

SOA and CAS: Exam P, Probability¹

Chapter 5: Random Variable

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(1) *Definition*: Random Variable is a “function”: “event space” to “real number”

$P(X_{r.v.})$ refers to the probability of some “event $X_{r.v.}$ ”

$P(x)$ stand for the probability of “some random variable = a specific number x ”

(2) *Random Variable Representation*: Capital Letters, such as: X, Y, Z; If $X_{r.v.}$ is an integer, then one can use M or N

(3) “Density Function” *versus* “Cumulative Probability Function”

(3.1) Definition:

density function (pdf) $\begin{cases} \text{Discrete} : P(X = x) \\ \text{Continuous} : f_X(x) \end{cases}$

cumulative probability function (cdf) $\begin{cases} \text{Discrete} : F_X(x) = \sum_{x_i \leq x} P(X = x_i) \\ \text{Continuous} : F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(x) dx \end{cases}$

(3.2) Relationship (continuous case): $f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}$

(3.3)

$P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a) \begin{cases} \text{Discrete} : \sum_{x_i \leq b} P(X = x_i) - \sum_{x_i \leq a} P(X = x_i) \\ \text{Continuous} : \int_a^b f_X(x) dx \end{cases}$

(4) *Examples*: Cumulative Probability Function

(4.1) Give $F_X(x)$, use $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$ to calculate $P(a < X \leq b)$

Example 1 (continuous)

Given $F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (X < 0) \\ \frac{X^2}{4} & (0 \leq X \leq 2) \\ 1 & (X > 2) \end{cases}$

Then, $P(1.5 < X \leq 2.5) = \underbrace{F(2.5)}_1 - \underbrace{F(1.5)}_{\frac{1.5^2}{4}} = \frac{7}{16}$

(4.1) Give $f_X(x)$, use $P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx$ to calculate $P(a < X \leq b)$

Example 2 (continuous):

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Given $f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(1+X)^2} & (X \geq 0) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(-2 < X \leq 5) &= \int_0^5 \frac{1}{(1+X)^2} dx \\ &= \int_0^5 (1+X)^{-2} dx \\ &= \int_0^5 (-1)d(1+X)^{-1} \\ &= (1+X)^{-1} \Big|_0^5 \\ &= (1+5)^{-1} - (1+0)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

(4.3) Give $f_X(x) = cx^2$ (c is unknown), use $P(-\infty < X < \infty) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x)dx = 1$ to calculate c and $P(a < X \leq b)$

Example 3 (continuous):

Given $f(x) = \begin{cases} cx^2 & (1 \leq X \leq 4) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$

We have $P(-\infty < X < \infty) = \int_1^4 cx^2 dx \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{21}$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(2 < X \leq 3) &= \int_2^3 \frac{1}{21} x^2 dx \\ &= \int_2^3 \frac{1}{63} dx^3 \\ &= \frac{1}{63} x^3 \Big|_2^3 \\ &= \frac{1}{63} (5^3 - 0^3) \end{aligned}$$

(5) Insurance Random Variables:

(5.1) Two types: "Discrete" and "Continuous"

Type I: Discrete $X_{r.v.}$: claim number (over a period/year) \Rightarrow Total size: $X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$

Type II: Continuous $X_{r.v.}$: claim size

Type II Continuous $X_{r.v.}$ Claim size	(1) Deduction: $Benefit = \begin{cases} 0 & (X_{r.v.} \leq Deduction\ Value(d)) \\ X - d & (X_{r.v.} > Deduction\ Value(d)) \end{cases}$ $\Rightarrow Benefit = \min(0, X - d)$
	(2) Benefit Limit: $Benefit = \begin{cases} X & (X_{r.v.} \leq benefit\ limit(u)) \\ u & (X_{r.v.} > benefit\ limit(u)) \end{cases}$ $\Rightarrow Benefit = \max(X, u)$
	(3) Co-insurance & Deduction: $Benefit = \begin{cases} 0 & (X_{r.v.} \leq Deduction\ Value(d)) \\ c(X - d) & (X_{r.v.} > Deduction\ Value(d)) \end{cases}$ $\Rightarrow Benefit = \min(0, c(X - d))$
	(4) Co-insurance & Benefit Limit: $Benefit = \begin{cases} cX & (X_{r.v.} \leq benefit\ limit(u)) \\ cu & (X_{r.v.} > benefit\ limit(u)) \end{cases}$ $\Rightarrow Benefit = \max(cX, cu)$
	(5) Inflation: Claim size $X_{r.v.}$ has an increasing rate: $(1 + i\%)X$

Note: Deduction case can ignore $X_{r.v.} \leq Deduction\ Value(d)$, since $X_{r.v.} = 0$

Benefit Limit case can NOT ignore $X_{r.v.} > benefit\ limit(u)$, since $X_{r.v.} = u$ NOT 0

(6) Summary:

(6.1) Continuous case : $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(x) dx$; $f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}$

(6.2) $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$; If continue : $= \int_a^b f_X(x) dx$ (Use $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$)

when giving $F_X(\cdot)$; Use $P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f_X(x) dx$ when giving $f_X(x)$)

(6.3) *Deduction: Benefit* = $\min(0, X - d)$

(6.4) *Benefit Limit: Benefit* = $\max(X, u)$

(6.5) *Co-insurance & Deduction: Benefit* = $\min(0, c(X - d))$

(6.6) *Co-insurance & Benefit Limit: Benefit* = $\max(cX, cu)$

(6.7) *After Considering Inflation: Benefit* = $(1 + i\%)X$

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