

SOA and CAS: Exam P, Probability¹

Chapter 12 and 27 Marginal Distribution

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Chapter 12: Marginal Distribution

Chapter 27: Marginal Distribution for Continuous Random Variables

(1) Give “joint” distribution function, calculate the “marginal” distribution function

(1.a) Discrete:

Joint Distribution Function	Marginal Distribution Function
$f(x, y)$	$f_X(x) = \underbrace{\sum_y f(x, y)}_{\text{sum up all } Ys}$
	$f_Y(y) = \underbrace{\sum_x f(x, y)}_{\text{sum up all } Xs}$

For example: give the following joint distribution function

		Y		
		1	2	3
X	1	0.4 <small>$P(X=1, Y=1)$</small>	0.12 <small>$P(X=1, Y=2)$</small>	0.08 <small>$P(X=1, Y=3)$</small>
	2	0.3 <small>$P(X=2, Y=1)$</small>	0.06 <small>$P(X=2, Y=2)$</small>	0.04 <small>$P(X=2, Y=3)$</small>

Then, $P_X(1) = P(X = 1, Y = 1) + P(X = 1, Y = 2) + P(X = 1, Y = 3) = 0.4 + 0.12 + 0.08 = 0.6$

$P_Y(1) = P(X = 1, Y = 1) + P(X = 2, Y = 1) = 0.4 + 0.3 = 0.7$

$P(1, 1) - P_X(1) = 0.4 - 0.6$

(1.b) Continue:

Joint Distribution Function	Marginal Distribution Function
$f(x, y)$	$f_X(x) = \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy}_{\text{integrated over all } Ys}$
	$f_Y(y) = \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx}_{\text{integrated over all } Xs}$

For example: give $f(x, y) = 2$ ($0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$)

Then, we have $f_X(x) = \int_x^1 f(x, y) dy$ ($0 \leq x \leq 1$) (draw a line parallel to the Y-axis, $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$)

$f_Y(y) = \int_0^y f(x, y) dx$ ($0 \leq y \leq 1$) (draw a line parallel to the X-axis, $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$)

$E(XY^2) \stackrel{\text{independent}}{=} E(X) * E(Y^2)$, because $f(x, y) = 2$ (constant)

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²Email: liyifinhub@outlook.com. This note was drafted when I was preparing for the exam. Please email me if you find any errors. My personal website <http://www.yilifinhub.com>