

Intro Prob Lecture Notes

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- If X is a continuous random variable with pdf $f_X(x)$ and $Y = g(X)$ where g is a monotone (increasing or decreasing) then the pdf of Y is given by

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \left| \frac{d}{dy}(g^{-1}(y)) \right|$$

- Or since $x = g^{-1}(y)$,

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \frac{dx}{dy}.$$

- Example: (The log-normal distribution). If $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then $Y = e^X$ has the normal distribution (i.e. $\ln(Y) \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and $g(x) = e^x$)

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$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= f_X(\ln(y)) \cdot \frac{d\ln(y)}{dy} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\ln(y)-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{1}{y} \end{aligned}$$

For $y > 0$

- Aside: Kolmogorov's Law of Fragmentation
 - The size of an individual particle drawn from a large collection of particles resulting from fragmentation will have a log-normal distribution.
- Example: (Cauchy distribution)
 - Unit height “pole” at 0, flashlight on pole placed at angle $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

- Let $\theta \sim \text{uniform}(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$
- Let $x = \tan(\theta) \rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1}(x)$
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$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= f(\theta) \frac{d\theta}{dx} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{1+x^2} \text{ For } -\infty < x < \infty \end{aligned}$$

* This is the Cauchy pdf.

Chapter 6 - Joint Distributions

- Experiment has sample space Ω
- Can possibly define “many” random variables
 - $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - $Y : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - etc.
- X, Y can be any combination of discrete and continuous
- When X, Y are jointly discrete, we define the *joint pmf*

$$P_{X,Y}(x, y) := P(X = x, Y = y)$$

- Which is shorthand for $P(\{X = x\} \cap \{Y = y\})$
- Example (\approx 1(a) in chapter 6 of the textbook)
 - Box of socks
 - * 3 White Socks
 - * 4 Black Socks
 - * 5 Red Socks
 - Draw two socks at random, without replacement (and without caring about order)
 - Let X count the number of white socks, and Y count the number of red socks.
 - * $X \in \{0, 1, 2\}$
 - * $Y \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

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$$P(X = 1, Y = 1) = \frac{\binom{3}{1} \binom{4}{1} \binom{5}{0}}{\binom{12}{2}} = \frac{12}{66}$$

- Full table of ways to choose certain numbers of black and white socks; divide by 66 for probability

	x = 0	x = 1	x = 2	
y = 0	$\binom{5}{2} = 10$	$\binom{3}{1} \binom{5}{1} = 15$	$\binom{3}{2} = 3$	28
y = 1	$\binom{4}{1} \binom{5}{1} = 20$	$\binom{3}{1} \binom{4}{1} = 12$	0	32
y = 2	$\binom{4}{2} = 6$	0	0	6
	36	27	3	

– $P(X \leq 1, Y \leq 1) = \frac{57}{66}$

– $P(X < Y) = \frac{26}{66}$

- Can reconstruct the pmf of X from the joint distribution!

* $P(X = 0) = \frac{36}{66}$

* $P(X = 1) = \frac{27}{66}$

* $P(X = 2) = \frac{3}{66}$

- When X, Y jointly continuous we introduce a *joint pdf* where

– $f_{X,Y} \geq 0$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

– $\int \int f(x, y) dA = 1$

- Example: Dart board that is a unit circle, with an equal chance of hitting each point

– $P(X > \frac{1}{2}) = ?$

– $P(X > \frac{1}{2}, Y > \frac{1}{2}) = ?$

– $\pi r^2 = \pi \rightarrow$

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{ for } x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, 0 \text{ otherwise}$$