

1. Hypergeometric distribution (you know this already, just not by name)
2. Conditional expectation/ Law of total expectation (not on test) MIT Book: Sections 18.4.5-18.4.6,
3. Joint distributions of random variables (not on test)  
[BT] Section 2.5

20 types of questions possible on midterm. You know how to answer 12. Professor picks 10 at random.

$X$ : number of correct answers

$\Pr(\text{get all 10 right})$  ?

$\Pr(\text{get 8 of 10})$  ?

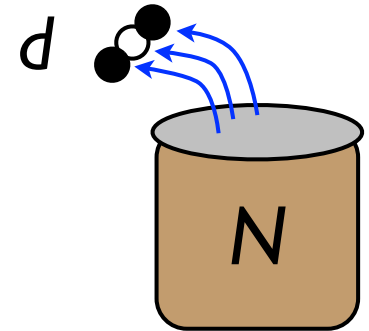
$E(\text{number of correct answers})$  ?

# balls in urns – the hypergeometric distribution

B&T, exercise 1.61

Draw  $d$  balls (without replacement) from an urn containing  $N$ , of which  $w$  are white, the rest black.

Let  $X$  = number of white balls drawn



$$P(X = i) = \frac{\binom{w}{i} \binom{N-w}{d-i}}{\binom{N}{d}}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, d$$

(note:  $\binom{n}{k} = 0$  if  $k < 0$  or  $k > n$ )

$E[X] = dp$ , where  $p = w/N$  (the fraction of white balls)

proof: Let  $X_j$  be 0/1 indicator for  $j$ -th ball is white,  $X = \sum X_j$

The  $X_j$  are *dependent*, but  $E[X] = E[\sum X_j] = \sum E[X_j] = dp$

$\text{Var}[X] = dp(1-p)(1-(d-1)/(N-1))$

### Supreme Court case: Berghuis v. Smith

*If a group is underrepresented in a jury pool, how do you tell?*

Justice Breyer [Stanford Alum] opened the questioning by invoking the binomial theorem. He hypothesized a scenario involving “an urn with a thousand balls, and sixty are red, and nine hundred forty are black, and then you select them at random... twelve at a time.” According to Justice Breyer and the binomial theorem, if the red balls were black jurors then “you would expect... something like a third to a half of juries would have at least one black person” on them.

- Justice Scalia’s rejoinder: “We don’t have any urns here.”

- Should model this combinatorially
  - Ball draws not independent trials (balls not replaced)
- Exact solution:
$$P(\text{draw 12 black balls}) = \frac{\binom{940}{12}}{\binom{1000}{12}} \approx 0.4739$$
$$P(\text{draw} \geq 1 \text{ red ball}) = 1 - P(\text{draw 12 black balls}) \approx 0.5261$$
- Approximation using Binomial distribution
  - Assume  $P(\text{red ball})$  constant for every draw =  $60/1000$
  - $X = \#$  red balls drawn.  $X \sim \text{Bin}(12, 60/1000 = 0.06)$
  - $P(X \geq 1) = 1 - P(X = 0) \approx 1 - 0.4759 = 0.5240$

*In Breyer's description, should actually expect just over half of juries to have at least one black person on them*

## Conditional Expectation

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$X$  a random variable,  $A$  an event.

The expectation of  $X$  conditioned on  $A$  is defined as:

$$E(X|A) = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} a \cdot Pr(X = a|A)$$

Roll a fair die. Let random variable  $R$  be the number showing

$$E(R|R \geq 4) = \sum_{i=1}^6 i \cdot Pr(R = i|R \geq 4)$$

## Law of total expectation

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$X$  random variable on probability space  $\Omega$

$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  partition of  $\Omega$

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k E(X|A_i) \cdot Pr(A_i)$$

$$E(X) = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} a \cdot Pr(X = a)$$

$$= \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} a \sum_{i=1}^k Pr(X = a|A_i) Pr(A_i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k Pr(A_i) \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} a \cdot Pr(X = a|A_i)$$

LTE: 
$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k E(X|A_i) \cdot Pr(A_i)$$

computer crashes with probability  $p$  each hour

$X$ : # hours till it crashes.

$$E(X) = p E(X \mid \text{crashes during first hour}) + (1-p) E(X \mid \text{doesn't crash during first hour})$$



LTE:

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k E(X|A_i) \cdot Pr(A_i)$$

computer crashes with probability  $p$  each hour

$X$ : # hours till it crashes.

