

## More on Joint Distributions, Joint Moments, Marginal Distributions and Statistical Independence

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
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### Example

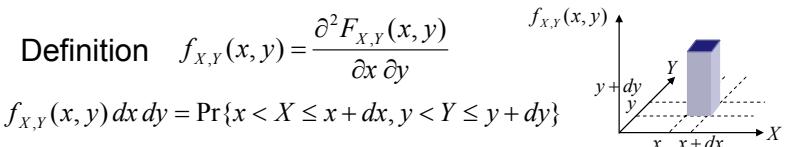
The joint density function of  $X$  and  $Y$  is given by

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = u(x)u(y)xe^{-x(y+1)}$$

Find the marginal density functions.

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy = \int_0^{\infty} u(x)xe^{-x(y+1)} dy \\ &= u(x)xe^{-x} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-xy} dy = u(x)xe^{-x} \left. \frac{e^{-xy}}{-x} \right|_{y=0}^{\infty} = u(x)e^{-x} \\ f_Y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx = \int_0^{\infty} u(y)xe^{-x(y+1)} dx \\ &= u(y)e^{-x(y+1)} \left[ \frac{x}{-(y+1)} - \frac{1}{(y+1)^2} \right]_{x=0}^{\infty} = \frac{u(y)}{(y+1)^2} \\ \text{note: } xe^{-ax} &= \frac{1}{a} \frac{d}{dx} \left( -\frac{1}{a} e^{-ax} - xe^{-ax} \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Joint Probability Density Functions



1.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) \geq 0, -\infty < x < \infty, -\infty < y < \infty$
2.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = 1$
3.  $F_{X,Y}(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{X,Y}(u,v) dv du$
4.  $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy, f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx \rightarrow \text{marginals}$
5.  $\Pr\{x_1 < X \leq x_2, y_1 < Y \leq y_2\} = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx$

### Expectation of Functions of Two R.V.s

- Similar definition as in single random variable case

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

- When  $g(X,Y) = X^n Y^k$

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

is called the **joint moment of  $X$  and  $Y$** . When  $n=k=1$ , it is called correlation.  $n+k$  is the order of the moment.

$$\begin{aligned} E[(X - \bar{X})(Y - \bar{Y})] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \bar{X})(y - \bar{Y}) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (xy - \bar{X}y - x\bar{Y} + \bar{X}\bar{Y}) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xy f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy - \bar{X}\bar{Y} = \bar{XY} - \bar{X}\bar{Y} \end{aligned}$$

## Joint Central Moments

$$E[(X - \bar{X})^n(Y - \bar{Y})^k] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \bar{X})^n(y - \bar{Y})^k f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy = \mu_{nk}$$

$$E[XY] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xy f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy = R_{XY} \text{ is the correlation between } X \text{ and } Y$$

If  $R_{XY} = E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to be uncorrelated.

If  $R_{XY} = 0$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to be orthogonal.

$\mu_{11}$  is called covariance.

$$\rho = E\left[\left(\frac{X - \bar{X}}{\sigma_X}\right)\left(\frac{Y - \bar{Y}}{\sigma_Y}\right)\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x - \bar{X}}{\sigma_X} \frac{y - \bar{Y}}{\sigma_Y} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy$$

$\rho$  is called the **correlation coefficient or normalized covariance**, which expresses the degree of correlation between the two r.v.s without regard to the magnitude of either one r.v.

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## More on Correlation Coefficient

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= E\left[\left(\frac{X - \bar{X}}{\sigma_X}\right)\left(\frac{Y - \bar{Y}}{\sigma_Y}\right)\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{x - \bar{X}}{\sigma_X}\right]\left[\frac{y - \bar{Y}}{\sigma_Y}\right] f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{xy - \bar{X}\bar{Y} - x\bar{Y} + \bar{X}\bar{Y}}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy = \frac{E[XY] - \bar{X}\bar{Y}}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} \end{aligned}$$

Define normalized r.v.  $\xi = \frac{X - \bar{X}}{\sigma_X}$  and  $\eta = \frac{Y - \bar{Y}}{\sigma_Y}$

