

# Lecture 5

- **Read:** Chapter 3.5-3.8.
- Multiple Discrete RVs
  - Conditioning
    - ▶ Conditioning a Joint PMF by an Event
    - ▶ Conditional PMF
  - Independent Random Variables
  - More Than Two Discrete Random Variables

# Conditioning

- **Definition:(Conditioning Joint PMF by an Event)** The conditional joint PMF of  $(X, Y)$  given some event  $B$ , a set on the  $x$ - $y$  plane, is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} p_{X,Y|B}(x,y) &= P[X = x, Y = y|B] \\ &= \frac{P[\{X = x\} \cap \{Y = y\} \cap B]}{P[B]} \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{P[B]} & , (x,y) \in B \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

- **Definition:(Conditioning an RV Based on Another)** The conditional PMF of  $X$  given  $Y$  is

$$\begin{aligned} p_{X|Y}(x|y) &= P[X = x|Y = y] \\ &= \frac{P[\{X = x\} \cap \{Y = y\}]}{P[Y = y]} = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_Y(y)} \end{aligned}$$

# Conditional Expectation

- **Definition:(Conditional Expectation of a Function)**

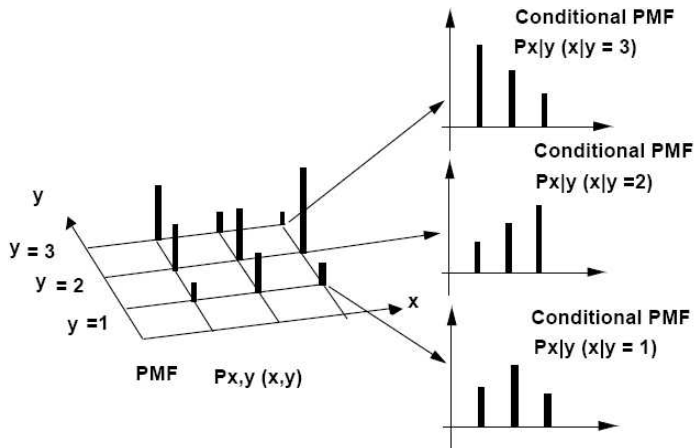
Conditional expectation of  $g(X, Y)$  given  $B$

$$E[g(X, Y)|B] = \sum_x \sum_y g(x, y) \cdot p_{X,Y|B}(x, y)$$

- **Definition:(Conditional Expectation)** Conditional expectation of  $X$  given  $Y = y$

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

# Visualizing Conditioning



# Summary

Joint PMF:  $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = P[X = x, Y = y]$

if independent

marginal PMF

$$p_X(x) = \sum_{y \in S_Y} p_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

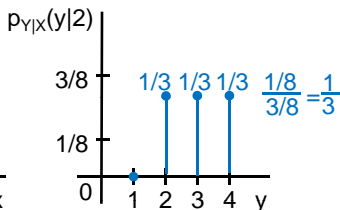
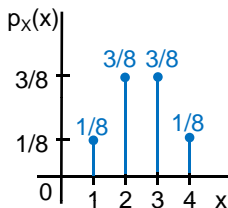
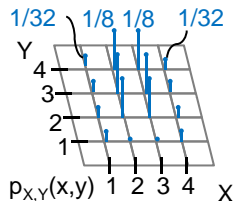
$$p_Y(y) = \sum_{x \in S_X} p_{X,Y}(x,y)$$

conditional PMF

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

$$p_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_X(x)}$$

# Summary: Visualizing Conditioning



- If independent, then given the value of  $X$ , the distribution of  $Y$  would not change.

# Conditional Expected Values

- **Idea:** Given  $Y = y$ , the PMF of  $X$  is  $p_{X|Y}(x|y)$ , so the average of  $X$  is now given by

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x p_{X|Y}(x|y)$$

We can generalize this definition and define the conditional expectation of a function of the random variable  $X$ ...

