

3. Joint distributions

3.1 Discrete joint distributions

Def 1: joint pmf of X and Y

$$p_{XY}(n, k) = P(X = n, Y = k)$$

Marginal distributions:

$$p_X(n) = \sum_k p_{XY}(n, k) \text{ and } p_Y(k) = \sum_n p_{XY}(n, k)$$

Def 2: independent random variables

X and Y are independent if $p_{XY}(n, k) = p_X(n)p_Y(k)$

$$\text{Conditional pmf of } Y \text{ given } X: p_{Y|X}(k|n) = \frac{p_{XY}(n,k)}{p_X(n)}$$

Ex 1: die-coin experiment

step one: roll a fair die, $X =$ the die score

step two: toss a fair coin X times, $Y = \#\{\text{heads}\}$

Conditional and joint distributions

$$p_{Y|X}(k|n) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{-n} \text{ and } p_{XY}(n, k) = \frac{1}{6} \binom{n}{k} 2^{-n}$$

$k = 0, \dots, n$, where $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$

$p_{XY}(n, k)$	k=0	k=1	k=2	k=3	k=4	k=5	k=6	$p_X(n)$
n=1	.083	.083	0	0	0	0	0	.167
n=2	.042	.083	.042	0	0	0	0	.167
n=3	.021	.063	.063	.021	0	0	0	.167
n=4	.010	.042	.063	.042	.010	0	0	.167
n=5	.005	.026	.052	.052	.026	.005	0	.167
n=6	.003	.016	.039	.052	.039	.016	.003	.167
$p_Y(k)$.164	.313	.258	.167	.076	.021	.003	1

Compare the prior distribution $X \sim dU(6)$
with the posterior distribution of X given Y

$p_{X Y}(n k)$	k=0	k=1	k=2	k=3	k=4	k=5	k=6
n=1	.508	.265	0	0	0	0	0
n=2	.254	.265	.162	0	0	0	0
n=3	.127	.201	.243	.126	0	0	0
n=4	.064	.134	.243	.252	.133	0	0
n=5	.032	.083	.201	.311	.347	.238	0
n=6	.016	.051	.151	.311	.520	.762	1
total	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

3.2 Optimal predictor

Conditional expectation and variance of X given Y
are random variables $E(X|Y)$ and $\text{Var}(X|Y)$

Laws of Total Expectation and Total Variance

$$E(X) = E(E(X|Y))$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(E(X|Y)) + E(\text{Var}(X|Y))$$

Optimal predictor of X based on Y is $\hat{X} = E(X|Y)$

Ex 1: die-coin experiment

Y values	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$E(X Y)$ values	1.90	2.65	3.94	4.81	5.38	5.75	6.00
$\text{Var}(X Y)$ values	1.44	2.14	1.64	1.03	0.87	0.18	0.00
probabilities	.164	.313	.258	.167	.076	.021	.003

$$E(X) = 3.5 = 1.90 \cdot 0.164 + 2.65 \cdot 0.313 + 3.94 \cdot 0.258 + 4.81 \cdot 0.167 \\ + 5.38 \cdot 0.076 + 5.75 \cdot 0.021 + 6.00 \cdot 0.003$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = 2.92 = 1.35 + 1.57$$

$$\text{Var}(E(X|Y)) = 1.35, E(\text{Var}(X|Y)) = 1.57$$

3.3 Covariance and correlation

Two measures of association between X and Y

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

Addition rule of variance

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

$$\boxed{\text{Correlation coefficient: } \rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}, -1 \leq \rho \leq 1}$$

Compute covariance by $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - \mu_X \mu_Y$

ρ is a scale free degree of straight-line association

X and Y are called uncorrelated if $\rho = 0$

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal linear predictor of } X \text{ given } Y \text{ is} \\ \tilde{X} = \mu_X + \frac{\sigma_X}{\sigma_Y} \cdot \rho \cdot (Y - \mu_Y) \end{array}}$$