Both  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are zero mean and unit variance, that is

$\bar{\xi} = \bar{\eta} = 0$  and  $\sigma_{\xi}^2 = \sigma_{\eta}^2 = 1$ . Then,  $\rho = E[\xi\eta]$

$$E[(\xi \pm \eta)^2] = E[\xi^2 \pm 2\xi\eta + \eta^2] = \sigma_{\xi}^2 \pm 2\rho + \sigma_{\eta}^2 = 2(1 \pm \rho) \geq 0$$

Therefore,  $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$

And if the two r.v.s are independent,  $\rho = E[\xi\eta] = \bar{\xi}\bar{\eta} = 0$

## Two Uniform Random Variables

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)}, & x_1 < x \leq x_2, y_1 < y \leq y_2 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

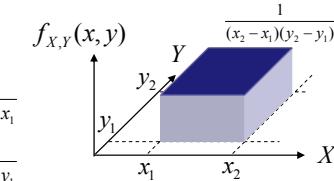
Marginals

$$f_X(x) = \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{1}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} dy = \frac{y}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} \Big|_{y_1}^{y_2} = \frac{1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{1}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} dx = \frac{x}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = \frac{1}{y_2 - y_1}$$

$$E[XY] = \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{xy}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} dx dy = \frac{1}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} \right] \left[ \frac{y^2}{2} \Big|_{y_1}^{y_2} \right] = \frac{(x_1 + x_2)(y_1 + y_2)}{4}$$

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = \int_{x_1}^x \int_{y_1}^y \frac{1}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)} dv du = \frac{(x - x_1)(y - y_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)}$$



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## Example – Exercise 3-4.1

Two random variables have means of 1 and variances of 1 and 4, respectively. Their correlation coefficient is 0.5.

- Find the variance of their sum.
- Find the mean square value of their sum.
- Find the mean square value of their difference.

$$1 = \sigma_X^2 = \bar{X}^2 - \bar{X}^2 = \bar{X}^2 - 1 \quad \therefore \bar{X}^2 = 2, \text{ and } 4 = \sigma_Y^2 = \bar{Y}^2 - \bar{Y}^2 = \bar{Y}^2 - 1 \quad \therefore \bar{Y}^2 = 5$$

$$0.5 = \rho = \frac{E[XY] - \bar{X}\bar{Y}}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} = \frac{\bar{XY} - 1}{2} \quad \therefore \bar{XY} = 2$$

$$\sigma_{X+Y}^2 = E[(X + Y - \bar{X} - \bar{Y})^2] = \bar{X}^2 + 2\bar{XY} + \bar{Y}^2 - (\bar{X} + \bar{Y})^2$$

$$= 2 + 4 + 5 - 4 = 7 \quad (\text{Is this independent of the means?})$$

$$E[(X + Y)^2] = \bar{X}^2 + 2\bar{XY} + \bar{Y}^2 = 2 + 4 + 5 = 11$$

$$E[(X - Y)^2] = \bar{X}^2 - 2\bar{XY} + \bar{Y}^2 = 2 - 4 + 5 = 3$$

## Conditional Probability

Recall  $F_x(x|M) = \Pr(X \leq x | M) = \frac{\Pr(X \leq x, M)}{\Pr(M)}$ ,  $\Pr(M) > 0$

If  $M = \{Y \leq y\}$ ,

$$F_x(x|M) = \Pr(X \leq x | Y \leq y) = \frac{\Pr(X \leq x, Y \leq y)}{\Pr(Y \leq y)} = \frac{F_{x,y}(x,y)}{F_y(y)}$$

Similarly,  $F_x(x|y_1 < Y \leq y_2) = \frac{F_{x,y}(x, y_2) - F_{x,y}(x, y_1)}{F_y(y_2) - F_y(y_1)}$

$$F_x(x|Y=y) = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{F_{x,y}(x, y + \Delta y) - F_{x,y}(x, y)}{F_y(y + \Delta y) - F_y(y)} = \frac{\partial F_{x,y}(x, y)/\partial y}{\partial F_y(y)/\partial y} = \frac{\int_x^y f_{x,y}(u, y) du}{f_y(y)}$$

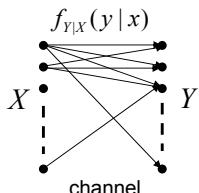
$$f_x(x|Y=y) = \frac{\frac{d}{dx} \int_x^y f_{x,y}(u, y) du}{f_y(y)} = \frac{f_{x,y}(x, y)}{f_y(y)}, \quad f_y(y|X=x) = \frac{f_{x,y}(x, y)}{f_x(x)}$$

Notation issue coming up!

