

properties of expectation

Linearity, II

Let X and Y be two random variables derived from outcomes of a *single* experiment. Then

$$E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

Can extend by induction to say that

$$E(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_n)$$

expectation of sum = sum of expectations

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One more linearity of expectation practice problem

Given a DNA sequence of length n

e.g. AAATGAATGAATCC.....

where each position is

A with probability p_A

T with probability p_T

G with probability p_G

C with probability p_C .

What is the expected number of occurrences of the substring AATGAAT?

AAATGAATGAATCC
AAATGAATGAATCC

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variance

3

variance

Definitions

The *variance* of a random variable X with mean $E[X] = \mu$ is

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

often denoted σ^2 .

The *standard deviation* of X is

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

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properties of variance

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

NOT linear;
insensitive to location (b),
quadratic in scale (a)

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(aX + b) &= E[(aX + b - a\mu - b)^2] \\ &= E[a^2(X - \mu)^2] \\ &= a^2 E[(X - \mu)^2] \\ &= a^2 \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

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Ex:

$$X = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if Heads} \\ -1 & \text{if Tails} \end{cases} \quad \begin{aligned} E[X] &= 0 \\ \text{Var}[X] &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$Y = \begin{cases} +1000 & \text{if Heads} \\ -1000 & \text{if Tails} \end{cases} \quad \begin{aligned} Y &= 1000 X \\ E[Y] &= E[1000 X] = 1000 E[X] = 0 \\ \text{Var}[Y] &= \text{Var}[10^3 X] = 10^6 \text{Var}[X] = 10^6 \end{aligned}$$

properties of variance

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

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E[(X - \mu)^2] \\ &= E[X^2 - 2\mu X + \mu^2] \\ &= E[X^2] - 2\mu E[X] + \mu^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - 2\mu^2 + \mu^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - \mu^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \end{aligned}$$

properties of variance

Example: What is Var[X] when X is outcome of one fair die?

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^2] &= 1^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 2^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 3^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 4^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 5^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 6^2 \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) (91) \end{aligned}$$

$$E[X] = 7/2, \text{ so } \text{Var}(X) = \frac{91}{6} - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{35}{12}$$

properties of variance

In general:

$$\text{Var}[X+Y] \neq \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] \quad \text{NOT linear}$$

Ex 1:

Let X = ±1 based on 1 coin flip; Y=-X

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Ex 2:

As another example, is Var[X+X] = 2Var[X]?

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Ex 1:

Let $X = \pm 1$ based on 1 coin flip

As shown above, $E[X] = 0, \text{Var}[X] = 1$

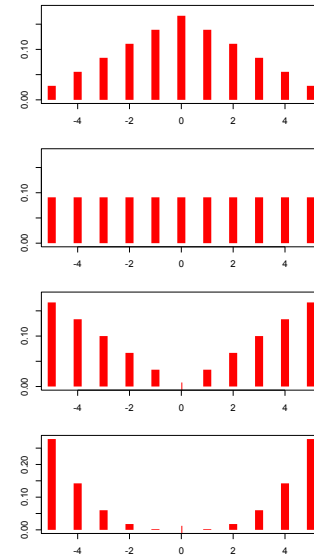
Let $Y = -X$; then $\text{Var}[Y] = (-1)^2 \text{Var}[X] = 1$

But $X+Y = 0$, always, so $\text{Var}[X+Y] = 0$

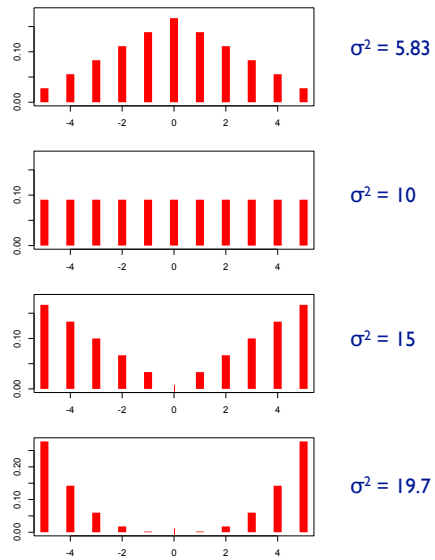
Ex 2:

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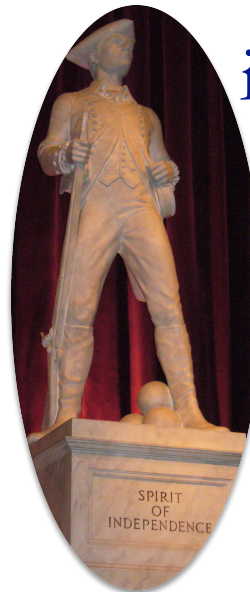
more variance examples



more variance examples



independence



of r.v.s

r.v.s and independence

Defn: r.v. X and event E are independent if the event E is independent of the event $\{X=x\}$ (for any fixed x), i.e.

$$\forall x P(\{X = x\} \& E) = P(\{X=x\}) \cdot P(E)$$

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Intuition as before: knowing X doesn't help you guess Y or E and vice versa.

