Probability Theory

Chapter 6: Jointly Distributed Random Variables



Lecturer

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Term 191



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• Sometimes we are interested in studying the relationship between two (or more) random variables X and Y.

• Examples:

- X person's height and Y person's weight.
- 2 X person's total cholesterol and Y number of hours the person exercises per week.
- X price of an item and Y number of item sold.

• For any two random variables X and Y, the joint cumulative probability distribution function (*jcdf*) of X and Y is given by

$$F(x, y) = P(X \le x, Y \le y), \quad -\infty < x, y < \infty.$$

• The *cdf* of *X* can be obtained from the *jcdf* of *X* and *Y* as follows:

$$F_{x}(x) = P(X \le x)$$

= $P(X \le x, Y < \infty)$
= $P\left(\lim_{y \to \infty} \{X \le x, Y \le y\}\right)$
= $\lim_{y \to \infty} P(X \le x, Y \le y)$
= $\lim_{y \to \infty} F(x, y)$
= $F(x, \infty).$

- Similarly, the *cdf* of *Y* is given by $F_Y(y) = F(\infty, y)$.
- F_X and F_Y are sometimes referred to as the marginal distributions of X and Y.

$$P(X > x, Y > y) = 1 - P({X > x, Y > y}^{c})$$

= 1 - P({X > x}^{c} \cup {Y > y}^{c})
= 1 - P({X \le x} \cup {Y \le y})
= 1 - [P(X \le x) + P(Y \le y) - P(X \le x, Y \le y)]
= 1 - [F(X \le x) - F_Y(y) + F(x, y).

• $P(x_1 < X \le x_2, y_1 < Y \le y_2) = F(x_2, y_2) + F(x_1, y_1) - F(x_1, y_2) - F(x_2, y_1)$, whenever $x_1 < x_2$ and $y_1 < y_2$.

HWK

• In the case when X and Y are both discrete random variables, it is convenient to define the **joint probability mass function** of X and Y by

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

- $\sum_{\forall x} \sum_{\forall y} p(x, y) = 1.$
- The **probability mass function** of X can be obtained from p(x, y) by

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \sum_{y:p(x,y)>0} p(x,y).$$

Similarly,

$$p_Y(y) = P(Y = y) = \sum_{x:p(x,y)>0} p(x,y).$$

Example

Suppose that 3 balls are randomly selected from an urn containing 3 red, 4 white, and 5 blue balls. If we let X and Y denote, respectively, the number of red and white balls chosen, then the joint probability mass function of X and Y,

p(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y), is given by

Example

A local supermarket has three checkout counters. Two customers arrive at the counters at different times when the counters are serving no other customers. Each customer chooses a counter at random, independently of the other. Let Y_1 denote the number of customers who choose counter 1 and Y_2 , the number who select counter 2. Find the joint probability function of Y_1 and Y_2 .

Example

Tossing a fair coin three times; let X denote the number of heads on the first two tosses, and Y denote the number of heads on the three tosses.

(1) Find the joint pdf of X and Y.

(2) Find the marginal pdf of X.

(3) Find the marginal pdf of Y.

Ans. {(0, 2/8), (1, 4/8), (2, 2/8)}.

Ans. $\{(0, 1/8), (1, 3/8), (2, 3/8), (3, 1/8)\}.$

(4) Find P(X > Y).

Ans. 0.

(5) Find
$$P(X + Y = 2)$$
.

Ans. 2/8.

Definition (Joint Probability Density Function)

We say that X and Y are **jointly continuous** if there exists a function $f(x, y) \ge 0$, defined for all real x and y ($\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$), having the property that, for every set C of pairs of real numbers

$$\mathcal{P}((X,Y)\in \mathcal{C})=\iint\limits_{(x,y)\in \mathcal{C}}f(x,y)dxdy,\quad \mathcal{C}\subset \mathbb{R}^{2}.$$

f(x, y) is called the joint *pdf* of X and Y.

