

CSE 107 5-19-26

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midterm 2: Thur 5-21-26

Ex.

indep. tosses

Suppose we tossⁿ a coin n times, where $P(\text{head}) = p$.

Let

$X = \# \text{heads}$

and

$Y = \# \text{tails}$

compute $\rho(X, Y)$.

Solution

observe $X + Y = n$, so

$$E[X] + E[Y] = E[X + Y] = E[n] = n$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(Y) &= \text{Var}(-X + n) \\ &= (-1)^2 \text{Var}(X) \\ &= \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$(X - E[X]) + (Y - E[Y]) = n - n = 0$$

so

$$Y - E[Y] = -(X - E[X])$$

Thus

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

$$= -E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

$$= -\text{Var}(X)$$

> 0

$$\rho(X, Y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \cdot \text{Var}(Y)}}$$

$$= \frac{-\text{Var}(X)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{-\text{Var}(X)}{\text{Var}(X)} = \boxed{-1}$$

Exercise : Prove that

- $\text{Cov}(aX+b, Y) = a\text{Cov}(X, Y)$
- $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(Y, X)$
- if $a > 0$, then $\rho(aX+b, Y) = \rho(X, Y)$
- $\text{Cov}(aX+bY, Z) = a\text{Cov}(X, Z) + b\text{Cov}(Y, Z)$

see handout.

Variance of a sum

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Let X, Y be r.v.s (not necessarily indep.) Then

- $\text{Var}(X+Y)$

$$= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

- if $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ are r.v.s,

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i) + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j)$$

note

$$\sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = 2 \sum_{i < j} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j)$$

Proof of $n=2$ case!

Let $U = X - E[X] \therefore E[U] = 0$

and $V = Y - E[Y] \therefore E[V] = 0$

Then

$$\text{Var}(X+Y) = \text{Var}((U+V) + E[X+Y])$$

$$= \text{Var}(U+V)$$

$$= E \left[\left((U+V) - \underbrace{E[U+V]}_0 \right)^2 \right]$$

□

$$= E[(U+V)^2]$$

$$= E[U^2 + V^2 + 2UV]$$

$$= E[U^2] + E[V^2] + 2E[UV]$$

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

$$= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

Exercise Prove for general n by induction. 

4.3 Conditional Expectation and Variance

Recall that

$$g(y) = E[X | Y=y]$$

is a function. If we substitute the r.v. Y for y in $g(y)$ we get a r.v. denoted

$$g(Y) = E[X | Y] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{conditional} \\ \text{expectation} \end{array}$$

The expected value of this r.v. is

$$E[E[X|Y]] = E[g(Y)]$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(y) \cdot f_Y(y) dy \quad \text{expected value rule}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} E[X|Y=y] \cdot f_Y(y) dy$$

$$= E[X]$$

Law of iterated expectations

$$E[E[X|Y]] = E[X]$$