# Conditional Expected Value of a Function

- **Definition:(Conditional Expected Value of a Function)**

For any  $y \in S_Y$ , the conditional expected value of  $g(X)$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$E[g(X)|Y = y] = \sum_{x \in S_X} g(x)p_{X|Y}(x|y)$$

## Special Cases:

1.  $E[X|Y = y]$
2. Conditional Variance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X|Y = y] &= E[(X - E[X|Y = y])^2|Y = y] \\ &= \sum_{x \in S_X} (x - E[X|Y = y])^2 p_{X|Y}(x|y) \end{aligned}$$

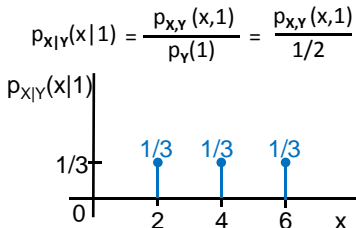
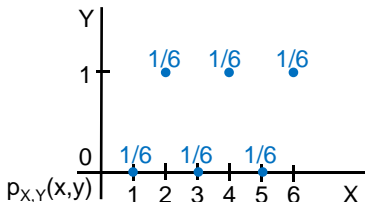


# Conditional Expectation: Example (I)

- Let  $X$  = outcome of roll of die

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was even} \\ 0 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was odd} \end{cases}$$

- What are  $p_{X,Y}(x,y)$ ,  $p_{X|Y}(x|1)$ ?



## Conditional Expectation: Example (II)

- Let  $X$  = outcome of roll of die

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was even} \\ 0 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was odd} \end{cases}$$

- What are  $E[X|Y = 1]$  and  $Var[X]$ ?

.....

$$E[X|Y = 1] = \sum_{x \in S_X} x p_{X|Y}(x|1) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 6 \cdot \frac{1}{3} = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} Var[X] &= E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[(X - 3.5)^2] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{6}[(1 - 3.5)^2 + (2 - 3.5)^2 + (3 - 3.5)^2 + (4 - 3.5)^2 \\ &\quad + (5 - 3.5)^2 + (6 - 3.5)^2] \end{aligned}$$

## Conditional Expectation: Example (III)

- Let  $X$  = outcome of roll of die

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was even} \\ 0 & , \text{ if } X \text{ was odd} \end{cases}$$

- What is  $\text{Var}[X|Y = 1]$ ?

.....

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X|Y = y] &= E[(X - E[X|Y = y])^2|Y = y] \\ &= \sum_{x \in S_X} (x - E[X|Y = y])^2 p_{X|Y}(x|y) \\ \text{Var}[X|Y = 1] &= E[X^2|Y = 1] - (E[X|Y = 1])^2 \\ &= 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 36 \cdot \frac{1}{3} - 16 \end{aligned}$$

# Conditional Expectation

- **Definition:(Conditional Expectation)** Let  $g(y) = E[X|Y = y]$ . Then,  $g(Y)$  is called the **conditional expectation** of  $X$  given  $Y$  and is written as  $E[X|Y]$ .
- **Warning:**  $E[X|Y] = g(Y)$  is a function of an RV,  $Y$ , so it is also an RV, i.e., necessarily just a number.

Since  $E[X|Y]$  is an RV, we should be able to take its average!

- **Theorem:(Iterated Expectation)**  $E[E[X|Y]] = E[X]$ 
  - The significance of the iterated expectation is that there are problems in which calculating  $E[X]$  directly is much more difficult than first calculating  $E[X|Y]$  and then using the iterated expectation to find  $E[X]$ .