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= p E(X \mid \text{crashes during first hour}) + \\ &\quad (1-p) E(X \mid \text{doesn't crash during first hour}) \\ &= p + (1-p) [1 + E(X)] \end{aligned}$$

Solve for  $E(X)$

$$E(X) = 1/p$$

## Example 3

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A prisoner is trapped in a cell containing 3 doors. The first door leads to a tunnel that returns him to his cell after an amount of time that is  $\text{Poisson}(5)$ . The second leads to a tunnel that returns him to his cell after an amount of time that is  $\text{Geometric}(1/3)$ . The third door leads to freedom after 1 day of travel.

If it is assumed that the prisoner will always select doors 1, 2 and 3 with respective probabilities 0.5, 0.3 and 0.2, what is the expected number of days until the prisoner reaches freedom?

Often care about 2 (or more) random variables *simultaneously*

measured  $X = \text{height}$  and  $Y = \text{weight}$

$X = \text{cholesterol}$  and  $Y = \text{blood pressure}$

$X_1, X_2, X_3 = \text{work loads on servers A, B, C}$

*Joint* probability mass function:

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = P(X = x \ \& \ Y = y)$$

*Joint* cumulative distribution function:

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = P(X \leq x \ \& \ Y \leq y)$$

## Two joint PMFs

W \ Z	1	2	3
1	2/24	2/24	2/24
2	2/24	2/24	2/24
3	2/24	2/24	2/24
4	2/24	2/24	2/24

X \ Y	1	2	3
1	4/24	1/24	1/24
2	0	3/24	3/24
3	0	4/24	2/24
4	4/24	0	2/24

$$P(W = Z) = 3 * 2/24 = 6/24$$

$$P(X = Y) = (4 + 3 + 2)/24 = 9/24$$

Can look at arbitrary relationships between variables this way

Two joint PMFs

W \ Z	1	2	3	$f_W(w)$
1	2/24	2/24	2/24	6/24
2	2/24	2/24	2/24	6/24
3	2/24	2/24	2/24	6/24
4	2/24	2/24	2/24	6/24
$f_Z(z)$	8/24	8/24	8/24	

X \ Y	1	2	3	$f_X(x)$
1	4/24	1/24	1/24	6/24
2	0	3/24	3/24	6/24
3	0	4/24	2/24	6/24
4	4/24	0	2/24	6/24
$f_Y(y)$	8/24	8/24	8/24	

Marginal distribution of one r.v.:

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

sum over the other:

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

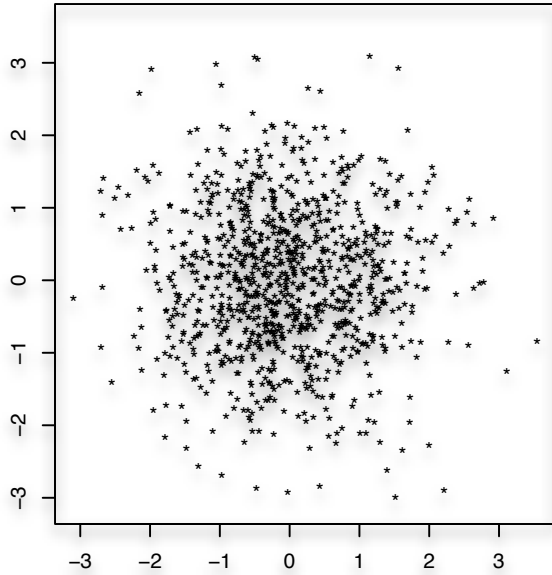
Question: Are W & Z independent? Are X & Y independent?

