

Ch. 4 - Discrete Random Variables and Probability Distributions

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The Leading Example

- Consider the following experiment: Tossing a coin 5 times.

Leading Example

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Binomial Model

Poisson Model

Linear Functions
of a Single r.v.

Joint
Distributions

Joint
Distribution

Linear Functions
of Two r.v.'s

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- ▶ Now we can rewrite the previous conditions as

$$\text{Experiment} = \begin{cases} \text{you win if} & X \geq 3 \\ \text{I win if} & X \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

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- ▶ "I am going to offer this gamble to the person who offers the highest participation fee".
(i.e. first everyone decides how much to offer take the gamble. Then, if you are the one with the highest offer, I claim the participation fee from you first and then the result of Lucky Experiment determines who is going to receive \$8.)

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- ▶ How much you would offer at maximum to take the gamble?

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$$\begin{aligned}P(X \leq 1) &= P(X = 0) + P(X = 1) \\&= P(TTTTT) + P(4T \text{ and } 1H) \\&= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + 5 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 \\&= 6 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 = \frac{6}{32}\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Since $P(X \leq 1) + P(X \geq 2) = 1$, we also have $P(X \geq 2) = \frac{26}{32}$
- ▶ Then **average return**

$$\begin{aligned}P(X \leq 1) \cdot (-8) + P(X \geq 2) \cdot (8) &= [P(X \geq 2) - P(X \leq 1)] \cdot 8 \\&= \left(\frac{26}{32} - \frac{6}{32}\right) \cdot 8 = 5\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ You would **expect** to make \$5 if you had chance to participate the gamble.
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$\vdots$	$\vdots$

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- ▶ We can think of the table above as a concise mathematical representation of the experiment. However, for our purposes, as in the leading example, this representation is not the most useful one.
- ▶ Since all we are interested in is the possible values that X can assume and their corresponding probabilities, it is a good idea to sum up probabilities over the rows with the same X value:

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X	$P(X)$
0	$1 \cdot (1/2)^5$
1	$5 \cdot (1/2)^5$
2	$10 \cdot (1/2)^5$
3	$10 \cdot (1/2)^5$
4	$5 \cdot (1/2)^5$
5	$1 \cdot (1/2)^5$

- ▶ This table is called **Probability Distribution of X**

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- ▶ As before, we can also construct the probability distribution function

X	$P(X = x)$
0	$(0.6)^5$
1	$C_1^5 \cdot (0.4)^1(0.6)^4$
2	$C_2^5 \cdot (0.4)^2(0.6)^3$
3	$C_3^5 \cdot (0.4)^3(0.6)^2$
4	$C_4^5 \cdot (0.4)^4(0.6)^1$
5	$C_5^5 \cdot (0.4)^5(0.6)^0$

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- ▶ Then we can revise the table as follows

X	$P(X = x)$
0	$C_0^5 \cdot p^0 (1 - p)^5$
1	$C_1^5 \cdot p^1 (1 - p)^4$
2	$C_2^5 \cdot p^2 (1 - p)^3$
3	$C_3^5 \cdot p^3 (1 - p)^2$
4	$C_4^5 \cdot p^4 (1 - p)^1$
5	$C_5^5 \cdot p^5 (1 - p)^0$

- ▶ Finally, note that if the experiment consisted of n coin tossing instead of 5, we would have

X	$P(X = x)$
0	$C_0^n \cdot p^0 (1 - p)^n$
1	$C_1^n \cdot p^1 (1 - p)^{n-1}$
2	$C_2^n \cdot p^2 (1 - p)^{n-2}$
3	$C_3^n \cdot p^3 (1 - p)^{n-3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$n-1$	$C_{n-1}^n \cdot p^{n-1} (1 - p)^1$
n	$C_n^n \cdot p^n (1 - p)^0$

- ▶ For example, suppose that we would like to calculate the probability of observing 3 Heads out of n coin tossing, where $P(H) = p$.
- ▶ We have already calculated this probability:

$$P(X = 3) = C_3^n \cdot p^3(1 - p)^{n-3}$$

- ▶ We can still answer even a more general question:
"probability of observing x Heads out of n coin tossing when $P(H) = p$ "

$$P(X = x) = C_x^n \cdot p^x(1 - p)^{n-x}$$

Example

Find the following probabilities:

