

MATH 180A (Lecture A00)

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Today: Joint distribution. Independence

Next: ASV 8.1

Week 9:

- Homework 6 due Friday, March 10

Joint distribution (discrete case)

Def. (Joint PMF). Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be discrete random variable defined on the same probability space.

The **joint probability mass function** of (X_1, \dots, X_n) is given by

Remark

Example Roll a fair die twice

$X_1 = \#$ of even numbers

$X_2 = \#$ of sixes

$P_{X_1, X_2}(k_1, k_2)$

$k_1 \backslash k_2$	0	1	2
0			
1			
2			

Expectation of a function of a random vector

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be discrete random variables. Let $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\text{Then } E(g(X_1, \dots, X_n)) =$$

where we sum over all possible values k_1, \dots, k_n of X_1, \dots, X_n

Example (cont.) For each even number you get 1 dollar, and the sum is multiplied by the number of sixes.

$$g(k_1, k_2) =$$

$$E(g(X_1, X_2)) =$$
$$=$$

Marginal PMF

Let $p(k_1, \dots, k_n)$ be a joint PMF of random variables X_1, \dots, X_n . Then for any $1 \leq j \leq n$ the marginal PMF of X_j is given by

(fix j -th variable, sum over all other variables)

Example

$k_1 \backslash k_2$	0	1	2
0	$\frac{9}{36}$	0	0
1	$\frac{12}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	0
2	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$

Q:

Joint distribution of continuous random variables

Def. Random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are **jointly continuous** if there exists a function $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

Function $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is called the **joint density**

Joint density satisfies :

Example Consider random variables X and Y with joint density

Expectation of a function . Marginal PDF

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be jointly continuous random variables with joint PDF f_x . Let $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function of n variables. Then

Def. Let f be the joint density of X_1, \dots, X_n . Then each random variable X_j has a (marginal) density

(fix j -th variable, integrate all other variables)

Example

Consider again random variables X, Y with joint density

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}(xy^2 + y) & , 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

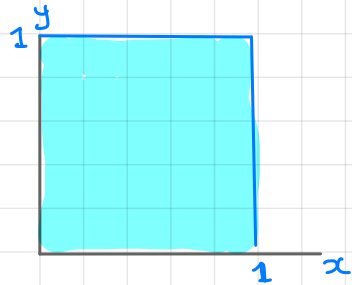
(i) $E(X^2 Y) =$

$$g(x, y) = x^2 y$$

(ii) $f_X(x) =$

$$f_Y(y) =$$

(iii) $P(X < Y) =$



Joint distribution and independence

Random variables X_1, \dots, X_n defined on the same probability space are independent if for any $B_1, \dots, B_n \subset \mathbb{R}$

$$P(X_1 \in B_1, X_2 \in B_2, \dots, X_n \in B_n) = P(X_1 \in B_1) P(X_2 \in B_2) \dots P(X_n \in B_n)$$

Independence can be expressed in terms of PMF/PDF

Discrete case:

Let $p(k_1, \dots, k_n)$ be the joint PMF of discrete random variables X_1, \dots, X_n . Let $p_{X_j}(k) = P(X_j = k)$ be the marginal PMF of X_j . Then X_1, \dots, X_n are independent if and only if

Examples

Example 1

Roll a fair die twice

$X_1 = \#$ even numbers

$X_2 = \#$ sixes

$K_1 \backslash K_2$	0	1	2	
0	$\frac{9}{36}$	0	0	$\frac{9}{36}$
1	$\frac{12}{36}$	$\frac{6}{36}$	0	$\frac{18}{36}$
2	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{4}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{9}{36}$
	$\frac{25}{36}$	$\frac{10}{36}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	

Are X_1 and X_2 independent?

Example 2

joint PMF
of X_1, X_2

$K_1 \backslash K_2$	0	1	
0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	

Joint distributions and independence. Continuous case

Thm. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be random variables defined on the same probability space. Assume that each X_j has PDF f_{X_j} .

(i) If the joint density of X_1, \dots, X_n is equal to

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) =$$

then X_1, \dots, X_n are independent

(ii) If X_1, \dots, X_n are independent then

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) =$$

Thm. Let $X_1, \dots, X_n, X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{n+m}$ be independent random variables. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Define $Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$, $Z = g(X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{n+m})$. Then

Example

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent random variables,

$X_i \sim \text{Geom}(p_i)$. Define $Y = \min\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$.

