

Probability theory I

16/11/21

Q: Find random variables X and Y such that $E(XY)$ exists but both $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$ do not exist.

Ans: Consider $T = n$ w.p. $\frac{c}{n^2}$ where $\frac{1}{c} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$

Let $X = T \mathbb{1}(T \text{ is odd})$ and $Y = T \mathbb{1}(T \text{ is even})$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{c}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n+1} \\ &\geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3n} = \infty \quad (\text{because } 3n \geq 2n+1) \end{aligned}$$

$n-1 \geq 0 \quad \forall n \geq 1$

$$E(Y) = \sum_{n \text{ even}} \frac{c}{n} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \dots$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} + \dots = \infty.$$

$E(X)$ and $E(Y)$ do not exist.

$$XY = T^2 \mathbb{1}(T \text{ is even}) \mathbb{1}(T \text{ is odd})$$

$$= T^2 \mathbb{1}(T \text{ is even and } T \text{ is odd}) = 0.$$

$$E(XY) = 0.$$

H.W.

Choose X and Y such that XY is not identically equal to 0.

$$\mathbb{1}(A) \cdot \mathbb{1}(B)$$

$$= \mathbb{1}(A \cap B)$$

H.W.

Remark! If X and Y are independent then $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$. However, the converse is not always true.

For example!

Let us consider the joint distribution of X and Y as

$$P(X=-1, Y=1) = P(X=0, Y=-2) = P(X=1, Y=1) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$P(X=-1, Y=-2) = P(X=0, Y=1) = P(X=1, Y=-2) = 0$$

i.e. $X \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ and $Y \in \{1, -2\}$.

Now we find the marginal distributions of X and Y .

$$P(X=-1) = P(X=-1, Y=1) + P(X=-1, Y=-2) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X=0) = P(X=0, Y=1) + P(X=0, Y=-2) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X=1) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$E(X) = 0.$$

$$P(Y=1) = P(X=-1, Y=1) + P(X=0, Y=1) + P(X=1, Y=1) = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$P(Y=-2) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$E(Y) = 0.$$

$$E(XY) = (-1) \times \frac{1}{3} + 0 \left(\frac{1}{3} \right) + 1 \left(\frac{1}{3} \right) = 0.$$

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

$$P(X = -1, Y = 1) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X = -1) \cdot P(Y = 1) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$$

Hence X and Y are not independent but $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0.$

Last day's exercise: Let X be a random variable such that $E(X^2)$ is defined.

Suppose that Y takes the values ± 1 with probability $\frac{1}{2}$, independently of X .

Define $Z = XY$. Show that $\text{Cov}(X, Z) = 0$. Are X and Z independent?

Ans: $E(X^2) < \infty$. $E(Y) = 0 \stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow} E(XY) = 0$ (Try to find X, Y s.t. $E(X) = 0$ but $E(XY) \neq 0$).

$$E(XY) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n \mathbb{P}(X=x_n, Y=1) + \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -x_n \mathbb{P}(X=x_n, Y=-1) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n \mathbb{P}(X=x_n) \mathbb{P}(Y=1) - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n \mathbb{P}(X=x_n) \mathbb{P}(Y=-1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [E(X) - E(X)] = 0 \quad \left(\text{where } X \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots\} \text{ w. p. } \{p_1, p_2, \dots\} \text{ respectively} \right).$$

We write $Z = XY$.

$$\text{Cov}(X, Z) = E(XZ) - E(X)E(Z)$$

$$= E(XZ) = E(X^2 Y) \Rightarrow E(X^2) E(Y) = 0 \quad \left(E(X^2) < \infty \text{ needed here} \right)$$

$$X = x_1 \quad \text{w.p. } p_1$$

$$= x_2 \quad \text{w.p. } p_2$$

$$= \dots$$

$$\dots$$

$$Y = 1 \quad \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= -1 \quad \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \begin{array}{c} -x_1 \\ \nearrow \\ \overrightarrow{\uparrow} \end{array} & XY = x_1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} p_1 \\ & = -x_1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} p_1 \\ & = x_2 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} p_2 \\ & = -x_2 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} p_2 \\ & \vdots & \end{array}$$

$$P(X=x_1, Z=x_1) = P(X=x_1, XY=x_1) = P(X=x_1, Y=1) = p_1 \frac{1}{2} = \frac{p_1}{2}$$

$$P(X=x_1) P(Z=x_1) = p_1 \left(\frac{1}{2} p_1 + \frac{1}{2} p_2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} p_1^2$$

$$p_1 \left(\frac{1}{2} (p_1 + p_2) \right) = \frac{p_1}{2} \quad (p_1 + p_2 \neq 1)$$

If $\frac{p_1}{2} = \frac{p_1^2}{2} \Rightarrow p_1(1-p_1) = 0 \Rightarrow$ either $p_1 = 0$ or $p_1 = 1$.

