

1 Joint Probability Distributions

1.1 Discrete

Let X, Y be two discrete random variables The function $p(x, y)$ is called a **Joint Probability Function** if

1. $0 \leq p(x, y) \leq 1$
2. $\sum_x \sum_y p(x, y) = 1$
3. $Pr[X = x, Y = y] = p(x, y)$

And the function

$$F(x, y) = Pr(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$$

is the **Joint Cumulative Probability Function**.

The **Marginal probability Functions** are defined as

$$p_X(x) = Pr(X = x) = \sum_y p(x, y) \quad p_Y(y) = Pr(Y = y) = \sum_x p(x, y)$$

Example 1.1.

$p(x, y)$		y		
		1	2	3
x	-1	0.1	0.1	0.2
	1	0.1	0.0	0.2
	2	0.1	0.1	0.1

1. What is the probability the $x = 2$ and $y = 3$?
 $p(2, 3) = 0.1$

2. What is the marginal probability of x ?
 Just sum across the row to get

$$Pr(X = -1) = \sum_y p(-1, y) = p(-1, 1) + p(-1, 2) + p(-1, 3) = 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.2 = 0.4$$

We can collect the three rows into a table the way that we normally do.

x	-1	1	2
$p_X(x)$	0.4	0.3	0.3

1.2 Continuous

Let X, Y be two continuous random variables The function $f(x, y)$ is called a **Joint Probability Density Function** if

1. $0 \leq f(x, y)$
2. $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx dy = 1$

$$3. \Pr[a \leq X \leq b, c \leq Y \leq d] = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x, y) dx dy$$

Again the function

$$F(x, y) = \Pr(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f(s, t) ds dt$$

is the **Joint Cumulative Density Function**. Thus we get the

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

The **Marginal probability Functions** are defined as

- $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy$
- $f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx$

Example 1.2. Let $f(x, y) = Cx^2y$ for $0 \leq x \leq 3$ and $0 \leq y \leq 4$ be the pdf for the random variables X and Y .

1. Find C .

I get $C = \frac{1}{72}$. So I can use $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{72}x^2y$.

2. What is the probability that $x < 1$ and $y > 2$?

$$\Pr[x < 1, y > 2] = \Pr[0 < x < 1, 2 < y < 4] = \int_0^1 \int_2^4 \frac{1}{72}x^2y dx dy = \frac{1}{36}.$$

3. What is the marginal probability of x ?

Just integrate over all y -values

$$f_X(x) = \int_0^4 \frac{1}{72}x^2y dy = \frac{1}{9}x^2$$

1.3 Independence

We say X and Y are **independent** if

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$$

1.4 Conditional Probability Densities

- $f_{X|Y} = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$
- $f_{Y|X} = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_X(x)}$

2 Order Statistics

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(Y_k \leq y) &= \binom{n}{k} (F(y))^k (1 - F(y))^{n-k} + \binom{n}{k+1} (F(y))^{k+1} (1 - F(y))^{n-k-1} + \\ &\quad \binom{n}{k+2} (F(y))^{k+2} (1 - F(y))^{n-k-2} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} (F(y))^n \end{aligned}$$