

Comp Sci 212

I. Expected Value

Announcements

- Homework 4 out

Def. (Expected Value) X random variable

Sample space S , Prob dist P

$X: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$E[X] = \sum_{w \in S} X(w) P[w]$$

expected value
random variable

(like mean or average)

Ex. 6-sided die $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, uniform dist.

$X: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $X(w) = w$

$$E[X] = \sum_{w \in S} X(w) P[w] = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 4 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 5 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 6 = \frac{7}{2}$$

Ex. dist. $P[I] = \frac{1}{2}$, $P[W] = \frac{1}{10}$, for all others

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{10} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{10} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{10} \cdot 4 + \frac{1}{10} \cdot 5 + \frac{1}{10} \cdot 6 = \frac{5}{2}$$

Ex. $Y: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $Y(w) = \frac{1}{X(w)} = \frac{1}{w}$, $Y = \frac{1}{X}$ (Uniform)

$$E[Y] = \sum_{w \in S} Y(w) P[w] = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{49}{120}$$

$$E[Y] \neq \frac{1}{E[X]}$$

$Z: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $Z(w) = X(w)^2$, $Z = X^2$

$$E[Z] = \sum_{w \in S} Z(w) \cdot P[w] = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 4 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 9 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 16 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 25 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 36 = \frac{91}{6}$$

$$E[Z] \neq E[X]^2$$

Def. (Indicator random variable)

Random whose range is $\{0, 1\}$.

(Usually associated with an event).

$$1_E: S \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, 1_E(w) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } w \in E \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $E = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$1_E(w) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } w = 1, 2, 3 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$E[1_E] = \sum_{w \in S} 1_E(w) P[w] = \sum_{w \in E} P[w]$$

$$= P[E]$$

Ex. $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $E = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$E[1_E] = P[1] + P[2] + P[3] = P[E]$$

Linearity of Expectation, $S, P, R_1: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $R_2: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $R_1 + R_2: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $(R_1 + R_2)(w) = R_1(w) + R_2(w)$

Thm. $E[R_1 + R_2] = E[R_1] + E[R_2]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof. } E[R_1 + R_2] &= \sum_{w \in S} (R_1 + R_2)(w) \cdot P[w] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E \\ &= \sum_{w \in S} (R_1(w) + R_2(w)) \cdot P[w] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E_{R_1 + R_2} \\ &= \sum_{w \in S} R_1(w) P[w] + \sum_{w \in S} R_2(w) P[w] \\ &= E[R_1] + E[R_2] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Ex. $S = \{H, T\}^{100}$, $R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $R(w) = \# \text{ of heads in } w$

uniform dist.

sticky coin dist.

$$P[\text{all heads}] = P[\text{all tails}] = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P[\text{everything else}] = 0.$$

$$E[R] = \sum_{w \in S} P[w] \cdot R(w)$$

1_{E_i} , $E_i = \text{event } i\text{th coin is heads.}$
 $= \{w \mid w \in S, w_i = H\}$

$$R(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{100} 1_{E_i}(w)$$

$$E[R] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{100} 1_{E_i}\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{100} E[1_{E_i}]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{100} P[E_i]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{100} \frac{1}{2} = 50 \quad \text{both sticky \& uniform}$$

generally, $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$, events

$R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $R(w) = \# \text{ of events } w \text{ is in}$

$$E[R] = \sum_{i=1}^n P[E_i]$$