

Probability and Random Processes

Keivan Mallahi-Karai

~~30 September~~ 2022

02 November

Jacobs University

1.

Joint probability mass function of discrete random variables

Definition

For n discrete random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n , the joint probability mass function of X_1, \dots, X_n the function defined by

$$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \mathbb{P}[X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n].$$

X one discrete RV \leadsto pmf prob. mass function

$$p_X(x) = \mathbb{P}[X=x]$$

$$p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \mathbb{P}[X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n]$$

Example

Suppose a chicken lays N eggs, where N has a Poisson distribution with parameter λ . Each egg independently hatches with probability p and do not hatch with probability $1 - p$. Denote the number of eggs that hatch by X and those that do not by Y . Find the joint probability mass function of X and Y .

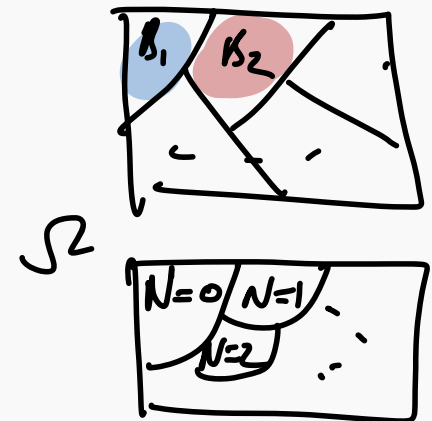
$$P(N=n) = e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} \quad n=0,1,2,\dots$$

$$p_{X,Y}(x,y) = P[X=x, Y=y].$$

$$P[\underbrace{X=x, Y=y}_A] = \sum_n \underbrace{P[X=x, Y=y | N=n]}_{\substack{\text{condition} \\ \text{on } N}} P[N=n]$$

Recall

$$P(A) = \sum_i P(A|B_i) P(B_i)$$



$$P[X=x, Y=y | N=n] = \begin{cases} 0 & x+y \neq n \\ \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} & x+y = n \end{cases}$$

$$P[X=x, Y=y] = P[X=x, Y=y | N=x+y] P[N=x+y]$$

$$= \binom{x+y}{x} p^x (1-p)^y \cdot e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^{x+y}}{(x+y)!}$$

$$\boxed{n-x = x+y-x=y}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{(x+y)!}}{x! y!} p^x (1-p)^y e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^{x+y}}{\cancel{(x+y)!}}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{(\lambda p)^x}{x!} \frac{(\lambda (1-p))^y}{y!}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda p} \frac{(\lambda p)^x}{x!} \cdot e^{-\lambda(1-p)} \frac{(\lambda(1-p))^y}{y!}$$

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = e^{-\lambda p} \frac{(\lambda p)^x}{x!} \cdot e^{-\lambda(1-p)} \frac{(\lambda(1-p))^y}{y!}$$

//
PMF of a
Poisson with param $\hat{\lambda}$
 λp

//
PMF of
a Poisson with
param $\hat{\lambda}$
 $\lambda(1-p)$.

$$P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_X(x) P_Y(y)$$

X, Y independent

Independence of discrete random variables

Definition

Discrete random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are *independent* if for all values of x_1, \dots, x_n we have

$$\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n) = \mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot \mathbb{P}(X_n = x_n)$$
$$p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = p_{X_1}(x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot p_{X_n}(x_n).$$

Here p_{X_1, \dots, X_n} is the joint probability mass function of X_1, \dots, X_n and p_{X_i} is the marginal density function of X_i , for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Expected value and independent random variables

Theorem

Suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are independent random variables. Then

$$\mathbb{E}[X_1 \dots X_n] = \mathbb{E}[X_1] \dots \mathbb{E}[X_n].$$

More generally, for any choice of functions h_1, \dots, h_n we have

$$\mathbb{E}[h_1(X_1) \dots h_n(X_n)] = \mathbb{E}[h_1(X_1)] \dots \mathbb{E}[h_n(X_n)].$$

