

## Chap 2: Probability Models

## List of topics: Section 2.1

1. **Experiment:** a process of observations or measurements.
2. **Outcomes:** the results obtained from an experiment.
3. **Sample space(universal set):** the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment.

Each outcome in a sample space is called an **ELEMENT** or a **SAMPLE POINT**.

4. **Event(subset):** An **EVENT** is a subset of a sample space.
5. **Notation:**  $S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ , or  $R = \{\text{all real numbers}\}$
6. **Each object(element) counts only once.**

**Ex:**  $\{1, 2, 2, 2, 3\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$

7. **Special sets:**

- *Empty set(null set)* is the set with no elements, written as  $\Phi$ .
- *Universal set* is the set containing all objects we are considering for a problem. You will always be given the universal set.
- *Subset*  
**ex:**  $\{1, 3, 5\}$  is a subset of  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
- *Union* of two sets (“or” relation):  $A \cup B = \{\text{elements that are either in A or in B or in both}\}$
- *Intersection* of two sets (“and” relation):  $A \cap B = \{\text{elements that belongs to both A and B}\}$
- *Complement* of set **A** (“not” relation):  $A'$  or  $A^C$  contains all elements in the universal set that are not in **A**. **Ex:**  $U = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ ,  $A = \{b, c, d\}$ , then  $A' = \{a, e\}$

8. **Venn diagram**

**Ex:** Complement, union, intersection,  $R \cap S \cap T$

9. **The number of elements of a set is called *cardinality* of the set, denoted by  $n(A) = \text{number of elements of A}$ . **Ex:**  $n\{1, 3, 5, 7\} = 4$**

**10. Inclusion-exclusion principle:**

$$n(A \cup B) = n(A) + n(B) - n(A \cap B)$$

$$n(A \cup B \cup C) = n(A) + n(B) + n(C) - n(A \cap B) - n(A \cap C) - n(B \cap C) + n(A \cap B \cap C)$$

**11. Two sets are *disjoint or mutually exclusive* if their intersection is empty.**

i.e. If  $S \cap T = \Phi$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  are called mutually exclusive.

**Question 1:** Are  $A$  and  $A'$  always mutually exclusive for any set  $A$ ?

**Question 2:** What becomes the Inclusive-exclusive Principle when  $S$  and  $T$  are mutually exclusive?

**Question 3:** How many subset does the following sets have?

$$A = \{1, 2, 3\}; B = \{a, b, c, d\}; C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

**12. Discrete sample space****13. Continuous sample space****14. Def: Probability is a function which maps events of a sample space  $S$  into  $[0, 1]$** 

**P1:**  $P(A) \geq 0$ , for any event  $A$  in  $S$ ;

**P2:**  $P(S) = 1$ ;

**P3:** If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is a sequence of mutually exclusive events of  $S$ , then  $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$

**15. Complement:**  $P(A) = 1 - P(A')$ **16. Inclusive-exclusive principle(again):**  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$ 

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) - P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

**17. DeMorgan's rule:**

$$A' \cap B' = (A \cup B)'$$

$$A' \cup B' = (A \cap B)'$$

**18. Venn Diagram**

## Section 2.2

## List of topics:

1. Binomial coefficients (will study in detail in 2.4. Just need to know how to compute here.)

2. Conditional Probability:  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$

3. Product rule:

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

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

4. Independent: Two events are *independent* if

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

which means  $P(A|B) = P(A)$  and  $P(B|A) = P(B)$

5. Tree Diagram

6. Partition (Pizza): If

1)  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  are mutually exclusive,

2)  $\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i = S$ ;

3)  $P(A_i) > 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Then we say that  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition.

7. The Law of Total Probability: If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition, then for any event  $B$ ,

$$P(B) = \sum_{j=1}^k P(B|A_j)P(A_j)$$

8. Smallest partition:  $S = A \cup A'$

$$P(B) = P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|A')P(A')$$

9. Bayes' Theorem: If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition, then for any event  $B$ ,

$$P(A_j|B) = \frac{P(B|A_j)P(A_j)}{P(B)}$$

10. Independence vs. Mutually exclusive

### Sections 2.3

#### List of topics:

1. **Random variable(r.v.):** a *random variable* is a function from sample space to real numbers.

