

Probability

Ω = sample space: set of all possible outcomes of an experiment

\mathcal{A} = σ -algebra: set of subsets of Ω , the events
 P = probability measure: a function from subsets of Ω to \mathbb{R}

- Axioms
- $P(\Omega) = 1$
 - If $A \subset \Omega \Rightarrow P(A) \geq 0$ (nonnegative)
 - If A_1 and A_2 are disjoint ($A_1 \cap A_2 = \emptyset$) $\Rightarrow P(A_1 \cup A_2) = P(A_1) + P(A_2)$
 more generally, if A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are mutually disjoint

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

- Properties
- $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$
 - $P(\emptyset) = 0$
 - If $A \subset B \Rightarrow P(A) \leq P(B)$
 - $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$

conditional probability: Let A and B be two events with $P(B) \neq 0$.

The conditional probability of A given B is defined as

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

Multiplication law: Let A and B be two events with $P(B) \neq 0$

Then $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B) P(B)$

Law of total probability: Let B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n be n events such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = \Omega$ and $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$ with $P(B_i) > 0$ for all i (a partition). Then, for any event A

$$P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A|B_i) P(B_i)$$

Baye's rule: let A and B_1, \dots, B_n be events where the B_i are disjoint, $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = \Omega$ and $P(B_i) > 0$ for all i . Then

$$P(B_j | A) = \frac{P(A | B_j) P(B_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(A | B_i) P(B_i)}$$

Independence: A and B are said to be independent events if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ (not the only way to characterize independence)

Random variable: is a function from Ω to \mathbb{R}

Discrete: can take only a finite or at most a countably infinite number of values

Continuous: can take values on a continuum

Probability mass function: ~~probability mass function~~ If X is a discrete random variable that can take the values x_1, x_2, \dots , then the pmf is a function p such that $p(x_i) = P(X = x_i)$ and $\sum_i p(x_i) = 1$

Probability density function: the continuous version of the pmf. Is a function $f(x)$ such that $f(x) \geq 0$, is ~~piecewise~~ piecewise continuous and $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$. If X is a continuous random variable, then ~~probability mass function~~ $P(a < X < b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx$

Common discrete random variables

• Bernoulli: takes only the values 0 and 1, result of an experiment (success or failure)

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} p^x (1-p)^{1-x} & \text{if } x=0 \text{ or } x=1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• Binomial: total number of "successes" when n independent trials are performed

takes values $0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ $p(x) = \begin{cases} \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} & \text{if } x=0, 1, \dots, n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

• Geometric: Number of trials (independent) up to (inclusive) the first success, thus X takes values $1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} (1-p)^{x-1} p & , x=1, 2, 3, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• Negative binomial: Number of trials (independent) until there are r successes, then X takes values $1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$p(x) = \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{x-r}$$

• Hypergeometric: Number of successes in a sequence of n draws ~~from~~ from a finite population without replacement (binomial draws ~~are~~ with replacement).
 ~~n : size of population, m : size of the sample.~~

~~$p(x) = \frac{\binom{r}{x} \binom{n-r}{m-x}}{\binom{n}{m}}$~~ Suppose an urn with n balls of which r are black and $n-r$ are white. If X denotes the number of black balls when taking m balls without replacement then

$$p(x) = \frac{\binom{r}{x} \binom{n-r}{m-x}}{\binom{n}{m}}$$

• Poisson: number of events occurring in a fixed period of time when they occur with a known average rate λ and independently of the time since the last event. Is the limit of a binomial distribution when the number of trials n approaches to infinity and the probability of success p approaches to zero in such a way that $np = \lambda$.

$$p(x) = \frac{n!}{x! (n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \quad \text{setting } np = \lambda \rightarrow p(x) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

Common continuous random variables

- Uniform $[a, b]$: assigns equal probability to any number in $[a, b]$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1/(b-a) & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Exp(λ)

- Exponential: models lifetimes or waiting times

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Gamma(α, λ) α : shape, λ : scale Gamma($1, \lambda$) = Exp(λ)

- Gamma: a more flexible density to model waiting times

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty u^{\alpha-1} e^{-u} du \quad x \geq 0$$

$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

- Normal: distribution of a sum of a large number of independent random variables