# Iterated Expectation: Proof of Theorem

- **Theorem:**  $E[E[X|Y]] = E[X]$
- **Proof:**  $E[E[X|Y]] = E[g(Y)]$

$$= \sum_y g(y) p_Y(y)$$

$$= \sum_y E[X|Y = y] p_Y(y)$$

$$= \sum_y \left( \sum_x x p_{X|Y}(x|y) \right) p_Y(y)$$

$$\sum_y \sum_x x p_{X|Y}(x|y) p_Y(y) = \sum_y \sum_x x p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

$$= \sum_x x \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

$$= \sum_x x p_X(x) = E[X]$$

# Iterated Expectation: Example

- Suppose
$$Y = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Male}, P[Y = 0] = 1/2$$
$$Y = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Female}$$
- Let  $X$  = age of person
$$E[X|Y = 0] = \text{average age of males}$$
$$\text{Var}[X|Y = 1] = \text{variance of ages of females}$$

.....

$$E[X|Y] = g(Y) = \begin{cases} E[X|Y = 0] & , \text{ with probability } 1/2 \\ E[X|Y = 1] & , \text{ with probability } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

$$g(Y) = E[X|Y = y]$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[E[X|Y]] &= E[X|Y = 0]P[Y = 0] + E[X|Y = 1]P[Y = 1] \\ &= E[X] \end{aligned}$$

# Independent Random Variables

- **Definition:**  $X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if  $\{X = x\}$  and  $\{Y = y\}$  are independent events for all  $x, y$ .

$$\begin{aligned}P[\{X = x\} \cap \{Y = y\}] &= P[X = x] \cdot P[Y = y] \\ \Rightarrow p_{X,Y}(x, y) &= p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(y)\end{aligned}$$

Equivalently, since for all  $x, y$  such that  $p_Y(y) > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}p_{X,Y}(x, y) &= p_{X|Y}(x|y) \cdot p_Y(y) \\ &\stackrel{\text{independent}}{=} p_X(x) p_Y(y)\end{aligned}$$

we have independence when  $p_{X|Y}(x|y) = p_X(x)$ .

- **Interpretation:** knowledge of the experimental value of  $Y$  does not affect PMF of  $X$ .
- Given two functions  $g$  and  $h$ , if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, so are  $g(X)$  and  $h(Y)$ .
- **Remark:** Independence iff can factorize the joint PMFs into functions of  $x$  and  $y$  alone.

## Summary: Independent RVs

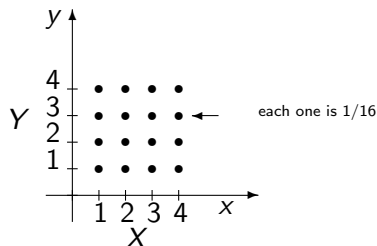
Independent RVs:  $p_{X,Y}(x,y) = p_X(x) \cdot p_Y(y)$

Alternatively,  $p_{X|Y}(x|y) = p_X(x)$

$$p_{Y|X}(y|x) = p_Y(y)$$



# Independent RVs: Example

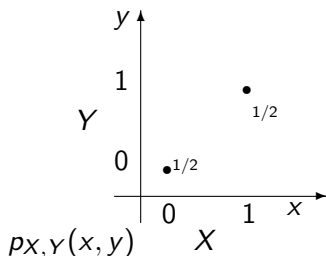


$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y)}{p_Y(y)} = \frac{1/16}{1/4} = p_X(x)$$

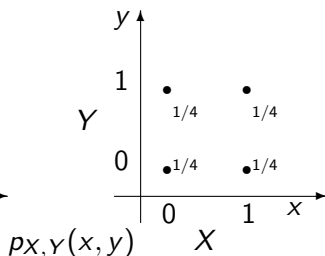
independent RVs

# Support (Range) of Independent RVs

- Note:** Independent RVs will have a range (support)  $S_{X,Y} = S_X \times S_Y$ , i.e., rectangular.

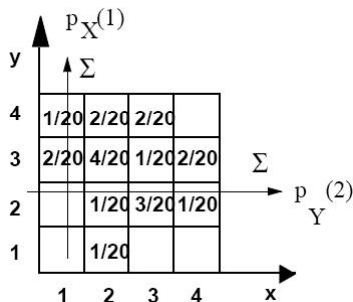


dependent



independent

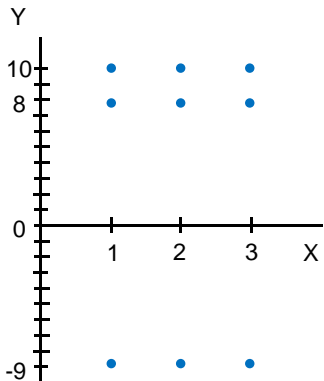
# Support of RVs



- Consider the joint PMF of the two RVs in the table above.
- Are they independent?
- Does a choice of  $X = x$ , e.g., 1 or 2, impact the possible values  $Y$  can take?

