

**Def. 1 (Axioms of Probability)**

Let  $\Omega$  be the sample space. A probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$  must satisfy:

1. For any event  $E \subset \Omega$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(E) \in [0, 1]$ .

2.  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$ .

3. (**Countable Additivity**) For any sequence of pairwise disjoint events  $(E_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n).$$

**Rem. 2**

The null event  $\emptyset$  satisfies  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$ . The sure event  $\Omega$  satisfies  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$ .

**Prop. 3**

Let  $P$  be a probability measure on a sample space  $\Omega$ .

1. (**Finite additivity**) If  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  are mutually exclusive, then  $\mathbb{P}(E_1 \cup \dots \cup E_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E_i)$ .

2.  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$ .

3.  $\mathbb{P}(E^c) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(E)$ .

4. For any event  $A$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(A) = \mathbb{P}(A \cap E) + \mathbb{P}(A \cap E^c)$ .

5. If two events  $E, F$  satisfy  $E \subset F$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(E) \leq \mathbb{P}(F)$ .

**Thm. 4 (Inclusion–Exclusion Principle)**

Given events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i\right) = \sum_{\emptyset \neq J \subset \{1, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|J|+1} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in J} E_j\right).$$

**Thm. 5 (Boole's Inequality)**

Given countable index set  $I$  and events  $(E_i)_{i \in I}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} E_i\right) \leq \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{P}(E_i).$$

**Prop. 6 (Derangements)**

For  $N \geq 1$ , the probability a random permutation has no fixed points is

$$\mathbb{P}_N = \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{(-1)^k}{k!}.$$

**Def. 7 (Conditional Probability)**

Let  $\Omega$  be a sample space and  $\mathbb{P}$  a probability measure on  $\Omega$ . Given two events  $A, B \subset \Omega$ , the *conditional probability* of the event  $B$  given  $A$  is defined by

$$\mathbb{P}(B | A) := \frac{\mathbb{P}(B \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}.$$

**Def. 8 (Mult. Rule for Successive Conditioning)**

Given events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(E_1 \cap \dots \cap E_n)$$

$= \mathbb{P}(E_1) \mathbb{P}(E_2 | E_1) \dots \mathbb{P}(E_n | E_1 \cap \dots \cap E_{n-1})$ ,

provided that  $\mathbb{P}(E_1), \mathbb{P}(E_1 \cap E_2), \dots, \mathbb{P}(E_1 \cap \dots \cap E_n) > 0$ .

**Thm. 9 (Law of Total Probability)**

Let  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  be a partition of the sample space  $\Omega$ . Then for any event  $A$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E_i) \mathbb{P}(A | E_i).$$

**Thm. 10 (Bayes' Rule)**

Let  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  be a partition of  $\Omega$  and  $A$  any event with  $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$ . Then for each  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(E_k | A) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E_k \cap A)}{\mathbb{P}(A)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E_k) \mathbb{P}(A | E_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(E_i) \mathbb{P}(A | E_i)}.$$

**Prop. 40**

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be independent r.v.'s. Then

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i], \quad \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i).$$

**Def. 41 (Poisson Distribution)**

A r.v.  $X$  taking values in  $\mathbb{N}_0 := \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is said to have a *Poisson distribution* with parameter  $\lambda > 0$ , denoted  $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$ , if

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

**Prop. 42**

If  $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \lambda, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda.$$

**Thm. 43 (Poisson Limit Theorem)**

Let  $\lambda > 0$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $X_{n,1}, \dots, X_{n,n}$  be i.i.d.  $\text{Ber}(\lambda/n)$  r.v.'s. Define

$$Y_n := \sum_{i=1}^n X_{n,i} \sim \text{Bin}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n}), \quad Z \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda).$$

Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(Y_n = k) = \mathbb{P}(Z = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}, \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Hence  $Y_n \xrightarrow{d} Z$ .

