

Example 3.1

y	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$P_Y(y)$	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.06	0.04

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \sum P_Y(y) = 1$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad 0 \leq P_Y(y) \leq 1$$

Q1 $P_Y(y=2) = P(Y=2) = 0.20$ exactly
2 lines

Q2. At most two lines?

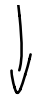
$$\begin{aligned} \cancel{P_Y(y)} \quad P_Y(y \leq 2) &= P(Y \leq 2) \\ &= P(Y=0) + P(Y=1) + P(Y=2) \\ &= 0.10 + 0.15 + 0.20 = 0.45 \end{aligned}$$

$P(Y \leq y)$ is called CDF

cumulative distribution function.

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y)$$

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The visualization of pmf and CDF

[Go back to notes of L3].

Expected value

Let Y be a discrete random variable with pmf $P_Y(y)$, the expected value of Y

is given by $\mu = E(Y) = \sum_{\text{all } y} y \cdot P_Y(y)$

μ is a weighted average of the possible values of Y . Each value y is weighted by its probability.

In statistical applications, $\mu = E(Y)$ is called the population mean.

Example 3.1 revisited.

The expected value of Y is

$$\begin{aligned}\mu = E(Y) &= \sum y \cdot P_Y(y) \\ &= 0 \times 0.10 + 1 \times 0.15 + 2 \times 0.2 + 3 \times 0.25 \\ &\quad + 4 \times 0.20 + 5 \times 0.06 + 6 \times 0.04 = 2.64.\end{aligned}$$

Interpretation

on average, we would expect 2.64 calls at a given time.

- ① Why not sum up / n
- ② Don't divide by n .

Result:

Expected value of Y
function of

Let Y be a discrete random variable with pmf $p_Y(y)$. Suppose that g is a real valued function. Then $g(Y)$ is a random variable

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } E[g(Y)] &= \sum_{\text{all } y} g(y) \cdot p_Y(y) \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } y} g(y) p_Y(y) \end{aligned}$$

[~~$g(Y)$~~ function of R.V. is also R.V]

[can find $g(Y)$]

properties.

Let Y be a discrete random variable with pmf $p_Y(y)$. Suppose that g_1, \dots, g_k are real valued functions, and let c be any real constant. Expectations satisfy

the following properties.

$$(a) E(c) = c$$

$$(b) E[cg(Y)] = c E[g(Y)]$$

$$(c) E\left(\sum_{j=1}^k g_j(Y)\right) = \sum_{j=1}^k E[g_j(Y)]$$

[These rules also apply to continuous distributions as well].

Example 3.2.

In an one-hour period, # gallons of a certain toxic chemical that is produced at a local plant has the following

pmf.

y	0	1	2	3
$P_X(y)$	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2

(a) Compute the expected number of gallons produced during a one-hour period.

Solution:

$$\mu = E(Y) = \sum_{\text{all } y} y P_Y(y) = 0.1 \times 0.2 + 1 \times 0.3 + 2 \times 0.3 + 3 \times 0.2 = 1.5$$

(Hence, we would expect 1.5 gallons of toxic chemical to be produced per hour on average.

(in 100\$)

(b) The cost to produce Y gallons of this chemical per hour is

$$g(Y) = 3 + 12Y + 2Y^2.$$

What is the expected cost in a one-hour period?

The expected value of $g(Y)$, where

$$g(Y) = 3 + 12Y + 2Y^2.$$

using property 3.

$$\begin{aligned} E[g(Y)] &= E(3 + 12Y + 2Y^2) \\ &= 3 + 12E(Y) + 2E(Y^2) \\ &= 3 + 12 \times 1.5 + 2E(Y^2) \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y^2) &= \sum_{\text{all } y} g(y) p_Y(y) \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } y} y^2 p_Y(y) \\ &= 0^2 \times 0.2 + 1^2 \times 0.3 + 2^2 \times 0.3 \\ &\quad + 3^2 \times 0.2 = 3.3 \end{aligned}$$

Plugging back to (1) and we get

$$E[g(Y)] = 3 + 12 \times 1.5 + 2 \times 3.3 = 27.6.$$

The expected cost is 2,760.00, on average.

Variance of Y

Let Y be a discrete random variable with pmf $p_Y(y)$ and expected value $E(Y) = \mu$

The variance of Y is given by

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

[expectation of a function of Y]

$$= \sum_{\text{all } y} (y - \mu)^2 \cdot p_Y(y)$$

The standard deviation of Y is the positive square root of the variance.

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2} = \sqrt{\text{Var}(Y)}$$

Facts: The variance σ^2 satisfies the following.

(a) $\sigma^2 \geq 0$. $\sigma^2 = 0$ if and only if

the random variable Y has a degenerate distribution, i.e. all the probability mass is located at one support point

(b). The larger σ^2 is, the more spread in the possible values of Y about the population mean $\mu = E(Y)$



(c) σ is measured in original units
and σ^2 is measured in $(\text{units})^2$.