• \mathbb{E} is linear $\mathbb{E}[X_1 + X_2] = \mathbb{E}[X_1] + \mathbb{E}[X_2]$
not a surprise.

show $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X] \mathbb{E}[Y]$

if X, Y independent

XY	$x_1 y_1$	$x_1 y_2$	$x_2 y_1$	$x_2 y_2$
	$p_1 q_1$	$p_1 q_2$	$p_2 q_1$	$p_2 q_2$

$x \backslash y$	x_1	x_2	
y_1	$p_1 q_1$	$p_2 q_1$	q_1
y_2	$p_1 q_2$	$p_2 q_2$	q_2
	p_1	p_2	

$$\mathbb{E}[XY] = x_1 y_1 p_1 q_1 + x_1 y_2 p_1 q_2 + x_2 y_1 p_2 q_1 + x_2 y_2 p_2 q_2$$

$$= (x_1 p_1 + x_2 p_2)(y_1 q_1 + y_2 q_2)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X] \mathbb{E}[Y].$$

Example

Suppose A is a 2×2 matrix whose entries are independent random variables with uniform distribution over ~~$[1, 2]$~~ $\{1, 2, 3\}$ and $D = \det A$. Find $\mathbb{E}[D]$.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{A_{ij} \text{ random}} D$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \det A = 1 - 2 = -1$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\det A] = \mathbb{E}[D] = \mathbb{E}[A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}A_{21}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mathbb{E}[A_{11}A_{22}] - \mathbb{E}[A_{12}A_{21}] = \mathbb{E}[A_{11}]\mathbb{E}[A_{22}] - \mathbb{E}[A_{12}]\mathbb{E}[A_{21}] \\ &\quad \text{linearity} \quad \mathbb{E}[A_{11}] = \frac{1+2+3}{3} = 2 \quad = 2 \times 2 - 2 \times 2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Covariance of random variables

Definition

Let X and Y be random variables. The covariance of X and Y is defined by

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

X : $\mathbb{E}[x]$ average

$\text{Var}[x]$ how scattered values of x are?

X, Y two random variable

$\mathbb{E}[x]$	$\mathbb{E}[Y]$
$\text{Var}(x)$	$\text{Var}[Y]$

Assume $\mathbb{E}[X]=0, \mathbb{E}[Y]=0$.

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

Special case $X = \pm 1$ with prob $1/2$ $E[X] = 0$
 $Y = \pm 1$ with prob $1/2$ $E[Y] = 0$

$E[XY]$

$X \backslash Y$	1	-1
1	$1/2$	0
-1	0	$1/2$

$1/2 \quad 1/2$

$X \backslash Y$	1	-1
1	0	$1/2$
-1	$1/2$	0

$X \backslash Y$	1	-1
1	$1/4$	$1/4$
-1	$1/4$	$1/4$

$$P[XY = 1] = 1$$

$$P[XY = -1] = 0$$

$$P[XY = -1] = 1$$

$$P[XY = 1] = 0$$

~~Cov(X,Y)~~ $E[XY] = 1$

~~Cov(X,Y)~~ $E[XY] = -1$

$$E[XY] = E[X]E[Y] = 0$$

X, Y are
positively correlated
 \oplus

X, Y are
negatively correlated

X, Y
are
uncorrelated

$$\underline{\text{Cov}(X, Y) > 0}$$

$$\underline{\text{Cov}(X, Y) < 0}$$

$$\underline{\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0}$$

Example

The joint probability mass function of X and Y is given by

	$Y = -1$	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$	
$X = -1$	$1/10$	$1/10$	$1/10$	$3/10$
$X = 0$	$1/10$	$2/10$	$1/10$	$4/10$
$X = 1$	$1/10$	$1/10$	$1/10$	$3/10$

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

$$\mu_x = E[X]$$

$$\mu_y = E[Y]$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)] &= E[XY - \mu_y X - \mu_x Y + \mu_x \mu_y] \\ &= E[XY] - \mu_y \underbrace{E[X]}_{\mu_x} - \mu_x \underbrace{E[Y]}_{\mu_y} + \mu_x \mu_y \\ &= E[XY] - \mu_x \mu_y = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

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

X	-1	0	1
	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$

$$E[X] = -1 \cdot \frac{3}{10} + 0 \cdot \frac{4}{10} + 1 \cdot \frac{3}{10} = 0$$

Y	-1	0	1
	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$

$$E[Y] = 0.$$

XY	-1	0	1
	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{6}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$

$$E[XY] = 0.$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0 \cdot 0 - 0 = 0.$$

X, Y are uncorrelated.