# sampling from a (continuous) joint distribution

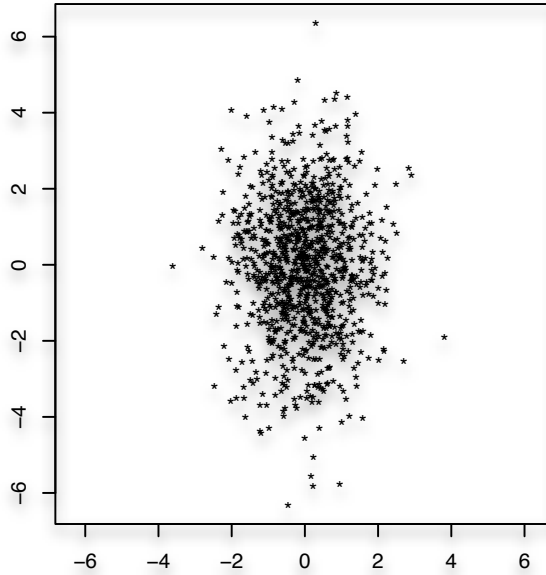
Top row: independent variables

bottom row: dependent variables

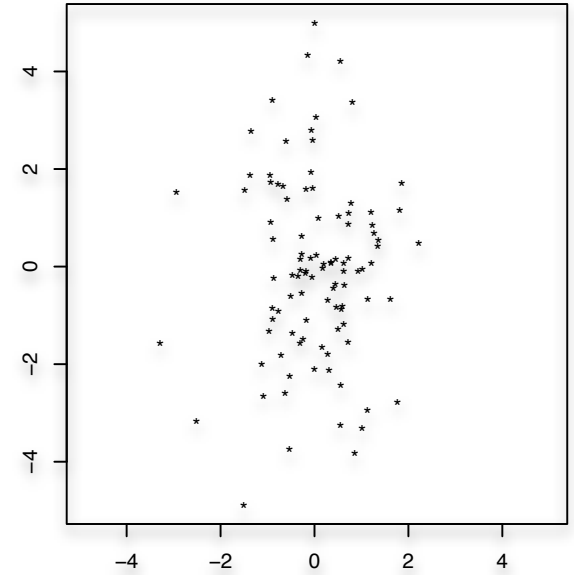
$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=1, \text{cov}=0, n=1000$



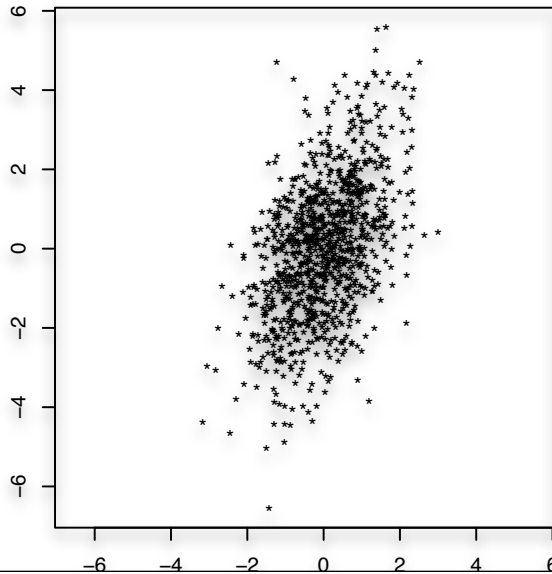
$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=3, \text{cov}=0, n=1000$



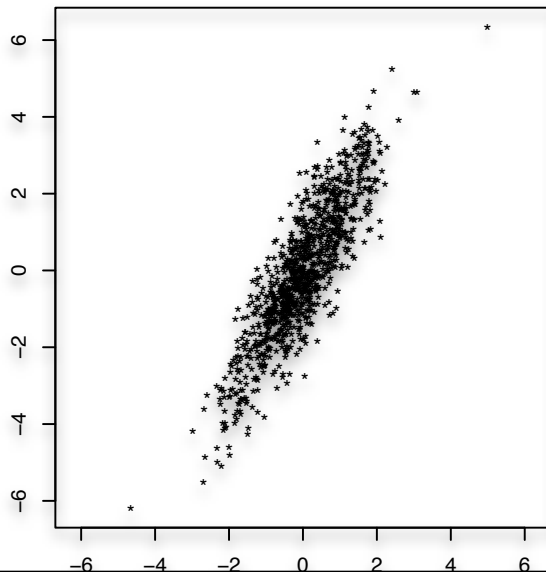
$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=3, \text{cov}=0, n=100$



