

## Chap 2: Probability Models

## List of topics: Section 2.1

1. **Experiment:** a process of observations or measurements.
2. **Outcomes:** the results obtained from an experiment.
3. **Sample space(universal set):** the set of all possible outcomes of an experiment.  
Each outcome in a sample space is called an **ELEMENT** or a **SAMPLE POINT**.
4. **Event(subset):** An **EVENT** is a subset of a sample space.
5. **Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are called MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE if  $A \cap B = \Phi$ .**
6. **Discrete sample space**
7. **Continuous sample space**
8. **Def: Probability is a function which maps events of a sample space  $S$  into  $[0, 1]$**   
**P1:**  $P(A) \geq 0$ , for any event  $A$  in  $S$ ;  
**P2:**  $P(S) = 1$ ;  
**P3:** If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is a sequence of mutually exclusive events of  $S$ , then  
 $P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$
9. **Complement:**  $P(A) = 1 - P(A')$
10. **Inclusive-exclusive principle:**  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$   
 $P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) - P(A \cap B \cap C)$
11. **DeMorgan's rule:**  
 $A' \cap B' = (A \cup B)'$   
 $A' \cup B' = (A \cap B)'$
12. **Venn Diagram**

## Section 2.2

## List of topics:

1. **Binomial coefficients** (will study in detail in 2.4. Just need to know how to compute here.)

2. **Conditional Probability:**  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$

3. **Product rule:**

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)$$

$$P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B|A)P(C|A \cap B)$$

4. **Independent: Two events are independent if**

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$$

which means  $P(A|B) = P(A)$  and  $P(B|A) = P(B)$

5. **Tree Diagram**

6. **Partition (Pizza): If**

1)  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  are mutually exclusive,

2)  $\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i = S$ ;

3)  $P(A_i) > 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Then we say that  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition.

7. **The Law of Total Probability:** If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition, then for any event  $B$ ,

$$P(B) = \sum_{j=1}^k P(B|A_j)P(A_j)$$

8. **Smallest partition:**  $S = A \cup A'$

$$P(B) = P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|A')P(A')$$

9. **Bayes' Theorem:** If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  form a partition, then for any event  $B$ ,

$$P(A_j|B) = \frac{P(B|A_j)P(A_j)}{P(B)}$$

10. **Independence vs. Mutually exclusive**

## Sections 2.3

## List of topics:

1. **Random variable(r.v.):** a *random variable* is a function from sample space to real numbers.

2. **Probability distribution function for discrete r.v.(pdf)**

1)  $P(X = k) \geq 0;$

2)  $\sum_k P(X = k) = 1.$

3. **How to denote pdf?**

By table;

By formula;

Histogram;

Relative frequency table.

4. **Expectation of a discrete random variable:**

$$\mu = E(X) = \sum_{\text{all possible } k} k \cdot f(k)$$

5. **Expectation of a function of a discrete random variable:**

$$Eu(X) = \sum_{\text{all possible } k} u(k) \cdot f(k)$$

6. **Expectation is linear:**  $E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$  for any constants  $a, b$ , and any random variables  $X, Y$ .

7. **Variance of X:**

$$\sigma^2 = V(X) = E(X - \mu)^2 \text{ (Good for understanding)}$$

$$\sigma^2 = V(X) = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = (\sum k^2 \cdot f(k)) - \mu^2 \text{ (Good for computation)}$$

8. **Variance is not linear.**

i.e.  $V(aX + bY) \neq aV(X) + bV(Y)$

Actually  $V(aX + bY) = a^2V(X) + b^2V(Y) + 2abCov(X, Y)$

9. **Standard deviation of X:**  $\sigma = \sqrt{V(X)}$

10. **Chebychev inequality:**

$$P(\mu - k\sigma \leq X \leq \mu + k\sigma) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k^2}$$

## Sections 2.4

### List of topics: Binomial Distribution

1. **Binomial expansion:**  $(x + y)^n$
2. **Binomial coefficients:**  $C(n, k)$ 
  - 1) By Yang's triangle
  - 2) By combination:  $C(n, k) = \frac{P(n, k)}{k!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n - k)!}$
3. **Bernoulli trials:**
4. **Binomial distribution: check 3 conditions: exactly 2 outcomes for each trial; independent trials; probability of head stays the same for all trials.**  
**Model: Toss a coin n times.**  
 $P(H) = p, P(T) = q, q = 1 - p.$   
**X= number of heads.**
5. **p.d.f.**  $P(X = k) = C(n, k)p^kq^{n-k}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$
6. **Expected value**  $E(X) = np$ ; **or**  $\mu = np$   
**Variance**  $V(X) = npq$ ; **or**  $\sigma^2 = npq$   
**Standard deviation**  $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$
7. **Negative Binomial distribution: Toss a coin until rth heads**
8. **Hypergeometric distribution: without replacement**

## Sections 2.5

### List of topics: Poisson Distribution

1. Model: Counting number of occurrences
2. pdf:  $P(X = k) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
3. mean and variance are both  $\lambda$
4. Closely related to Exponential distribution. Will discuss in section 3.3.

## Section 2.6 Dist of 2 discrete random variables

## List of topics:

1. CDF of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ :

$$F_{X_1, X_2}(x, y) = P[(X_1 \leq x) \cap (X_2 \leq y)]$$

## 2. Discrete case: Joint pdf:

$$f_{X_1, X_2}(x, y) = P(X_1 = x, X_2 = y)$$

Note: This  $f$  is a probability, hence  $0 \leq f \leq 1$

## 3. Marginal pdfs

## 4. Expectations

5.  $E(u(X_1, X_2))$ 

## 6. Conditional distribution and expectations

## 7. Conditional pdf is the ratio of joint pdf to marginal pdf.

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} \text{ for } y \text{ in the support of } Y.$$

$p_{Y|X}(y|x)$  is Similarly defined.

8. Conditional expectation:  $E(u(Y)|x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(y)f_{Y|X}(y|x)dy$  (which is a function of  $x$ .)

Hence  $E(Y|X)$  is a random variable of  $X$ .

9. Covariance of  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] \text{ (easier to understand)}$$

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - \mu_X\mu_Y \text{ (easier for calculation)}$$

10. Correlation coefficient  $\rho = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y}$ 11. Equivalent conditions:  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent iff

(1) By pdf:  $f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$  (note the regions.)

(2) By CDF:  $F(x, y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y)$  for all  $(x, y)$

(3) By MGF:  $M(t_1, t_2) = M(t_1, 0)M(0, t_2)$

12. How can you tell two r.v.  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent by joint density?

Region and function

**13. What happens to covariance(and corelation coefficient) if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent?**

**If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , hence  $\rho = 0$ .**

**However, if  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  may not be independent.**

**Facts:**

- $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$
- $\rho = \pm 1$  implies “perfect linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ .”
- $\rho = 0$  implies “No linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$  (but can be quadratic, for example).”
- $\rho > 0$  means  $X$  and  $Y$  are positively related (If  $X$  increases, so is  $Y$ ).
- $\rho < 0$  means  $X$  and  $Y$  are negatively related (If  $X$  increases,  $Y$  decreases).
- **If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , hence  $\rho = 0$ .**  
**However, if  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  may not be independent.**  
**Ex: 2.5.10.**
- **Special case: If  $X$  and  $Y$  are normal (covered later), then  $Cov(X, Y) = 0$ , or  $\rho = 0$  implies “ $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.”**