Probability Notes

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X\right] = \mu = \sum_{x_i \in \Omega} x_i \, \mathbb{P} \, x_i$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[g(X)\right] = \sum_{x_i \in \Omega} g(x) \, \mathbb{P} \, x_i$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[aX + b \, g(X) + c\right] = a \, \mathbb{E}\left[X\right] + b \, \mathbb{E}\left[g(X)\right] + c$$

$$\operatorname{Var}\left[X\right] = \sigma^2 = \mathbb{E}\left[(X - \mu)^2\right]$$

$$\operatorname{Var}\left[aX + b\right] = a^2 \operatorname{Var}\left[X\right]$$

$$\operatorname{Var}\left[X\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[X^2\right] - \mu^2$$

Common Probability Distributions

• Binomial Distribution:

$$X \sim \operatorname{Bin}(n, p) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n - x} \\ \mathbb{E}[X] = np \\ \operatorname{Var}[X] = np(1 - p) \end{cases}$$

• Poisson Distribution:

$$X \sim \operatorname{Poi}(\lambda) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} \\ \mathbb{E}[X] = \lambda \\ \operatorname{Var}[X] = \lambda \end{cases}$$

• Geometric Distribution:

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(X = x) = p(1 - p)^{x - 1} \\ \mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{p} \\ \text{Var}[X] = \frac{1 - p}{p^2} \end{cases}$$

Transforms

• MGF:

$$M(s) = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{sX}\right]$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X^n\right] = M^{(n)}(0)$$

$$\operatorname{Var}\left[X\right] = M''(0) - M'(0)^2$$

• PGF:

$$G(z) = \mathbb{E} [z^X]$$

$$\mathbb{E} [X] = G'(1)$$

$$Var [X] = G''(1) + G'(1) - G'(1)^2$$

Conditional Probability

$$\mathbb{P}_{Y|x}(y) = \frac{\mathbb{P}_{XY}(x,y)}{\mathbb{P}_{X}(x)}$$

Template by Michael Müller, source code can be found at https://github.com/cmichi/latex-template-collection