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

- Beta: a more flexible density to model variables on the interval $[0, 1]$

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

Beta(a, b) Beta($1, 1$) = $U[0, 1]$

Part 2

Cumulative distribution function: $F(x) := P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x) dx$

Expected value: If X is a discrete i.v. with p.m.f. $p(x)$, the expected value of X , denoted by $E[X]$ is

$$E[X] = \sum_i x_i p(x_i) \quad / \quad E[g(X)] = \sum_i g(x_i) p(x_i)$$

If X is continuous i.v. with p.d.f. $f(x)$, then

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \quad / \quad E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f(x) dx$$

$$E[a+bX] = a + bE[X]$$

● ~~Standard~~ Variance: If X is a i.v. with expected value $E[X]$, the variance, $\text{Var}(X)$ is

$$\text{Var}(X) = E\{[X - E(X)]^2\}$$

That can be computed as $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$

Standard deviation: $\text{std}(X) = \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$

Moment generating function: The m.g.f. of a random variable X is

$M(t) = E(e^{tx})$. In ~~the~~ the discrete case

$M(t) = \sum_x e^{tx} p(x)$ and in the continuous case

$$M(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx$$

● Properties: • If ~~the~~ $M(t)$ exists in an open interval containing ~~an~~ ^{zero} ~~point~~ then $M^{(n)}(0) = E(X^n)$

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then it uniquely determines the probability distribution.

(important property to prove the central limit Theorem)

• Chi-square distribution: If $Z \sim N(0,1)$ then $U = Z^2 \sim \chi^2_{(1)}$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2^{n/2} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} x^{\frac{n}{2}-1} e^{-x/2} \quad \text{If } U_1, U_2, \dots \sim \chi^2_{(1)} \text{ i.i.d. } \Rightarrow U = \sum_{i=1}^n U_i \sim \chi^2_{(n)}$$

$$\text{Gamma}(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = \chi^2_{(1)}$$

• t-student: If $Z \sim N(0,1)$ and $U \sim \chi^2_n$ and they are independent

then $\frac{Z}{\sqrt{U/n}} \sim t_{(n)}$

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\sqrt{n\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{n}\right)^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}$$

• F: Let $U \sim \chi^2_m$ and $V \sim \chi^2_n$ be independent, then

$$W = \frac{U/m}{V/n} \sim F_{(m,n)}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left(\frac{m}{n}\right)^{\frac{m}{2}} x^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \left(1 + \frac{m}{n}x\right)^{-\frac{(m+n)}{2}}$$

Joint distribution: Determines the joint behaviour of two or more random variables. We define the ~~joint distribution~~ joint cumulative distribution function of the two random variables X and Y as $F(x,y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$, regardless if they are continuous or discrete.

~~For discrete r.v. Suppose X and Y are discrete r.v. on the same sample space that take values x_1, x_2, \dots and y_1, y_2, \dots respectively. Their joint frequency function is $p(x_i, y_j) = P(X=x_i, Y=y_j)$~~

- Discrete r.v. Suppose X and Y are discrete r.v. on the same sample space that take values x_1, x_2, \dots and y_1, y_2, \dots respectively. Their joint frequency function is $p(x_i, y_j) = P(X=x_i, Y=y_j)$
- The marginal frequency function is defined, for the r.v. X as $p_x(x_i) = \sum_j p(x_i, y_j)$ and for Y as $p_y(y_j) = \sum_i p(x_i, y_j)$

Continuous r.v. Suppose X and Y are continuous r.v. with a joint cdf $F(x,y)$. Their joint density function is a piecewise continuous function of two variables, $f(x,y)$, is nonnegative and $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dy dx = 1$.

