

2 Probability

2.2 Sample Spaces and the Algebra of Sets

mutually exclusive
Two events A and B are mutually exclusive if $A \cap B = \emptyset$.

complement
Let A be any event. The complement of A , denoted A^c , is the event consisting of the outcomes in S that do not belong to A .

2.3 The Probability Function

Axiom 1
Let A be any event. Then $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$.

Axiom 2
Let S be the sample space. Then $P(S) = 1$.

Axiom 3
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$.

Theorem 2.3.1
Let A be any event. Then $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$.

Theorem 2.3.2
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cap B) \leq P(A)$ and $P(A \cap B) \leq P(B)$.

Theorem 2.3.3
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$.

Theorem 2.3.4
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$.

Theorem 2.3.5
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cap B) \geq P(A) + P(B) - 1$.

2.4 Conditional Probability

conditional probability
Let A and B be any two events. The conditional probability of A given B , denoted $P(A|B)$, is defined by $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$ if $P(B) > 0$.

Bayes' Theorem
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$ and $P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)}$.

2.5 Independence

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

Equation 2.5.4
Let A and B be any two events. Then $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ if and only if $P(A|B) = P(A)$ and $P(B|A) = P(B)$.

2.6 Combinatorics

Multiplication Rule
Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be any n events. Then $P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n) = P(A_1)P(A_2) \dots P(A_n)$ if the events are independent.

Permutation
The number of permutations of n objects is $n!$.

Combination
The number of combinations of n objects taken r at a time is $\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$.

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4 Special Distributions

4.2 The Poisson Distribution

Theorem 4.2.1
Let X be a Poisson random variable with parameter $\lambda > 0$. Then $P(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

Theorem 4.2.2
Let X be a Poisson random variable with parameter $\lambda > 0$. Then $E(X) = \lambda$ and $Var(X) = \lambda$.

Free poisson probabilities
1. $P(X=0) = e^{-\lambda}$
2. $P(X=1) = \lambda e^{-\lambda}$
3. $P(X=2) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2} e^{-\lambda}$

4.3 The Normal Distribution

Theorem 4.3.1
Let X be a normal random variable with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$. Then the probability density function is $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$.

Theorem 4.3.2
Let X be a normal random variable with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$. Then $E(X) = \mu$ and $Var(X) = \sigma^2$.

Corollary 4.3.1
Let X be a normal random variable with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$. Then $P(\mu - \sigma < X < \mu + \sigma) = 2\Phi(1) - 1 \approx 0.6827$.

Corollary 4.3.2
Let X be a normal random variable with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$. Then $P(\mu - 2\sigma < X < \mu + 2\sigma) = 2\Phi(2) - 1 \approx 0.9544$.

3 Random Variables

3.2 Binomial and Hypergeometric Probabilities

Theorem 3.2.1
Let X be a binomial random variable with parameters n and p . Then $P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

Theorem 3.2.2
Let X be a binomial random variable with parameters n and p . Then $E(X) = np$ and $Var(X) = np(1-p)$.

3.3 Discrete Random Variables

Definition 3.3.1
A discrete random variable X is one that takes on a countable number of values. The probability mass function $p(x)$ is defined by $p(x) = P(X = x)$.

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3.4 Continuous Random Variables

Definition 3.4.1
A continuous random variable X is one that takes on an uncountable number of values. The probability density function $f(x)$ is defined by $f(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F(x)$.

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3.5 Expected Values

expected value
Let X be a discrete random variable with probability mass function $p(x)$. The expected value $E(X)$ is defined by $E(X) = \sum_{x \in S} xp(x)$.

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3.7 Joint Densities

joint probability density function
Let X and Y be any two random variables. The joint probability density function $f(x, y)$ is defined by $f(x, y) = \frac{d^2}{dx dy} F(x, y)$.

joint cumulative distribution function
Let X and Y be any two random variables. The joint cumulative distribution function $F(x, y)$ is defined by $F(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$.

marginal pdf
Let X and Y be any two random variables. The marginal probability density function $f_X(x)$ is defined by $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy$.

jointly continuous
Two random variables X and Y are jointly continuous if they have a joint probability density function $f(x, y)$.

3.8 Transforming and Combining Random Variables

Theorem 3.8.1
Let X be a continuous random variable with probability density function $f_X(x)$. Let $Y = g(X)$ be a continuous function. Then the probability density function of Y is $f_Y(y) = \frac{f_X(g^{-1}(y))}{|g'(g^{-1}(y))|}$.

Theorem 3.8.2
Let X and Y be any two independent continuous random variables with probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$. Then the joint probability density function is $f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$.

3.9 Further Properties of the Mean and Variance

Theorem 3.9.1
Let X and Y be any two independent continuous random variables with probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$. Then $E(X+Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$ and $Var(X+Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$.

Theorem 3.9.2
Let X and Y be any two independent continuous random variables with probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$. Then $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$.

3.10 Order Statistics

order statistic
Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be any n independent continuous random variables with probability density function $f(x)$. The k th order statistic $X_{(k)}$ is defined by $X_{(k)}$ is the k th smallest value of the n random variables.

Theorem 3.10.1
Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be any n independent continuous random variables with probability density function $f(x)$. Then the probability density function of the k th order statistic is $f_{(k)}(x) = \frac{n!}{(k-1)!(n-k)!} f(x) F(x)^{k-1} (1-F(x))^{n-k}$.

3.11 Conditional Densities

conditional probability density function
Let X and Y be any two random variables. The conditional probability density function $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$ is defined by $f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$ if $f_Y(y) > 0$.

3.12 Moment-Generating Functions

moment-generating function (mgf)
Let X be a random variable with probability density function $f(x)$. The moment-generating function $M_X(t)$ is defined by $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$.

binomial
Let X be a binomial random variable with parameters n and p . Then $M_X(t) = (pe^t + 1 - p)^n$.

exponential pdf
Let X be an exponential random variable with parameter $\lambda > 0$. Then $M_X(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}$ for $t < \lambda$.

bell shaped
Let X be a normal random variable with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$. Then $M_X(t) = e^{t\mu + \frac{1}{2}t^2\sigma^2}$.

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3.6 The Variance

Definition 3.6.1
The variance of a random variable X is defined by $Var(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$.

Theorem 3.6.1
Let X be a discrete random variable with probability mass function $p(x)$. Then $Var(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$.

Theorem 3.6.2
Let X and Y be any two independent continuous random variables with probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$. Then $Var(X+Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$.

3.7 Further Properties of the Mean and Variance

Theorem 3.7.1
Let X and Y be any two independent continuous random variables with probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$. Then $E(X+Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$ and $Var(X+Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$.

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