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

• If A and B are any sets of real numbers, then, by defining $C = \{(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B\}$, we have

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = \int_{B} \int_{A} f(x, y) dx dy = \int_{A} \int_{B} f(x, y) dy dx.$$

Because

$$F(x, y) = P(X \le x, Y \le y)$$

= $P(X \in (-\infty, x], Y \in (-\infty, y])$
= $\int_{-\infty}^{y} \int_{-\infty}^{x} f(u, v) du dv$

it follows, upon differentiation, that

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

wherever the partial derivatives are defined.

Theorem (Marginal pdf's)

If X and Y are jointly continuous, they are individually continuous, and their probability density functions can be obtained as follows:

• For the random variable X:

$$P(X \in A) = P(X \in A, Y \in (-\infty, \infty))$$
$$= \int_{A} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy dx = \int_{A} f_X(x) dx,$$

where $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy$ is thus the **probability density function** of *X*.

• Similarly, the probability density function of Y is given by

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

Example

The joint density function of X and Y is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} c & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

,

(1) Compute c.



Ans. 0.21.

Ans. c = 1.

Example

The joint density function of *X* and *Y* is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} c & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1, y \le x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(1) Compute c.



Ans. 0.25.

Ans. c = 2.

,

(3) Compute P(0 < X < 0.5, 0 < Y < 0.5).

Ans. c = 0.5.

(4) Find the marginal *pdf* of *X*.

Ans. 2*x*, 0 < *x* < 1.

(5) Find the marginal pdf of Y.

Ans. 2(1 - y), 0 < y < 1.

Example

The joint density function of X and Y is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1, 0 < x + y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(1) Compute P(X < 3/4, Y < 3/4).

Ans.

,

(2) Compute P(X < 0.5, Y < 0.5).

Ans. 0.5.

(3) Compute P(0 < X < 0.5).

Ans. 0.75.

(4) Find the marginal *pdf* of *Y*.

Ans. *Y* ∼ *Beta*(1, 2).

Example

The joint density function of *X* and *Y* is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} kxy & \text{if } x > 0, y > 0, x + y \le 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(1) Compute k.

Ans. *k* = 24.

,

(2) Find the marginal *pdf* of *X*.

Ans. $f_X(x) = 12x(1-x)^2, \ 0 \le x \le 1.$

(3) Find the marginal *pdf* of *Y*.

Ans. $f_{Y}(y) = 12y(1-y)^2, \ 0 \le y \le 1.$

(4) Find E(X), E(Y), Var(X), and Var(Y).

Example

The joint density function of X and Y is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 2e^{-x}e^{-2y} & \text{if } x > 0, y > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(1) Compute P(X > 1, Y < 1).

Ans. $e^{-1}(1 - e^{-2})$.

,

(2) P(X < Y).

Ans. 1/3.

(3) P(X < a).

Ans. $1 - e^{-a}$.

Example

The joint density function of X and Y is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} e^{-(x+y)} & \text{if } x > 0, y > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

,

Find the density function of the random variable $Z = \frac{X}{Y}$.

Definition (Independence)

The random variables X and Y are said to be independent if,

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = P(X \in A)P(Y \in B), \quad \forall A, B \subset \mathbb{R}.$$

In other words, X and Y are independent if the events $E_A = \{X \in A\}$ and $E_B = \{X \in B\}$ are independent.

• Let
$$A = (-\infty, x]$$
 and $B = (-\infty, y]$, then X and Y are independent iff
 $P(X \le x, Y \le y) = P(X \le x)P(Y \le y), \quad \forall x, y.$

• In terms of F, X and Y are independent iff

$$F(x,y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y), \quad \forall x, y.$$

• When X and Y are discrete random variables, the condition of independence is equivalent to

$$p(x, y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y), \quad \forall x, y.$$

• When X and Y are continuous random variables, the condition of independence is equivalent to

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y), \quad \forall x, y.$$

- Thus, X and Y are independent if knowing the value of one does not change the distribution of the other.
- Random variables that are not independent are said to be **dependent**.

