

Discrete Probability Distribution

X and Y are discrete random variables with the following joint distribution:

		Value of Y				
		14	22	30	40	65
Value of X	1	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.03	0.01
	5	0.17	0.15	0.05	0.02	0.01
	8	0.02	0.03	0.15	0.10	0.09

That is, $\Pr[X = 1, Y = 14]$, and so forth.

Discrete Probability Distribution

1. Calculate the probability distribution, mean, and variance of Y .

		Value of Y					
		14	22	30	40	65	Total
Value of X	1	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.21
	5	0.17	0.15	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.40
	8	0.02	0.03	0.15	0.10	0.09	0.39
Total		0.21	0.23	0.30	0.15	0.11	1.00

The probability distribution can be obtained by adding the values in the table. For instance, the joint probability distribution of $Y = 14$ is $\Pr[Y = 14] = 0.02 + 0.17 + 0.02 = 0.21$.

Discrete Probability Distribution

1. Calculate the probability distribution, mean, and variance of Y .

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= 14 \cdot 0.21 + 22 \cdot 0.23 + 30 \cdot 0.30 + 40 \cdot 0.15 + 65 \cdot 0.11 = 30.15 \\ E[Y^2] &= 14^2 \cdot 0.21 + 22^2 \cdot 0.23 + 30^2 \cdot 0.30 + 40^2 \cdot 0.15 + 65^2 \cdot 0.11 = 1127.23 \\ \text{var}[Y] &= E[Y^2] - (E[Y])^2 = 1127.23 - (30.15)^2 = 218.21 \\ \sigma_Y &= \sqrt{218.21} = 14.77 \end{aligned}$$

(Note: equalities are typically approximate)

Discrete Probability Distribution

2. Calculate the probability distribution, mean, and variance of Y given $X = 8$.

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y|X = 8] &= 14 \cdot \frac{0.02}{0.39} + 22 \cdot \frac{0.03}{0.39} + 30 \cdot \frac{0.15}{0.39} + 40 \cdot \frac{0.10}{0.39} + 65 \cdot \frac{0.09}{0.39} = 39.21 \\ E[Y^2|X = 8] &= 14^2 \cdot \frac{0.02}{0.39} + 22^2 \cdot \frac{0.03}{0.39} + 30^2 \cdot \frac{0.15}{0.39} + 40^2 \cdot \frac{0.10}{0.39} + 65^2 \cdot \frac{0.09}{0.39} = 1778.70 \\ \text{var}[Y|X = 8] &= E[Y^2|X = 8] - (E[Y|X = 8])^2 = 1778.70 - (39.21)^2 = 241.65 \\ \sigma_{Y|X=8} &= \sqrt{241.65} = 15.54 \end{aligned}$$

Discrete Probability Distribution

3. Calculate the covariance and correlation between X and Y .

$$\begin{aligned} E[XY] &= 14 \cdot (0.02 \cdot 1 + 0.17 \cdot 5 + 0.02 \cdot 8) \\ &\quad + 22 \cdot (0.05 \cdot 1 + 0.15 \cdot 5 + 0.03 \cdot 8) \\ &\quad + 30 \cdot (0.10 \cdot 1 + 0.05 \cdot 5 + 0.15 \cdot 8) \\ &\quad + 40 \cdot (0.03 \cdot 1 + 0.02 \cdot 5 + 0.10 \cdot 8) \\ &\quad + 65 \cdot (0.01 \cdot 1 + 0.01 \cdot 5 + 0.09 \cdot 8) \\ &= 171.7 \end{aligned}$$

This is when you appreciate the power of computing machines!

$$\text{cov}[XY] = E[XY] - E[X] \times E[Y] = 171.70 - 5.33 \times 30.15 = 11.00$$

$$\text{corr}[XY] = \frac{\text{cov}[XY]}{\sqrt{\text{var}[X] \times \text{var}[Y]}} = \frac{11.00}{\sqrt{2.60 \times 14.77}} = 0.286$$