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## Use of Conditional Probability - Example

- Consider an additive noise channel  $Y = X + N$ . I.e., a “random” source puts out signal  $X$  but at the destination, it is observed as  $Y$  due to additive noise  $N$ .
- We are often interested in estimating  $x$  (i.e., what was sent) based on the received signal  $y$ .
- Use Bayes formula

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{Y|X}(y|x)f_x(x)}{f_y(y)}$$

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_N(n) = f_N(y-x) \quad [\text{Note: here, we are looking at } Y = x + N, \text{ because } x \text{ is known}]$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_N(y-x)f_x(x)}{f_y(y)} = \frac{f_N(y-x)f_x(x)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_N(y-x)f_x(x) dx}$$

For a given observation  $y$ ,  $\arg \max_x f_{X|Y}(x|y)$  is a good estimate of the original symbol.

## Conditional Probability - Notation

$$f_{Y|X}(y|X=x) = f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{x,y}(x,y)}{f_x(x)}$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|Y=y) = f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{x,y}(x,y)}{f_y(y)}$$

We use  $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$  and  $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$  to make explicit the fact that  $x$  and  $y$  are “realized” **random variables**, rather than a parameter that define the density function  $f(y|x)$  or  $f(x|y)$ . If they are “parameters”, we’d use the notation like  $f(y;x)$  or  $f(x;y)$  [or more likely,  $f(y;a)$  or  $f(x;b)$ ]

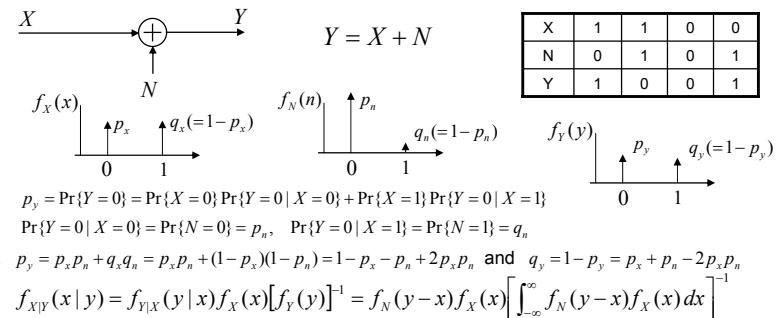
Marginals:  $f_x(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{x,y}(x,y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y) f_Y(y) dy$   
 $f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{x,y}(x,y) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{Y|X}(y|x) f_X(x) dx$

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## Binary Channel Example



$y$	$x$	$f_{X Y}(x y)$
0	0	$p_n p_x(p_y)^{-1}$
0	1	$q_n q_x(p_y)^{-1}$
1	0	$q_n p_x(q_y)^{-1}$
1	1	$p_n q_x(q_y)^{-1}$

Let  $p_x = 0.5$  and  $p_n = 0.9$ .  
 $\rightarrow p_y = 0.5 * 0.9 + 0.5 * 0.1 = 0.5$

Let  $p_x = 0.3$  and  $p_n = 0.6$ .  
 $\rightarrow p_y = 0.3 * 0.6 + 0.7 * 0.4 = 0.46$

$y$	$x$	$f_{X Y}(x y)$
0	0	0.9
0	1	0.1
1	0	0.1
1	1	0.9

$y$	$x$	$f_{X Y}(x y)$
0	0	9/23
0	1	14/23
1	0	2/9
1	1	7/9

## Modeling Measurement & Noise - Example

- In space probe, high energy particles are received from space. The interval between particle arrival times is considered a measurement of a certain space activity. (Recall Poisson distribution.) The arrival interval is a random signal with exponential distribution