Example

The joint density function of *X* and *Y* is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 6e^{-2x}e^{-3y} & \text{if } x > 0, y > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

,

Are these random variables independent?

Example

The joint density function of *X* and *Y* is given by

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 24xy & \text{ for } 0 < x < 1, \ 0 < y < 1, \ 0 < x + y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Are X and Y independent?

,

Definition

In general, the *n* random variables X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n are said to be independent if, for all sets of real numbers A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n ,

$$P(X_1 \in A_1, X_2 \in A_2, ..., X_n \in A_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i \in A_i)$$

Equivalently,

$$P(X_1 \leq x_1, X_2 \leq x_2, \ldots, X_n \leq x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i \leq x_i), \quad \forall x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n.$$

Example

Let X, Y, Z be independent and uniformly distributed over (0, 1). Compute $P(X \ge YZ)$.

Ans. 3/4.

Example

If X and Y are independent random variables, both uniformly distributed on (0, 1), calculate the probability density of X + Y.

Solution:

- Let Z = X + Y, then
- the *pdf* of Z is given by

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} z & \text{for } 0 < z < 1 \\ 2 - z & \text{for } 1 < z < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• The random variable Z is said to have a triangular distribution.

Theorem (Closed under Convolutions)

If X and Y are independent gamma random variables with respective parameters (α_1, λ) and (α_2, λ) , then X + Y is a gamma random variable with parameters $(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \lambda)$.

Proof: Next Chapter.

Theorem

If $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ are independent gamma random variables with respective parameters (α_i, λ) , then $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is gamma with parameters $(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i, \lambda)$.

Theorem

If X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n , are independent random variables that are normally distributed with respective parameters $\mu_i, \sigma_i^2, i = 1, \ldots, n$, then $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is normally distributed with parameters $\sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2$.

Proof: Next Chapter.

Example

Let X_1 and X_2 be independent random variables with common exponential density with $\lambda = 1$, Find the pdf of $Y = X_1 + X_2$.

Example

Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be independent exponential random variables, each having parameter λ , then $\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i$ is gamma with parameters (n, λ) .

Example

Let $Z \sim N(0, 1)$, then find the *pdf* of Z^2 .

$$f_{Z^2}(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} [f_Z(\sqrt{y}) + f_Z(-\sqrt{y})]$$
$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2}e^{-y/2}(y/2)^{1/2-1}}{\sqrt{\pi}}.$$

That is $Z^2 \sim Ga(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = \chi_1^2$.

Theorem

If Z_1, Z_2, \ldots, Z_n are independent standard normal random variables, then $\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i^2$ is distributed as $\chi_n^2 = Ga(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$.

Theorem

If $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$, are independent Poisson random variables with respective parameters λ_i , i = 1, ..., n, then $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is distributed as Poisson with parameter $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$.

Proof: Next Chapter.

Theorem

If $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$, are independent binomial random variables, each having parameters $(m_i, p), i = 1, ..., n$, then $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is distributed as binomial with parameters $(\sum_{i=1}^n m_i, p)$.

Proof: Next Chapter.

• For any two events A and B, the conditional probability of A given B is defined as

$$P(A|B) = rac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}.$$

• Let $A = \{X = x\}$ and $B = \{Y = x\}$, then we have the following definition.

Definition

If X and Y are discrete random variables with joint pmf p(x, y), then we define the conditional probability mass function of X given that Y = y, by

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = P(X = x|Y = y) = \frac{p(x,y)}{p_Y(y)}.$$

• Similarly, the conditional probability distribution function of X given that Y = y is defined by

$$F_{X|Y}(x|y) = P(X \leq x|Y = y) = \sum_{x:X \leq x} p_{X|Y}(x|y).$$

- **Excercise**: Verify that $p_{X|Y}(x|y)$ is a pmf.
- For any events A and B,

$$P(X \in A|Y = y) = \sum_{x \in A} p_{X|Y}(x|y), \quad A \subset R_X,$$

and

$$P(Y \in B|X = x) = \sum_{y \in B} p_{Y|X}(y|x), \quad B \subset R_Y.$$

If X and Y are independent, then the conditional probability mass function of X given Y = y is equal to the unconditioned probability mass function:

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = rac{p(x,y)}{p_Y(y)} = rac{p_X(x)p_Y(y)}{p_Y(y)} = p_X(x).$$

Example

Suppose that p(x, y), the joint probability mass function of X and Y, is given by

$$p(0,0) = 0.4, p(0,1) = 0.2, p(1,0) = 0.1, p(1,1) = 0.3.$$

• Calculate the conditional probability mass function of X given that Y = 1.