Theorem

For discrete random variables X and Y we have

1. $\text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}[X]$.
2. $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{E}[XY] - \text{E}[X]\text{E}[Y]$.
3. If X and Y are independent, then $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$.
4. If X and Y are independent then $\text{Var}[X + Y] = \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cov}(X, X) &= \text{E}[X \cdot X] - \text{E}[X]\text{E}[X] \\ &= \text{E}[X^2] - \text{E}[X]^2 = \text{Var}[X]\end{aligned}$$

X, Y independent

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cov}(X, Y) &= \text{E}[XY] - \text{E}[X]\text{E}[Y] \\ &= \text{E}[XY] - \text{E}[XY] = 0.\end{aligned}$$

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

$$= E[X^2 + Y^2 + 2XY] - (E[X] + E[Y])^2$$

$$= E[X^2] + E[Y^2] + 2E[XY]$$

$$- E[X]^2 - E[Y]^2 - 2E[X]E[Y]$$

$$= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

$$= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]$$



X, Y are uncorrelated

Correlated



independent

$X \backslash Y$	1	2	3	
1	p_{11}	p_{12}	p_{13}	v_1
2	p_{21}	p_{22}	p_{23}	v_2
3	p_{31}	p_{32}	p_{33}	v_3
	q_1	q_2	q_3	

$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0 \implies$ Some linear equation involving p_{11}, \dots, p_{33}

Uncorrelated random variables

Definition

Two random variables X and Y with $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ are called uncorrelated.

$$X, Y \text{ independent} \Rightarrow X, Y \text{ uncorrelated}$$

\Leftarrow
?

Sums of independent random variables

Suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are independent random variables, each with Bernoulli distribution with parameter p . Let

$$S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n.$$

What is the probability mass function of S_n ?

$$P(X_i=1) = p \quad P(X_i=0) = 1-p$$

Possible values of S_n are $0, 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$P(S_n = k) = P(X_1=1, X_2=1, \dots, X_u=1, X_{u+1}=0, \dots, X_n=0) \\ + P(X_1=1, X_2=1, \dots, X_{u-1}=1, X_u=0, X_{u+1}=1, \dots, X_n=0)$$

$$P(X_1=1, X_2=1, \dots, X_u=1, X_{u+1}=0, \dots, X_n=0)$$

independent $P(X_1=1) P(X_2=1) \dots P(X_n=1) P(X_{n+1}=0) \dots P(X_n=0)$

$$= p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

So $P(S_n = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$.

distribution of S_n is binomial with parameters (n, p) .

Application Compute the expected value of a binomial dist. with parameter n, p .

binomial distribution $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$

↘ Bernoulli RV with param p

$$\begin{aligned} E[S_n] &= E[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_n] \\ &= np \end{aligned}$$

Variance of a binomial distribution

$$\text{Var}[S_n] = \text{Var}[X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n]$$

independence
of X_i \uparrow

$\searrow \downarrow \swarrow$
Bernoulli RVs with param p

$$= \text{Var}[X_1] + \text{Var}[X_2] + \dots + \text{Var}[X_n]$$

$$(p - p^2)$$

$$p(1-p)$$

$$p(1-p)$$

$$\text{Var}[X_1] = E[X_1^2] - E[X_1]^2 = np(1-p)$$

$$= E[X_1] - E[X_1]^2$$

$$= p - p^2$$

$$= p(1-p)$$

$$\text{Var}[\text{Bernoulli RVL with param } (n, p)] = np(1-p).$$