

# Preclass 04: Probability

[SCS4049] Machine Learning and Data Science

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# Random variables

- A random variable  $X$  takes on a defined set of values with different probabilities
  - For example, if you roll a die, the outcome is random (not fixed) and there are 6 possible outcomes, each of which occur with probability 1/6
  - For example, if you poll people about their voting preferences, the percentage of the sample that responds “Yes on Proposition A” is a random variable (the percentage will be slightly different every time you poll)
- Roughly, probability is how frequently we expect different outcomes to occur if we repeat the experiment over and over

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$   $X = \text{각 사육각의 면값}$   
사육각의 면값

반복

일반적인  
variable.



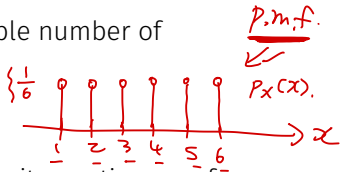
random variable. / probability distribution

$$\underline{\underline{X}} \sim \underline{\underline{Pr(X)}}$$

# Discrete and continuous random variable

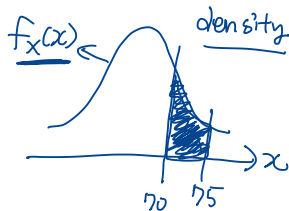
- $X = 1$
- Discrete random variables have a countable number of outcomes

- Dead/live, dice, counts, etc.
- Probability mass function (pmf, p.m.f.)



- ~~$X = 1$~~
- Continuous random variables have an infinite continuum of possible values

- Blood pressure, weight, real number, etc.
- Probability density function (pdf, p.d.f.)



× Probability distribution  $F_X(x) = \Pr(X \leq x)$

⊙ Probability mass function  $p_X(x) = \Pr(X = x)$

⊙ Probability density function  $f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx}F_X(x)$

$$\Pr(70 \leq X \leq 75)$$

$$= \int_{70}^{75} f_X(x) dx$$

# Conditional probability

Two rv's, say X and Y, are statistically independent if

x  $F_{XY}(x, y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y)$  for each value  $x_i$  of X and  $y_j$  of Y

Discrete rv's

$x_i, y_j$  두 값이 동시에 일어날 확률.

$$P_{XY}(x_i, y_j) = P_X(x_i)P_Y(y_j)$$

$$P_{X|Y}(x_i | y_j) = P_X(x_i)$$

p, m, f

Continuous rv's

$y_j$ 가 일어났을 때,  $x$ 일 확률 =  $x$ 일 확률.

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = f_X(x)$$

p, d, f

# Expectation

The expected value  $E[X]$  of a random variable  $X$  is also called the expectation or the mean and is frequently denoted as  $\bar{X}$ . Considering nonnegative discrete rv's, the expected value is then given by

$$\underline{E[X]} = \sum_{\underline{x}} \underline{x} p_X(x).$$

$X$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$p_X(x)$	$\frac{1}{1000}$	.....				$\frac{995}{1000}$

- Discrete case:  $E(X) = \sum_x xp_X(x)$
- Continuous case:  $E(X) = \int_x xf_X(x)dx$

# Variance and standard deviation

The variance is denoted by  $\sigma_X^2$  or  $\text{Var}[X]$ . It is given by

$$\sigma_X^2 = \mathbf{E}[(X - \bar{X})^2] = \mathbf{E}[X^2] - \bar{X}^2$$

The *standard deviation*  $\sigma_X$  of  $X$  is the square root of the variance and provides a measure of dispersion of the rv around the mean. Thus the mean is a rough measure of typical values for the outcome of the rv, and  $\sigma_X$  is a measure of the typical difference between  $X$  and  $\bar{X}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}(\underbrace{X}_{\uparrow} - \underbrace{\mathbf{E}(X)}_{\text{mean}})^2$$

# Example: expectation and variance

Table 1: Example: discrete random variable

X	10	11	12	13	14
$p_X(x)$	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1

• Expectation

$$X - E(X) \quad -1,3 \quad -0,3 \quad 0,7 \quad 1,7 \quad 2,7$$

$$(X - E(X))^2 \quad 1,69 \quad 0,09 \quad 0,49 \quad 2,89 \quad 7,29$$

$$E(X) = \sum_x x p_X(x) \quad (1)$$

$$= 10 \cdot 0.4 + 11 \cdot 0.2 + 12 \cdot 0.2 + 13 \cdot 0.1 + 14 \cdot 0.1 \quad (2)$$

$$= 11.3 \quad (3)$$

Var(x)

$$= E \left( X - \underbrace{E(X)}_{11.3} \right)^2 = E \left( X - 11.3 \right)^2 = 1.69 \cdot 0.4 + 0.09 \cdot 0.2 + 0.49 \cdot 0.2 + 2.89 \cdot 0.1 + 7.29 \cdot 0.1$$

## Example: expectation and variance

Table 2: Example: discrete random variable

$X$	10	11	12	13	14
$p_X(x)$	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1

- Variance

$$E[(X - E(X))^2] = \sum_x (x - 11.3)^2 p_X(x) \quad (4)$$

$$= (10 - 11.3)^2 \cdot 0.4 + (11 - 11.3)^2 \cdot 0.2 \quad (5)$$

$$+ (12 - 11.3)^2 \cdot 0.2 + (13 - 11.3)^2 \cdot 0.1 \quad (6)$$

$$+ (14 - 11.3)^2 \cdot 0.1 \quad (7)$$

$$= \underline{1.81} \quad (8)$$



## Example: expectation and variance

Table 3: Example: discrete random variable

X	10	11	12	13	14
$p_X(x)$	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1

$x^2$     100    121    144    169    196

• Variance

$$\boxed{E[X^2]} - \{\boxed{E(X)}\}^2 = \boxed{\sum_x x^2 p_X(x)} - \underline{11.3^2} \quad (9)$$

$$= \underline{10^2 \cdot 0.4} + \underline{11^2 \cdot 0.2} + \underline{12^2 \cdot 0.2} + \underline{13^2 \cdot 0.1} \quad (10)$$

$$+ \underline{14^2 \cdot 0.1} - \underline{11.3^2} \quad (11)$$

$$= 40 + 24.2 + 28.8 + 16.9 + 19.6 - 127.69 \quad (12)$$

$$= \underline{1.81} \quad (13)$$