

CSE 107 2-16-24

Supplemental Lecture

Conditional Expectation

Definitions

• $E[X|A] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|A}(x) dx$

• $E[X|Y=y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$

Expected value rule

• $E[g(X)|A] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_{X|A}(x) dx$

• $E[g(X)|Y=y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$

total expectation theorem

- If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n form a partition of Ω , and $P(A_i) > 0$ for all i , then

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

- If $P(Y=y) > 0$ for all $y \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$(2) \quad E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_Y(y) \cdot E[X | Y=y] dy$$

Proof of (1)

start with total Probability theorem

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

multiply by x , integrate w.r.t. x , to get $E[X]$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot f_{X|A_i}(x) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore E[X] &= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|A_i}(x) dx \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) E[X|A_i] \end{aligned}$$

Proof of (2)

start with the RHS :

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} E[X|Y=y] \cdot f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right) \cdot f_Y(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) \cdot f_Y(y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) f_Y(y) dy dx$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy \right) dx$$

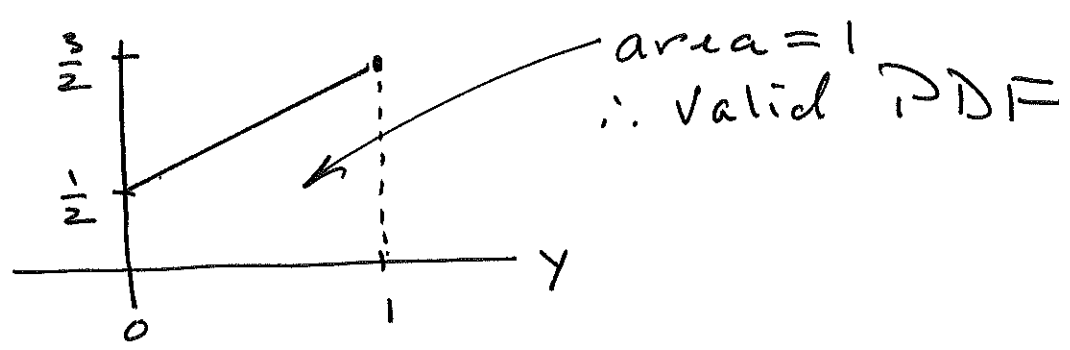
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f_X(x) dx = E[X],$$

which is the RHS. ▀

Ex.

let X, Y be jointly cont. with

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y + \frac{1}{2} & 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



and

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x+y}{y + \frac{1}{2}} & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find $E[X]$.

Solution

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$$E[X|Y=y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 x \left(\frac{x+y}{y+\frac{1}{2}} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{y+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \int_0^1 x^2 + xy dx = \frac{1}{y+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2y \right) \Big|_0^1$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{3}}{y+\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

Thus

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

$$= \int_0^1 \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{3}}{y+\frac{1}{2}} \right) \cdot (y+\frac{1}{2}) dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \frac{1}{3} y \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{\frac{7}{12}}$$

Another way:

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

$$= \begin{cases} x+y & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

so that

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy$$

$$= \int_0^1 (x+y) dy = xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 \Big|_0^1$$

$$= \begin{cases} x + \frac{1}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 x(x + \frac{1}{2}) dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 (x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{4}x^2 \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \boxed{\frac{7}{12}}$$

Backing up in this example: recall $E[X|Y=y]$ is a function of y :

$$E[X|Y=y] = \begin{cases} \frac{\frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{3}}{y + \frac{1}{2}} & 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

call this $g(y)$:

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

we can compose this function with Y :

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

to get a r.v.

check that the mean of this
r.v. is

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

$$= \int_0^1 y \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{3}}{y + \frac{1}{2}} \right) dy$$

$$= \dots \text{exercise} \dots$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{7}{12}}$$

In Chap. 4 we'll write

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

called: law of iterated expectations

Independence

let X, Y be jointly continuous r.v.s

Defn

we say X, Y are independent iff

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y)$$

for all $x \in \text{range}(X)$, $y \in \text{range}(Y)$.

Equivalently

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = f_X(x) \quad (\text{if } f_Y(y) > 0)$$

or

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_Y(y) \quad (\text{if } f_X(x) > 0)$$

If X, Y are indep., then any events definable in terms of X and Y are independent:

$$\{X \in A\} \text{ and } \{Y \in B\}$$

for $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. In Particular

$$\begin{aligned}
F_{X,Y}(x,y) &= P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^y \int_{-\infty}^x f_{X,Y}(s,t) ds dt \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^y \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(s) \cdot f_Y(t) ds dt \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(s) ds \cdot \int_{-\infty}^y f_Y(t) dt
\end{aligned}$$

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

$$= F_X(x) \cdot F_Y(y).$$

In fact, converse is also true.

Thus

$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = F_X(x) \cdot F_Y(y)$$

is equivalent to independence of X, Y .

As in the discrete case, we have, for indep. X, Y continuous p.v.s

$$(1) E[XY] = E[X] \cdot E[Y]$$

$$(2) X, Y \text{ indep.} \Rightarrow g(X), h(Y) \text{ indep.}$$

$$\text{so } E[g(X) \cdot h(Y)] = E[g(X)] \cdot E[h(Y)].$$

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

Exercise:

- Prove (1) in cont. case
- Prove (2) by adapting Problem #44 (chap. 2, p. 134) to continuous case
- Prove (3) in cont. case.