1. Probability of observing 7 Heads out of 12 tossing with $P(H) = 0.7$.

- ▶ Let X : # of Heads in 12 tossing, then

$$P(X = 7) = C_7^{12} \cdot (0.7)^7(0.3)^5$$

Alternatively, if we let Y : # of Tails, then we would have to calculate

$$P(Y = 5) = C_5^{12} \cdot (0.3)^5(0.7)^7$$

2. In a classroom with 35 females and 65 males, what is the probability of having 4 females in a randomly selected group of 10 (with replacement)?

- ▶ Let F : # of females selected in the experiment.
- ▶ Also if we denote the probability of choosing a female by p for each member of the group, then $p = 0.35$ and because of "with replacement" assumption, this probability does not change throughout the experiment.
- ▶ Then we can apply the previous results to answer the question as

$$P(F = 4) = C_4^{10} \cdot (0.35)^4(0.65)^6$$

- ▶ If the experiment was *without replacement*, would that answer still be valid?

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The last two are interesting questions but we need two more concept in order to think about these type of questions:

- Expected Value of a r.v.

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$$P(X \leq 2) = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq 2) &= P(X = 0) + P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) \\ &= C_0^{15}(0.8)^0(0.2)^{15} + C_1^{15}(0.8)^1(0.2)^{14} + C_2^{15}(0.8)^2(0.2)^{13} \end{aligned}$$

4 What is the probability that at least three airlines will be late,

$$P(X \geq 3)?$$

$$\text{Since } \sum_{x \in \{0,1,2,\dots,15\}} P(X = x) = 1$$

$$\implies P(X \geq 3) = 1 - P(X \leq 2)$$

5 How many airlines will be late in one month on average?

6 Can you calculate the variation in the number of airlines that are late?

The last two are interesting questions but we need two more concept in order to think about these type of questions:

- ▶ Expected Value of a r.v.
- ▶ Variance (or std) of a r.v.

Expected Value and Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Expected Value of a discrete random variable X , with probability distribution function $P(x)$ is given by

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Standard Deviation of X is defined as the square root of the variance, therefore with this notation it will be simply σ .

Example

Toss 2 coins, and let

$$X = \#ofHeads$$

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- Variance of X

$$\begin{aligned} V(X) &= \sum_{i=1}^3 (x_i - \mu)^2 \cdot P(X = x_i) \\ &= (0 - 1)^2 \cdot (0.25) + (1 - 1)^2 \cdot (0.50) + (2 - 1)^2 \cdot (0.25) = 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, standard deviation of X is

$$\sigma = \sqrt{V(X)} = \sqrt{0.5} = 0.707$$

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Therefore, $\sigma = \sqrt{2.4}$

A contractor estimates the probabilities for the number of days required to complete a certain type of construction project as follows:

Time (days)	1	2	3	4	5
Probability	0.05	0.2	0.35	0.3	0.1

1. What is the probability that a randomly chosen project takes less than 3 days to complete?
2. Find the expected time to complete the project.
3. Find the standard deviation of time required to complete the project.
4. Suppose the contractor's project cost is made of two parts: a fixed cost of \$20,000 and \$2,000 for each day taken to complete the project. Find the mean and standard deviation of total project cost.
5. If three projects are undertaken, what is the probability that at least two of them will take at least 4 days to complete? Assume that project completion times are independent.

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- ▶ Next, we are going to study another important class of problems.

The Poisson Model

- Consider the following problem:

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- Consider the following problem:

From the past data provided by Whole Foods (Union Square, NY), you know that 60% of shoppers are female.

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- ▶ Sometimes a problem can be analyzed by both Binomial and Poisson Models, but in this course we will only see the problems that just one of them fits the situation best.

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- ▶ Based on this snapshot data, then you would like to calculate various probabilities regarding the number of occurrences of the event of interest (*i.e. the probability that 5 females will enter in the very next second*).

