

Two-dimensional Random Variable

Our study of random variables and their probability distributions in the preceding sections is restricted to one-dimensional sample spaces.

In that we recorded outcomes of an experiment as values assumed by a single random variable.

There will be situations, however, where we may find it desirable to record the simultaneous outcomes of several random variables

Example:

For instance, blood pressure and cholesterol for each individual are measured simultaneously.

In a study to determine the likelihood of success in college based on high school data, we might use a three dimensional sample space and record for each individual his or her aptitude test score, high school class rank, and grade-point average at the end of freshman year in college.

Definition: Let S be a sample space associated with a random experiment E . Let X and Y be two random variables defined on S . then the pair (X, Y) is called a Two-dimensional random variable.

The value of (X, Y) at a point $s \in S$ is given by the ordered pair of real numbers $(X(s), Y(s)) = (x, y)$ where $X(s) = x$, $Y(s) = y$.

Two –Dimensional discrete random variable: If the possible values of (X, Y) are finite or countably infinite, then (X, Y) is called a two-dimensional discrete random variable.

When (X, Y) is a two-dimensional discrete random variable the possible values of (X, Y) may be represented as (x_i, y_j) , $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots n$, $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots m$.

Example: Consider the experiment of tossing a coin twice.

The sample space is $S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$. Let X denote the number of heads obtained in the first toss and Y denote the number of heads in the second toss.

s	HH	HT	TH	TT
$X(s)$	1	1	0	0
$Y(s)$	1	0	1	0

(X, Y) is a two-dimensional random variable or bi-variate random variable. The range space of (X, Y) is $\{(1,1), (1,0), (0,1), (0,0)\}$ which is finite and so (X, Y) is a two-dimensional discrete random variables.

Joint probability distribution of Discrete R.V

The function $f(x, y)$ is a **joint probability distribution** or **probability mass function** of the discrete random variables X and Y if

- 1. $f(x, y) \geq 0$ for all (x, y) ,
- 2. $\sum_x \sum_y f(x, y) = 1$,
- 3. $P(X = x, Y = y) = f(x, y)$.

<div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div><div>Y</div><div>X</div></div></div></div></div>	y_1	y_2	y_3	\cdots	y_j	\cdots	y_m	Total
x_1	p_{11}	p_{12}	p_{13}	\cdots	p_{1j}	\cdots	p_{1m}	$p_{1\cdot}$
x_2	p_{21}	p_{22}	p_{23}	\cdots	p_{2j}	\cdots	p_{2m}	$p_{2\cdot}$
x_3	p_{31}	p_{32}	p_{33}	\cdots	p_{3j}	\cdots	p_{3m}	$p_{3\cdot}$
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
x_i	p_{i1}	p_{i2}	p_{i3}	\cdots	p_{ij}	\cdots	p_{im}	$p_{i\cdot}$
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\cdots	\cdot	\vdots
x_n	p_{n1}	p_{n2}	p_{n3}	\cdots	p_{nj}	\cdots	p_{nm}	$p_{n\cdot}$
Total	$p_{\cdot 1}$	$p_{\cdot 2}$	$p_{\cdot 3}$	\cdots	$p_{\cdot j}$	\cdots	$p_{\cdot m}$	1

Roll two dice. Let X be the value on the first die and let T be the total on both dice. Here is the joint probability table:

$X \backslash T$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36	1/36

Exercise:

Suppose a car showroom has 10 cars of particular brand out of which 5 are good, 2 have defective transmission 3 have defective steering. If 2 cars are selected at random, find the joint probability distribution table.

Answer:

Let X denotes the number of cars with DT

Y denotes the number of cars with DS

$$P(X = 0, Y = 0) = \frac{\binom{5}{2}}{\binom{10}{2}} = \frac{2}{9}$$
$$P(X = 0, Y = 1) = \frac{\binom{5}{1}\binom{3}{1}}{\binom{10}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

and so on....