Ex 1: die-coin experiment

k		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	8	
$P(XY = k)$.164	.083	.083	.063	.083	.026	.079	.063	
	9	10	12	15	16	18	20	24	30	36
	.021	.052	.081	.052	.010	.052	.026	.039	.016	.003

$$E(Y) = 1.75, \text{Var}(Y) = 1.61, E(XY) = 7.6$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 7.6 - 3.5 \cdot 1.75 = 1.48, \rho = \frac{1.48}{1.71 \cdot 1.27} = 0.68$$

$$\text{Var}(X + Y) = 2.92 + 1.61 + 2 \cdot 1.48 = 7.49$$

$$\tilde{X} = 3.5 + 0.91 \cdot (Y - 1.75) = 1.91 + 0.91 \cdot Y$$

Y	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
\hat{X}	1.90	2.65	3.94	4.81	5.38	5.75	6.00
\tilde{X}	1.91	2.82	3.73	4.64	5.55	6.46	7.37

Ex 2: family size model

Number of children in a family $Z \sim \text{Pois}(2)$, $E(Z) = 2$
 probabilities in percentages:

n	0	1	2	3	4	5
$p(n)$	13.5	27.1	27.1	18.0	9.02	3.61
n	6	7	8	9	10	11
$p(n)$	1.20	0.34	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00

Modelling number of girls X and boys Y in the family:

given $Z = n$ toss a fair coin n times

$X = \#\{\text{heads}\}$, $Y = \#\{\text{tails}\}$

Conditional distributions

$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, 0.5)$, $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, 0.5)$

Joint pmf of X and Y in percentages:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	$p_X(n)$
0	13.5	13.5	6.77	2.26	0.56	0.11	0.02	36.8
1	13.5	13.5	6.77	2.26	0.56	0.11	0.02	36.8
2	6.77	6.77	3.38	1.13	0.28	0.06	0.01	18.4
3	2.26	2.26	1.13	0.38	0.09	0.02	0.00	6.13
4	0.56	0.56	0.28	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00	1.53
5	0.11	0.11	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31
6	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05
$p_Y(k)$	36.8	36.8	18.4	6.13	1.53	0.31	0.05	1

X and Y are independent

marginal distributions $X \sim \text{Pois}(1)$, $Y \sim \text{Pois}(1)$

3.4 Multinomial distribution

Def 3: multinomial trials

independent repeated experiments with r possible outcomes with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_r

X_i = number of outcomes of type i in n trials

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Multinomial } (X_1, \dots, X_r) &\sim \text{Mn}(n; p_1, \dots, p_r) \\ \text{P}(X_1 = k_1, \dots, X_r = k_r) &= \binom{n}{k_1, \dots, k_r} p_1^{k_1} \dots p_r^{k_r} \\ \text{where } p_1 + \dots + p_r &= 1, k_1 + \dots + k_r = n \end{aligned}$$

Marginal distributions

$$X_i \sim \text{Bin}(n; p_i), \text{E}(X_i) = np_i, \text{Var}(X_i) = np_i q_i$$

Two cells combined $X_i + X_j \sim \text{Bin}(n; p_i + p_j)$

$$\text{Var}(X_i + X_j) = n(p_i + p_j)(1 - p_i - p_j)$$

Addition rule rule of variance

$$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \frac{\text{Var}(X_i + X_j) - \text{Var}(X_i) - \text{Var}(X_j)}{2} = -np_i p_j$$

$$X_i \text{ and } X_j \text{ are negatively correlated } \rho_{ij} = -\sqrt{\frac{p_i p_j}{q_i q_j}}$$

Ex 3: genotype frequencies

Population with genotypes AA = 1, Aa = 2, aa = 3

having frequencies $p_1 = 0.64, p_2 = 0.32, p_3 = 0.04$

sample $n = 8$ individuals with replacement

$$\text{P}(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3) = p_1^5 p_2^2 p_3^1 = 0.00044$$

Genotypic counts: $(X_1, X_2, X_3) \sim \text{Mn}(n; p_1, p_2, p_3)$

$$\text{P}(X_1 = 5, X_2 = 2, X_3 = 1) = \binom{8}{5, 2, 1} p_1^5 p_2^2 p_3^1 = 0.074$$

Ex 4: students' ID numbers

$X_i = \#\{\text{students whose ID number ends with } i\}$
find the joint distribution of (X_0, \dots, X_9)

Ex 5: Wright-Fisher model

Constant population size N

$X_i =$ offspring number of i -th individual

$$(X_1, \dots, X_N) \sim \text{Mn}(N; \frac{1}{N}, \dots, \frac{1}{N})$$

Negative correlation between X_i and X_j

$\rho = -\frac{1}{N-1}$ vanishes for large population

Common marginal distribution

$$X_i \sim \text{Bin}(N; \frac{1}{N}), \mu = 1, \sigma^2 = \frac{N-1}{N}$$

Poisson approximation for large N

$$X_i \approx \text{Pois}(1), \mu = \sigma^2 = 1$$

3.5 Continuous joint distributions

Joint pdf of X and Y

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{\text{P}(x < X < x+dx, y < Y < y+dy)}{dx \cdot dy}$$

can be viewed as a surface or a scatter plot

a top of the surface = a cluster in the scatter plot

$$\text{P}((X, Y) \in A) = \int_A f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$$

$$\text{The marginal density of } X: f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dy$$

Conditional pdf $f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{XY}(x,y)}{f_X(x)}$
profile of the pdf surface cut by vertical plane $\{X = x\}$

Def 2: independent random variables

X and Y are independent if $f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$

Ex 6: uniform distribution over the unit square

Random point (X, Y) on a plain takes values (x, y) in

$S = \{0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1\}$ with $f_{XY}(x, y) = 1$

Marginal distributions: $X \sim U(0,1)$, $Y \sim U(0,1)$

X and Y are independent since

$f_{XY}(x, y) = 1$, and $f_X(x) = 1$, $f_Y(y) = 1$

Ex 7: uniform distribution over a disk

Random point (X, Y) on a plain takes values (x, y) in

$D = \{x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$ with $f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\pi} = 0.318$

Marginal pdf

$f_X(x) = \frac{2}{\pi}\sqrt{1 - x^2}$, $f_Y(y) = \frac{2}{\pi}\sqrt{1 - y^2}$

Negative dependence between $|X|$ and $|Y|$:

when $|X|$ is closer to 1, $|Y|$ gets closer to 0

Law of total expectation

$E(Y|X) = 0$, $E(X \cdot Y) = E(X \cdot E(Y|X)) = 0$

$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - \mu_X\mu_Y = 0$, $\rho = 0$

Independent r.v. are uncorrelated, but the converse is not always true

3.6 Bivariate normal distribution

$(X, Y) \sim N(\mu_1, \mu_2, \sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2, \rho)$ has five parameters

location parameters μ_1, μ_2

scale parameters σ_1, σ_2

shape parameter $\rho =$ correlation coefficient

Marginal distributions: $X \sim N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2), Y \sim N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$

With the normal joint distribution OP = OLP $E(Y X) = \mu_2 + \rho \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1}(X - \mu_1)$

Draw ellipse contour plots for $\rho > 0, \rho = 0, \rho < 0$

together with regression lines

Coefficient of determination $\rho^2 = \frac{\text{Var}(E(Y|X))}{\text{Var}(Y)}$

proportion of variation in Y

explained by variation in X

Conditional distribution

$$(Y|X) \sim N(\mu_2 + \rho \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1}(X - \mu_1), \sigma_2^2(1 - \rho^2))$$

Ex 8: heights of fathers and sons

<http://www.scc.ms.unimelb.edu.au/disccday/dyk/faso.html>

data: $n = 1078$ paired observations of two variables

$X =$ father's height in inches

$Y =$ son's height in inches

Parameters estimated from the data

$$\mu_1 = 68, \sigma_1 = 2.7 \text{ (1 inch = 2.54 cm)}$$

$$\mu_2 = 69, \sigma_2 = 2.7$$

$$\rho = 0.5$$