

ch 2: Conditional probability and Conditional Expectation

For Discrete Bivariate r.v. (X, Y) , we have

Defn

$$P_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{\Pr(X=x \text{ and } Y=y)}{\Pr(Y=y)}$$

$$P_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{P_{X,Y}(x,y)}{P_Y(y)}$$

Conditional prob. mass fn of X given Y=y

marginal mass fn of Y

Joint prob. mass fn of (X, Y)

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A \cap B)}{\Pr(B)}, \Pr(B) \neq 0$$

$$x, y = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$P_Y(y) \neq 0$$

$$\therefore P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_{X|Y}(x|y) P_Y(y) \quad (1)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(X=x) = \sum_y P_{X,Y}(x,y) \quad (2)$$

(1), (2) \Rightarrow

$$\therefore \Pr(X=x) = \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} P_{X|Y}(x|y) P_Y(y)$$

which is the marginal mass fn of X
 this formula is called the law of total probability.

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EX: Suppose X has a binomial distribution with parameter p and N , where N has a poisson distribution with mean λ . what is the marginal distn for X ?

Ans: $X \sim \text{Bin}(p, N)$, $N \sim \text{poisson}(\lambda)$

$\text{pr}(X=x) ??$

$P_{X|N}(x|n) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$
 $, x=0, 1, 2, \dots, n$

and $P_N(n) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^n}{n!}$, $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_{X|N}(x|n) P_N(n)$

$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^n}{n!}$

$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \lambda^x p^x e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n=x}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{x! (n-x)!} \cdot \frac{(1-p)^{n-x} \lambda^{n-x}}{n!}$

$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \frac{(\lambda p)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \sum_{n=x}^{\infty} \frac{[\lambda(1-p)]^{n-x}}{(n-x)!}$

let $n-x = r$

$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \frac{(\lambda p)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{[\lambda(1-p)]^r}{r!}$

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$$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \frac{(\lambda)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} e^{\lambda(1-p)}$$

$$\therefore \text{pr}(X=x) = \frac{(\lambda)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} = e^{\lambda}$$

, $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$\therefore X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ with mean and Variance λ #

Defn For continuous Bivariate r.v. (X, Y) , we have

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

Conditional prob. density fn of X given $Y=y$

marginal density fn of Y

$$, x, y > 0, f_Y(y) \neq 0$$

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