

Notes for Week 6 discussion on November 5

Definition. Let X_1 and X_2 be two random variables associated with some experiment with sample space c . This means we would have $X_1(c) = x_1$ and $X_2(c) = x_2$. We say that (X_1, X_2) is a random vector. Furthermore, the space of (X_1, X_2) is the set of ordered pairs $\mathcal{D} = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : X_1(c) = x_1, X_2(c) = x_2, c \in C\}$.

Definition. The cumulative distribution function (cdf) is given by

$$F_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) = P((X_1 \leq x_1) \cap (X_2 \leq x_2)).$$

(Chapter 1 analogue: $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$.)

Definition. The joint probability mass function (pmf) is given by

$$p_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) = P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 \leq x_2).$$

(Chapter 1 analogue: $p_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$.)

Definition. The joint probability mass function (pdf) is given by

$$f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{\partial^2 F_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}.$$

(Chapter 1 analogue: $f_X(x) = \frac{dF(x)}{dx}$.)

Example (Example 2.1.2 of the textbook). Let

$$f(x_1, x_2) := \begin{cases} 6x_1^2 x_2 & \text{if } 0 < x_1 < 1, 0 < x_2 < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(a) Show $P(0 < x_1 < 1, 0 < x_2 < 1) = 1$.

Solution. We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(0 < x_1 < 1, 0 < x_2 < 1) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 6x_1^2 x_2 dx_1 dx_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 2x_1^3 \Big|_0^1 x_2 dx_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 2(1^3 - 0^3) x_2 dx_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 2x_2 dx_2 \\ &= x_2^2 \Big|_0^1 \\ &= (1^2 - 0^2) \\ &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

(b) Compute $P(0 < X_1 < \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2} < X_2 < 2)$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(0 < X_1 < \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{3} < X_2 < 2) &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^2 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 \\
 &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 + \int_1^2 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 \\
 &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} 6x_1^2 x_2 dx_1 dx_2 + \int_1^2 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} 0 dx_1 dx_2 \\
 &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} 6x_1^2 x_2 dx_1 dx_2 \\
 &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 2x_1^3 \Big|_0^{\frac{3}{4}} x_2 dx_2 \\
 &= \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 2 \left(\left(\frac{3}{4} \right)^3 - (0)^3 \right) x_2 dx_2 \\
 &= \frac{27}{32} \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 x_2 dx_2 \\
 &= \frac{27}{32} \frac{1}{2} x_2^2 \Big|_{\frac{1}{3}}^1 \\
 &= \frac{27}{74} \left((1)^2 - \left(\frac{1}{3} \right)^2 \right) \\
 &= \frac{3}{8},
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

(c) Find the cdf of X_1, X_2 .

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) &= \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \int_{-\infty}^{x_2} f_{X_1, X_2}(w_1, w_2) dw_1 dw_2 \\
 &= \int_0^{x_1} \int_0^{x_2} 6w_1^2 w_2 dw_1 dw_2 \\
 &= \int_0^{x_1} 2w_1^3 \Big|_0^{x_2} w_2 dw_2 \\
 &= \int_0^{x_1} 2(x_2^3 - 0^3) w_1 dw_2 \\
 &= 2x_2^3 \int_0^{x_1} 2w_1 dw_2 \\
 &= x_2^3 w_1^2 \Big|_0^{x_1} \\
 &= x_2^3 (x_1^2 - 0^2) \\
 &= x_1^2 x_2^3,
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

Example (Example 2.1.5 of the textbook). Let

$$f(x_1, x_2) := \begin{cases} 8x_1 x_2 & \text{if } 0 < x_1 < x_2 < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find $E(X_1 X_2^2)$, $E(X_2)$, and $E(7X_1 X_2^2 + 5X_2)$.

Solution. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X_1 X_2^2) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_1 x_2^2 f(x_1, x_2) dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= \int_0^1 \int_{x_1}^1 x_1 x_2^2 (8x_1 x_2) dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= 8 \int_0^1 \int_{x_1}^1 x_1^2 x_2^3 dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= 2 \int_0^1 x_2 x_2^4 \Big|_{x_1}^1 dx_1 \\
 &= 2 \int_0^1 x_1^2 (1^4 - x_1^4) dx_1 \\
 &= 2 \int_0^1 x_1^2 - x_1^6 dx_1 \\
 &= 2 \left(\frac{x_1^3}{3} - \frac{x_1^7}{7} \right) \Big|_0^1 \\
 &= 2 \left(\left(\frac{(1)^3}{3} - \frac{(1)^7}{7} \right) - \left(\frac{(0)^3}{3} - \frac{(0)^7}{7} \right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{8}{21},
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. We also have

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X_2) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_1, x_2) dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= \int_0^1 \int_{x_1}^1 x_2 (8x_1 x_2) dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= 8 \int_0^1 x_1 \int_{x_1}^1 x_2^2 dx_2 dx_1 \\
 &= 8 \int_0^1 x_1 \frac{x_2^3}{3} \Big|_{x_1}^1 dx_1 \\
 &= 8 \int_0^1 x_1 \left(\frac{(1)^3}{3} - \frac{x_1^3}{3} \right) dx_1 \\
 &= \frac{8}{3} \int_0^1 x_1 - x_1^4 dx_1 \\
 &= \frac{8}{3} \left(\frac{x_1^2}{2} - \frac{x_1^5}{5} \right) \Big|_0^1 \\
 &= \frac{8}{3} \left(\left(\frac{(1)^2}{2} - \frac{(1)^5}{5} \right) - \left(\frac{(0)^2}{2} - \frac{(0)^5}{5} \right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{4}{5}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, using the linearity of expectation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(7X_1 X_2^2 + 5X_2) &= 7E(X_1 X_2^2) + 5E(X_2) \\
 &= 7 \left(\frac{8}{21} \right) + 5 \left(\frac{4}{5} \right) \\
 &= \frac{20}{3},
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □