

Stochastic Processes

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Week 4

Conditional expectation

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Independence

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Conditional Expectation

Suppose that X is a random variable on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) and $B \in \mathcal{F}$ with $P(B) > 0$. The conditional probability of $X = x$ given B is

$$P(X = x|B) = \frac{P(X(\omega) = x \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Definition If X is a random variable and $P(B) > 0$, the conditional expectation of X given B is denoted with $E(X|B)$ and defined by

$$E(X|B) = \sum_{x \in \text{Im}(X)} xP(X = x|B)$$

whenever this sum converges absolutely

Theorem If X is a discrete random variable and $\{B_1, B_2, \dots\}$ is a partition of the sample space such that $P(B_i) > 0$

$$E(X) = \sum_i E(X|B_i)P(B_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i E(X|B_i)P(B_i) &= \sum_i \left(\sum_x xP(X = x|B_i) \right) P(B_i) \\ &= \sum_i \sum_x x \frac{P(X = x \cap B_i)}{P(B_i)} P(B_i) \\ &= \sum_i \sum_x xP(X = x \cap B_i) = \sum_x \sum_i xP(X = x \cap B_i) \\ &= \sum_x x \sum_i P(X = x \cap B_i) = \sum_x xP(X = x) \end{aligned}$$

Geometric series again... we know that if $|x| < 1$

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k$$

Then taking derivatives ... under the sum

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{1-x} = \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} x^k = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} kx^{k-1}$$

Then if $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$, that is $P(X = k) = q^{k-1}p$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$E(X) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} kq^{k-1}p = \frac{p}{(1-q)^2} = \frac{p}{p^2} = \frac{1}{p}$$

Example 2.44 Suppose to toss a coin repeatedly and to stop when the first run (sequence) of equal coins finishes

$$\Omega = \{HT, HHT, HHHT, \dots, TH, TTH, TTTH, \dots\}$$

- Take $P(H^k T) = p^k q$ and $P(T^k H) = q^k p$
- Note that

$$\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(\omega) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p^k q + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} q^k p = p \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p^{k-1} q + q \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} q^{k-1} p = p + q = 1$$

Let X be the length of the first run

$$P(X = 1) = P(HT) + P(TH) = pq + qp = 2pq$$

$$P(X = 2) = P(TTH) + P(HHT) = p^2q + q^2p$$

\vdots

$$P(X = k) = P(T^k H) + P(H^k T) = p^k q + q^k p$$

Consider $B_1 = \{\text{the first coin is Head}\}$ and $B_2 = \{\text{the first coin is Tail}\}$

$$P(B_1) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p^k q = p \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p^{k-1} q = p \quad P(B_2) = 1 - P(B_1) = q$$

and

$$P(X = x | B = B_1) = \frac{P(X = x \cap B_1)}{P(B_1)} = \frac{p^x q}{p} = p^{x-1} q$$

$$P(X = x | B = B_2) = \frac{P(X = x \cap B_2)}{P(B_2)} = \frac{q^x p}{q} = q^{x-1} p$$

Then

$$E(X|B_1) = \sum_k kP(X = x|B = B_1) = \sum_k kp^{k-1}q = \frac{1}{q}$$

$$E(X|B_2) = \sum_k kP(X = x|B = B_2) = \sum_k kq^{k-1}p = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= E(X|B_1)P(B_1) + E(X|B_2)P(B_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{q}p + \frac{1}{p}q = \frac{p^2 + q^2}{qp} = \frac{(p + q)^2 - 2pq}{pq} = \frac{1}{pq} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

- An enumeration exercise

Exercise

There are 6 students and 6 seats where they can seat. They are 3 males and 3 females.



1) In how many ways they can seat.?

$$6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6!$$

2) In how many ways they can seat so that all the males are in a row and the females also?

$$3 \times 2 \times 1 \cdot 3 \times 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 = 3! \cdot 3! \cdot 2 = 72$$

3) In how many ways they can seat so that the males are in a row

$MMMWWW$ $WMWWW$ $WWMWWW$ $WWWMMM$
 $3! \cdot 3!$ $3! \cdot 3!$ $3! \cdot 3!$ $3! \cdot 3!$

$$4 \cdot 3! \cdot 3! = 144$$

4) In how many ways they can seat so that 2 students of the same sex are not back to back

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \overbrace{WM} \quad \overbrace{WM} \quad \overbrace{WM} \\
 \underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad} \\
 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 9 \cdot 4 = 36 \rightarrow 72 \\
 \overbrace{M} \quad \overbrace{W} \quad \overbrace{M} \quad \overbrace{W} \quad \overbrace{M} \\
 \underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad} \\
 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 9 \cdot 4 = 36
 \end{array}$$

Bivariate discrete distributions

Let X and Y be discrete random variables on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) . It is often necessary to regard the pair (X, Y) as a random variable on \mathbb{R}^2

Definition If X and Y are discrete random variable on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , the joint probability mass function $p_{X,Y}$ of (X, Y) is the function

$$p_{XY} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

defined by

$$p_{XY}(x, y) = P(\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) = x \text{ and } Y(\omega) = y)$$

We use the abbreviation

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

Properties of the joint probability mass function

- $p_{XY}(x, y) = 0$ unless $X \in \text{Im}(X)$ and $y \in \text{Im}(Y)$
- The summation of the values assumed by the pmf is 1

$$\sum_{x \in \text{Im}(X)} \sum_{y \in \text{Im}(Y)} p_{XY}(x, y) = 1$$

- The **marginal** probability mass function of X and Y can be obtained by

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \sum_{y \in \text{Im}Y} p_{XY}(X = x, Y = y) = \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

$$p_Y(y) = P(Y = x) = \sum_{x \in \text{Im}X} p_{XY}(X = x, Y = y) = \sum_x p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

Exercise 3.8 Two cards are drawn at random from a deck of 52 cards. If X denotes the number of aces drawn and Y denotes the number of kings drawn display the joint mass function of (X, Y)

$$X \in \{0, 1, 2\}, Y \in \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$p_{XY}(0, 0) = P(X = 0, Y = 0) = P(\text{no aces} \cap \text{no kings}) = \frac{\binom{44}{2}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{44 \cdot 43}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(0, 1) = P(X = 0, Y = 1) = P(\text{no aces} \cap 1 \text{ king}) = \frac{\binom{4}{1} \binom{44}{1}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{4 \cdot 44 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(0, 2) = P(X = 0, Y = 2) = P(2 \text{ kings}) = \frac{\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{4 \cdot 3}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(1, 0) = \dots = \frac{4 \cdot 44 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(1, 1) = P(X = 1, Y = 1) = P(1 \text{ ace} \cap 1 \text{ king}) = \frac{\binom{4}{1} \binom{4}{1}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{4 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(2, 0) = \dots = \frac{4 \cdot 3}{52 \cdot 51}$$

$$p_{XY}(1, 2) = p_{XY}(2, 1) = p_{XY}(2, 2) = 0$$

The joint probability mass function can be displayed in the following form

	X	0	1	2
Y				
0		$\frac{44 \cdot 43}{52 \cdot 51}$	$\frac{4 \cdot 44 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$	0
1		$\frac{4 \cdot 44 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$	$\frac{4 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}$	0
2		$\frac{4 \cdot 3}{52 \cdot 51}$	0	0

Note that

$$P(X = 0) = P(\text{no aces}) = \frac{\binom{48}{2}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{48 \cdot 47}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{2256}{52 \cdot 51}$$

Similarly

$$P(X = 0) = \sum_y p_{XY}(0, y) = \frac{44 \cdot 43 + 4 \cdot 44 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 3}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{2256}{52 \cdot 51}$$

Expectation

If X and Y are discrete random variables on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) and $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ then $Z = g(X, Y)$ is a discrete random variable defined by

$$Z(\omega) = g(X(\omega), Y(\omega))$$

The expectation of Z is

$$E(Z) = E(g(X, Y)) = \sum_z zP(Z = z)$$

where

$$P(Z = z) = P(\omega \in \Omega : g(X(\omega), Y(\omega)) = z)$$

Theorem We have that

$$E(g(X, Y)) = \sum_{x \in \text{Im}(X)} \sum_{y \in \text{Im}(Y)} g(x, y)P(X = x, Y = y)$$

Linearity of the mean

$$E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Indeed } E(aX + bY) &= \sum_{x \in I_X(x)} \sum_{y \in I_Y(y)} g(x, y) \cdot P(X=x, Y=y) \\ &= \sum_x \sum_y (ax + by) \cdot P(X=x, Y=y) = \sum_x \sum_y ax P(X=x, Y=y) + \\ &+ \sum_x \sum_y by \cdot P(X=x, Y=y) = \sum_x ax \cdot \sum_y P(X=x, Y=y) + \\ &+ \sum_y by \cdot \sum_x P(X=x, Y=y) = \sum_x ax \cdot P(X=x) + \sum_y by P(Y=y) \end{aligned}$$

Independence

Two events A and B are independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

Definition Two discrete random variables X and Y are **independent** if the pair of event $\{X = x\}$ and $\{Y = y\}$ are independent for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, that is

$$P(X = x, Y = y) = P(X = x)P(Y = y) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Random variables that are not independent are dependent

Theorem Discrete random variables X and Y are independent if and only if there exist functions $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the joint probability mass function satisfies

$$p_{XY}(x, y) = f(x)g(y) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Proof, independence $\Rightarrow \exists f, g$

Note that if X and Y are independent

$$p_{XY}(x, y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Then we can take $f(x) = p_X(x)$ and $g(y) = p_Y(y)$

Proof, $\exists f, g \Rightarrow$ independence

Suppose that $p_{x,y}(x,y) = f(x) \cdot g(y) \quad \forall x \in I_n(x) \quad \forall y \in I_n(y)$

$$\text{Then } p_x(x) = \sum_y p_{x,y}(x,y) = \sum_y f(x) \cdot g(y) = f(x) \cdot \sum_y g(y)$$

$$p_y(y) = \sum_x p_{x,y}(x,y) = \sum_x f(x) \cdot g(y) = g(y) \cdot \sum_x f(x)$$

Moreover

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$$1 = \sum_{x,y} p_{x,y}(x,y) = \sum_{x,y} g(y) \cdot f(x) = \sum_x \sum_y g(y) f(x) = \sum_x f(x) \cdot \sum_y g(y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } p_{x,y}(x,y) &= f(x) \cdot g(y) = f(x) g(y) \cdot 1 = \\ &= f(x) \cdot g(y) \cdot \sum_x f(x) \cdot \sum_y g(y) = \left(f(x) \cdot \sum_y g(y) \right) \cdot \left(g(y) \cdot \sum_x f(x) \right) \\ &= p_x(x) p_y(y) \end{aligned}$$

Theorem If X and Y are independent discrete random variables with expectations $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$ then

$$E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} E(XY) &= \sum_x \sum_y xy P(X = x, Y = y) \\ &= \sum_x \sum_y xy P(X = x)P(Y = y) \\ &= \sum_x x P(X = x) \sum_y y P(Y = y) = E(X)E(Y) \end{aligned}$$

Warning The converse is not true! We can have $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$ even for dependent random variables

Theorem Discrete random variables X and Y are independent if and only if

$$E(g(X)h(Y)) = E(g(X))E(h(Y))$$

for all functions $g, h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for which the expectations $E(g(X))$ and $E(h(Y))$ exist. *No proof*

Example 3.22 $\Omega = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ $X(\omega) = \omega$, $Y(\omega) = |\omega|$. Show that X and Y are dependent and $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$

Exercise 3.23 Let X and Y be independent discrete random variables. Prove that

$$P(X > x, Y > y) = P(X > x)P(Y > y)$$

for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

Sums of random variables

Let X, Y be two random variables. Do we have a formula for the probability mass function of $Z = X + Y$?

Note that

$$Z = z \iff \{X = x \cap Y = z - x \text{ for some } x\}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(Z = z) &= P(X + Y = z) = P\left(\bigcup_x \{X = x \cap Y = z - x\}\right) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \text{Im}(x)} P(X = x, Y = z - x) \end{aligned}$$

If X and Y are independent we have

$$P(Z = z) = \sum_{x \in \text{Im}(x)} P(X = x)P(Y = z - x)$$

Exercise 3.29 $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$, $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$. show that $Z = (X + Y) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda + \mu)$

$$\begin{aligned}P(Z = z) &= \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} P(X = x)P(Y = z - x) \\&= \sum_{x=0}^z \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^{z-x}}{(z-x)!} = e^{-(\lambda+\mu)} \frac{1}{z!} \sum_{x=0}^z \frac{z!}{x!(z-x)!} \lambda^x \mu^{z-x} \\&= \frac{e^{-(\lambda+\mu)} (\lambda + \mu)^z}{z!} \underbrace{\sum_{x=0}^z \binom{z}{x} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu}\right)^x \left(\frac{\mu}{\lambda + \mu}\right)^{z-x}}_{=1} \\&= \frac{e^{-(\lambda+\mu)} (\lambda + \mu)^z}{z!}\end{aligned}$$

Note that for $z \in \{0, \dots, n + m\}$

$$\binom{n + m}{z} = \sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} \binom{m}{z - x}$$

in fact, the ways in which we can select z elements from a set of $n + m$ are given by the ways in which we choose x elements from the group of n and $z - x$ from the group of m for all the possible values x

Pay attention to the limits of the sum since $0 \leq z - x \leq m$, that is

$$z - m \leq x \leq z$$

However we may adopt the following convention: $\binom{r}{y}$ is 0 if $y < 0$ or $y > r$

Exercise 3.30 $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$, $Y \sim \text{Binomial}(m, p)$. Show that $Z = (X + Y) \sim \text{Binomial}(m + n, p)$.

$$\text{Im}(Z) = \{0, \dots, n + m\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Z = z) &= \sum_{x=0}^n P(X = x)P(Y = z - x) \\ &= \sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x} \binom{m}{z-x} p^{z-x} (1 - p)^{m-(z-x)} \\ &= p^z (1 - p)^{m+n-z} \sum_{x=\max\{0, z-m\}}^{\min\{n, z\}} \binom{n}{x} \binom{m}{z-x} \\ &= \binom{n+m}{z} p^z (1 - p)^{m+n-z} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 3.31 Show by induction that the sum of n independent random variables, each having the Bernoulli distribution with parameter p , has the binomial distribution with parameters n and p .

- A Bernoulli(p) is a Binomial ($1, p$)
- Let X_1, X_2 two independent Bernoulli(p). $Z = X_1 + X_2$
 $Im(Z) = \{0, 1, 2\}$

$$P(Z = z) = \begin{cases} (1 - p)^2 & z = 0 \\ 2p(1 - p) & z = 1 \\ p^2 & z = 2 \end{cases}$$

That is $Z \sim \text{Binomial}(2, p)$

- Assume that $Y = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ is Binomial(n, p) and let $X = X_{n+1}$ be a Bernoulli(p) independent of X_1, \dots, X_n . Take $Z = X + Y$
 $Im(Y) = \{0, 1, \dots, n + 1\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(Z = z) &= \sum_{x=0}^1 P(X = x)P(Y = z - x) \\
 &= (1 - p) \binom{n}{z} p^z (1 - p)^{n-z} + p \binom{n}{z-1} p^{z-1} (1 - p)^{n-(z-1)} \\
 &= \binom{n}{z} p^z (1 - p)^{n+1-z} + \binom{n}{z-1} p^z (1 - p)^{n-(z-1)} \\
 &= \left(\binom{n}{z} + \binom{n}{z-1} \right) p^z (1 - p)^{n+1-z} = \binom{n+1}{z} p^z (1 - p)^{n+1-z}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\binom{n+1}{z} = \binom{n}{z} + \binom{n}{z-1}$ since to select z items from $n + 1$ we have $\binom{n}{z}$ groups without the last item plus all the other groups with the last item which are $\binom{n}{z-1}$