

MA215 Probability Homework-6

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Contents

1	Question 1	2
2	Question 2	3
3	Question 3	4
4	Question 4	5
5	Question 5	5
6	Question 6	6
7	Question 7	8

1 Question 1

If the joint probability mass function of X, Y is given by:

$X \backslash Y$	-1	0	1
-1	a	0	0.2
0	0.1	b	0.1
1	0	0.2	c

Table 1: Question 1

and $P(X \times Y \neq 0) = 0.4, P(X \leq 0 | Y \leq 0) = \frac{2}{3}$.

- a) Find the values of a, b, c .
- b) Compute the marginal probability mass function of X and Y .
- c) Find the probability mass function of $X + Y$.

Answer:

- a) Obviously, X and Y are two discrete random variables. By the axiom of probability, we have:

$$\sum_{(x,y) \in S} (P(X = x, Y = y)) = 1$$

Observing the table, we could get the following equation by counting one by one:

$$0.1 + 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.2 + a + b + c = 1 \quad (1)$$

And for another two conditions: $P(X \times Y \neq 0) = 0.4, P(X \leq 0 | Y \leq 0) = \frac{2}{3}$.

$$a + 0.2 + c + 0 = 0.4 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{a + b + 0.1}{a + b + 0.1 + 0.2} = \frac{2}{3} \quad (3)$$

So together the 3 equations, we could get:
$$\begin{cases} a = 0.1 \\ b = 0.2 \\ c = 0.1 \end{cases}$$

- b) By definition, we could simply calculate:

$$p_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0.3 & x = -1 \\ 0.4 & x = 0 \\ 0.3 & x = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$p_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0.2 & y = -1 \\ 0.4 & y = 0 \\ 0.4 & y = 1 \end{cases}$$

- c) $X + Y \in \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$

$$P_{X+Y}(X + Y = m) = \begin{cases} 0.1 & m = -2 \\ 0.1 & m = -1 \\ 0.4 & m = 0 \\ 0.2 & m = 1 \\ 0.2 & m = 2 \end{cases}$$

2 Question 2

The joint probability density function of (X, Y) is given by:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} cx^4y & x^4 < y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $c > 0$ is some constant.

- a) Find the marginal probability density functions f_X and f_Y .
- b) Calculate EX and EY .

Answer:

First, by the property of probability dense function, we have:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx dy = 1$$

By simplifying the equation, we could get:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^1 dx \int_{x^4}^1 cx^4y dy &= 1 \\ \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2}c(x^4 - x^{12}) dx &= 1 \\ \frac{c}{5} - \frac{c}{13} &= 1 \\ c &= \frac{65}{8} \end{aligned}$$

- a) By definition:

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(m) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(m, y) dy \\ f_X(m) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{otherwise} \\ \frac{65}{16}m^4 - \frac{65}{16}m^{12} & -1 < m < 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we could get $f_Y(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(n) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, n) dx \\ f_Y(n) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{otherwise} \\ \frac{13}{4}y^{\frac{9}{4}} & 0 < n < 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

- b) By the definition of expectation of continuous random variable:

$$\begin{aligned} EX &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{65}{16}x(x^4 - x^{12}) dx \\ EY &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y) dy = \int_0^1 y \frac{13}{4}y^{\frac{9}{4}} dy \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{65}{16}x(x^4 - x^{12})$ is an odd function, then we know:

$$EX = 0$$

And do some simple calculation on EY , we could get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 EY &= \int_0^1 y \frac{13}{4} y^{\frac{9}{4}} dy \\
 &= \frac{13}{4} \int_0^1 y^{\frac{13}{4}} dy \\
 &= \frac{13}{4} \times \frac{4}{17} [y^{\frac{17}{4}}]_0^1 \\
 &= \frac{13}{17}
 \end{aligned}$$

3 Question 3

You spend the night in a teepee shaped as a right circular cone whose base is a disk of radius r centered at the origin and the height at the apex is h . A fly is buzzing around the teepee at night. At some time point the fly dies in mid-flight and falls directly on the floor of the teepee at a random location (X, Y) . Assume that the position of the fly at the moment of its death was uniformly random in the volume of the teepee.

- Derive the joint probability density function $f_{XY}(x, y)$ of the point (X, Y) where you find the dead fly in the morning.
- Let Z be the height from which the dead fly fell to the floor. Find the probability density function $f_Z(z)$ of Z .

Answer:

- Let $R = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$, and $S = \{(x, y) | x^2 + y^2 \leq r^2\}$ by the symmetry properties. We know that for those points with the same R , we have the same probability.