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Ex: Let X be number of heads in first n of $2n$ coin flips, Y be number in the last n flips, and let Z be the total. X and Y are independent:

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$$P(X = j) = \binom{n}{j} 2^{-n}$$

$$P(Y = k) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{-n}$$

$$P(X = j \wedge Y = k) = \binom{n}{j} \binom{n}{k} 2^{-2n} = P(X = j)P(Y = k)$$

But X and Z are *not* independent, since, e.g., knowing that $X = 0$ precludes $Z > n$. E.g., $P(X = 0)$ and $P(Z = n+1)$ are both positive, but $P(X = 0 \& Z = n+1) = 0$.

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products of independent r.v.s

Theorem: If X & Y are *independent*, then $E[X \cdot Y] = E[X] \cdot E[Y]$

Note: *NOT* true in general; see earlier example $E[X^2] \neq E[X]^2$

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products of independent r.v.s

Theorem: If X & Y are *independent*, then $E[X \cdot Y] = E[X] \cdot E[Y]$

Proof:

Let $x_i, y_j, i = 1, 2, \dots$ be the possible values of X, Y .

$$\begin{aligned} E[X \cdot Y] &= \sum_i \sum_j x_i \cdot y_j \cdot P(X = x_i \wedge Y = y_j) \quad \leftarrow \text{independence} \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j x_i \cdot y_j \cdot P(X = x_i) \cdot P(Y = y_j) \\ &= \sum_i x_i \cdot P(X = x_i) \cdot \left(\sum_j y_j \cdot P(Y = y_j) \right) \\ &= E[X] \cdot E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

Note: *NOT* true in general; see earlier example $E[X^2] \neq E[X]^2$

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properties of variance

In general:

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

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variance of independent r.v.s is additive

(Bienaymé, 1853)

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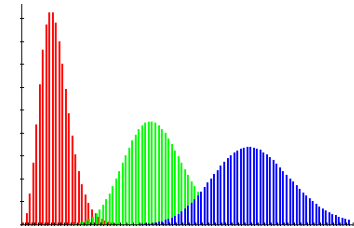
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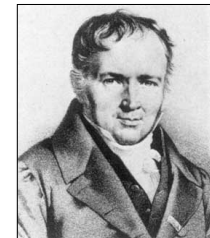
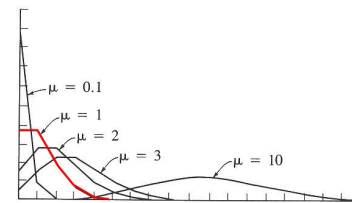
$$\text{Var}[X+Y] = \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y]$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X + Y] &= E[(X + Y)^2] - (E[X + Y])^2 \\ &= E[X^2 + 2XY + Y^2] - (E[X] + E[Y])^2 \\ &= E[X^2] + 2E[XY] + E[Y^2] - ((E[X])^2 + 2E[X]E[Y] + (E[Y])^2) \\ &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 + E[Y^2] - (E[Y])^2 + 2(E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]) \\ &= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] + 2(E[X]E[Y] - E[X]E[Y]) \\ &= \text{Var}[X] + \text{Var}[Y] \end{aligned}$$



a zoo of (discrete) random variables



discrete uniform random variables

A discrete random variable X **equally likely** to take any (integer) value between integers a and b , inclusive, is **uniform**.

Notation: $X \sim \text{Unif}(a,b)$

Probability: $P(X = i) = \frac{1}{b - a + 1}$

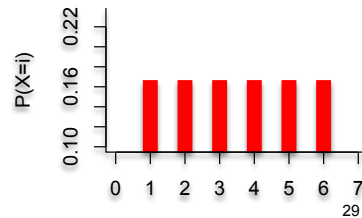
Mean, Variance: $E[X] = \frac{a + b}{2}$, $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{(b - a)(b - a + 2)}{12}$

Example: value shown on one roll of a fair die is $\text{Unif}(1,6)$:

$P(X=i) = 1/6$

$E[X] = 7/2$

$\text{Var}[X] = 35/12$



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Bernoulli random variables

An experiment results in “Success” or “Failure”

X is an *indicator random variable* ($1 = \text{success}, 0 = \text{failure}$)