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} b \exp(-bx) & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

- The measured signal usually has an additive noise component with Gaussian distribution:

$$Y = X + N \text{ and } f_N(n) = (\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_N)^{-1} \exp(-n^2/2\sigma_N^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{Y|X}(y|x)f_X(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_N(y-x)f_X(x)dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{b}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_N} \exp(-bx) \exp\left(-\frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma_N^2}\right) dx = b \exp\left(-by + \frac{b^2\sigma_N^2}{2}\right) Q\left(-\frac{y-b\sigma_N^2}{\sigma_N}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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## Measurement & Noise – Example (cont'd)

- The a posteriori probability density function is

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} [f_Y(y)]^{-1} \frac{b}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_N} \exp(-bx) \exp\left(-\frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma_N^2}\right), & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} [f_Y(y)]^{-1} \frac{b}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_N} \exp\left(-bx - \frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma_N^2}\right), & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Given  $y$  (received, known), we estimate the signal  $x$  (unknown) by

$$\arg \max_x f_{X|Y}(x|y) \text{ which is achieved at } \arg \min_x 2\sigma_N^2 bx + (y-x)^2 \\ \frac{d}{dx} 2\sigma_N^2 bx + (y-x)^2 = 2\sigma_N^2 b - 2(y-x) = 0, \rightarrow x = y - \sigma_N^2 b \text{ if } y \geq \sigma_N^2 b$$

Therefore, if  $y \geq \sigma_N^2 b$ ,  $\hat{x} = y - \sigma_N^2 b$ , and  $y < \sigma_N^2 b$ ,  $\hat{x} = 0$

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## Statistical Independence

- When two random variables are independent, a knowledge of one r.v. gives no information about the value of the other.

$X$  and  $Y$  are statistically independent, iff  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)$

$$E[XY] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xy f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_Y(y) dy = E[X]E[Y]$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} = f_X(x), \quad f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)} = f_Y(y)$$

Another way to see independence – if the joint probability density function can be factored into product of a function of  $x$  only and a function of  $y$  only, then the two r.v.s are statistically independent.

E.g., if  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = u(x)u(y)xe^{-x(y+1)}$ , can  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent?

## Exercise 3-3.1

Two random variables,  $X$  and  $Y$ , have a joint probability density function of the form

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} ke^{-(x+ay-1)}, & 0 \leq x \leq \infty, 1 \leq y \leq \infty \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Find

- a) values of  $k$  and  $a$  for which the random variables are statistically independent; b) the expected value of  $XY$ .

Since the joint pdf is separable, the two r.v.s are independent. We need to find  $a$  and  $k$  such that the function is a legitimate joint pdf.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \int_1^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx &= \int_0^{\infty} \int_1^{\infty} ke^{-(x+ay-1)} dy dx = ke \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} dx \int_1^{\infty} e^{-ay} dy \\ &= ke \left[ -e^{-x} \right]_{x=0}^{\infty} \left[ -\frac{e^{-ay}}{a} \right]_{y=1}^{\infty} = ke \bullet 1 \bullet \frac{e^{-a}}{a} = 1, \rightarrow a = 1, \text{ and } k = 1 \\ E[XY] &= e \int_0^{\infty} xe^{-x} dx \int_1^{\infty} ye^{-y} dy = e \bullet 1 \bullet 2e^{-1} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

## More on Statistical Independence

- Random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N$  are independent,

$$\text{iff } \Pr\{X_1 \leq x_1, X_2 \leq x_2, \dots, X_N \leq x_N\} \\ = \Pr\{X_1 \leq x_1\} \Pr\{X_2 \leq x_2\} \cdots \Pr\{X_N \leq x_N\}$$

Similarly, they are independent iff

$$f_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) = f_{X_1}(x_1)f_{X_2}(x_2)\cdots f_{X_N}(x_N)$$

- If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N$  are independent, then any subgroup of the random variables are independent. (Why?)
- However, generalization is not guaranteed: e.g., pair-wise independence does not immediately imply overall independence.