2. **Probability distribution function for discrete r.v.(pdf)**

1)  $P(X = k) \geq 0;$

2)  $\sum_k P(X = k) = 1.$

3. **How to denote pdf?**

By table;

By formula;

Histogram;

Relative frequency table.

4. **Expectation of a discrete random variable:**

$$\mu = E(X) = \sum_{\text{all possible } k} k \cdot f(k)$$

5. **Expectation of a function of a discrete random variable:**

$$Eu(X) = \sum_{\text{all possible } k} u(k) \cdot f(k)$$

6. **Expectation is linear:**  $E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$  for any constants  $a, b$ , and any random variables  $X, Y$ .

7. **Variance of X:**

$$\sigma^2 = V(X) = E(X - \mu)^2 \text{ (Good for understanding)}$$

$$\sigma^2 = V(X) = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = (\sum k^2 \cdot f(k)) - \mu^2 \text{ (Good for computation)}$$

8. **Variance is not linear.**

i.e.  $V(aX + bY) \neq aV(X) + bV(Y)$

Actually  $V(aX + bY) = a^2V(X) + b^2V(Y) + 2abCov(X, Y)$

9. **Standard deviation of X:**  $\sigma = \sqrt{V(X)}$

10. **Chebychev inequality:**

$$P(\mu - k\sigma \leq X \leq \mu + k\sigma) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k^2}$$

## Sections 2.4

## List of topics: Binomial Distribution

1. Binomial expansion:  $(x + y)^n$
2. Binomial coefficients:  $C(n, k)$ 
  - 1) By Yang's triangle
  - 2) By combination:  $C(n, k) = \frac{P(n, k)}{k!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n - k)!}$
3. Bernoulli trials:
4. Binomial distribution: check 3 conditions: exactly 2 outcomes for each trial; independent trials; probability of heads stays the same for all trials.  
 Model: Toss a coin  $n$  times.  
 $P(H) = p, P(T) = q, q = 1 - p.$   
 $X =$  number of heads.
5. p.d.f.  $P(X = k) = C(n, k)p^k q^{n-k}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$
6. Expected value  $E(X) = np$ ; or  $\mu = np$   
 Variance  $V(X) = npq$ ; or  $\sigma^2 = npq$   
 Standard deviation  $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$
7. Geometric distribution: Toss a coin until the 1st H.  
 pdf:  $P(X = k) = q^{k-1}p, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$   
 Mean:  $E(X) = 1/p$ . (How to find out? Using term-by-term differentiation formula.)  
 Variance:  $V(X) = q/p^2$ . Hint: Find  $E[X(X - 1)]$  first by using term-by-term differentiation formula twice.
8. Negative Binomial distribution: Toss a coin until  $r$ th heads
9. Hypergeometric distribution: without replacement

## Sections 2.5

## List of topics: Poisson Distribution

1. **Model:** Counting number of occurrences. (e.g. number of cars passing an intersection for a duration of time, number of calls going through a switchboard, number of login requests on a website during a time period, number of flaws on a piece of fabric).
2. **Assumptions:** Use number of occurrences during a time interval as an example:
  1. The probability of exactly one occurrence in a short time interval is roughly proportional to the interval length.
  2. It is unlikely to have two or more changes in a short time;
  3. The number of occurrences in nonoverlapping intervals are mutually independent.
3. **pdf:**  $P(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
4. mean and variance are both  $\lambda$
5. Closely related to Exponential distribution. Will discuss in section 3.3.

If  $g(x, w)$  is the probability of  $x$  occurrences in an interval of length  $w$ , then the first two assumptions become

1.  $g(1, h) = \lambda h + o(h)$
2.  $\sum_{x=2}^{\infty} g(x, h) = o(h)$ .

**Then**  $g(0, w + h) = g(0, w)[1 - \lambda h - o(h)]$ , **so**

$$\frac{g(0, w + h) - g(0, w)}{h} = -\lambda g(0, w) - \frac{o(h)g(0, w)}{h}$$

**Take the limit as**  $h \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\frac{d}{dw}g(0, w) = -\lambda g(0, w)$ .

