

MATH180C: Introduction to Stochastic Processes II

<https://mathweb.ucsd.edu/~ynemish/teaching/180c>

Today: Conditioning on continuous
random variables

Next: PK 7.1, Durrett 3.1

Week 4:

- HW4 due Friday, May 5 on Gradescope

Properties of conditional probability/expectation

$$\begin{aligned} 1) \quad P(a < X < b, c < Y < d) &= \int_c^d \left(\int_a^b f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_c^d P(X \in (a, b) | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2) \quad P(a < X < b) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left(\int_a^b f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(X \in (a, b) | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

$$3) \quad E(g(X)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E(g(X) | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy$$

Further properties of conditional expectation (PK, p.50)

$$4) E(c_1 g_1(X_1) + c_2 g_2(X_2) | Y=y) = c_1 E(g_1(X_1) | Y=y) + c_2 E(g_2(X_2) | Y=y)$$

$$5) E(v(X, Y) | Y=y) = E(v(X, y) | Y=y)$$

In particular, $E(v(X, Y)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E(v(X, y) | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy$

$$6) E(g(X)h(Y)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(y) E(g(X) | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy$$
$$= E(h(Y)E(g(X) | Y))$$

$$7) E(g(X) | Y=y) = E(g(X)) \text{ if } X \text{ and } Y \text{ are independent}$$

Example 1

Let (X, Y) be jointly continuous r.v.s with density $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y}-y}$, $x, y > 0$

Compute the conditional density of X given $Y=y$.

1) Compute the marginal density of Y

$$f_Y(y) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y}-y} dx = e^{-y} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y}} dx = e^{-y}, \quad (Y \sim \text{Exp}(1))$$

2) Compute the conditional density

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{\frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y}-y}}{e^{-y}} = \frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{given } Y=y \\ X \sim \text{Exp}\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \end{array}$$

Example 1 (cont.)

Suppose that $Y \sim \text{Exp}(1)$, and X has exponential distribution with parameter $\frac{1}{y}$. Compute $E(X)$

First, $E(X | Y=y) = y$, and using property 3)

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &\stackrel{(3)}{=} \int_0^{\infty} E(X | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} y e^{-y} dy = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} x \frac{1}{y} e^{-\frac{x}{y} - y} dx dy$$

Example 2: continuous and discrete r.v.s

Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $P \sim \text{Unif}[0,1]$, $X \sim \text{Bin}(N, P)$

What is the distribution of X ?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X=k) &= \int_0^1 P(X=k | P=s) f_P(s) ds \\ &= \int_0^1 P(X=k | P=s) \cdot 1 ds \\ &= \int_0^1 \binom{N}{k} s^k (1-s)^{N-k} ds \\ &= \frac{N!}{k!(N-k)!} \cdot \frac{k!(N-k)!}{(N+1)!} = \frac{1}{N+1} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow X$ is uniformly distributed on $\{0, \dots, N\}$

Example 3

Let X and Y be i.i.d. $\text{Exp}(\lambda)$ r.v.

Define $Z = \frac{X}{Y}$. Compute the density of Z .

- If $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, then for $\alpha > 0$ $\alpha X \sim \text{Exp}(\frac{\lambda}{\alpha})$

$$P(\alpha X > t) = P(X > \frac{t}{\alpha}) = e^{-\lambda \frac{t}{\alpha}} = e^{-\frac{\lambda}{\alpha} t} \Rightarrow \alpha X \sim \text{Exp}(\frac{\lambda}{\alpha})$$

- $P(Z > t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(Z > t | Y=y) f_Y(y) dy$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(\frac{X}{Y} > t | Y=y) \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(\frac{1}{y} X > t) \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda y t} \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy$$

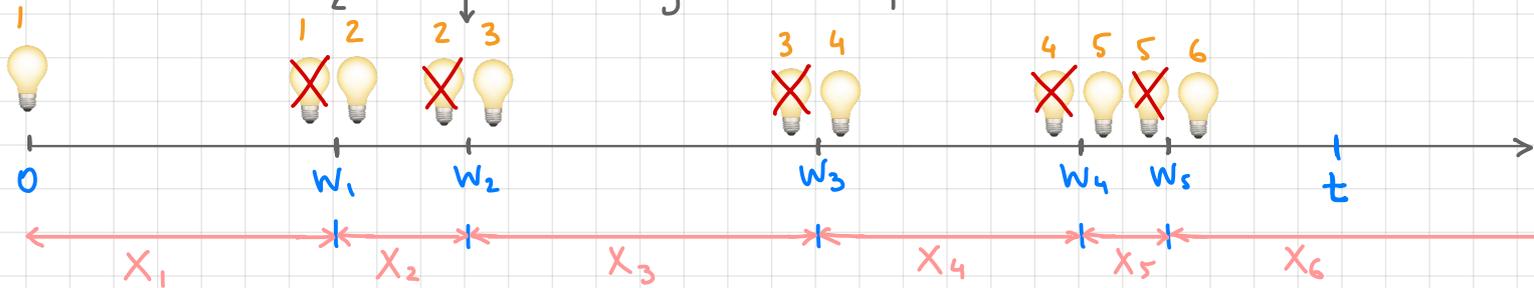
$$= \lambda \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda(1+t)y} dy = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda(1+t)} \Rightarrow f_Z(t) = \frac{1}{(1+t)^2}$$

Renewal process

Imagine lightbulbs



"renewal" = lightbulb replacement



X_i - lifetime of the lightbulb # i . W_i = time of i -th "renewal"

Lightbulbs are identical $\Rightarrow X_i$ are i.i.d.

Let $N(t)$ denote the number of renewals up to time t

- What are the properties of $(N(t))_{t \geq 0}$?
- How they depend on the distribution of X_i ?

Renewal process. Definition

Def. Let $\{X_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ be i.i.d. r.v.s, $X_i > 0$.

Denote $W_n := X_1 + \dots + X_n$, $n \geq 1$, and $W_0 := 0$.

We call the counting process

$$N(t) = \# \{k > 0 : W_k \leq t\} = \max \{n : W_n \leq t\}$$

the **renewal process**.

Remarks. 1) W_n are called the waiting / renewal times

X_i are called the interrenewal times

2) $N(t)$ is characterised by the distribution of $X_i > 0$

3) More generally, we can define for $0 \leq a < b < \infty$

$$N((a, b]) = \# \{k : a < W_k \leq b\}$$