The Poisson Distribution Function

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- ▶ This is a very typical property of the Poisson problems: we know the average number of occurrences of a particular event per unit, and we would like to compute probabilities for specific number of occurrences per unit.
- ▶ Note that X and λ should be expressed in term of the same unit. Next problem will clarify the importance of this point further...

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where a and b are constants.

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- ▶ The most important observation: Y is a r.v. too and $P(y)$ is completely determined by $P(x)$.

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- By doing the same thing for $X = 1$ and $X = 2$, we obtain $P(y)$ as

Y	140	230	260
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 1. $Y_1 = 3 - 7X$
 2. $Y_2 = X^2 + X - 2$

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$$E(Y) = 200 + 30E(X) = 200 + 30(-0.3) = 191$$

- ▶ In words, once we know or have already calculated $E(X)$, we can use this to calculate $E(Y)$ **when** Y is a linear function of X . Let us express this important result for later reference.

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Result 1

Let X be r.v. with $\mu_x = E(X)$, then for $Y = a + bX$ we have

$$E(Y) = a + bE(X) \quad \text{or} \quad \mu_y = a + b\mu_x$$

Variances of Linear Random Variables

- Now, let us calculate the variances for each of the three r.v.'s

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_X^2 &= \sum_{x \in \{-2, 1, 2\}} (x - \mu_x)^2 P(X = x) \\ &= (-2 + 0.3)^2(.5) + (1 + 0.3)^2(0.3) + (2 + 0.3)^2(0.2) = 3.01\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_Y^2 &= \sum_{y \in \{140, 230, 260\}} (y - \mu_y)^2 P(Y = y) \\ &= (140 - 191)^2(.5) + (230 - 191)^2(0.3) + (260 - 191)^2(0.2) = 2709\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{Y_{nl}}^2 &= \sum_{y_{nl} \in \{1, 4\}} (y_{nl} - \mu_{y_{nl}})^2 P(Y_{nl} = y_{nl}) \\ &= (1 - 3.1)^2(.3) + (4 - 3.1)^2(0.7) = 1.89\end{aligned}$$

- Now notice the relationship between σ_X^2 and σ_Y^2 :

$$\sigma_Y^2 = 30^2 \sigma_X^2 = 900(3.01) = 2709$$

- In words, again once we know or have already calculated σ_X^2 , we can use this to calculate σ_Y^2 **when** Y is a linear function of X . Also note that the constant term a drops when we talk about the variance.

Result 2

Let X be r.v. with $\text{Var}(X) = \sigma_x^2$, then for $Y = a + bX$ we have

$$\text{Var}(Y) = b^2 \text{Var}(X) \quad \text{or} \quad \sigma_y^2 = b^2 \sigma_x^2 \quad \text{and also} \quad \sigma_y = |b| \sigma_x$$

Jointly Distributed Discrete Random Variables

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- ▶ Suppose you are part of a team studying the relationship between smoking habits and cancer.
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Light-smoker	.	.
Heavy-smoker	.	.

Jointly Distributed Discrete Random Variables

- Suppose your survey have produced the following data

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- Suppose your survey have produced the following data

<i>Smoking / Cancer</i>	Yes	No
Non-smoker	20	580
Light-smoker	35	215
Heavy-smoker	45	105

- Of course, once we have this table we can answer many questions regarding smoking habits and cancer tendency in this age group. For example, we can compute the probability of randomly chosen male in that age range to be non-smoker, light-smoker and cancer, etc...

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 - C = Cancer history, coded with $C = 0$ for Yes and $C = 1$ for No.

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 - C = Cancer history, coded with $C = 0$ for Yes and $C = 1$ for No.
 - S = Smoking habit, coded with $S = 0$ for non-smokers, $S = 1$ for light-smokers and $S = 2$ for heavy-smokers.