Ans. {(0, 2/5), (1, 3/5)}.

2 Compute
$$P(0 \le X \le 1 | Y = 1)$$
.

Ans. 1.

Example

A balanced die with 3 faces, numbered 1,2,3 is rolled twice. Let X be the min of the two numbers obtained, and Y be the max of the two numbers obtained.

• Obtain the joint pdf of (X, Y).

Ans. $\{(1, 1, 1/9), (1, 2, 2/9), (1, 3, 2/9), (2, 2, 1/9), (2, 3, 2/9), (3, 3, 1/9)\}.$

Ompute
$$P(X = x | Y = 2)$$
.

Ans. $\{(1, 2/3), (2, 1/3)\}$.

Occupate P(Y = y | X = 1).

Ans. {(1, 1/5), (2, 2/5), (3, 2/5)}.

Example

If X and Y are independent Poisson random variables with respective parameters λ_1 and λ_2 , calculate the conditional distribution of X given that X + Y = n.

$$\text{Ans.} \left(X | X + Y \right) \, \sim \, \textit{Bin} \left(n, \; \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right) \! .$$

Definition

 If X and Y are continuous random variables with joint pdf f(x, y), then we define the conditional probability density function of X given that Y = y, by

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

• If X and Y are jointly continuous, then, for any set A:

$$P(X \in A | Y = y) = \int_A f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

In particular, by letting A = (−∞, a], we can define the conditional cumulative distribution function of X given that Y = y by

$$F_{X|Y}(a|y) = P(X \leq a|Y = y) = \int_{-\infty}^{a} f_{X|Y}(x|y)dx.$$

 If X and Y are independent continuous random variables, then the conditional pdf of X given Y = y is just the unconditional density of X.

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

Example

The joint density of *X* and *Y* is given by:

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{5}x(2-x-y) & \text{ for } 0 < x < 1, \ 0 < y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute the conditional density of X given that Y = y, where 0 < y < 1.

Ans.
$$f_{\chi|\gamma}(x|y) = \frac{x(2-x-y)}{\frac{2}{3}-\frac{y}{2}}$$
.

,

• For example, when
$$y = \frac{1}{3}$$
: $f_{X|Y}\left(x\Big|\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{10}{3}x - 2x^2$, $0 < x < 1$.

• For checking:
$$\int_0^1 f_{X|Y}\left(x\Big|\frac{1}{3}\right) dx = 1.$$

Example

The joint density of *X* and *Y* is given by:

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x+y}{4} & \text{for } 0 < x < y < 2\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(1) Find the conditional density of X given that Y = y.

Ans.
$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{2(x+y)}{3y^2}$$
.

,

• Note that
$$\int_0^y f_{X|Y}(x|y) = 1$$
.

(2) Compute $f_{X|Y}(x|1.5)$.

Ans. $\frac{8}{27}(x+1.5), \quad 0 < x < 1.5.$

(3) Compute P(X < 1 | Y = 1.5).

Ans. 16/27.

Definition (The *t*-Distribution)

If *Z* and *Y* are independent, with *Z* having a standard normal distribution and *Y* having a χ^2 -distribution with *n* degrees of freedom, then the random variable *T* defined by

$$T = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{Y/n}}$$

is said to have a *t*-distribution with *n* degrees of freedom. Its density function is given by

$$f_T(t) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi n} \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{n}\right)^{-(n+1)/2}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$



Definition (The Bivariate Normal Distribution)

Random variables X and Y are said to have a **bivariate normal distribution** if their joint *pdf* has the form

$$f(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_X\sigma_Y\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}\left[\left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2 - 2\rho\left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right)\left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right)\right]\right\},$$

where ρ is the correlation between X and Y (More about this next chapter).

