



**BITS Pilani**  
K K Birla Goa Campus

# Probability & Statistics,

Dr. Jajati Keshari Sahoo  
Department of Mathematics

# Joint Distributions



- In many statistical investigations, one is frequently interested in studying the relationship between two or more random variables, such as the relationship between annual income and yearly savings per family or the relationship between occupation and hypertension.



# Discrete joint distributions

- For two discrete random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , the probability that  $X$  will take the value  $x$  and  $Y$  will take the value  $y$  is written as  $P(X = x, Y = y)$ .
- Consequently,  $P(X = x, Y = y)$  is the probability of the intersection of the events  $X = x$  and  $Y = y$ .
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete random variables, the function given by  $f_{XY}(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$  for each pair of values  $(x, y)$  within the range of  $X$  and  $Y$  is called the **joint probability distribution or joint density function** of  $X$  and  $Y$ .



# Discrete joint distributions

Necessary and Sufficient conditions for a function to be act as joint discrete density

$$1. f_{XY}(x, y) \geq 0,$$

$$2. \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} f(x, y) = 1.$$



# Discrete joint distributions

---

## Joint cumulative distribution function:

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete random variables, the function given by

$$F(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = \sum_{s \leq x} \sum_{t \leq y} f(s, t)$$

is called the **joint distribution function**, or the **joint cumulative distribution** of  $X$  and  $Y$ .



# Discrete joint distributions

**Marginal distribution:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete random variables with joint density  $f(x, y)$  then

$$P(X = x) = f_X(x) = \sum_{\text{all } y} f(x, y)$$

is called the **marginal distribution** of  $X$ .

$$\text{Similarly, } P(Y = y) = f_Y(y) = \sum_{\text{all } x} f(x, y)$$

is called the **marginal distribution** of  $Y$ .



# Discrete joint distributions

## Mean:

For given random variables  $X$ , and  $Y$  with joint density function  $f(x, y)$  the function  $H(X, Y)$  is also a random variable.

The random variable  $H(X, Y)$  has expected value, or mean, given by

$$E[H(X, Y)] = \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} H(x, y) f(x, y)$$

provided this summation exists.



# Discrete joint distributions

## Univariate Averages Found Via the Joint Density

$$E[X] = \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} xf(x, y)$$

$$E[Y] = \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} yf(x, y)$$





# Discrete joint distributions

---

## Example 1:

There are 8 similar chips in a bowl: 3 marked  $(0,0)$ , 2 marked with  $(0,1)$ , and one marked  $(1,1)$ . A player selects a chip at random and is given the sum of the two coordinates in rupees. If  $X$  and  $Y$  represents those coordinates, respectively. Find the joint density of  $X, Y$ . Also calculate the expected payoff and marginal densities.



# Discrete joint distributions

---

**Example 2:** Two scanners are needed for an experiment. Of the five, two have electronic defects, another one has a defect in memory, and two are in good working order. Two units are selected at random.

- (a) Find the joint probability distribution of  $X$  (the number with electronic defects) and  $Y$  (the number with a defect in memory).
- (b) Find the probability of 0 or 1 total defects among the two selected.
- (c) Find the marginal probability distribution of  $X$ .
- (d) Find mean of  $Y$ .



# Discrete joint distributions

## Solution: (a)

$$f(x, y) = \frac{\binom{2}{x} \binom{1}{y} \binom{2}{2-x-y}}{\binom{5}{2}}$$

where  $x = 0, 1, 2$  and  $y = 0, 1$   
 $0 \leq x + y \leq 2$

The joint distribution table:

$f(x, y)$		$y$		$f_X(x)$
		0	1	
$x$	0	0.1	0.2	0.3
	1	0.4	0.2	0.6
	2	0.1	0.0	0.1
$f_Y(y)$		0.6	0.4	1



# Discrete joint distributions

(b) Let A be the event that  $X + Y$  equal to 0 or 1

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= f(0, 0) + f(0, 1) + f(1, 0) \\ &= 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.4 = 0.7 \end{aligned}$$