Now X and Z are not independent if X does not achieve the value $-x_1$ with positive probability and $P(X=x_1) = p_1 \in \{0,1\}$.

$$P(X=x_1, Z=x_1) = \left(\frac{p_1}{2}\right) \neq P(X=x_1)P(Z=x_1) = \left(\frac{1}{2} p_1^2\right) \text{ or } P(X=x_1)P(Z=x_1) = p_1\left(\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}p_2\right) \text{ (when } X=-x_1 \text{ w.p. } p_2)$$

If $P(X=x_1, Z=x_1) = P(X=x_1)P(Z=x_1) \Rightarrow \frac{p_1}{2} = \frac{p_1}{2}(p_1+p_2) \Rightarrow p_1+p_2=1$.

but $|X|$ is not degenerate

Whenever $|X|$ is not degenerate the X and Z are not independent.

Recall! X and Y are random variables. $\text{Var}(X), \text{Var}(Y) < \infty$. Then

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(X, Y) (\text{Var}(X))^{-1/2} (\text{Var}(Y))^{-1/2}$$

Theorem! (Already proved) If $\text{Corr}(X, Y) = 1$. Then,

$$Y = E(Y) + \sqrt{\frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\text{Var}(X)}} (X - E(X)) \quad \text{almost surely,}$$

and if $\text{Corr}(X, Y) = -1$, then,

$$Y = E(Y) - \sqrt{\frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\text{Var}(X)}} (X - E(X)) \quad \text{almost surely.}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X=Y \text{ a.s.} \\ P(X=Y) = 1. \\ \text{In } \mathbb{R} \\ \frac{P(X=1) = 1}{P(X=0) = 0.} \end{array} \right.$$

Exercise: Suppose that A_1, A_2, A_3 are pairwise independent events, with $P(A_i) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \forall i=1,2,3$. Assume that $P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) = \frac{1}{4}$. Show that

$$P(\text{the number of events in } A_1, A_2, A_3 \text{ which occur is odd}) = 1.$$

Solution: Define $X_i = \mathbb{1}_{A_i}$ for all $i=1,2,3$.

All that needs to be shown^{is} that $X_1 + X_2 + X_3$ is odd, almost surely, which is same as

$$X_3 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X_1 = X_2 \\ 0 & \text{if } X_1 \neq X_2 \end{cases}$$

almost surely.

$$P\left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \mathbb{1}_{A_i} \text{ is odd}\right) = 1$$

That is, we need to show,

$$\underline{\underline{X_3 = 1 - (X_1 - X_2)^2 \text{ almost surely.}}}$$

We know that X_1 and X_3 are independent random variables ($\because A_1, A_3$ are independent) and so are X_2 and X_3 . Hence,

$$\text{Cov}((X_1 - X_2)^2, X_3) = \text{Cov}(X_1^2, X_3) - 2\text{Cov}(X_1 X_2, X_3) + \text{Cov}(X_2^2, X_3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}(X_1 X_2 X_3) \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{I}_{A_1} \mathbb{I}_{A_2} \mathbb{I}_{A_3}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{I}_{(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3)}] \\ &= P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) \end{aligned}$$

$$= -2 \left[\mathbb{E}(X_1 X_2 X_3) - \mathbb{E}(X_1 X_2) \mathbb{E}(X_3) \right]$$

$$= -2 \left[P(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3) - P(A_1 \cap A_2) P(A_3) \right]$$

$$= -2 \left[\frac{1}{4} - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \right] = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X_3) &= E(X_3^2) - (E(X_3))^2 = E(X_3) - (E(X_3))^2 \\ &= P(A_3) - (P(A_3))^2 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = +\frac{1}{4} \quad \text{and} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}((x_1 - x_2)^2) = E((x_1 - x_2)^4) - (E((x_1 - x_2)^2))^2 = \dots = \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (x_1 - x_2)^2 = 1 \text{ w.p. } P(x_1 \neq x_2) = \frac{1}{2} \\ (x_1 - x_2)^2 = 0 \text{ w.p. } P(x_1 = x_2) = \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

since. $\mathbb{1}_{A_1} \neq \mathbb{1}_{A_2} \Rightarrow P(\mathbb{1}_{A_1} = 1, \mathbb{1}_{A_2} = 0) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$
 $\text{or } P(\mathbb{1}_{A_1} = 0, \mathbb{1}_{A_2} = 1) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{---} \quad \textcircled{+} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$x_1 \neq x_2$$

$$\mathbb{1}_{A_1} \neq \mathbb{1}_{A_2}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbb{1}_{A_1} = 0 \quad \text{w.p. } P(A_1) = \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathbb{1}_{A_2} = 1 \quad \text{w.p. } P(A_2) = \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

So, $(x_1 - x_2)^2 \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\frac{1}{2})$ $\text{Var}((x_1 - x_2)^2) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$.

Hence, $\text{Corr}((x_1 - x_2)^2, x_3) = \frac{\text{Cov}((x_1 - x_2)^2, x_3)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}((x_1 - x_2)^2) \text{Var}(x_3)}} = \frac{-1/4}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}} = -1$

$$x_3 = \frac{1}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{1/4}{1/4}} \left((x_1 - x_2)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad \text{a.s.}$$

$$x_3 = -(x_1 - x_2)^2 + 1 \quad \text{a.s.} \quad \square$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Corr}(X, Y) = -1 \\ Y = E(Y) - \sqrt{\frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\text{Var}(X)}} (X - E(X)) \\ \text{almost surely.} \end{array} \right\}$$