Since the position of the fly at the moment of its death was uniformly random in the volume of the teepee. We know that:

$$P_{XYZ}(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{\pi r^2 h} & 0 < \frac{zr}{r - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \leq h \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{XY}(x, y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P_{XYZ}(x, y, z) dz \\
 &= \int_0^{\frac{h(r - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2})}{r}} \frac{3}{\pi r^2 h} dz \\
 &= \frac{h(r - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2})}{r} \times \frac{3}{\pi r^2 h} \\
 &= \frac{3(r - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2})}{\pi r^3}
 \end{aligned}$$

- By observing the structure of the problem, we could directly give the formula:

$$F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 0 \\ 1 - (\frac{h-z}{h})^3 & 0 < z < h \\ 1 & h \leq z \end{cases}$$

Differentiate to obtain:

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} -\frac{3}{h} (\frac{h-z}{h})^2 & 0 < z < h \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

4 Question 4

If X is exponential with rate λ , find:

$$P([X] = n, X - [X] \leq x)$$

for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $n \geq 0$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$ with $x > 0$. Here $[x]$ is defined as the largest integer less than or equal to x .

Answer:

By the definition of $[x]$, we know that:

$$0 \leq x - [x] < 1$$

Since $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x > 0 \\ 0 & x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Let $p(x, n) = P([X] = n, X - [X] \leq x)$ Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x, n) &= P(n \leq X < n+1, n \leq X < n+x) \\ &= P(n \leq X < \min(n+1, n+x)) \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ P(n \leq X < n+x) & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ P(n \leq X < n+1) & 1 < x \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Then we do some simple calculations:

$$p(x, n) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ e^{-\lambda n}(1 - e^{-\lambda x}) & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ e^{-\lambda n}(1 - e^{-\lambda}) & 1 < x \end{cases}$$

5 Question 5

If X and Y are independent exponential random variables with parameters λ_1, λ_2 , express the density function of:

1. $Z = X \setminus Y$
2. $Z = XY$

Answer: By definition, we know:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases} \text{ and } f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 y} & y \geq 0 \\ 0 & y < 0 \end{cases}$$

1. Since X, Y, Z are all continuous random variables, we shall calculate $F_Z(z)$ first.

$$\begin{aligned}
F_Z(z) &= P(X \leq Yz) \\
&= \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{zy} f_X(x) f_Y(y) dx \\
&= \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{zy} \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 x} \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 y} dx \\
&= \lambda_2 \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{zy} e^{-(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2 y)} d(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2 y) \\
&= \lambda_2 \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda_2 y} - e^{-(\lambda_1 zy + \lambda_2 y)} dy \\
&= \frac{\lambda_1 z}{\lambda_1 z + \lambda_2}
\end{aligned}$$

Differentiate to obtain:

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 0 \\ \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{(\lambda_1 z + \lambda_2)^2} & z > 0 \end{cases}$$

2. Since X, Y, Z are all continuous random variables, we shall calculate $F_Z(z)$ first.

$$\begin{aligned}
F_Z(z) &= P(X \leq z/Y) \\
&= \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{z/y} f_X(x) f_Y(y) dx \\
&= \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{z/y} \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 x} \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 y} dx \\
&= \lambda_2 \int_0^\infty dy \int_0^{z/y} e^{-(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2 y)} d(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2 y) \\
&= \lambda_2 \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda_2 y} - e^{-(\lambda_1 \frac{z}{y} + \lambda_2 y)} dy \\
&= 1 - \lambda_2 \int_0^\infty e^{-(\lambda_1 \frac{z}{y} + \lambda_2 y)} dy
\end{aligned}$$

Differentiate to obtain:

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 0 \\ \text{function} & z > 0 \end{cases}$$

6 Question 6

Two points are selected randomly on a line of length L so as to be on opposite sides of the midpoint of the line. [In other words, the two points X and Y are independent random variables such that X is uniformly distributed over $(0, L/2)$ and Y is uniformly distributed over $(L/2, L)$.]

- Let $Z = |X - Y|$ be the distance between the two points. Find the probability that Z is greater than $L/3$.
- Compute EZ .

Answer:

- First, we need to calculate the $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$, by definition, it is obvious to know that $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, L/2)$

and $Y \sim \text{Uniform}(L/2, L)$, so:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{L} & 0 < x < L/2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \text{ and } f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{L} & L/2 < y < L \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now we calculate the cdf of Z

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= P(Z \leq z) \\ &= P(Y - X \leq z) \\ &= P(Y \leq X + z) \\ &= \int_0^\infty dx \int_{L/2}^{x+z} f_X(x) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2}{L} dx \int_{L/2}^{x+z} f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/2} g(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

Then we need to do a classified discussion on whether $x + z$ is bigger than L or not.

$$g(x) = \int_{L/2}^{x+z} f_Y(y) dy = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq L/2 - z \\ (x + z - L/2)(\frac{2}{L}) & L/2 - z < x \leq L - z \\ 1 & L - z < x \end{cases}$$

So:

$$F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 0 \\ \frac{2z^2}{L^2} & 0 < z \leq L/2 \\ \frac{-2z^2 + 4zL - L^2}{L^2} & L/2 < z \leq L \\ 1 & L < z \end{cases}$$