$X \backslash Y$	0	1	2
0	$10/45$	$15/45$	$3/45$
1	$10/45$	$6/45$	0
2	$1/45$	0	0

Joint probability distribution of Continuous R.V

The function $f(x, y)$ is a **joint density function** of the continuous random variables X and Y if

1. $f(x, y) \geq 0$, for all (x, y) ,
2. $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = 1$,
3. $P[(X, Y) \in A] = \int \int_A f(x, y) \, dx \, dy$, for any region A in the xy plane.

Exercise:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{5}(2x + 3y), & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

(a) Verify condition 2

(b) Find $P[(X, Y) \in A]$, where $A = \{(x, y) \mid 0 < x < \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4} < y < \frac{1}{2}\}$.

Answer:

(a) The integration of $f(x, y)$ over the whole region is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{2}{5}(2x + 3y) \, dx \, dy \\ &= \int_0^1 \left(\frac{2x^2}{5} + \frac{6xy}{5} \right) \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} dy \\ &= \int_0^1 \left(\frac{2}{5} + \frac{6y}{5} \right) dy = \left(\frac{2y}{5} + \frac{3y^2}{5} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{5} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

(b) To calculate the probability, we use

$$\begin{aligned} P[(X, Y) \in A] &= P\left(0 < X < \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4} < Y < \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \int_{1/4}^{1/2} \int_0^{1/2} \frac{2}{5}(2x + 3y) \, dx \, dy \\ &= \int_{1/4}^{1/2} \left(\frac{2x^2}{5} + \frac{6xy}{5}\right) \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1/2} dy = \int_{1/4}^{1/2} \left(\frac{1}{10} + \frac{3y}{5}\right) dy \\ &= \left(\frac{y}{10} + \frac{3y^2}{10}\right) \Big|_{1/4}^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{10} \left[\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{16}\right)\right] = \frac{13}{160}. \end{aligned}$$

Marginal Distributions

Given the joint probability distribution $f(x, y)$ of the discrete random variables X and Y , the probability distribution $g(x)$ of X alone is obtained by summing $f(x, y)$ over the values of Y . Similarly, the probability distribution $h(y)$ of Y alone is obtained by summing $f(x, y)$ over the values of X .

Definition:

The **marginal distributions** of X alone and of Y alone are

$$g(x) = \sum_y f(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad h(y) = \sum_x f(x, y)$$

for the discrete case, and

$$g(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dy \quad \text{and} \quad h(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dx$$

for the continuous case.

Exercise: Find $g(x)$ and $h(y)$ for the following distribution table:

$f(x, y)$		x			Row Totals
		0	1	2	
y	0	$\frac{3}{28}$	$\frac{9}{28}$	$\frac{3}{28}$	$\frac{15}{28}$
	1	$\frac{3}{14}$	$\frac{3}{14}$	0	$\frac{3}{7}$
	2	$\frac{1}{28}$	0	0	$\frac{1}{28}$
Column Totals		$\frac{5}{14}$	$\frac{15}{28}$	$\frac{3}{28}$	1

Answer:

For the random variable X , we see that

$$g(0) = f(0, 0) + f(0, 1) + f(0, 2) = \frac{3}{28} + \frac{3}{14} + \frac{1}{28} = \frac{5}{14},$$

$$g(1) = f(1, 0) + f(1, 1) + f(1, 2) = \frac{9}{28} + \frac{3}{14} + 0 = \frac{15}{28},$$

and

$$g(2) = f(2, 0) + f(2, 1) + f(2, 2) = \frac{3}{28} + 0 + 0 = \frac{3}{28},$$

which are just the column totals of Table . In a similar manner we could show that the values of $h(y)$ are given by the row totals. In tabular form, these marginal distributions may be written as follows:

x	0	1	2
$g(x)$	$\frac{5}{14}$	$\frac{15}{28}$	$\frac{3}{28}$

y	0	1	2
$h(y)$	$\frac{15}{28}$	$\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{1}{28}$



Expected Value of Two-dimensional RV

Let X and Y be random variables with joint probability distribution $f(x, y)$. The mean, or expected value, of the random variable $g(X, Y)$ is

$$\mu_{g(X,Y)} = E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_x \sum_y g(x, y) f(x, y)$$

if X and Y are discrete, and

$$\mu_{g(X,Y)} = E[g(X, Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) f(x, y) \, dx \, dy$$

if X and Y are continuous.

