

1.8: Expectation of a Random Variable.

R.V	P.d.f	C.d.f
X	f	F

Def: The expectation of a Random variable is defined as follows:

- $E(x) = \sum_x x f(x)$, x discrete

- $E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx$, x continuous.

Assuming: • $\sum_x |x| f(x)$ converges, x discrete.

- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x| f(x) dx$ converges, x continuous.

if it diverge $\Rightarrow E(x)$ undefined.

Note: Expectation of X

expected value of X

mathematical expectation of X

$E(x)$ is same

example 1: discrete since $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

x : 1 2 3 4

Find $E(x)$.

$f(x)$: $\frac{4}{10}$ $\frac{1}{10}$ $\frac{3}{10}$ $\frac{2}{10}$

$$E(x) = \sum_x x f(x) = (1)\left(\frac{4}{10}\right) + (2)\left(\frac{1}{10}\right) + (3)\left(\frac{3}{10}\right) + (4)\left(\frac{2}{10}\right) = \frac{23}{10} = 2.3$$

example 2 : continuous since $d = (0,1)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 4x^3, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad \text{Find } E(x) ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 x \cdot 0 dx + \int_0^1 x (4x^3) dx + \int_1^{\infty} x \cdot 0 dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x (4x^3) dx = \frac{4x^5}{5} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{4}{5} \end{aligned}$$

proposition : let X be a Random variable

$$- E(u(x)) = \sum_x u(x) f(x), \quad X \text{ discrete.}$$

$$- E(u(x)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x) f(x) dx, \quad X \text{ continuous.}$$

proposition :

1. if K is constant then $E(K) = K$.

2. if K constant, u function then $E(Ku) = K E(u)$.

3. if K_1, K_2 constants, u_1, u_2 functions then $E(K_1 u_1 + K_2 u_2) = K_1 E(u_1) + K_2 E(u_2)$.

proof of 3 (discrete) : X : discrete r.v, f : p.d.f, K_1, K_2 : constant, u_1, u_2 : functions

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow E(K_1 u_1 + K_2 u_2) &= E(K_1 u_1(x) + K_2 u_2(x)) \\ &= \sum_x (K_1 u_1(x) + K_2 u_2(x)) f(x) \\ &= K_1 \sum_x u_1(x) f(x) + K_2 \sum_x u_2(x) f(x) \\ &= K_1 E(u_1) + K_2 E(u_2) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Example 3: X has a p.d.f :

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2(1-x) & , 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & , \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad \text{continuous}$$

Find :

$$\begin{aligned} 1. E(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 x \cdot 0 dx + \int_0^1 x \cdot (2)(1-x) dx + \int_1^{\infty} x \cdot 0 dx \\ &= \int_0^1 2x - 2x^2 dx = \left[x^2 - \frac{2}{3}x^3 \right]_0^1 = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{3}}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. E(x^2) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^1 x^2 (2)(1-x) dx = \int_0^1 2x^2 - 2x^3 dx \\ &= \left[\frac{2x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{2} \right]_0^1 = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{6}}} \end{aligned}$$

$$3. E(6x + 3x^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (6x + 3x^2) f(x) dx \quad \text{a.k.a}$$

OR

$$\begin{aligned} E(6x + 3x^2) &= 6E(x) + 3E(x^2) \\ &= 6\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) \quad \text{From 1, 2} \\ &= 2 + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \underline{\underline{\frac{5}{2}}} \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

example 4 :

X is a Random variable with p.d.f ,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{6} & , x=1,2,3 \\ 0 & , \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad \text{discrete}$$

Find $E(X^3)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow E(X^3) &= \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} x^3 f(x) = (1)^3 f(1) + (2)^3 f(2) + (3)^3 f(3) \\ &= 1\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) + 8\left(\frac{2}{6}\right) + 27\left(\frac{3}{6}\right) \\ &= \frac{98}{6} = 16.33. \end{aligned}$$

example 5: X has the p.d.f

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{5} & , 0 \leq x \leq 5 \\ 0 & , \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad \text{continuous}$$

Find :

$$1. E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^5 x \frac{1}{5} dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^5 = \frac{25-0}{2} = 2.5$$

$$2. E(5-x) = E(5) + E(-x) = 5 - E(x) = 5 - 2.5 = 2.5$$

$$3. E[x(5-x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(5-x) f(x) dx = \int_0^5 x(5-x) \frac{1}{5} dx = \frac{25}{6} = 4.17$$

Note: $E(x(5-x)) \neq E(x)E(5-x)$ $\times$

example 6: X has the hypergeometric p.d.f.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\binom{3}{x} \binom{2}{2-x}}{\binom{5}{2}}, & x=0,1,2 \quad \text{discrete} \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Find } E(8-3X) = \sum_{x=0}^2 (8-3x) f(x)$$

$$= (8-3(0)) \left(\frac{\binom{3}{0} \binom{2}{2}}{\binom{5}{2}} \right) + (8-3(1)) \left(\frac{\binom{3}{1} \binom{2}{1}}{\binom{5}{2}} \right) + (8-3(2)) \left(\frac{\binom{3}{2} \binom{2}{0}}{\binom{5}{2}} \right)$$

$$= 8 \left(\frac{1 \times 1}{10} \right) + 5 \left(\frac{3 \times 2}{10} \right) + 2 \left(\frac{3 \times 1}{10} \right)$$

$$= \frac{8}{10} + \frac{30}{10} + \frac{6}{10} = \frac{44}{10} \quad \checkmark$$