{45}{16}xy(x-y)(2-x) & \text{if } 0 < y < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^m Y^n] &= \int_0^2 \int_0^x x^m y^n \frac{45}{16} xy(x-y)(2-x) dy dx \\ &= \frac{45}{16} \int_0^2 \int_0^x ((2x^{2+m} - x^{3+m})y^{1+n} - (2x^{1+m} - x^{2+m})y^{2+n}) dy dx \\ &= \frac{45}{16} \int_0^2 \left[ \frac{2x^{2+m} - x^{3+m}}{2+n} y^{2+n} - \frac{2x^{1+m} - x^{2+m}}{3+n} y^{3+n} \right]_0^x dx \\ &= \frac{45}{16(2+n)(3+n)} \int_0^2 (2x^{4+m+n} - x^{5+m+n}) dx \\ &= \frac{45}{16(2+n)(3+n)} \left[ \frac{2}{5+m+n} x^{5+m+n} - \frac{1}{6+m+n} x^{6+m+n} \right]_0^2 \\ &= \frac{45}{16(2+n)(3+n)} \frac{2^{6+m+n}}{(5+m+n)(6+m+n)} \\ &= \frac{180}{(2+n)(3+n)(5+m+n)(6+m+n)} 2^{m+n}. \end{aligned}$$

## 4.5. Covariance and Correlation

*Example continued:*

Thus, it follows that

$$EX = \frac{10}{7}, EY = \frac{5}{7}, E[XY] = \frac{15}{14}, E[X^2] = \frac{15}{7}, E[Y^2] = \frac{9}{14}.$$

Then we can compute

$$\text{Cov}[X, Y] = \frac{15}{14} - \left(\frac{10}{7}\right)\left(\frac{5}{7}\right) = \frac{5}{98},$$

$$\text{Var } X = \frac{15}{7} - \left(\frac{10}{7}\right)^2 = \frac{5}{49},$$

$$\text{Var } Y = \frac{9}{14} - \left(\frac{5}{7}\right)^2 = \frac{13}{98},$$

and

$$\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{5/98}{\sqrt{10/98}\sqrt{13/98}} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{130}} \approx 0.4385.$$

## 4.5. Covariance and Correlation

- *Definition:* Let  $-\infty < \mu_X < \infty$ ,  $-\infty < \mu_Y < \infty$ ,  $0 < \sigma_X$ ,  $0 < \sigma_Y$ , and  $-1 < \rho < 1$  be five real numbers. The *bivariate normal pdf with means  $\mu_X$  and  $\mu_Y$ , variances  $\sigma_X^2$  and  $\sigma_Y^2$ , and correlation  $\rho$*  is the bivariate pdf given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_X\sigma_Y\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}\left[\left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2 - 2\rho\left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right)\left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right)\right]}$$

for  $-\infty < x < \infty$  and  $-\infty < y < \infty$ .

## 4.4. Hierarchical Models and Mixture Distributions

- *Definition:* A random variable  $X$  is said to have a *mixture distribution* if the distribution of  $X$  depends on a quantity which also has a distribution.
- *Theorem:* If  $X$  and  $Y$  are any two random variables, then

$$EX = E(E(X|Y)),$$

provided that the expectations exist.

- *Theorem:* For any two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$\text{Var } X = E(\text{Var}(X|Y)) + \text{Var}(E(X|Y))$$

provided that the expectations exist.



## 4.4. Hierarchical Models and Mixture Distributions

- *Example:* Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint probability density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{45}{16}xy(x-y)(2-x) & \text{if } 0 < y < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

Then we have

$$EY = E[E[Y|X]] = E\left[\frac{X}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2}EX = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{10}{7}\right) = \frac{5}{7}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var } Y &= \text{Var } [E[Y|X]] + E[\text{Var } [Y|X]] = \text{Var } \left[\frac{X}{2}\right] + E\left[\frac{X^2}{20}\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\text{Var } X + \frac{1}{20}E[X^2] = \frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{5}{49}\right) + \frac{1}{20}\left(\frac{15}{7}\right) = \frac{13}{98}. \end{aligned}$$

## 4.6. Multivariate Distributions

- *Definition:* Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be random vectors with point pdf or pmf  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . Let  $f_{X_i}(x_i)$  denote the marginal pdf or pmf of  $X_i$ . Then  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are called *mutually independent random vectors* if, for every  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f_{X_1}(x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot f_{X_n}(x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{X_i}(x_i).$$

If the  $X_i$ s are all one-dimensional, then  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are called *mutually independent random variables*.

- *Theorem:* Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be mutually independent random variables. Let  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  be real-valued functions such that  $g_i(x_i)$  is a function only of  $x_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then

$$E(g_1(X_1) \cdot \dots \cdot g_n(X_n)) = (Eg_1(X_1)) \cdot \dots \cdot (Eg_n(X_n)).$$

## 4.6. Multivariate Distributions

- *Theorem:* Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be mutually independent random variables with mgfs  $M_{X_1}(t), \dots, M_{X_n}(t)$ . Let  $Z = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Then the mgf of  $Z$  is

$$M_Z(t) = M_{X_1}(t) \cdot \dots \cdot M_{X_n}(t).$$

In particular, if  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  all have the same distribution with mgf  $M_X(t)$ , then

$$M_Z(t) = (M_X(t))^n.$$

## 4.6. Multivariate Distributions

- *Corollary:* Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be mutually independent random variables with mgfs  $M_{X_1}(t), \dots, M_{X_n}(t)$ . Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  be fixed constants. Let  $Z = (a_1X_1 + b_1) + \dots + (a_nX_n + b_n)$ . Then the mgf of  $Z$  is

$$M_Z(t) = (e^{t(\sum b_i)})M_{X_1}(a_1t) \cdot \dots \cdot M_{X_n}(a_nt).$$

- *Corollary:* Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be mutually independent random variables with  $X_i \sim n(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$ . Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  be fixed constants. Then

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_iX_i + b_i) \sim n\left(\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i\mu_i + b_i), \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2\sigma_i^2\right).$$

## 4.6. Multivariate Distributions

- *Theorem:* Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be random vectors. Then  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  are mutually independent random vectors if and only if there exist functions  $g_i(x_i), i = 1, \dots, n$ , such that the joint pdf or pmf of  $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$  can be written as

$$f(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) = g_1(\mathbf{x}_1) \cdot \dots \cdot g_n(\mathbf{x}_n).$$

- *Theorem:* Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be independent random vectors. Let  $g_i(\mathbf{x}_i)$  be a function only of  $\mathbf{x}_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then the random variables  $U_i = g_i(\mathbf{X}_i), i = 1, \dots, n$ , are mutually independent.