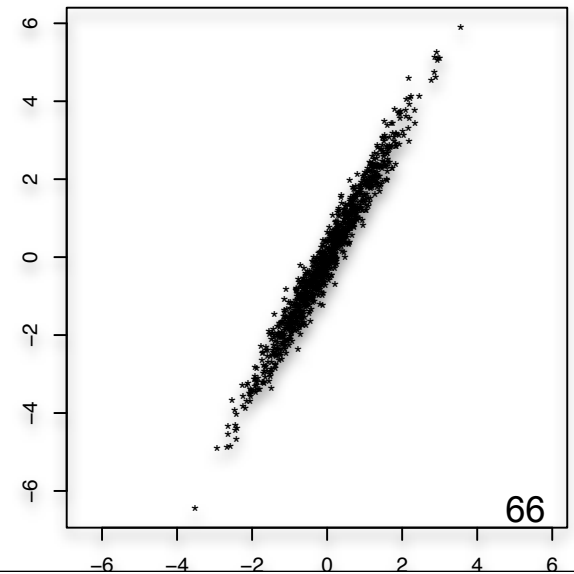
$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=3, \text{cov}=0.8, n=1000$



$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=3, \text{cov}=1.5, n=1000$



$\text{var}(x)=1, \text{var}(y)=3, \text{cov}=1.7, n=1000$



$X$  is equally likely to be  $(1, 2, 3)$

$Y$  is always  $= X + 3$

What is the joint distribution?

## expectation of a function

A function  $g(X, Y)$  defines a new random variable.

Its expectation is:

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_x \sum_y g(x, y) f_{XY}(x, y)$$

Expectation is linear. I.e., if  $g$  is linear:

$$E[g(X, Y)] = E[aX + bY + c] = aE[X] + bE[Y] + c$$

Example:

$$g(X, Y) = 2X - Y$$

$$E[g(X, Y)] = 72/24 = 3$$

$$E[g(X, Y)] = 2 \cdot 2.5 - 2 = 3$$

X \ Y	1	2	3
1	1 • 4/24	0 • 1/24	-1 • 1/24
2	3 • 0/24	2 • 3/24	1 • 3/24
3	5 • 0/24	4 • 4/24	3 • 2/24
4	7 • 4/24	6 • 0/24	5 • 2/24



## random variables – summary

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*RV*: a numeric function of the outcome of an experiment

*Probability Mass Function*  $p(x)$ : prob that  $RV = x$ ;  $\sum p(x) = 1$

*Cumulative Distribution Function*  $F(x)$ : probability that  $RV \leq x$

Expectation:

of a random variable:  $E[X] = \sum_x xp(x)$

of a function: if  $Y = g(X)$ , then  $E[Y] = \sum_x g(x)p(x)$

linearity:

$$E[aX + b] = aE[X] + b$$

$$E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y]; \text{ even if dependent}$$

*this interchange of “order of operations” is quite special to linear combinations. E.g.  $E[XY] \neq E[X] * E[Y]$ , in general (but see below)*

Variance:

$$\text{Var}[X] = E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$$

$$\text{Standard deviation: } \sigma = \sqrt{\text{Var}[X]}$$

$$\text{Var}[aX + b] = a^2 \text{Var}[X]$$

If  $X$  &  $Y$  are *independent*, then

$$E[X \cdot Y] = E[X] \cdot E[Y];$$

$$\text{Var}[X + Y] = \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]$$

(These two equalities hold for *indp* rv's; but not in general.)

### Important Examples:

Bernoulli:  $P(X=1) = p$  and  $P(X=0) = 1-p$        $\mu = p, \sigma^2 = p(1-p)$

Binomial:  $P(X = i) = \binom{n}{i} p^i (1-p)^{n-i}$        $\mu = np, \sigma^2 = np(1-p)$

Poisson:  $P(X = i) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^i}{i!}$        $\mu = \lambda, \sigma^2 = \lambda$

$\text{Bin}(n,p) \approx \text{Poi}(\lambda)$  where  $\lambda = np$  fixed,  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (and so  $p = \lambda/n \rightarrow 0$ )

Geometric  $P(X=k) = (1-p)^{k-1} p$        $\mu = 1/p, \sigma^2 = (1-p)/p^2$

Many others, e.g., [hypergeometric](#)