

STAT 511 Summary Sheet

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Throughout, let A and B be events, let X and Y be random variables, and let a and b be constants.

1. Set theory and beginning of probability theory

- $P(\emptyset) = 0$.
- $P(A) \leq 1$ for any A .
- $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$.
- $P(A \cap B^c) = P(A) - P(A \cap B)$.
- $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$.
- If $A \subset B$ then $P(A) \leq P(B)$.
- Bonferroni's inequality: $P(A \cap B) \geq P(A) + P(B) - 1$.
- $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A \cap C_i)$ for any partition C_1, C_2, \dots
- Boole's inequality: $P(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$ for any sets A_1, A_2, \dots

2. Counting rules

- Number of ways to draw r things from N things
 - (a) ordered, without replacement: $N!/(N-r)!$
 - (b) unordered, without replacement: $\binom{N}{r} = N!/[(N-r)!r!]$
 - (c) ordered, with replacement: N^r
 - (d) unordered, with replacement: $\binom{N+r-1}{r}$
- The number of ways to partition N things into K groups of sizes n_1, \dots, n_K , where $n_1 + \dots + n_K = N$ is $N!/(n_1! \cdots n_K!)$.

3. Conditional probability and independence

- $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B)/P(B)$.
- Bayes' Rule: For an event B with $P(B) > 0$ and a partition A_1, A_2, \dots

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} P(B|A_j)P(A_j)}.$$

- Simple version of Bayes' rule using A and A^c as the partition:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|A^c)P(A^c)}.$$

- The events A and B are called independent if $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$.
- The following are equivalent:
 - (a) $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$
 - (b) $P(A|B) = P(A)$
 - (c) $P(B|A) = P(B)$

4. Random variables and the cdf

- A random variable (rv) X is a function from the sample space to the real numbers.
- The cumulative distribution function (cdf) F_X of a rv X is the function

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- A function $F_X(x)$ is a cdf if and only if the following hold:
 - (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$.
 - (b) $F_X(x)$ is non-decreasing in x .
 - (c) $F_X(x)$ is right-continuous, i.e. for every x_0 , $\lim_{x \downarrow x_0} F_X(x) = F_X(x_0)$.
- For discrete rvs the cdf is a step function; for continuous rvs the cdf is continuous.
- For a continuous rv X , $P(X = x) = 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e. no probability is assigned to points.
- For a continuous rv X

$$P(a < X < b) = P(a \leq X < b) = P(a < X \leq b) = P(a \leq X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a).$$

- Two rvs X and Y with cdfs F_X and F_Y , respectively, are called identically distributed if $F_X(u) = F_Y(u)$ for all $u \in \mathbb{R}$.

5. Probability mass and density functions

- Discrete rvs have probability mass functions (pmfs) and continuous rvs have probability density functions (pdfs).
- The pmf p_X of a discrete rv X is the function $p_X(x) = P(X = x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.
- The pdf f_X of a continuous rv X is the function f_X which satisfies

$$P_X(a < X < b) = \int_a^b f_X(x)dx, \quad \text{for all } a < b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- If the cdf F_X of a continuous rv X has a continuous first derivative, then $f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx}F(x)$.
- If X is discrete with pmf p_X , the support of X , denoted \mathcal{X} , is the set of values for which the pmf is positive, that is $\mathcal{X} = \{x : p_X(x) > 0\}$.
- If X is continuous with pdf f_X , the support of X , denoted \mathcal{X} , is the set of values for which the pdf is positive, that is $\mathcal{X} = \{x : f_X(x) > 0\}$.
- The function p_X is a pmf if and only if the following hold:
 - (a) $p_X(x) \geq 0$ for all x .
 - (b) $\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p_X(x) = 1$.
- The function f_X is a pdf if and only if the following hold:
 - (a) $f_X(x) \geq 0$ for all x .
 - (b) $\int_{\mathbb{R}} f_X(x) = 1$.
- We write $X \sim p_X$ when X is a rv with pmf p_X .
- We write $X \sim f_X$ when X is a rv with pdf f_X .
- We write $X \sim F_X$ when X is a rv with cdf F_X .

6. Expected value and variance of rvs

- The expected value $\mathbb{E}X$ of a rv X is

$$\mathbb{E}X = \begin{cases} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x \cdot p_X(x) & \text{if } X \sim p_X \\ \int_{\mathbb{R}} x \cdot f_X(x) dx & \text{if } X \sim f_X. \end{cases}$$

- Moreover, for any function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the expected value $\mathbb{E}g(X)$ of $g(X)$ is

$$\mathbb{E}g(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} g(x) \cdot p_X(x) & \text{if } X \sim p_X \\ \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x) \cdot f_X(x) dx & \text{if } X \sim f_X. \end{cases}$$

