

Math 3280 Tutorial 10

Recall:

① X, Y have a joint probability mass function $P(x, y)$,

$$\text{then } E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_y \sum_x g(x, y) \cdot P(x, y)$$

X, Y have a joint prob density function $f(x, y)$,
then

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \iint g(x, y) \cdot f(x, y) dx dy.$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

$$= E[XY] - E[X] \cdot E[Y].$$

If X, Y are independent r.v.s, $\Rightarrow \text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$.

Example 1. If the joint probability density function of X, Y is

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{L^2}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad 0 < y < L.$$

Compute

$$E[|X - Y|].$$

Solution:

$$E[|X - Y|] = \int_0^L \int_0^L |x - y| \cdot \frac{1}{L^2} dx dy$$

$$= \int_0^L \int_y^L (x - y) \cdot \frac{1}{L^2} dx dy + \int_0^L \int_0^y \frac{y - x}{L^2} dx dy$$

$$= \int_0^L \frac{(L - y)^2}{2L^2} dy + \int_0^L \frac{y^2}{2L^2} dy$$

$$= \frac{L^3}{6L^2} + \frac{L^3}{6L^2}$$

$$= \frac{L}{3}$$

Example 2. Compute the variance of a binomial r.v. X with parameters n and p .

Solution:

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$$

where X_i are independent Bernoulli r.v.s s.t.

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{-th trial is a success} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Since X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are independent,

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i).$$

$$\text{Var}(X_i) = E[X_i^2] - (E[X_i])^2 = E[X_i] - (E[X_i])^2 = p - p^2$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n p(1-p)$$

$$= np(1-p).$$

3. Let I_A, I_B be the indicator variables for the events A and B . That is

$$I_A = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } A \text{ occurs} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$I_B = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } B \text{ occurs} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Prove that

$$\text{Cov}(I_A, I_B) = P(B) \cdot (P(A|B) - P(A)).$$

Solution:

$$\text{Cov}(I_A, I_B) = E[I_A \cdot I_B] - E[I_A] \cdot E[I_B]$$

$$E[I_A] = 1 \cdot P(A) + 0 \cdot (1 - P(A)) \\ = P(A).$$

$$E[I_B] = P(B). \quad \text{o.w. } A \cap B$$

$$I_A \cdot I_B = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } AB \text{ occurs} \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$E[I_A \cdot I_B] = 1 \cdot P(AB) + 0 \cdot (1 - P(AB)) \\ = P(AB)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(I_A, I_B) &= P(AB) - P(A) \cdot P(B) && (P(AB) = P(A|B) \cdot P(B)) \\ &= P(A|B) \cdot P(B) - P(A) \cdot P(B) \\ &= P(B) \cdot (P(A|B) - P(A)). \end{aligned}$$

4. If $E[X] = 1$, $\text{Var}(X) = 5$. find

(a) $E[(X+2)^2]$.

(b) $\text{Var}(4+3X)$.

(c) If X, Y are independent and identically distributed, find $E[(X-Y)^2]$.

Solution:

(a) $E[(X+2)^2] = E[X^2 + 4X + 4]$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X^2] &= \text{Var}(X) + (E[X])^2 = E[X^2] + 4 \cdot E[X] + 4. \\
 &= 5 + 1^2 = 6 + 4 \times 1 + 4 \\
 &= 6 = 14.
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\text{Var}(4+3X)$

$$= E[(4+3X)^2] - (E[4+3X])^2.$$

$$= E[9X^2 + 24X + 16] - (4 + 3 \cdot E[X])^2$$

$$= 9 \times 6 + 24 \times 1 + 16 - 4^2 - 24 \cdot E[X] - (E[X])^2$$

$$= 45.$$

(Alternatively, $\text{Var}(X+C) = \text{Var}(X)$ if C is a constant)

$$\text{Var}(4+3X) = \text{Var}(3X)$$

$$= 9 \cdot \text{Var}(X)$$

$$= 45.$$

(c) $E[Y] = E[X] = 1$, $\text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(X) = 5$.

$$E[(X-Y)^2] = E[X^2 - 2XY + Y^2]$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2 \cdot E[XY] + E[Y^2]$$

$$E[X^2] = 6$$

$$= 6 - 2 \cdot E[X] \cdot E[Y] + 6$$

$$E[Y^2] = 6$$

$$= 6 - 2 \times 1 \times 1 + 6$$

$$E[XY] = E[X] \cdot E[Y] = 10.$$

since X, Y independent

5. If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are independent and identically distributed r.v.s having uniform distribution on (0,1).

find $E[\max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]$.

Solution:

Denote $X = \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$. then $X \in (0, 1)$.

For $x \in (0, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq x) &= P(\max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \leq x) \\ &= P(X_1 \leq x, X_2 \leq x, \dots, X_n \leq x). \\ &= P(X_1 \leq x) \cdot P(X_2 \leq x) \cdot \dots \cdot P(X_n \leq x) \\ &= x \cdot x \cdot \dots \cdot x \\ &= x^n \end{aligned}$$

density of X : $\frac{dP(X \leq x)}{dx} = n \cdot x^{n-1}$ ($x \in (0, 1)$)

$$E[X] = \int_0^1 x \cdot n x^{n-1} dx = n \cdot \int_0^1 x^n dx = \frac{n}{n+1}.$$

Alternatively. since X is non-negative, $X \in (0, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_0^1 P(X > x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 (1 - x^n) dx \\ &= 1 - \int_0^1 x^n dx \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} = \frac{n}{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$