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- Now we can represent the same table in terms of these r.v.'s and probabilities

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- Now we can represent the same table in terms of these r.v.'s and probabilities

$S(row)/C$	0	1
0	.020	.580
1	.035	.215
2	.045	.105

$S(\text{row})/C$	0	1
0	.020	.580
1	.035	.215
2	.045	.105

- ▶ At this point, make sure that you understand why S and C are r.v.'s.
- ▶ For example, $P(S = 1, C = 0) = 0.035$ is the probability that a randomly chosen male of that age group is a light-smoker **and** diagnosed with cancer.
- ▶ Instead of writing $P(S = 1, C = 0) = 0.035$, you can simply write $P(1, 0) = 0.035$ as long as it is clear that the first component is the value of S and the second component is that of C .
- ▶ With this data what else we can do? For example,
 - ▶ Probability of randomly selected male to be a non-smoker?

$$P(S = 0) = P(S = 0, C = 0) + P(S = 0, C = 1) = 0.020 + 0.580 = 0.6$$
 i.e. at $S = 0$ sum over C . We are going to call this the **marginal probabilities** of S .
 - ▶ Similarly, we can compute $P(S = 1) = 0.25$ and $P(S = 2) = 0.15$, and then construct **marginal probability distribution** table for S as

S	0	1	2
$P(S=s)$	.60	.25	.15

- ▶ Since we have already obtained $P(s)$, $E(S)$ and $V(S)$ can be easily computed as usual. [Verify that $E(S) = .55$ and $V(S) = .366$.]

$S(\text{row})/C$	0	1
0	.020	.580
1	.035	.215
2	.045	.105

- ▶ With this data what else we can do? (Cont'd)
 - ▶ Probability of a randomly selected male having experienced cancer given that the person is a non-smoker?

$$P(C = 0|S = 0) = \frac{P(S = 0, C = 0)}{P(S = 0)} = \frac{0.02}{0.60} = 0.033$$

Similarly, we can also calculate $P(C = 1|S = 0)$. These two are called **conditional probabilities** of C given the person is a non-smoker

- ▶ This last point is usually not well-understood. The most important thing to observe is that $C|(S = 0)$ is a r.v. because although we know that $S = 0$, we do not know whether $C = 0$ or $C = 1$ yet. Each of these two possibilities have their respective probabilities, denoted by $P(C = 0|S = 0)$ and $P(C = 1|S = 0)$, respectively.
- ▶ If you wish you can give another name to $C|S = 0$. For example, say you defined $Z = (C|S = 0)$. Then Z is either 0 or 1, and we can calculate $P(Z = 0)$ and $P(Z = 1)$ from the table. With this notation $P(Z = 0) = P(C = 0|S = 0)$ and $P(Z = 1) = P(C = 1|S = 0)$.

- ▶ Since $C|(S = 0)$ is a r.v. we should be able to calculate its expected value and variance, right?
- ▶ Before that, let us summarize what we have done so far under the probability distribution of $C|S = 0$ as follows (in two alternative ways)

$C (S = 0)$	0	1
$P(C S = 0)$	.03	.97

Z	0	1
$P(Z)$	.03	.97

- ▶ Once you write down the probability distribution as above it is straightforward to compute its expected value and variance:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(C|S = 0) &= \mu_{C|S} = \sum_{c \in \{0,1\}} cP(C = c|S = 0) \\
 &= 0 \times (.03) + 1 \times (.97) = 0.97 \\
 Var(C|S = 0) &= \sigma_{C|S}^2 = \sum_{c \in \{0,1\}} (\mu_{C|S} - c)^2 P(C = c|S = 0) \\
 &= (0 - .97)^2(.03) + (1 - .97)^2(0.97) = 0.0291
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Through this example, we have seen most of the most important concepts that you should know in this section. Next, we are going to express these concepts in terms of two arbitrary r.v.'s X and Y .

Definitions

- ▶ A **joint probability distribution** is used to express the probability that simultaneously X takes the specific value x and Y takes the value y :

$$P(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$$

- ▶ The **marginal probability distributions** are

$$P(x) = \sum_y P(x, y), \quad P(y) = \sum_x P(x, y)$$

- ▶ The **conditional probability distribution** of the random variable Y expresses the probability that Y takes the value y when the value x is specified for X :

$$P(y|x) = \frac{P(x, y)}{P(x)}$$

- ▶ Similarly, the conditional probability function of X , given $Y = y$ is

$$P(x|y) = \frac{P(x, y)}{P(y)}$$

- ▶ The jointly distributed random variables X and Y are said to be **independent** if the following condition is satisfied

$$P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$$

for all possible (x, y) pairs.