Mean and Variance of Two dimensional random variable:

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_x \sum_y x f(x, y) = \sum_x x g(x) & \text{(discrete case),} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x, y) dy dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x g(x) dx & \text{(continuous case),} \end{cases}$$

where $g(x)$ is the marginal distribution of X .

Therefore, in calculating $E(X)$ over a two-dimensional space, one may use either the joint probability distribution of X and Y or the marginal distribution of X .

Similarly, we define

$$E(Y) = \begin{cases} \sum_y \sum_x y f(x, y) = \sum_y y h(y) & \text{(discrete case),} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f(x, y) dx dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y h(y) dy & \text{(continuous case),} \end{cases}$$

where $h(y)$ is the marginal distribution of the random variable Y .

Properties of Expectation:

1. **Addition theorem of Expectation:** $E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X + Y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x + y) f(x, y) \, dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x) f(x, y) \, dx dy + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (y) f(x, y) \, dx dy \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$$

Generalisation: $E(X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \cdots + E(X_n)$

or

$$E(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i)$$

2. Multiplication theorem of Expectation:

If X and Y are independent random variables, then $E(XY) = E(X) \cdot E(Y)$

$$\begin{aligned} E(XY) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (xy) f(x, y) \, dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (xy) f(x) f(y) \, dx dy \quad [\text{Since, } X \text{ and } Y \text{ are independent}] \\ &= \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) \, dx \right] \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f(y) \, dy \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$E(XY) = E(X) E(Y)$$

Generalisation: If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are n - independent r.v.'s, then

$$E(X_1 \cdot X_2 \cdot \dots \cdot X_n) = E(X_1) \cdot E(X_2) \cdot \dots \cdot E(X_n)$$

or
$$E\left(\prod_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \prod_{i=1}^n E(X_i)$$

Variance of X and Y:

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$Var(Y) = E(Y^2) - (E(Y))^2$$

Example: Two tire-quality experts examine stacks of tires and assign a quality rating to each tire on a 3-point scale. Let X denote the rating given by expert A and Y denote the rating given by B. The following table gives the joint distribution for X and Y . Find mean of X and mean of Y . Find variance of X and variance of Y .

$f(x, y)$		y		
		1	2	3
x	1	0.10	0.05	0.02
	2	0.10	0.35	0.05
	3	0.03	0.10	0.20

Solution:

$$\mu_X = \sum xg(x) = (1)(0.17) + (2)(0.5) + (3)(0.33) = 2.16,$$

$$\mu_Y = \sum yh(y) = (1)(0.23) + (2)(0.5) + (3)(0.27) = 2.04.$$

$$E(X^2) = \sum x_i^2 g(x) = 1^2(0.17) + 2^2(0.5) + 3^2(0.33) = 5.14$$

$$E(Y^2) = \sum y_j^2 h(y) = 1^2(0.23) + 2^2(0.5) + 3^2(0.27) = 4.66$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = 5.14 - (2.16)^2 = .47$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = E(Y^2) - (E(Y))^2 = 4.66 - (2.04)^2 = .50$$

Exercise: Find mean and variance of X and Y.

The Joint pmf of X and Y is

Y \ X	-1	1
0	1/8	3/8
1	2/8	2/8

Example:
Two R.V's X and Y have joint pdf $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{96} & , 0 < x < 4, 1 < y < 5 \\ 0 & , elsewhere \end{cases}$

Find $E(X)$, $E(Y)$, $\text{Var}(X)$.

Solution:

$$\text{i) } E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x, y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_1^5 \int_0^4 x \left(\frac{xy}{96} \right) dx dy$$

$$= \frac{8}{3}$$

$$\text{ii) } E(Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} yf(x, y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_1^5 \int_0^4 y \left(\frac{xy}{96} \right) dx dy$$

$$= \frac{31}{9}$$

We know that, $Var(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$

$$\text{Now, } E(X^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_1^5 \int_0^4 x^2 \left(\frac{xy}{96} \right) dx dy$$

$$= 8$$

$$\Rightarrow Var(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$$

$$= 8 - \left(\frac{8}{3} \right)^2 = \frac{8}{9}$$