

Two probability problems

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Suppose the joint density function of random variables (X, Y) is given by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi}(x^2 + y^2) & x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- 1) Find the Covariance of X and Y
- 2) Determine whether X and Y are independent
- 3) Find the density for $Z = X^2 + Y^2$

Solution:

- 1) To find $Cov(X, Y)$, we simply calculate $E[X], E[Y], E[XY]$

$$E[X] = \iint_{x^2+y^2 \leq 1} x \cdot \frac{2}{\pi}(x^2 + y^2) dx dy = 0$$

$$E[Y] = \iint_{x^2+y^2 \leq 1} y \cdot \frac{2}{\pi}(x^2 + y^2) dx dy = 0$$

$$E[XY] = \iint_{x^2+y^2 \leq 1} xy \cdot \frac{2}{\pi}(x^2 + y^2) dx dy = 0$$

$$Cov(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = 0$$

- 2)

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{y=\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \frac{2}{\pi}(x^2 + y^2) dy \\ &= \frac{4}{3\pi}(1 + 2x^2)\sqrt{1-x^2}, \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

similarly

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{4}{3\pi}(1+2y^2)\sqrt{1-y^2}, -1 \leq y \leq 1$$

therefore, $f(x, y) \neq f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y)$, thus X and Y are not independent.
(notice that though $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$ is necessary for X, Y 's independence, it is not sufficient)

3) The distribution of Z is given by

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= P(Z \leq z) = P(X^2 + Y^2 \leq z) \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\sqrt{z}} \frac{2}{\pi} r^2 \cdot r \, dr \, d\theta = z^2, 0 \leq z \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } f_Z(z) = \frac{d}{dz} F_Z(z) = 2z$$

Suppose X be the random variable with density function

$$f(x) = \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2}, x \in R$$

Let $Y = e^x$.

- 1) Find the distribution function for X .
- 2) Find the density function for Y .
- 3) Determine whether the expectation of Y exist.

Solution:

$$1) F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2} dx = \frac{e^x}{1+e^x}, x \in R$$

2) Since

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(e^x \leq y) = P(x \leq \ln y) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\ln y} \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2} dx = \frac{y}{1+y}, y > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{1}{(1+y)^2}$$

3) Since

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= \int_0^{\infty} y \cdot f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y}{(1+y)^2} dy \\ &= \left. \frac{1}{1+y} + \ln(1+y) \right|_0^{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

is divergent. Thus $E[Y]$ do not exist