Covariance

- ▶ Let X and Y be two discrete r.v.'s with means μ_x and μ_y .
- ▶ The expected value of $(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)$ is called **covariance** between X and Y :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X, Y) &= E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)] \\ &= \sum_x \sum_y (x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y) P(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Sometimes the following might be easier to compute the $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$

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

- ▶ If two random variables are statistically independent, the covariance between them is 0. However, the converse is not necessarily true.
- ▶ As an example, let us compute the covariance between smoking habits and cancer, i.e. $\text{Cov}(S, C) = ?$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(S, C) &= E[(S - \mu_S)(C - \mu_C)] \\ &= \sum_s \sum_c (s - \mu_S)(c - \mu_C) P(s, c) \\ &= (0 - .55)(0 - .9)(.02) \\ &\quad + (0 - .55)(1 - .9)(.580) + \dots \\ &\quad + \dots (2 - .55)(1 - .9)(.105) = ? \end{aligned}$$

S/C	0	1
0	.020	.580
1	.035	.215
2	.045	.105

$$\mu_S = .55 \text{ and } \mu_C = .9$$

Correlation

- ▶ Remember that in chapter 2, we discussed why the covariance might not be a good measure at revealing the relationship between two variables. (Basically because covariance is unit sensitive but review that lecture if you don't remember)
- ▶ The same applies here: Covariance only tells the direction of the relationship, not the strength of it. In order to measure both we use correlation coefficient...
- ▶ **Correlation Coefficient** measures the direction and relative strength of the linear relationship between two r.v. variables

$$\rho = \text{Corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

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Properties and interpretation of ρ_{XY}

- ▶ $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$
- ▶ $\rho = 0$: no linear relationship between X and Y
- ▶ $\rho > 0$: positive linear relationship between X and Y, i.e. when X is high (low) then Y is likely to be high (low).
- ▶ $\rho < 0$: negative linear relationship between X and Y, i.e. when X is high (low) then Y is likely to be low (high)
- ▶ When $\rho = 1$ ($\rho = -1$) there is a perfect positive (negative) linear dependency between X and Y.

Linear Functions of Two Random Variables

- ▶ Just like in the single r.v. case, when we have two r.v.'s X and Y we can generate/define new r.v.'s.
- ▶ For example, $W_1 = 3X + Y$ and $W_2 = x^2 - 5Y$ are just two new r.v.'s that are generated from X and Y .
- ▶ In this section, we are going to be interested only in linear combinations of two r.v.'s:

$$W = aX \pm bY$$

- ▶ The **Expected Value** for the linear combination of two r.v.'s

$$E[W] = aE(X) \pm bE(Y) \quad \text{or}$$

$$\mu_w = a\mu_x \pm b\mu_y$$

- ▶ The **Variance** for the linear combination of two r.v.'s

$$\text{Var}[W] = a^2 \text{Var}(X) + b^2 \text{Var}(Y) \pm 2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y) \quad \text{or}$$

$$\sigma_w^2 = a^2 \sigma_x^2 + b^2 \sigma_y^2 \pm 2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

- ▶ As an example, let us look at the following portfolio example. We will also be able to gain some intuition why the term $2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y)$ appears in the formula above.

Portfolio Analysis

- Let random variable X be the price for stock A
- Let random variable Y be the price for stock B
- The **market value, W** , for the portfolio is given by the linear function

$$W = aX + bY$$

(a is the number of shares of stock A,
 b is the number of shares of stock B)

Portfolio Analysis

(continued)

- The **mean** value for W is

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_W &= E[W] = E[aX + bY] \\ &= a\mu_X + b\mu_Y\end{aligned}$$

- The **variance** for W is

$$\sigma_W^2 = a^2\sigma_X^2 + b^2\sigma_Y^2 + 2ab\text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

or using the correlation formula

$$\sigma_W^2 = a^2\sigma_X^2 + b^2\sigma_Y^2 + 2ab\text{Corr}(X, Y)\sigma_X\sigma_Y$$