Exercises:

- $X \sim N(\mu_X, \sigma_X^2)$.
- $Y \sim N(\mu_Y, \sigma_Y^2)$.

•
$$X|Y \sim N\left(\mu_X + \rho \frac{\sigma_X}{\sigma_Y}(y - \mu_Y), \sigma_X^2(1 - \rho^2)\right).$$

•
$$Y|X \sim N\left(\mu_Y + \rho \frac{\sigma_Y}{\sigma_X}(x - \mu_X), \sigma_Y^2(1 - \rho^2)\right).$$

Example

- Let $(X, Y) \sim BN(160, 60, 225, 256, 0.7)$.
 - Compute P(X < 175).

Ans. X ∼ N(160, 225).

2 Compute P(X < 175 | y = 65).

Ans. $\{X | (y = 65)\} \sim N(163.3, 114.8).$

Definition (Order Statistics)

Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be *n* independent and identically distributed (*iid*) continuous random variables having a common density *f* and distribution function *F*. Define

•
$$X_{(1)} = \min(X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n).$$

•
$$X_{(2)} = 2^{nd} \min(X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n).$$

•
$$X_{(j)} = j^{th} \min(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n).$$

•
$$X_{(n)} = \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n).$$

The ordered values $X_{(1)} \leq X_{(2)} \leq \ldots \leq X_{(n)}$ are known as the **order statistics** corresponding to the random variables X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n .

• For two random variables, X_1 and X_2 , we have:



• For three random variables, X_1 , X_2 , and X_3 , we have:

•
$$P(X_1 \le X_2 \le X_3) =$$
 .

$$P(X_{(1)} \le X_{(2)} \le X_{(3)}) = _ .$$

• For *n* random variables, X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n , we have:

2
$$P(X_{(1)} \leq X_{(2)} \leq \cdots \leq X_{(n)}) =$$

Example

Let X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n be *iid* f(x). Let $Y = \max(X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n) = X_{(n)}$. Find the density function of Y.

Example

Let X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n be *iid* f(x). Let $Y = \min(X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n) = X_{(1)}$. Find the density function of Y.

Example

Let X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n be *iid* U(0, 1). Let $Y_1 = X_{(1)}$ and $Y_n = X_{(n)}$.

• Find the density function of Y_1 .





Ans. $E(Y_n) = \frac{n}{n+1}$.

Ans. $Y_1 \sim Be(1, n)$.

Ans. $Y_n \sim Be(n, 1)$.

• The *jpdf* of $Y_1 = X_{(1)}, Y_2 = X_{(2)}, ..., Y_n = X_{(n)}$ is given by

 $f_{Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n}(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = n! f(y_1) f(y_2) \cdots f(y_n), \quad y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_n.$

Proof: Let us consider the case n = 2 and find the joint pdf for Y_1 and Y_2 .

• The density function of the *j*th-order statistic $Y_j = X_{(j)}$ is given by

$$f_{Y_j}(y) = \binom{n}{(j-1, n-j, 1)} [F(y)]^{j-1} [1-F(y)]^{n-j} f(y).$$

• The joint pdf of the order statistics $Y_i = X_{(i)}$ and $Y_j = X_{(j)}$ when i < j is

$$f_{Y_{i}}, Y_{j}(y_{i}, y_{j}) = \binom{n}{(i-1, j-i-1, n-j)} [F(y_{i})]^{i-1} [F(y_{j}) - F(y_{i})]^{j-i-1} [1 - F(y_{j})]^{n-j} f(y_{i})f(y_{j}), \quad y_{i} < y_{j}.$$

Example (Distribution of the range of a random sample)

Suppose that *n* iid random variables $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ are observed. The random variable *R* defined by $R = X_{(n)} - X_{(1)}$ is called the range of the observed random variables. If the random variables X_i have distribution function *F* and density function *f*, then find the distribution of *R*.

