

Problem Set 13

Reading: Joint CDF, Joint pmf, Joint pdf

Quiz Date: Tue, July 24 (maybe)

Note: It is very important that you solve the problems first and check the solutions afterwards.

Problem 1

All text examples in section 4.3.

Problem 2

Consider the following function

$$F(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0, & u + v \leq 1 \\ 1, & u + v > 1. \end{cases}$$

Is this a valid joint CDF. Why or why not? Prove your answer and show your work.

Solution

Suppose that F is the CDF of (U, V) . Consider the rectangle R with vertices $\{(0, 0), (0, 2), (2, 0), (2, 2)\}$. Then,

$$P\{(U, V) \in R\} = F(2, 2) - F(2, 0) - F(0, 2) + F(0, 0) = -1.$$

Negative probability implies that our assumption that F is a CDF is wrong.

Furthermore, F is not right continuous for any point (u, v) such that $u + v = 1$. Note that even if we make F right-continuous by letting

$$F(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0, & u + v < 1 \\ 1, & u + v \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

it is still not valid because of the first reason.

Problem 3

Suppose that two cards are drawn at random from a deck of 52 cards. Let X be the number of queens obtained and let Y be the number of spades obtained.

- Find the joint probability mass function of X and Y , the marginal probability mass function of X , and the marginal probability mass function of Y .
- Find $P(X = Y)$.
- Find $P(X \leq Y)$.
- Find $P(X = 2|Y = 2)$.

Solution

- a) Some of probabilities are easy to find directly. Others may be more easily obtained by conditioning on X .

$$P(Y = i, X = 0) = \begin{cases} \frac{36 \cdot 35}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 0, \\ \frac{2(12 \cdot 36)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 1, \\ \frac{12 \cdot 11}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 2. \end{cases}$$

For $X = 1$, we consider two cases: the queen is the queen of spades, or it is not.

$$P(Y = i, X = 1, Q_{\spadesuit}) = \begin{cases} \frac{2(1 \cdot 36)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 1, \\ \frac{2(1 \cdot 12)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 2, \end{cases}$$

$$P(Y = i, X = 1, Q_{\spadesuit}^c) = \begin{cases} \frac{2(3 \cdot 36)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 0, \\ \frac{2(3 \cdot 12)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 1, \end{cases}$$

where Q_{\spadesuit} is the event that the queen of spades is chosen. Hence,

$$P(Y = i, X = 1) = \begin{cases} \frac{2(3 \cdot 36)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 0, \\ \frac{4 \cdot 36}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 1, \\ \frac{2(1 \cdot 12)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 2. \end{cases}$$

Finally,

$$P(Y = i, X = 2) = \begin{cases} \frac{3 \cdot 2}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 0, \\ \frac{2(1 \cdot 3)}{52 \cdot 51}, & i = 1. \end{cases}$$

So we get

	$X = 0$	$X = 1$	$X = 2$	Marginal of Y
$Y = 0$	$\frac{210}{442}$	$\frac{36}{442}$	$\frac{1}{442}$	$\frac{39 \cdot 38}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{247}{442}$
$Y = 1$	$\frac{144}{442}$	$\frac{24}{442}$	$\frac{1}{442}$	$\frac{2(13 \cdot 39)}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{169}{442}$
$Y = 2$	$\frac{22}{442}$	$\frac{4}{442}$	$\frac{0}{442}$	$\frac{13 \cdot 12}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{26}{442}$
Marginal of X	$\frac{48 \cdot 47}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{376}{442}$	$\frac{2(4 \cdot 48)}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{64}{442}$	$\frac{4 \cdot 3}{52 \cdot 51} = \frac{2}{442}$	

Note that the marginals can be either found directly or by summing up rows and columns.

- b)

$$P(X = Y) = \frac{210 + 24 + 0}{442} = \frac{234}{442}.$$

- c)

$$P(X \leq Y) = \frac{210 + 144 + 22 + 24 + 4 + 0}{442} = \frac{404}{442}.$$

- d)

$$P(X = 2 | Y = 2) = \frac{P(X = Y = 2)}{P(Y = 2)} = \frac{\frac{0}{442}}{\frac{26}{442}} = 0.$$

Problem 4

The jointly continuous random variables X and Y have joint pdf

$$f_{X,Y}(u,v) = \begin{cases} 1.5, & 0 \leq u < 1, 0 \leq v < 1, 0 \leq u+v < 1, \\ 0.5, & 0 \leq u < 1, 0 \leq v < 1, 1 \leq u+v < 2, \end{cases}$$

and zero elsewhere.

- Find the marginal pdf of Y .
- Find $P(X+Y \geq 3/2)$.
- Find $P(X^2+Y^2 \leq 1)$.

Solution

The support is the square with vertices $\{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0), (1,1)\}$. On the triangle with vertices $\{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0)\}$, the pdf is 1.5 and on the triangle with vertices $\{(0,1), (1,0), (1,1)\}$, it is 0.5. Sketching the pdf and marking the triangles is helpful for understanding the solution.

- For $v \in [0, 1]$, we have $f_Y(v) = \int_0^1 f_{X,Y}(u,v) du = \int_0^{1-v} \frac{3}{2} du + \int_{1-v}^1 \frac{1}{2} du = \frac{3(1-v)+1-(1-v)}{2} = \frac{3-2v}{2}$. For $v \notin [0, 1]$, we have $f_Y(v) = 0$.
- $P(X+Y \geq \frac{3}{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{area of the triangle with vertices } \{(1, \frac{1}{2}), (\frac{1}{2}, 1), (1, 1)\} = \frac{1}{16}$.
- Let A be the area of the triangle with vertices $\{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0)\}$ and let O be the area of the unit circle. Then,

$$P(X^2+Y^2 \leq 1) = \frac{3}{2}A + \frac{1}{2}(O/4 - A) = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 0.89.$$