- The variance $\text{Var } X$ of a rv X is defined as $\text{Var } X = \mathbb{E}(X - \mathbb{E}X)^2$.
- Useful expression: $\text{Var } X = \mathbb{E}X^2 - (\mathbb{E}X)^2$.
- $\mathbb{E}(aX + b) = a\mathbb{E}X + b$.
- $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var } X$.
- Chebychev's Inequality: For any rv X with mean μ_X and variance σ_X^2 and any constant K ,

$$P_X(|X - \mu_X| < K\sigma_X) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{K^2}.$$

7. Suite of discrete rv probability distributions (see table at end).

8. Suite of continuous rv probability distributions (see table at end).

9. Quantiles

- For any rv X with cdf F_X , the θ quantile of X is defined as $\inf\{x : F_X(x) \geq \theta\}$, for $\theta \in (0, 1)$. This is the definition we need to use when the cdf of X has jumps or flat parts, which is the case when X is discrete.
- If X is a continuous rv with pdf f_X and a strictly increasing cdf F_X , then the θ quantile of X is the (unique) value q which satisfies $F_X(q) = \theta$.

10. Moments and moment generating functions

- The k th moment about the origin is $\mathbb{E}X^k$.
- The k th moment about the mean, also called the k th central moment, is $\mathbb{E}(X - \mathbb{E}X)^k$.
- The moment generating function (mgf) M_X of a rv X is the function given by $M_X(t) = \mathbb{E}e^{tX}$, as long as this expected value is finite for all values of t in a neighborhood of zero.
- The k th moment of X may be found by taking the k th-order derivative of $M_X(t)$ and evaluating the resulting function of t at $t = 0$. That is

$$\mathbb{E}X^k = \left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0}.$$

- If M_X is the mgf of X and M_Y is the mgf of Y and $M_X(t) = M_Y(t)$ for all t in a neighborhood of zero, then X and Y are identically distributed.
- The mgf of $aX + b$ is $M_{aX+b}(t) = e^{tb} M_X(at)$.

11. Joint and marginal distributions

- For a pair of discrete rvs (X, Y) , the joint pmf p is the function given by $p(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$.
- For a pair of continuous rvs (X, Y) , the joint pdf f is the function satisfying

$$P((X, Y) \in A) = \iint_A f(x, y) dx dy \quad \text{for all } A \subset \mathbb{R}^2,$$

where \iint_A denotes integration over all $(x, y) \in A$.

- We get the marginal pmf/pdf of X by summing/integrating the joint pmf/pdf of (X, Y) over Y :

$$p_X(x) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p(x, y)$$
$$f_X(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x, y) dy$$

- The joint cdf F of a pair of rvs (X, Y) is the function given by

$$F(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) \quad \text{for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

12. Conditional distributions and conditional expectation

- For any value $y \in \mathbb{R}$ for which $p_Y(y) > 0$, the conditional pmf of $X|Y = y$ is

$$p(x|y) = \frac{p(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- Likewise, for any $y \in \mathbb{R}$ for which $f_Y(y) > 0$, the conditional pdf of $X|Y = y$ is

$$f(x|y) = \frac{f(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- For any function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and any value y such that $p_Y(y) > 0$ or $f_Y(y) > 0$, the conditional expectation of $g(X)$ given that $Y = y$ is

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X)|Y = y] = \begin{cases} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} g(x) \cdot p(x|y) & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x) \cdot f(x|y) dx & \text{if } X \text{ is continuous.} \end{cases}$$

- The conditional variance of X given that $Y = y$ is

$$\text{Var}[X|Y = y] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X|Y = y])^2|Y = y].$$

- We often choose not to specify a value for the variable on which we condition, leaving it to be random; that is we write $\mathbb{E}[X|Y]$ and $\text{Var}[X|Y]$ instead of $\mathbb{E}[X|Y = y]$ and $\text{Var}[X|Y = y]$ for the conditional mean and variance of X given Y . The quantities $\mathbb{E}[X|Y]$ and $\text{Var}[X|Y]$, which depend on the value Y takes, are themselves random variables.
- Useful expression: $\text{Var}[X|Y] = \mathbb{E}[X^2|Y] - (\mathbb{E}[X|Y])^2$.

13. Independence of random variables

- If (X, Y) is a discrete pair of rvs with joint pmf p and marginal pmfs p_X and p_Y , then X and Y are independent if and only if

$$p(x, y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y) \quad \text{for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- If (X, Y) is a continuous pair of rvs with joint pdf f and marginal pdfs f_X and f_Y , then X and Y are independent if and only if

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- Shortcut independence check: Let (X, Y) be a pair of discrete or continuous rvs with joint pmf p or joint pdf f . Then X and Y are independent if and only if there exist functions g and h such that

$$p(x, y) = g(x)h(y) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

or

$$f(x, y) = g(x)h(y) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- If X and Y are independent rvs then for any functions $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}g(X)h(Y) = \mathbb{E}g(X)\mathbb{E}h(Y),$$

so that the expectation of a product is the product of expectations.