# Do Only Independent RVs Have Rectangular Supports?

- Example:



$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ with probability } 1/6 \\ 2 & , \text{ with probability } 2/6 \\ 3 & , \text{ with probability } 3/6 \end{cases}$$

$$Y = \begin{cases} -9 & , \text{ with probability } 1/3 \\ 8 & , \text{ with probability } 1/3 \\ 10 & , \text{ with probability } 1/3 \end{cases}$$

- Warning: Ranges that are “rectangular” in this sense may or may not correspond to independent random variables!

# Joint Distribution from Marginals

- **Question:** Given the marginal distributions of two RVs, can you reconstruct the joint distribution?
- **Answer:** Yes, if they are independent!

# Facts About Independent RVs

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

- $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$ , so independent  $\implies$  uncorrelated, i.e.,  $\text{Cov}[X, Y] = 0$ .
- $E[X|Y = y] = E[X]$  for all  $y \in S_Y$
- $E[Y|X = x] = E[Y]$  for all  $x \in S_X$
- $E[f(X)g(Y)] = E[f(X)]E[g(Y)]$
- $\text{Var}[X + Y] = \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]$

# Independence of Several Random Variables

- $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  are independent if

$$p_{X,Y,Z}(x,y,z) = p_X(x)p_Y(y)p_Z(z)$$

for all  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ .

- If so,  $f(X)$ ,  $g(Y)$ , and  $h(Z)$  would also be independent.
- Typically,  $f(X, Y)$  and  $g(Y, Z)$  would not.
- Also,  $\text{Var}[X + Y + Z] = \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] + \text{Var}[Z]$ .
- **Example:** Suppose  $X_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ , and let  $Y = \sum_{i=1} X_i$ . Find its variance.

# More Than Two Discrete Random Variables: Joint PMF

- **Definition:(Joint PMF of  $N$  Random Variables)** The joint PMF of the discrete random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  is

$$p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P[X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n]$$



# More Than Two Discrete Random Variables: Probability of an Event $A$

- **Theorem:** The probability of an event  $A$  expressed in terms of the discrete random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  is

$$P[A] = \sum_{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in A} p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

# More Than Two Discrete Random Variables: Marginal PMFs

- **Theorem:** For a joint PMF of four random variables,  $p_{W,X,Y,Z}(w, x, y, z)$ , some marginal PMFs are

$$p_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z) = \sum_{w \in S_W} p_{W,X,Y,Z}(w, x, y, z)$$

$$p_{W,Z}(w, z) = \sum_{x \in S_X} \sum_{y \in S_Y} p_{W,X,Y,Z}(w, x, y, z)$$

$$p_{Y,Z}(w, z) = \sum_{w \in S_W} \sum_{x \in S_X} p_{W,X,Y,Z}(w, x, y, z)$$

$$p_X(x) = \sum_{w \in S_W} \sum_{y \in S_Y} \sum_{z \in S_Z} p_{W,X,Y,Z}(w, x, y, z)$$

# $N$ Independent Random Variables

- **Definition: ( $N$  Independent Random Variables)** The discrete random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent if and only if

$$p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = p_{X_1}(x_1) \cdots p_{X_n}(x_n)$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

# Expectations

- **Theorem:** The expected value of  $g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  satisfies

$$E[g(X_1, \dots, X_n)] = \sum_{x_1 \in S_{X_1}} \dots \sum_{x_n \in S_{X_n}} g(x_1, \dots, x_n) p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

- **Theorem:** When  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent discrete random variables,

$$E[g(X_1)g(X_2) \cdots g(X_n)] = E[g(X_1)]E[g(X_2)] \cdots E[g(X_n)]$$