**Def. 44 (Discrete Uniform Distribution)**

Let  $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  with  $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_k$ . A random variable  $X$  is said to have the *discrete uniform distribution* on  $A$  if

$$\mathbb{P}(X = x_i) = \frac{1}{k}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

**Prop. 45**

If  $X$  has the discrete uniform distribution on  $A$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i^2 - \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i\right)^2.$$

**Def. 46 (Geometric Distribution)**

A random variable  $X$  taking values in  $\mathbb{N}$  is called a *geometric random variable* with parameter  $p \in (0, 1)$ , denoted  $X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ , if

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = p(1-p)^{k-1}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Its distribution is called the *geometric distribution with parameter p*, because its p.m.f. is a geometric sequence, with  $\sum_k \mathbb{P}(X = k) = 1$ .

**Prop. 47 (Tail Probability Formula)**

For  $X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ , the tail probability has the form

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq k) = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1} = (1-p)^{k-1}.$$

**Prop. 48 (Memorylessness)**

$X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$  is *memoryless* in the sense that, for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(X - k = i | X > k) = \mathbb{P}(X = i), \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Prop. 49**

If  $X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{p}, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}.$$

**Def. 50 (Negative Binomial Distribution)**

Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be i.i.d. Bernoulli trials with success parameter  $p \in (0, 1)$ . Fix  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $X$  be the number of trials needed to see the  $r$ -th success. Then  $X$  is called

**Def. 11 (Independence of Two Events)**

Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be *independent* if

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B).$$

**Prop. 12**

Let  $A, B$  be two events.

1. If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent with  $\mathbb{P}(A), \mathbb{P}(B) > 0$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(A | B) = \mathbb{P}(A)$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(B | A) = \mathbb{P}(B)$ .
2. Suppose that  $\mathbb{P}(A), \mathbb{P}(B) > 0$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$ .
3. The sure event  $\Omega$  and the null event  $\emptyset$  is independent of all other events.

**Def. 13 (Joint Independence)**

A collection of events  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  are said to be *jointly independent* if for any non-empty index set  $I \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} E_i\right) = \prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{P}(E_i).$$

**Rem. 14**

The above equation contains  $2^n - 1$  different cases.

Pairwise independence among  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  does not imply their joint independence.

**Prop. 15 (Gambler's Ruin)**

If  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , then for  $0 \leq k \leq N$ ,

$$w(k) = \frac{k}{N}.$$

If  $p \neq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $r = \frac{1-p}{p}$ , then for  $1 \leq n \leq N-1$ ,

$$w(n) = \frac{1-r^n}{1-r^N}.$$

If  $A$  starts with  $n$  and  $B$  with  $N-n$ , then  $B$ 's winning probability is

$$u(N-n) = \frac{r^n - r^N}{1 - r^N}.$$

**Def. 16 (Cumulative Distribution Function)**

The *cumulative distribution function* of a r.v.  $X$  is the function  $F_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by

$$F_X(x) := P_X((-\infty, x]) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x), \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**Rem. 17**

This amounts to specifying  $P_X(A)$  for all  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  of the form  $A = (-\infty, x]$ . If  $X$  is a d.r.v., then its c.d.f.  $F_X$  is a *step function*. The *jumps* occur at the points in  $\text{Range}(X)$ , with jump size

$$F_X(x) - F_X(x^-) = \mathbb{P}(X = x).$$

**Prop. 18 (Properties of the c.d.f.)**

Let  $F_X$  be the c.d.f. of a real-valued r.v.  $X$ . Then:

1.  $0 \leq F_X(x) \leq 1$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .
2.  $F_X(a) \leq F_X(b)$  for all  $a < b$ . More precisely,

$$F_X(b) - F_X(a) = \mathbb{P}(X \in (a, b]) \geq 0.$$

3.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$  (by countable additivity).

4.  $F_X$  is right-continuous, i.e.,  $\lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} F_X(x + \varepsilon) = F_X(x)$  for all  $x$ .

5.  $F_X$  has left-hand limits, i.e.,  $F_X(x^-) := \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} F_X(x - \varepsilon)$  exists.