Example: Investment Returns

Return per \$1,000 for two types of investments

$P(x_i, y_i)$	Economic condition	Investment	
		Passive Fund X	Aggressive Fund Y
.2	Recession	- \$ 25	- \$200
.5	Stable Economy	+ 50	+ 60
.3	Expanding Economy	+ 100	+ 350

$$E(x) = \mu_x = (-25)(.2) + (50)(.5) + (100)(.3) = 50$$

$$E(y) = \mu_y = (-200)(.2) + (60)(.5) + (350)(.3) = 95$$

Computing the Standard Deviation for Investment Returns

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0.2	Recession	- \$ 25	- \$200
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0.3	Expanding Economy	+ 100	+ 350

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{(-25 - 50)^2(0.2) + (50 - 50)^2(0.5) + (100 - 50)^2(0.3)}$$

$$= 43.30$$

$$\sigma_y = \sqrt{(-200 - 95)^2(0.2) + (60 - 95)^2(0.5) + (350 - 95)^2(0.3)}$$

$$= 193.71$$

Covariance for Investment Returns

$P(x_i, y_i)$	Economic condition	Investment	
		Passive Fund X	Aggressive Fund Y
.2	Recession	- \$ 25	- \$200
.5	Stable Economy	+ 50	+ 60
.3	Expanding Economy	+ 100	+ 350

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Cov}(X, Y) &= (-25 - 50)(-200 - 95)(.2) + (50 - 50)(60 - 95)(.5) \\
 &\quad + (100 - 50)(350 - 95)(.3) \\
 &= 8250
 \end{aligned}$$

Portfolio Example

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{Investment X:} & \mu_x = 50 & \sigma_x = 43.30 \\ \text{Investment Y:} & \mu_y = 95 & \sigma_y = 193.21 \\ & & \sigma_{xy} = 8250 \end{array}$$

Suppose 40% of the portfolio (P) is in Investment X and 60% is in Investment Y:

$$E(P) = .4(50) + (.6)(95) = 77$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_P &= \sqrt{(.4)^2(43.30)^2 + (.6)^2(193.21)^2 + 2(.4)(.6)(8250)} \\ &= 133.04 \end{aligned}$$

The portfolio return and portfolio variability are between the values for investments X and Y considered individually

Interpreting the Results for Investment Returns

- The aggressive fund has a higher expected return, but much more risk

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_y &= 95 > \mu_x = 50 \\ \text{but} \\ \sigma_y &= 193.21 > \sigma_x = 43.30\end{aligned}$$

- The Covariance of 8250 indicates that the two investments are positively related and will vary in the same direction

Review Example 1

Suppose that X is the number of tennis rackets and Y is the number of golf clubs sold daily in a small sports store, and their joint probability distribution is as in the table below

$X(\text{row})/Y(\text{col.})$	1	2	3
1	.30	.18	.12
2	.15	.09	.06
3	.05	.03	.02

1. Determine the marginal probability distributions of X and Y .

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1. Determine the marginal probability distributions of X and Y .

X	1	2	3
$P(X)$	.6	.3	.1

Y	1	2	3
$P(Y)$	.5	.3	.2

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$P(Y)$	.5	.3	.2

2. Are X and Y independent? Explain.

X and Y are independent since $P(x, y) = P(x) \cdot P(y)$ for all pairs (x, y) . For example,

$$\begin{aligned}P(X = 1, Y = 1) &= P(X = 1) \cdot P(Y = 1) \\0.3 &= (0.6) \cdot (0.5)\end{aligned}$$

Verify that this condition is satisfied for all the other pairs (x, y) .

Example Cont'd

$X(\text{row})/Y(\text{col.})$	1	2	3
1	.30	.18	.12
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3 Calculate the conditional probability $P(Y = 3|X = 1)$.

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$$P(Y = 3|X = 1) = \frac{P(X=1 \text{ and } Y=3)}{P(X=1)} = \frac{0.12}{0.60} = 0.20$$

Example Cont'd

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4 Calculate the expected values of X and Y, i.e, $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$.

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$$P(Y = 3|X = 1) = \frac{P(X=1 \text{ and } Y=3)}{P(X=1)} = \frac{0.12}{0.60} = 0.20$$

4 Calculate the expected values of X and Y, i.e, $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$.

To calculate $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$ we need the marginal probabilities from part (a).