(c) The marginal probability distribution of  $X$  is given by

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{y=0}^{y=1} f(x, y) = f(x, 0) + f(x, 1)$$

$$f_X(0) = f(0, 0) + f(0, 1) = 0.1 + 0.2 = 0.3$$

$$f_X(1) = f(1, 0) + f(1, 1) = 0.4 + 0.2 = 0.6$$

$$f_X(2) = f(2, 0) + f(2, 1) = 0.1 + 0.0 = 0.1$$



# Discrete joint distributions

(d) The mean of  $Y$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= \sum_{x=0}^2 \sum_{y=0}^1 yf(x, y) \\ &= \sum_{x=0}^2 f(x, 1) \\ &= f(0, 1) + f(1, 1) + f(2, 1) \\ &= 0.2 + 0.2 + 0.0 = 0.4 \end{aligned}$$



# Discrete joint distributions

---

## Example 3:

A coin is tossed 3 times. Let  $Y$  denotes the number of heads and  $X$  denotes the absolute difference between the number of heads and tails. Find the joint density of  $X$  and  $Y$



# Discrete joint distributions

## Solution 3:

$y$

$x$

$f(x,y)$	0	1	2	3	$f_X(x)$
1	0	3/8	3/8	0	3/4
3	1/8	0	0	1/8	1/4
$f_Y(y)$	1/8	3/8	3/8	1/8	1



# Continuous joint distributions

---

There are many situation in which we describe an outcome by giving the value of several continuous variables.

- ❖ For instance, we may measure the weight and the hardness of a rock, the volume, pressure and temperature of a gas, or the thickness, color, compressive strength and potassium content of a piece of glass.





# Continuous joint distributions

## Definition:

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be continuous random variables. A function  $f_{XY}$  such that

$$1. f_{XY}(x, y) \geq 0$$

$$2. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx = 1$$

$$3. P[a \leq X \leq b \text{ and } c \leq Y \leq d] = \int_a^b \int_c^d f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx$$

is called the joint density for  $(X, Y)$ .



# Continuous joint distributions

The **joint cumulative distribution function** of  $X$  and  $Y$ , is defined by

$$F(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f(s, t) dt ds$$

Also partial differentiation yields

$$f(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F(x, y)$$

whenever these partial derivatives exists.



# Continuous joint distributions

**Marginal densities:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint density  $f(x, y)$  then

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

is called the **marginal distribution** of  $X$ .

$$\text{Similarly, } f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx$$

is called the **marginal distribution** of  $Y$ .



# Continuous joint distributions

## Mean:

For given random variables  $X$ , and  $Y$  with joint density function  $f(x, y)$  the function  $H(X, Y)$  is also a continuous random variable.

The random variable  $H(X, Y)$  has expected value, or mean, given by

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

provided this integral exists.



# Continuous distributions

## Univariate Averages Found Via the Joint Density

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x, y)dydx$$

$$E[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} yf(x, y)dydx$$



# Continuous distributions

## Independent Random Variables

**Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables with joint density  $f(x, y)$  and marginal densities  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$  respectively then  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if and only if

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x) f_Y(y).$$



# Continuous distributions

## Example-4

A gun is aimed at a certain point (origin of a coordinate system). Because of random failure, the actual hit can be any point  $(X, Y)$  in a circle of radius  $R$  about the origin. Assume that joint density is uniform over the circle

- (a) Find the joint density
- (b) Find the marginal densities
- (c) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent ?



# Continuous distributions

## Example-5

The joint density for  $(X, Y)$ , is given by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 2, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Calculate  $P[X < 1 \cup Y < 1]$  and  $P[X + Y < 1]$ .





# Continuous distributions

## Example-6

Two points are selected randomly on a line of length  $L$  so as to be on opposite sides of the midpoint of the line. find the probability that the distance between the two points is greater than  $L/3$ .

**Ans:0.77**



# Continuous distributions

## Example-7

A man and woman decide to meet at a certain location. If each person independently arrives at a time uniformly distributed between 10.00 and 11.00AM, find the probability that the first to arrive has to wait at least 10 minutes.