Differentiate to obtain it:

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{4z}{L^2} & 0 < z \leq L/2 \\ \frac{-4z + 4L}{L^2} & L/2 < z \leq L \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

So:

$$P(Z \geq \frac{L}{3}) = 1 - P(Z \leq \frac{L}{3}) = 1 - F_Z(\frac{L}{3}) = \frac{7}{9}$$

2. By definition, we can get the formula of EZ .

$$\begin{aligned} EZ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} z f_Z(z) dz \\ &= \int_0^{L/2} z \frac{4z}{L^2} dz + \int_{L/2}^L z \frac{4L - 4z}{L^2} dz \\ &= \frac{L}{6} + \frac{3L}{2} - \frac{7L}{6} \\ &= \frac{L}{2} \end{aligned}$$

7 Question 7

Let X, Y have a bivariate normal distribution $N(\mu_x, \mu_y; \sigma_x^2, \sigma_y^2; \rho)$

1. Show that:

$$E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)] = \rho\sigma_x\sigma_y$$

2. Let:

$$G(\lambda) := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (\frac{x - \mu_x}{\sigma_x})^2 + (\frac{y - \mu_y}{\sigma_y})^2 - 2\rho \frac{(x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y)}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} \leq \lambda^2\}$$

Calculate $P((X, Y) \in G(\lambda))$

Answer:

1. By definition:

$$\begin{aligned} E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y) f(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y) (e^{\{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}[(\frac{x-\mu_x}{\sigma_x})^2 + (\frac{y-\mu_y}{\sigma_y})^2 - 2\rho \frac{(x-\mu_x)(y-\mu_y)}{\sigma_x\sigma_y}]\}}) dx dy \end{aligned}$$

We do some substitutions: $u = \frac{x - \mu_x}{\sigma_x}$ and $v = \frac{y - \mu_y}{\sigma_y}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{\sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y \cdot u \cdot v}{2\pi\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \cdot e^{[-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}(u^2+v^2-2\rho \cdot uv)]} dudv \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dv \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\sigma_x v_y uv}{2\pi\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \cdot [(u-\rho v)^2 + (1-\rho^2)v^2]} du \\ &= \frac{\sigma_x \sigma_y}{2\pi\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} v \cdot e^{-\frac{v^2}{2}} dv \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} [(u - \rho v) + \rho v] \cdot e^{[-(\frac{u-\rho v}{\sqrt{2(1-\rho^2)}})^2]} du \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let: } t &= \frac{u - \rho v}{\sqrt{2(1-\rho^2)}} \\ &= \frac{\sigma_x \sigma_y}{2\pi\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} v \cdot e^{-\frac{v^2}{2}} dv \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\sqrt{2(1-\rho^2)} \cdot t + \rho v) \cdot e^{-t^2} \cdot \sqrt{2(1-\rho^2)} dt \end{aligned}$$

Since te^{-t^2} is a odd function, we get:

$$= \frac{\sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y \cdot \rho}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} v^2 \cdot e^{-\frac{v^2}{2}} dv$$

$$\text{Let } k := \frac{v^2}{2}$$

$$= \sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y \cdot \rho \cdot \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{3}{2})$$

$$= \sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y \cdot \rho$$

2. By definition:

$$P((X, Y) \in G(\lambda)) = \iint_{G(\lambda)} f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$u := \frac{x - \mu_x}{\sigma_x} : v := \frac{y - \mu_y}{\sigma_y}$$

$$\Rightarrow G(\lambda) = \{(\sigma_x \cdot u + \mu_x, \sigma_y \cdot v + \mu_y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u^2 + v^2 - 2\rho \cdot u \cdot v \leq \lambda^2\}.$$

$$\text{i.e. } \therefore (x, y) \in G(\lambda) \Leftrightarrow (u - \rho \cdot v)^2 + (1 - \rho^2)v^2 \leq \lambda^2$$

$$\Rightarrow P((X, Y) \in G(\lambda)) = \int \int 1_{(X, Y) \in G(\lambda)} f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$\text{Let } u - \rho \cdot v = r \cdot \cos \theta, v \cdot \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} = r \cdot \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow P((X, Y) \in G(\lambda)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \cdot \int_0^\lambda \int_0^{2\pi} \exp\left[-\frac{r^2}{2(1 - \rho^2)}\right] \cdot \frac{r}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} d\theta \cdot dr$$

$$= \int_0^\lambda \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2(1 - \rho^2)}\right) \cdot \frac{r}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \cdot d\left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}}\right)$$

$$= \int_0^{\lambda/\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} \cdot t \cdot dt = 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\lambda^2}{1 - \rho^2}}$$

$$\text{hence : } P((X, Y) \in G(\lambda)) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\lambda^2}{1 - \rho^2}\right)$$