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_x &= \sum_{x \in \{1,2,3\}} x \cdot P(x) \\ &= 1.(0.6) + 2.(0.3) + 3.(0.1) \\ &= 1.5\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_y &= \sum_{y \in \{1,2,3\}} y \cdot P(y) \\ &= 1.(0.5) + 2.(0.3) + 3.(0.2) \\ &= 1.7\end{aligned}$$

5 Calculate the variance for X and Y .

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$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_y^2 &= \sum_{x \in \{1,2,3\}} (x - \mu_x)^2 P(X = x) \\ &= (1 - 1.7)^2(0.5) + (2 - 1.7)^2(0.3) + (3 - 1.7)^2(0.2) = 0.61\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, verify that $\sigma_x^2 = .45$.

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Similarly, verify that $\sigma_x^2 = .45$.

6 Calculate $E(XY)$.

Let us give little more detail on this part. We can think of in two different ways:

- (a) Define $Z = XY$, and construct the prob. dist. table for Z , and then calculate $E(Z)$:

Z	1	2	3	4	6	9
$P(z)$	.30	.33	0.17	.09	.09	.02

(Note that we get $Z = 2$ for two different (x, y) pairs, $(1, 2)$ and $(2, 1)$, so we need to add them up to get $P(Z = 2)$. In another words, $P(Z = 2) = P(1, 2) + P(2, 1) = 0.18 + 0.15 = 0.33$. We did the same thing to compute $P(Z = 3)$ and $P(Z = 6)$. Check!)

$$E(Z) = \sum_z z \cdot P(z) = 1(.3) + 2(.33) + \dots + 9(.02) = 2.55$$

- (b) Alternatively, for each (x, y) pair compute $x \cdot y \cdot P(x, y)$, and then add them up:

$$E(XY) = (1)(1)(.3) + (1)(2)(.18) + (1)(3)(.12) + \dots + (3)(3)(.02) = 2.55$$

7 Calculate $\text{Cov}(X,Y)$. Did you expect this answer? Why?

7 Calculate $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$. Did you expect this answer? Why?

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y) = 2.55 - (1.70)(1.50) = 0.$$

Yes, this was expected since X and Y are independent, from part (c).

8 Find the probability distribution of the random variable $W = X + Y$.

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8 Find the probability distribution of the random variable $W = X + Y$.

W	2	3	4	5	6
$P(w)$	.3	.33	.26	.09	.02

9 Compute $E(W)$ and $\text{Var}(W)$ directly by using the probability distribution of W .

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$$\mu_w = \sum_w w \cdot P(W = w)$$

$$= 2(.3) + \dots + 6(.02)$$

$$= 3.2$$

$$\sigma_w^2 = \sum_w (w - \mu_w)^2 \cdot P(W = w)$$

$$= (2 - 3.2)^2(.3) + \dots + (6 - 3.2)^2(.02)$$

$$= 1.06$$

10 Compute $E(W)$ and $\text{Var}(W)$ by using the formulas given for the r.v.'s are linear combinations of two r.v.'s.

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$$\begin{aligned}\mu_w &= \sum_w w \cdot P(W = w) \\ &= 2(.3) + \dots + 6(.02) \\ &= 3.2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_w^2 &= \sum_w (w - \mu_w)^2 \cdot P(W = w) \\ &= (2 - 3.2)^2(.3) + \dots + (6 - 3.2)^2(.02) \\ &= 1.06\end{aligned}$$

10 Compute $E(W)$ and $\text{Var}(W)$ by using the formulas given for the r.v.'s are linear combinations of two r.v.'s.

$W = aX + bY$, so here $a = 1$ and $b = 1$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_w &= 1 \cdot \mu_x + 1 \cdot \mu_y \\ &= 1.5 + 1.7 \\ &= 3.2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_w^2 &= (1)^2 \sigma_x^2 + (1)^2 \sigma_y^2 + 2(1)(1) \text{Cov}(X, Y) \\ &= 0.61 + 0.45 + 2 \cdot 0 \\ &= 1.06\end{aligned}$$

11 Show that $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$. Did you expect this result? Why?

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- 11 Show that $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$. Did you expect this result? Why?