- If X and Y are independent rvs with mgfs M_X and M_Y , then the mgf of $X + Y$ is given by

$$M_{X+Y}(t) = M_X(t)M_Y(t).$$

14. Covariance and correlation and bivariate Normal distribution

- The covariance between two rvs X and Y with means μ_X and μ_Y is

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y) =: \sigma_{XY}.$$

- The correlation between two rvs X and Y with variances σ_X^2 and σ_Y^2 and covariance σ_{XY} is

$$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\sigma_{XY}}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y} =: \rho_{XY} \in [-1, 1].$$

- Useful expression: $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}XY - \mathbb{E}X\mathbb{E}Y$.
- If X and Y are independent then $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$.
- If $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$, X and Y are not necessarily independent.
- Exceptionally, if the pair (X, Y) has the bivariate Normal distribution and $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$, then X and Y are independent.
- $\mathbb{E}(aX + bY) = a\mathbb{E}X + b\mathbb{E}Y$.
- $\text{Var}(aX + bY) = a^2 \text{Var} X + b^2 \text{Var} Y + 2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y)$.

- For random variables X_1, \dots, X_n and constants a_1, \dots, a_n ,

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \text{Var} X_i + \sum_{i \neq j} a_i a_j \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j).$$

15. Hierarchical models

- $\mathbb{E}Y = \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}[Y|X])$
- $\text{Var} Y = \mathbb{E}(\text{Var}[Y|X]) + \text{Var}(\mathbb{E}[Y|X])$
- Example: For $Y|X \sim \text{Binom}(X, p)$ and $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}Y &= \mathbb{E}(Xp) = \lambda p \\ \text{Var} Y &= \mathbb{E}(Xp(1-p)) + \text{Var}(Xp) = \lambda p(1-p) + \lambda p^2 = \lambda p.\end{aligned}$$

Commonly encountered pmfs and pdfs along with their mgfs, expected values, and variances:

pmf/pdf	\mathcal{X}	$M_X(t)$	$\mathbb{E}X$	$\text{Var } X$
$p_X(x; p) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x}$,	$x = 0, 1$	$pe^t + (1-p)$	p	$p(1-p)$
$p_X(x; n, p) = \binom{n}{x}p^x(1-p)^{n-x}$,	$x = 0, 1, \dots, n$	$[pe^t + (1-p)]^n$	np	$np(1-p)$
$p_X(x; p) = (1-p)^{x-1}p$,	$x = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t}$	p^{-1}	$(1-p)p^{-2}$
$p_X(x; p, r) = \binom{x-1}{r-1}(1-p)^{x-r}p^r$,	$x = r, r+1, \dots$	$\left[\frac{pe^t}{1-(1-p)e^t}\right]^r$	rp^{-1}	$r(1-p)p^{-2}$
$p_X(x; \lambda) = e^{-\lambda}\lambda^x/x!$	$x = 0, 1, \dots$	$e^{\lambda(e^t-1)}$	λ	λ
$p_X(x; N, M, K) = \binom{M}{x}\binom{N-M}{K-x}/\binom{N}{K}$	$x = 0, 1, \dots, K$	¡complicadísimo!	$\frac{KM}{N}$	$\frac{KM}{N} \frac{(N-K)(N-M)}{N(N-1)}$
$p_X(x; K) = \frac{1}{K}$	$x = 1, \dots, K$	$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{x=1}^K e^{tx}$	$\frac{K+1}{2}$	$\frac{(K+1)(K-1)}{12}$
$p_X(x; x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{n}$	$x = x_1, \dots, x_n$	$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{tx_i}$	$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$	$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$
$f_X(x; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$	$-\infty < x < \infty$	$e^{\mu t + \sigma^2 t^2/2}$	μ	σ^2
$f_X(x; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\beta}\right)$	$0 < x < \infty$	$(1-\beta t)^{-\alpha}$	$\alpha\beta$	$\alpha\beta^2$
$f_X(x; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}$	$0 < x < 1$	$1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \left(\prod_{r=0}^{k-1} \frac{\alpha+r}{\alpha+\beta+r}\right)$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}$	$\frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha+\beta)^2(\alpha+\beta+1)}$

The “multinoulli” and multinomial pmfs and the bivariate Normal pdf:

$$p_{(X_1, \dots, X_K)}(x_1, \dots, x_K; p_1, \dots, p_K) = p_1^{x_1} \cdots p_K^{x_K} \cdot \mathbf{1} \left\{ (x_1, \dots, x_K) \in \{0, 1\}^K : \sum_{k=1}^K x_k = 1 \right\}$$

$$p_{(Y_1, \dots, Y_K)}(y_1, \dots, y_K; n, p_1, \dots, p_K) = \left(\frac{n!}{y_1! \cdots y_K!}\right) p_1^{y_1} \cdots p_K^{y_K} \cdot \mathbf{1} \left\{ (y_1, \dots, y_K) \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}^K : \sum_{k=1}^K y_k = n \right\}$$

$$f_{(X, Y)}(x, y; \mu_X, \mu_Y, \sigma_X^2, \sigma_Y^2, \rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_X \sigma_Y \sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right)^2 - 2\rho \left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X}\right) \left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right) + \left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2 \right]\right)$$