Determine the distribution of Y .

$$\{\min\{X_1, \dots, X_n\} = k\} = \uparrow \text{too complicated}$$

Instead, $\{\min\{X_1, \dots, X_n\} > k\} =$

$$P(Y > k) =$$

$$P(Y > k) =$$

Joint distribution of X_1, \dots, X_n . Summary

Discrete

Continuous

Joint distribution

Joint PMF

$$p(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n)$$

$$= P(X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n)$$

Joint PDF

$$P((X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \in B)$$

$$= \int \dots \int_B f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

Marginal distribution

Marginal PMF

$$P_{X_j}(e) = \sum_{k_1} \dots \sum_{k_{j-1}} \sum_{k_{j+1}} \dots \sum_{k_n} p(k_1, \dots, k_{j-1}, e, k_{j+1}, \dots, k_n)$$

Marginal PDF

$$f_{X_j}(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, y, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_{j-1} dx_{j+1} \dots dx_n$$

Independence

$$p(k_1, \dots, k_n) = p_{X_1}(k_1) \dots p_{X_n}(k_n)$$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f_{X_1}(x_1) \dots f_{X_n}(x_n)$$

Joint distribution and independence

Exercise Let the joint distribution of random variables X and Y be given by the joint PMF $p(k, \ell) = P(X=k, Y=\ell)$

$k \backslash \ell$	0	1	2
-1	0.1	0.1	0.2
1	0.2	0.1	α

1) Find unknown α

2) Compute the marginal PMFs of X and Y

k	-1	1
$P(X=k)$		

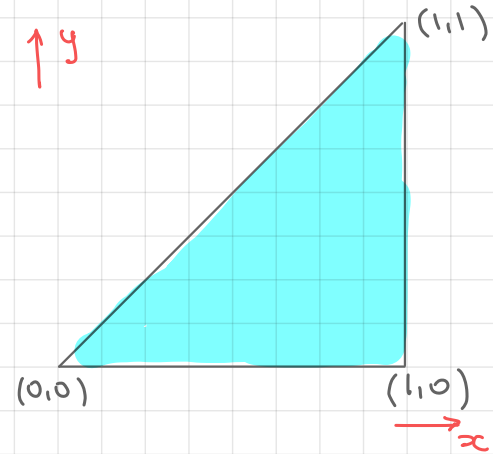
ℓ	0	1	2
$P(Y=\ell)$			

3) Are X and Y independent?

Joint distribution and independence

Exercise Let X and Y be jointly continuous random variables with joint PDF

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} cxy, & 0 \leq y \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



- 1) Find constant c
- 2) Find marginal densities of X and Y
- 3) Are X and Y independent?

$$f_X(x) =$$

$$f_Y(y) =$$

Joint distribution and independence

Example Let $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\mu)$

Suppose X and Y are independent.

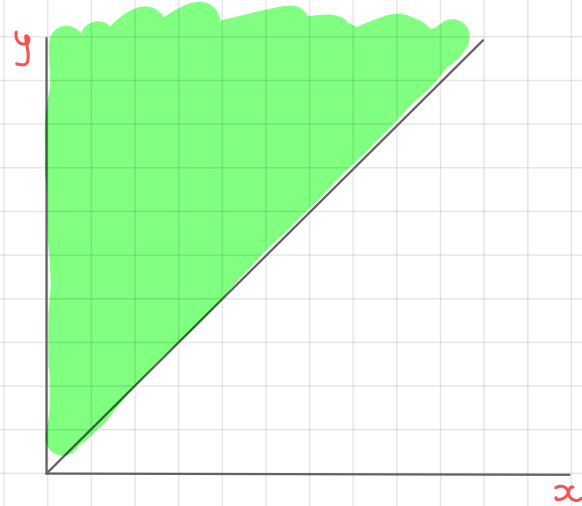
- 1) Find the joint PDF of X and Y
- 2) Compute $P(X < Y)$

X takes values in $(0, +\infty)$, Y takes values in $(0, +\infty)$

(X, Y) take values in $\{(x, y) : x > 0, y > 0\}$

1) From the independence $f_{X,Y}(x,y) =$

2) $P(X < Y) = P((X, Y) \in \{(x, y) : x < y\}) =$



Joint distribution and independence

Example Let $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\mu)$

Suppose X and Y are independent.

Find the distribution of $Z = \min\{X, Y\}$

$$P(Z > t) = P(\min\{X, Y\} > t) =$$

Other things to remember

Expectation of a function of n random variables

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be random variables, let $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- if X_1, \dots, X_n are discrete with joint PMF $p(k_1, \dots, k_n)$, then

$$E(g(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_n} g(k_1, \dots, k_n) p(k_1, \dots, k_n)$$

- if X_1, \dots, X_n are continuous with joint PDF $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then

$$E(g(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x_1, \dots, x_n) f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n$$