$\text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) = .61 + .45 = 1.06$ which is equal to $\text{Var}(W = X + Y) = 1.06$. Yes, since X and Y are independent random variables.

- 12 Compute $P(X = 2 \mid X + Y = 4) = ?$

- 11 Show that $Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$. Did you expect this result? Why?

$Var(X) + Var(Y) = .61 + .45 = 1.06$ which is equal to $Var(W = X + Y) = 1.06$. Yes, since X and Y are independent random variables.

- 12 Compute $P(X = 2 | X + Y = 4) = ?$

Since we know that $X + Y = 4$, we can forget all (x, y) pairs that doesn't satisfy this condition. So the joint probability distribution reduces to the following

$X(row)/Y(col.)$	1	2	3
1	.30	.18	.12
2	.15	.09	.06
3	.05	.03	.02

Then,

$$P(X = 2 | X + Y = 4) = \frac{.09}{.12 + .09 + .05} = 9/26$$

Review Example 2

Suppose you are asked to analyze a stock portfolio that contains 5 shares of stock A and 10 shares of stock B. The joint probability distribution of the stock prices is presented in the table below. For example, $P(A = \$60, B = \$55) = 0.20$, and so on. Also, numbers at the end of each row and column denote the marginal probabilities, i.e., $P(B = \$55) = 0.50$ etc.

Stock A	Stock B			
	\$35	\$55	\$80	
\$50	0.10	?	?	0.30
\$60	0.10	0.20	?	0.40
\$70	?	0.15	0.10	?
	?	0.50	0.25	1.00

1. Complete the missing joint and marginal probabilities in the table.
2. Compute the expected value of the portfolio.
3. Compute the standard deviation of the portfolio.
4. What is the expected price of Stock A given that price of Stock B is 55?

1.

Stock A	Stock B			
	\$35	\$55	\$80	
\$50	0.10	0.15	0.05	0.30
\$60	0.10	0.20	0.10	0.40
\$70	0.05	0.15	0.10	0.30
	0.25	0.50	0.25	1.00

2. We represent this portfolio as $W = 5A + 10B$, then we know that $E(W) = 5\mu_A + 10\mu_B$. Therefore, first we need to find expected values of stock A and stock B.

$$\mu_A = 50(.3) + 60(.4) + 70(.3) = 60, \text{ and}$$

$$\mu_B = 35(.25) + 55(.5) + 80(.25) = 56.3. \text{ Now we can compute the expected value of the portfolio as } \mu_w = 5(60) + 10(56.3) = 862.5$$

3. $\sigma_w^2 = 5^2\sigma_A^2 + 10^2\sigma_B^2 + 2(5)(10)\text{Cov}(A, B)$.

Let us first find $\text{Var}(A)$, $\text{Var}(B)$, and $\text{Cov}(A, B)$:

$$\sigma_A^2 = (50 - 60)^2 0.3 + (60 - 60)^2 0.4 + (70 - 60)^2 0.3 = 60, \sigma_B^2 = 254.7$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(A, B) &= (50 - 60)(35 - 56.3)(0.10) + (60 - 60)(35 - 56.3)(0.10) \\ &\quad + (70 - 60)(35 - 56.3)(0.05) + \dots + (70 - 60)(80 - 56.3)(0.10) \\ &= 22.5 \end{aligned}$$

3. Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(W) &= 5^2 \text{Var}(A) + 10^2 \text{Var}(B) + 2(5)(10) \text{Cov}(A, B) \\ &= 5^2(60) + 10^2(254.69) + 2(5)(10)(22.5) \\ &= 29,219 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_w = \sqrt{\text{Var}(W)} = \sqrt{29,219} = 170.9$$

4. Let us first construct the probability distribution table for the random variable $A|B = 55$:

$A B = 55$	50	60	70
$P(A B = 55)$	.15/.50	.20/.50	.15/.50

Then, we can compute the expected value of this r.v. as usual:

$$E(A|B = 55) = 50\left(\frac{0.15}{0.50}\right) + 60\left(\frac{0.20}{0.50}\right) + 70\left(\frac{0.15}{0.50}\right) = 60$$