**The solution of this diff equation is**  $g(0, w) = ce^{-\lambda w}$

**But**  $g(0, 0) = 1$ ,  $g(0, w) = e^{-\lambda w}$ .

## Section 2.6 Dist of 2 discrete random variables

### List of topics:

**1. Joint pdf for two discrete random variables:**

$$f_{X_1, X_2}(x, y) = P(X_1 = x, X_2 = y)$$

Note: This  $f$  is a probability, hence  $0 \leq f \leq 1$

**2. CDF of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ :**

$$F_{X_1, X_2}(x, y) = P[(X_1 \leq x) \cap (X_2 \leq y)]$$

**3. Marginal pdfs: The pdf of one variable. Sum up against the other variable:**

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{all y} f(x, y); f_Y(y) = \sum_{all x} f(x, y);$$

**4. Expectations**

**5.  $E(u(X_1, X_2))$**

**6. Conditional pdf is the ratio of joint pdf to marginal pdf.**

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} \text{ for } y \text{ in the support of } Y.$$

$f_{Y|X}(y|x)$  is Similarly defined.

**7. Conditional expectation:**

$$E(u(Y)|X = x) = \sum u(y) f_{Y|X}(y|x) \text{ (which is a function of } x.)$$

Hence  $E(Y|X)$  is a random variable of  $X$ .

**8. Covariance of  $X$  and  $Y$ :**

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] \text{ (easier to understand)}$$

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - \mu_X\mu_Y \text{ (easier for calculation)}$$

**9. Correlation coefficient  $\rho = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y}$** **10. Example: If  $X$  and  $Y$  have joint pdf:**

		X			$f_Y$
		0	1	2	
Y	0	1/18	4/18	6/18	11/18
	1	3/18	3/18	1/18	7/18
$f_X$		4/18	7/18	7/18	

Note the marginal distributions are written on the "margins" of the table.

Conditional distribution of  $X$  given  $Y = 1$  is

$$f_{X|Y}(0|y = 1) = \frac{f(0, 1)}{f_Y(1)} = 3/7;$$

$$f_{X|Y}(1|y = 1) = \frac{f(1, 1)}{f_Y(1)} = 3/7;$$

$$f_{X|Y}(2|y = 1) = \frac{f(2, 1)}{f_Y(1)} = 1/7.$$

To find  $E(X)$ , you can use the marginal distribution of  $X$ ,

$$E(X) = 0 + 1 * 7/18 + 2 * 7/18 = 21/18;$$

or the joint pdf:

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^2 \sum_{y=0}^1 x f(x, y)$$

To find  $E(XY)$  you have to use the joint pdf:

$$E(XY) = \sum_{x=0}^2 \sum_{y=0}^1 xy f(x, y) = 0 + 1 * 1 * 3/18 + 1 * 2 * 1/18 = 2/18$$

**11. Equivalent conditions:  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent iff**

(1) By pdf:  $f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$  (for each pair of  $x$  and  $y$ .)

(2) By CDF:  $F(x, y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y)$  for all  $(x, y)$

(3) By MGF:  $M(t_1, t_2) = M(t_1, 0)M(0, t_2)$



12. How can you tell two r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent by joint density?

Check each entry in the joint density table is the product of two marginals.

13. What happens to covariance (and correlation coefficient) if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent?

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , hence  $\rho = 0$ .

However, if  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  may not be independent.

**Facts:**

- $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$
- $\rho = \pm 1$  implies “perfect linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ .”
- $\rho = 0$  implies “No linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$  (but can be quadratic, for example).”
- $\rho > 0$  means  $X$  and  $Y$  are positively related (If  $X$  increases, so is  $Y$ ).
- $\rho < 0$  means  $X$  and  $Y$  are negatively related (If  $X$  increases,  $Y$  decreases).
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , hence  $\rho = 0$ .

However, if  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  may not be independent.

**Ex: 2.5.10.**

- **Special case:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are normal (covered later), then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$  implies “ $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.”