$P(X=1) = p$ and $P(X=0) = 1-p$

X is called a *Bernoulli* random variable: $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$E[X] =$

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

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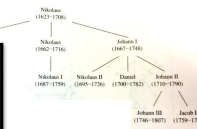
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$E[X] = E[X^2] = p$

$\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = p - p^2 = p(1-p)$



Jacob (aka James, Jacques) Bernoulli, 1654 – 1705



Examples:

coin flip

random binary digit

whether a disk drive crashed

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binomial random variables

Consider n independent random variables $Y_i \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$X = \sum_i Y_i$ is the number of successes in n trials

X is a *Binomial* random variable: $X \sim \text{Bin}(n,p)$

$\Pr(X=k) = ?$

$E(X) = ?$

$\text{Var}(X) = ?$

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binomial random variables

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$X = \sum_i Y_i$ is the number of successes in n trials

X is a *Binomial* random variable: $X \sim \text{Bin}(n,p)$

$$P(X = i) = \binom{n}{i} p^i (1-p)^{n-i} \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

By Binomial theorem, $\sum_{i=0}^n P(X = i) = 1$

$$E[X] = np$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1-p)$$

Examples

of heads in n coin flips

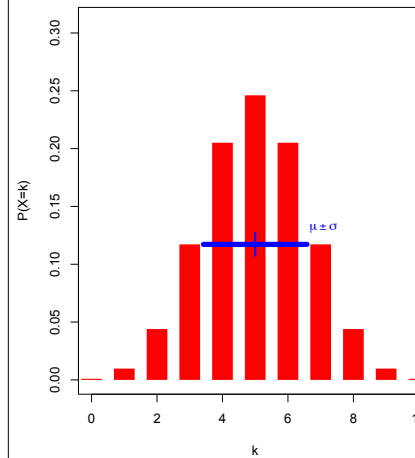
of 1's in a randomly generated length n bit string

of disk drive crashes in a 1000 computer cluster

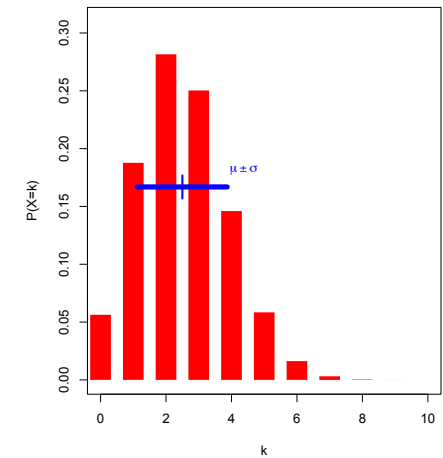
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binomial pmfs

PMF for $X \sim \text{Bin}(10,0.5)$



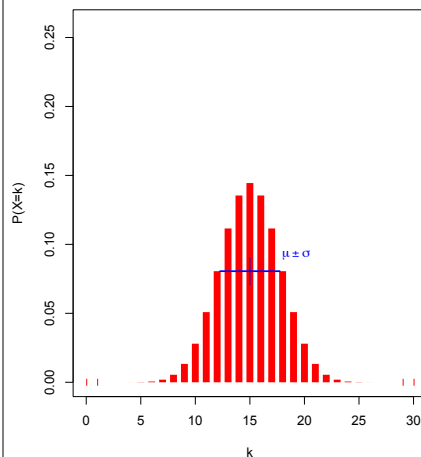
PMF for $X \sim \text{Bin}(10,0.25)$



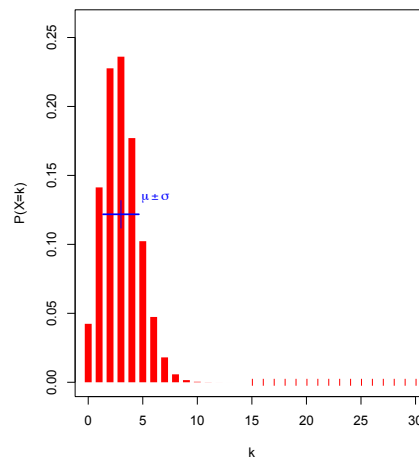
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binomial pmfs

PMF for $X \sim \text{Bin}(30,0.5)$



PMF for $X \sim \text{Bin}(30,0.1)$



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mean, variance of the binomial (II)

If $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n \sim \text{Ber}(p)$ and independent,

then $X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$.

$$E[X] = np$$

$$E[X] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[Y_i] = nE[Y_1] = np$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = np(1-p)$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \text{Var}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[Y_i] = n\text{Var}[Y_1] = np(1-p)$$

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