**Def. 19 (Probability Mass Function)**

The *probability mass function* of a d.r.v.  $X$  is the function  $f_X : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by

$$f_X(x) := \begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(X = x), & x \in \text{Range}(X), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Def. 80 (Joint Probability Density Function)**  
Let  $(X, Y)$  be a random vector taking values in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We say  $(X, Y)$  admits a *joint probability density function*  $f_{X,Y}$  if:

1.  $f_{X,Y}(x, y) \geq 0$  for all  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .
2.  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy = 1$ .
3. For any  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(X, Y \in A) = \iint_A f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy.$$

**Prop. 81 (Marginal Density)**

If  $(X, Y)$  has joint p.d.f.  $f_{X,Y}$ , then the *marginal density*  $f_X$  is given by

$$f_X(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy.$$

**Def. 82 (Joint c.d.f.)**

The *joint cumulative distribution function* of  $(X, Y)$  is

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) := \mathbb{P}(X \leq x, Y \leq y).$$

The marginal density of  $X$  can be recovered as

$$F_X(x) = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} F_{X,Y}(x, y).$$

**Prop. 83**

If  $(X, Y)$  is discrete:

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = \sum_{a \leq x, b \leq y} f_{X,Y}(a, b),$$

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x, Y \leq y) - \mathbb{P}(X \leq x, Y \leq y^-) + \mathbb{P}(X \leq x^-, Y \leq y^-).$$

If  $(X, Y)$  is continuous:

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{X,Y}(a, b) db da,$$

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F_{X,Y}(x, y).$$

**Prop. 84 (Cauchy–Schwarz Inequality)**

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are real-valued r.v.'s with  $\mathbb{E}[X^2], \mathbb{E}[Y^2] < \infty$ , then

$$|\mathbb{E}[XY]| \leq \mathbb{E}[X^2]^{1/2} \mathbb{E}[Y^2]^{1/2}.$$

**Prop. 85 (Paley–Zygmund Inequality)**

Let  $Z$  be a non-negative r.v. with  $\mathbb{E}[Z^2] < \infty$ . Then for any  $a \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(Z \geq a \mathbb{E}[Z]) \geq (1-a)^2 \frac{\mathbb{E}[Z]^2}{\mathbb{E}[Z^2]}.$$

**Def. 86 (Conditional Expectation and Variance)**

Let  $X$  be a real-valued r.v. and  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$ .

The *conditional expectation* of  $X$  given  $A$  is

$$\mathbb{E}[X | A] := \frac{\mathbb{E}[X \mathbf{1}_A]}{\mathbb{P}(A)}.$$

The *conditional variance* of  $X$  given  $A$  is

$$\text{Var}(X | A) := \mathbb{E}[X^2 | A] - (\mathbb{E}[X | A])^2 = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X | A])^2 | A].$$

**Def. 87 (Conditioning on a d.r.v.)**

Let  $X, Y$  be r.v.'s with  $Y$  taking values in a countable set  $S$ . For  $y \in S$  with  $\mathbb{P}(Y = y) > 0$ , the conditional distribution of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$\mathbb{P}(X \in \cdot | Y = y),$$

with conditional expectation  $\mathbb{E}[X | Y = y]$ .

Set

$$a = \frac{\Sigma_{12}}{\sqrt{\Sigma_{11}}}, \quad b = \sqrt{\Sigma_{22} - \frac{\Sigma_{12}^2}{\Sigma_{11}}}.$$

Then

$$X_1 = \mu_1 + \sqrt{\Sigma_{11}} Z_1, \quad X_2 = \mu_2 + aZ_1 + bZ_2,$$

and  $(X_1, X_2) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ .

**Cond. Dist. of a Bivariate Normal**

Let

$$(X_1, X_2)^\top \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{12} & \Sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

Then

$$X_1 | X_2 = x \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_1 + \frac{\Sigma_{12}}{\Sigma_{22}}(x - \mu_2), \Sigma_{11} - \frac{\Sigma_{12}^2}{\Sigma_{22}}\right).$$

**Quadratic Form Identity**

$$\vec{x}^\top A\vec{x} + \vec{v}^\top \vec{x} = (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})^\top A(\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}) + \vec{C} \iff \vec{v} = -2A\vec{\mu}.$$

**Prop. 107 (Bivariate Normal Examples)**

**Q1.** Let  $(X_1, X_2)^\top \sim N_2(\mu, \Sigma)$  with

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**1. Joint distribution.**

By definition,

$$(X_1, X_2)^\top \sim N_2\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

The density is

$$\frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{\det(\Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)\right).$$