**Ans:  $25/36$**



# Continuous distributions

## Example-8

An accident occurs at a point  $X$  that is uniformly distributed on a road of length  $L$ . At the time of the accident, an ambulance is at a location  $Y$  that is also uniformly distributed on the road. Assuming that  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, find the expected distance between the ambulance and the point of the accident. **Ans:  $L/3$**



# Continuous distributions

## Conditional density

**Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables with joint density  $f(x, y)$  and marginal densities  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$  respectively. Then the conditional density of  $X$  given  $Y=y$  is defined as

$$f_{X|y}(x) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}, \text{ provided } f_Y(y) > 0.$$



# Continuous distributions

## Conditional density

**Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables with joint density  $f(x, y)$  and marginal densities  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$  respectively. Then the conditional density of  $Y$  given  $X=x$  is defined as

$$f_{Y|x}(y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_X(x)}, \text{ provided } f_X(x) > 0.$$



# Continuous distributions

## Conditional means

**Definition:** The conditional mean of  $X$  given  $Y=y$  is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{X|y} &= E \left[ X \mid Y=y \right] \\ &= \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|y}(x) dx & \text{if continuous,} \\ \sum_{\text{all } x} x f_{X|y}(x) & \text{if discrete.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



# Continuous distributions

## Conditional means

**Definition:** The the conditional mean of  $Y$  given  $X=x$  is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{Y|x} &= E [Y |_{X=x}] \\ &= \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_{Y|x}(y) dy & \text{if continuous,} \\ \sum_{\text{all } y} y f_{Y|x}(y) & \text{if discrete.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



# Continuous distributions

## Curves of regression

### **Definition 1:**

The graph of  $\mu_{X|y}$  is called curve of regression of  $X$  on  $Y$ .

### **Definition 2:**

The graph of  $\mu_{Y|x}$  is called curve of regression of  $Y$  on  $X$ .





# Continuous distributions

## Example-9

If the joint density of  $X$  and  $Y$  is given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad 0 < y < x < 1.$$

- (a) Find conditional densities.
- (b) Find conditional means.
- (c) Find curves of regression.
- (d) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent ?



# Continuous distributions

## Example-10

If the joint density of  $X$  and  $Y$  is given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{10}, 1 \leq y \leq x \leq 4.$$

- (a) Find conditional densities.
- (b) Find conditional means.
- (c) Find curves of regression.
- (d) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent ?



# Continuous distributions

## Example-11

Choose a number  $X$  at random from the set of numbers  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Now choose another number at random from the subset  $\{1, \dots, X\}$ . Call this second number  $Y$ . Find the joint density of  $(X, Y)$ .



# Continuous distributions

## Covariance

### **Definition:**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables with means  $\mu_X$  and  $\mu_Y$  respectively. The covariance of  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined as

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)].$$

**Computation formula for Covariance:**

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y].$$



# Continuous distributions

## Theorems:

### **Theorem 1:**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be any two random variables, then

$$\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y).$$

### **Theorem 2:**

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent then

$$E[XY] = E[X]E[Y].$$



# Continuous distributions

## Observations:

- ❖ If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent then  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ .
- ❖  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$  does not imply that  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

Example 12:

		$y$		
	$f(x, y)$	1	-1	$f(x)$
$x$	1	0.5	0.5	1
	$f(y)$	0.5	0.5	1

Here  $X = Y^2$ ,  $E(X) = 1$ ,  $E(XY) = 0$ ,  $E(Y) = 0$ .



# Continuous distributions

## Observations:

### Example 13:

Suppose  $X \sim U(-1, 1)$  and  $Y = X^2$  (so  $X$  and  $Y$  are clearly dependent).

$$\text{But } E[X] = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{x}{2} dx = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$E[XY] = E[X^3] = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{x^3}{2} dx = 0,$$

$$\text{so } \text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = 0.$$



# Continuous distributions

## Correlation:

### **Definition:**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables.

The correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  is

$$\text{defined as } \rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)}}.$$





# Continuous distributions

## Example-14

If the joint density of  $X$  and  $Y$  is given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{200}, 20 < y < x < 40.$$

(a) Find  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ .

(b) Find correlation of  $X$  and  $Y$ .