Theorem (Transformation Technique (univariate case))

Let X be a continuous random variable having pdf $f_X(x)$. Suppose that g(x) is a strictly monotonic (increasing or decreasing), differentiable (and thus continuous) function of x. Then the random variable Y defined by Y = g(X) has a pdf given by

$$f_Y(y) = \left|\frac{d}{dy}g^{-1}(y)\right| f_X\left(g^{-1}(y)\right),$$

where $g^{-1}(y)$ is defined to equal that value of x such that g(x) = y.

Example

Let X have the pdf given by $f_X(x) = 2x$, 0 < x < 1. Find the pdf of Y = -4X + 3.

Ans. $f_{Y}(y) = (3 - y)/8, -1 < y < 3.$

- Let (X_1, X_2) be jointly continuous random variables with joint pdf $f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2)$. It is sometimes necessary to obtain the joint distribution of the random variables Y_1 and Y_2 , which arise as functions of X_1 and X_2 .
- Specifically, let $Y_1 = g_1(X_1, X_2)$ and $Y_2 = g_2(X_1, X_2)$ for some functions g_1 and g_2 . Assume that the functions g_1 and g_2 satisfy the following conditions:
 - The equations $y_1 = g_1(x_1, x_2)$ and $y_2 = g_2(x_1, x_2)$ can be uniquely solved for x_1 and x_2 in terms of y_1 and y_2 , with solutions given by, say, $x_1 = h_1(y_1, y_2)$, $x_2 = h_2(y_1, y_2)$.
 - 3 The functions g_1 and g_2 have continuous partial derivatives at all points (x_1, x_2) and are such that the 2 × 2 determinant

$$J(x_1, x_2) = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_2} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_2} - \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_2} \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_1} \neq 0$$

at all point (x_1, x_2) .

• Under these two conditions, it can be shown that the random variables *Y*₁ and *Y*₂ are jointly continuous with joint density function given by

$$f_{Y_1,Y_2}(y_1,y_2) = f_{X_1,X_2}(x_1,x_2) |J(x_1,x_2)|^{-1},$$

where $x_1 = h_1(y_1, y_2)$, and $x_2 = h_2(y_1, y_2)$.

Example

Let X_1 and X_2 be jointly continuous random variables with probability density function f_{X_1,X_2} . Let $Y_1 = X_1 + X_2$, $Y_2 = X_1 - X_2$. Find the joint density function of Y_1 and Y_2 in terms of f_{X_1,X_2} . Ans. $f_{Y_1,Y_2}(y_1, y_2) = \frac{1}{2}f_{X_1,X_2}(\frac{1}{2}(y_1 + y_2), \frac{1}{2}(y_1 - y_2))$.

• If X_1 and X_2 are *iid* U(0, 1), then

$$f_{Y_1,Y_2}(y_1,y_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{ for } 0 < y_1 + y_2 < 2, \ 0 < y_1 - y_2 < 2 \\ & & \\ 0 & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases},$$

• If X_1 and X_2 are independent exponential random variables with respective parameters λ_1 and λ_2 , then

$$f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{2} \exp\left\{-\lambda_1 \left(\frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}\right) - \lambda_2 \left(\frac{y_1 - y_2}{2}\right)\right\} & \text{ for } 0 < y_1 + y_2, \ 0 < y_1 - y_2 \\ 0 & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• If X_1 and X_2 are *iid* N(0, 1), then

$$\begin{split} f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) &= \frac{1}{4\pi} e^{-\left[\left(\frac{y_1 + y_2}{8}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y_1 - y_2}{8}\right)^2\right]} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} e^{-\frac{y_1^2}{4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} e^{-\frac{y_2^2}{4}}, \quad -\infty < y_1, y_2 < \infty. \end{split}$$

• $X_1 + X_2$ and $X_1 - X_2$ are normal with mean 0 and variance 2.

