

ese 107 4-22-25

1

o Midterm 1 : Th 4/24/25

5:20 - 6:25

Ex (the Professor Problem).

A Professor answers questions wrongly with probability $\frac{1}{4}$, independent of other questions. The # of questions asked is 0, 1 or 2 with equal probability $\frac{1}{3}$. Let

$X = \# \text{ questions asked.}$

$Y = \# \text{ questions answered wrongly.}$

find joint PMF of X, Y

We have

$$P_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } x=0, 1, 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We also have

$$P(Y=0 | X=0) = 1$$

$$P(Y=0 | X=1) = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$P(Y=1 | X=1) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(Y=0 | X=2) = \frac{9}{16}$$

$$P(Y=1 | X=2) = \frac{3}{16} + \frac{3}{16} = \frac{6}{16} = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$P(Y=2 | X=2) = \frac{1}{16}$$

We have:

3

$$P_X^{(x)}$$

$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
0	1	2
x		

$$P_{Y|X}^{(y|x)}$$

2	0	0	$\frac{1}{16}$
1	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$
0	1	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{9}{16}$
	0	1	2
	x		

want $P_{X,Y}^{(x,y)} = P_{Y|X}^{(y|x)} \cdot P_X^{(x)}$

$$P_{X,Y}^{(x,y)}$$

2			$\frac{1}{48}$	→	$\frac{1}{48}$	2
1		$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	→	$\frac{10}{48}$	1
0	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	→	$\frac{37}{48}$	0
	0	1	2			
	x					

$$P_Y^{(y)} = \sum_x P_{X,Y}^{(x,y)}$$

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

4

$P_{X|Y}(x|y)$

y	2			
	1	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	
	0	$\frac{16}{37}$	$\frac{12}{37}$	$\frac{9}{37}$
		0	1	2
		x		

Conditional expectation

Let X be a r.v., $A \subseteq \Omega$, $P(A) > 0$.

Define

$$E[X|A] = \sum_x x \cdot P_{X|A}(x)$$

expected value rule

$$E[g(X)|A] = \sum_x g(x) \cdot P_{X|A}(x)$$

We can condition on $A = \{Y=y\}$

Provided $P(Y=y) > 0$.

$$E[X|Y=y] = \sum_x x P_{X|Y}(x|y)$$

Also, if $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ form a partition of Ω , then

Total Expectation Theorem:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot E[X|A_i]$$

Proof
by the total probability theorem

$$P_X(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot P_{X|A_i}(x)$$

1.2.

$$P(X=x) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot P(X=x | A_i)$$

multiply both sides by x , sum over x to obtain

$$E[X] = \sum_x x P_X(x)$$

$$= \sum_x x \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot P_{X|A_i}(x)$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot x P_{X|A_i}(x)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \sum_x x P_{X|A_i}(x)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot E[X|A_i]$$

8



• see similar identity in Summary
on P. 104.

Mean & Variance of Geometric r.v.

Recall Geometric (p) has PMF

$$P_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1} \cdot p \quad (k=1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

Then

$$E[X] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k (1-p)^{k-1} p,$$

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^2 (1-p)^{k-1} p$$

and

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

we use total expectation Then.

Let

$$A_1 = \{X=1\} = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ flip is head}\}$$

$$A_2 = \{X>1\} = \{1^{\text{st}} \text{ flip is tail}\}$$

Then $P(A_1) = p$, $P(A_2) = 1 - p$.

Note: $E[X|A_1] = 1$, and

$$E[X|A_2] = E[1 + X] = 1 + E[X]$$

Thus

$$E[X] = P(A_1) \cdot E[X|A_1] + P(A_2) \cdot E[X|A_2]$$

$$= p \cdot 1 + (1 - p)(1 + E[X])$$

$$\cancel{E[X]} = \cancel{p} + 1 + \cancel{E[X]} - \cancel{p} - p \cdot E[X]$$

$$\therefore p E[X] = 1$$

$$\therefore \boxed{E[X] = \frac{1}{p}}$$

Similarly

$$E[X^2 | A_1] = 1$$

and

$$E[X^2 | A_2] = E[(1+X)^2]$$

$$= E[1 + 2X + X^2]$$

$$= 1 + 2E[X] + E[X^2]$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$E[X^2] = P(A_1) \cdot E[X^2 | A_1] + P(A_2) E[X^2 | A_2]$$

$$= p \cdot 1 + (1-p)(1 + 2E[X] + E[X^2])$$

$$= p + (1-p)\left(1 + \frac{2}{p} + E[X^2]\right)$$

$$= p + (1-p) + 2\left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right) + (1-p)E[X^2]$$

$$\therefore p E[X^2] = 1 + \frac{2}{p} - 2 = \frac{2}{p} - 1$$

$$\therefore E[X^2] = \frac{2}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p}$$

finally

$$\text{Var}(X) = \left(\frac{2}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{p} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1-p}{p^2}}$$

2.7 Independence

Defn

we say two r.v.s X, Y
are independent iff for
all $x \in \text{range}(X)$, $y \in \text{range}(Y)$
the events

$$\{X=x\}, \{Y=y\}$$

are independent, i.e.

$$P(X=x, Y=y) = P(X=x) \cdot P(Y=y)$$

equivalently

$$* \quad P_{X,Y}(x,y) = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y)$$

if $P_Y(y) > 0$, this is equiv. to

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

i.e.

$$P_{X|Y}(x|y) = P_X(x)$$