**2. Marginals.**

For a multivariate normal, each component is univariate normal with mean and variance from  $\mu$  and the diagonal of  $\Sigma$ :

$$\mu_1 = 1, \quad \Sigma_{11} = 1, \quad \mu_2 = 1, \quad \Sigma_{22} = 4.$$

Hence

$$X_1 \sim N(1, 1), \quad X_2 \sim N(1, 4).$$

**3. Conditional distribution.**

For  $(X_1, X_2)^\top \sim N_2(\mu, \Sigma)$ ,

$$X_1 | X_2 = x \sim N(m(x), v)$$

with

$$m(x) = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x - \mu_2),$$

$$v = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}.$$

Here

$$\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1, \quad \Sigma_{11} = 1, \quad \Sigma_{22} = 4,$$

$$\Sigma_{12} = \Sigma_{21} = -1.$$

Thus

$$m(x) = 1 + (-1) \cdot \frac{1}{4}(x - 1) = 1 - \frac{x - 1}{4} = \frac{5 - x}{4},$$

and

$$v = 1 - (-1) \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot (-1) = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

Therefore

$$X_1 | X_2 = x \sim N\left(\frac{5-x}{4}, \frac{3}{4}\right), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**Prop. 88 (Law of Total Expectation)**

For r.v.'s  $X, Y$  and any measurable function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X)] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[f(X) | Y]].$$

In particular, for any  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(X \in A) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{P}(X \in A | Y)].$$

**Prop. 89 (Conditional Density)**

Let  $(X, Y)$  be jointly absolutely continuous with joint density  $f_{X,Y}$ . Then the conditional density of  $X$  given  $Y = y_0$  is

$$f_{X|Y}(x | Y = y_0) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y_0)}{f_Y(y_0)}.$$

**Prop. 90**

For jointly absolutely continuous  $(X, Y)$ ,

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_Y(y) f_{X|Y}(x | y) = f_X(x) f_{Y|X}(y | x).$$

**Prop. 91**

For any measurable function  $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X, Y)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x, y) f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx \right) f_Y(y) dy.$$

**Prop. 92 (Tower Property)**

For r.v.'s  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  and any measurable  $\varphi$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_1, \dots, X_n)]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[\cdots \mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_1, \dots, X_n) | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}] \cdots | X_1]\right].$$

**Prop. 93 (Law of Total Variance)**

Let  $X, Y$  be r.v.'s with finite  $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$ . Then

$$\text{Var}(X) = \mathbb{E}[\text{Var}(X | Y)] + \text{Var}(\mathbb{E}[X | Y]).$$

**Def. 94 (Independent Random Variables)**

Two r.v.'s  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to be *independent* if

$$\mathbb{P}(X \in A, Y \in B) = \mathbb{P}(X \in A) \mathbb{P}(Y \in B)$$

for any  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

More generally, a collection of r.v.'s  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are *jointly independent* if for any measurable events  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_i \in A_i \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(X_i \in A_i).$$

If  $\mathbf{X} := (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  has joint p.m.f. (or p.d.f.)  $f_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , then their joint independence is equivalent to

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{X_i}(x_i), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

**Prop. 95 (Expectation of a Function of r.v.)**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two r.v.'s, and let  $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X, Y)] = \begin{cases} \sum_{(x,y)} g(x, y) f_{X,Y}(x, y), & (\text{d.r.v.'s}), \\ \int \int g(x, y) f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy, & (\text{c.r.v.'s}). \end{cases}$$

**Prop. 96**

If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are jointly independent r.v.'s, and  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n$  are real-valued functions, then

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\prod_{i=1}^n \varphi_i(X_i)\right] = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[\varphi_i(X_i)].$$

**Def. 97 (Covariance)**

The covariance of two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined by

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

**Prop. 98 (Properties of Covariance)**

For random variables  $X, Y$  and constants  $a, b$ :

$$1. \text{ Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y].$$

$$2. \text{ Cov}(X + a, Y + b) = \text{Cov}(X, Y).$$

$$3. \text{ Cov}(aX, bY) = ab \text{Cov}(X, Y).$$

$$4. \text{ Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X).$$

$$$$