•
$$X_1 + X_2$$
 and $X_1 - X_2$ are independent.

Theorem

If X_1 and X_2 are independent random variables having a common distribution function F, then $X_1 + X_2$ will be independent of $X_1 - X_2$ if and only if F is a normal distribution function.

Example

If X and Y are independent gamma random variables with parameters (α, λ) and (β, λ) , respectively, compute the joint density of U = X + Y and $V = \frac{X}{X+Y}$.

Solution:

• The joint density of X and Y is given by

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{\lambda^{\alpha+\beta}}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} e^{-\lambda(x+y)} x^{\alpha-1} y^{\beta-1}, \quad x,y > 0$$

• If
$$g_1(x, y) = x + y$$
 and $g_2(x, y) = \frac{x}{x+y}$, then

$$J(x,y) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \frac{y}{(x+y)^2} & \frac{-x}{(x+y)^2} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{-1}{x+y}$$

Example

Solution (Cont'd):

• As the equations u = x + y, $v = \frac{x}{x+y}$ have their solutions x = uv and y = u(1 - v), we see that

$$\begin{split} f_{U,V}(u,v) &= u f_{X,V}\left(uv, u(1-v)\right) \\ &= \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda u} (\lambda u)^{\alpha+\beta-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta) v^{\alpha-1} (1-v)^{\beta-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma(\beta)}, \quad u > 0, 0 < v < 1 \end{split}$$

• X + Y and $\frac{X}{(X+Y)}$ are independent.

X + Y having a gamma distribution with parameters (α + β, λ) and X/(X+Y) having a beta distribution with parameters (α, β).

Example

Let X_1 and X_2 be independent with $f_{X_1,X_2}(x_1,x_2) = e^{-x_1}e^{-x_2}$, $x_1, x_2 > 0$. Let $Y = X_1 + X_2$. Obtain the pdf of Y.

Example

Let X_1 and X_2 be iid N(0, 1). Obtain the pdf of $Y = \frac{X_2}{X_1}$.

Ans. Cauchy with $\theta = 0$; $f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\pi(1+y^2)}$, $-\infty < y < \infty$.

Example

Let X_1 , X_2 , and X_3 be independent standard normal random variables. If $Y_1 = X_1 + X_2 + X_3$, $Y_2 = X_1 - X_2$, and $Y_3 = X_1 - X_3$, compute the joint density function of Y_1 , Y_2 , Y_3 .

Solution:

• The joint density of X₁, X₂ and X₃ is given by

$$f_{X_1,X_2,X_3}(x_1,x_2,x_3) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^3 x_i}, \quad -\infty < x_1, x_2, x_3 < \infty.$$

• If $g_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$, $g_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 - x_2$, and $g_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 - x_3$, then

$$J(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 3.$$

Example

Solution (Cont'd):

• As the equations $y_1 = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$, $y_2 = x_1 - x_2$, and $y_3 = x_1 - x_3$ have their solutions $x_1 = \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}$, $x_2 = \frac{y_1 - 2y_2 + y_3}{3}$, and $x_3 = \frac{y_1 + y_2 - 2y_3}{3}$ we see that

$$\begin{split} f_{Y_1, Y_2, Y_3}(y_1, y_2, y_3) &= \frac{1}{3} f_{X_1, X_2, X_3}\left(\frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}, \frac{y_1 - 2y_2 + y_3}{3}, \frac{y_1 + y_2 - 2y_3}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3(2\pi)^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{Q}(y_1, y_2, y_3)}, \quad -\infty < y_1, y_2, y_3 < \infty, \end{split}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}(y_1, y_2, y_3) &= \left(\frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y_1 - 2y_2 + y_3}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y_1 + y_2 - 2y_3}{3}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3}y_1^2 + \frac{2}{3}y_2^2 + \frac{2}{3}y_3^2 - \frac{2}{3}y_2y_3. \end{aligned}$$

• See Example 7e Page 284.

Problems and Exercises

PROBLEMS

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THEORETICAL EXERCISES

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