For any reasonable two-dimensional set A

$P((X,Y) \in A) =$ ~~$\sum_i \sum_j p(x_i, y_j)$~~ $= \iint_A f(x,y) dy dx$

$f(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F(x,y)$

The marginal cdf of X is $F_x(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(u,y) dy du$

The ~~density~~ ^{marginal} density of X is $f_x(x) = F'_x(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) dy$

Independency. The r.v.'s X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are independent if their joint cdf. has the property that $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = F_{X_1}(x_1) F_{X_2}(x_2) \dots F_{X_n}(x_n)$
 $\forall x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

Covariance: If X and Y are jointly distributed r.v. with expectations μ_X and μ_Y respectively, the covariance of X and Y is

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]$$

It can be shown that $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$

If X and Y are independent $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ (the converse is not true)

Properties: $\text{Cov}(aW + bX, cY + dZ) = ac \text{Cov}(W, Y) + bc \text{Cov}(X, Y) + ad \text{Cov}(W, Z) + bd \text{Cov}(X, Z)$

In general, if $U = a + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i X_i$ and $V = c + \sum_{j=1}^m d_j Y_j$ then

$$\text{Cov}(U, V) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m b_i d_j \text{Cov}(X_i, Y_j)$$

And, since $\text{Var}(X) = \text{Cov}(X, X)$ we get that

$\text{Var}(X+Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$. More generally

$$\text{Var}\left(a + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n b_i b_j \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j)$$

If the X_i are independent $\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i)$

Correlation coefficient. If X and Y are jointly distributed r.v.'s, the variances and covariances of both X and Y exist and the variances are not zero, then the correlation of X and Y , denoted by ρ is

$$\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)}}$$

Properties: $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$, is dimensionless and $\rho = \pm 1 \Leftrightarrow P(Y = a + bX) = 1$ for some constants a, b .

Law of Large Numbers. Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_i, \dots$ be a sequence of independent i.v. with $E(X_i) = \mu$ and $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma^2 \forall i$. Let $\bar{X}_n = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n}$

Then for any $\epsilon > 0$ $P(|\bar{X}_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

If a sequence of random variables $\{X_n\}$ is such that $P(|Z_n - \alpha| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ $\forall \epsilon > 0$ then Z_n is said to converge in probability to α .

~~Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$ be a sequence of i.v. with cdf's F_1, F_2, \dots and let X be a i.v. with cdf F . We say that $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) = F(x)$~~

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of i.v. with cdf's F_1, F_2, \dots and let X be a i.v. with cdf F . We say that $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) = F(x)$
Notation: $X \stackrel{d}{\approx} F$

② Central Limit Theorem. Let X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of independent i.v. with mean μ and variance σ^2 and distribution function F . Let $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\frac{S_n - n\mu}{\sigma\sqrt{n}} \leq x\right) = \Phi(x) \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

where $\Phi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt$

① Continuity theorem. Let F_n be a sequence of cumulative distribution functions with corresponding moment-generating function M_n and let F be a cumulative distribution function with moment generating function M . If $M_n(t) \rightarrow M(t) \forall t$ in an open interval containing zero then $F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$ at all continuity points of F .

Normal distribution was proposed by Gauss as a model for measurement errors. Also used to model peoples' height, ^{weight} IQ score, velocity of gas molecules, ~~and~~ noise. Standard Normal := $N(0,1)$ If $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow (X-\mu)/\sigma \sim N(0,1)$

Normal approximations to other distributions

• If $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p) \Rightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ where $Y_i \sim \text{Ber}(p)$ $\begin{matrix} \mu = p \\ \sigma^2 = p(1-p) \end{matrix}$
 by the CLT $\frac{X - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}} \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(0,1)$ X plays the role of S_n
 np " " " " μ
 $\sqrt{np(1-p)}$ " " " " $\sigma\sqrt{n}$

$\Rightarrow X \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(np, np(1-p))$

• If $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda) \Rightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ where $Y_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\frac{\lambda}{n})$ $\begin{matrix} \mu = \lambda/n \\ \sigma^2 = \lambda/n \end{matrix}$
 by the CLT $\frac{X - n\lambda/n}{\sqrt{n\lambda/n}} \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(0,1)$

$\Rightarrow X \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(\lambda, \lambda)$

• If $X \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \lambda) \Rightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ where $Y_i \sim \text{Gamma}(1, \lambda)$ $\begin{matrix} \mu = 1/\lambda \\ \sigma^2 = 1/\lambda^2 \end{matrix}$
 by the CLT $\frac{X - n\lambda}{\sqrt{n\lambda^2}} \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(0,1)$

$\Rightarrow X \stackrel{d}{\approx} N(n\lambda, n\lambda^2)$