

Section 2.3 Conditional Distributions and Expectations

The conditional pdf of X given Y is given by $f(x|y) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f(y)}$; where $f(y) \neq 0$.

Discrete Variable:
$$\sum_x f(x|y) = \sum \frac{f(x,y)}{f(y)} = \frac{f(y)}{f(y)} = 1$$

Continuous Variable:
$$\int_x f(x|y) dx = \int_x \frac{f(x,y)}{f(y)} dx = \frac{f(y)}{f(y)} = 1$$

Since $f(x|y)$ is positive and sums or integrates to one, then $f(x|y)$ is a pdf.

Probabilities for discrete or continuous variables:

$$p(a < x < b | y) = \begin{cases} \sum_{x=a}^b f(x|y) \\ \int_a^b f(x|y) dx \end{cases} ; \text{ Similarly, } p(c < y < d | x) = \begin{cases} \sum_{y=c}^d f(y|x) \\ \int_c^d f(y|x) dy \end{cases} .$$

Conditional Expectation of $u(x)$ given y is
$$E(u(x) | y) = \begin{cases} \sum_{all\ x} u(x) f(x|y) \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x) f(x|y) dx \end{cases} .$$

Conditional Mean of X given Y :
$$E(X | y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x|y) dx .$$

Conditional Variance of X given Y :
$$\sigma_{X|y}^2 = E\left(\left[X - E(X|y)\right]^2 | y\right) = E(X^2 | y) - (E(X|y))^2$$

Example 1: $f(x, y) = 2 ; 0 < x < y < 1 .$

$f(x) = \int_x^1 2 dy = 2y \Big|_x^1 = 2 - 2x = 2(1 - x) .$ Hence, $f(x) = 2(1 - x) ; 0 < x < 1 .$

$f(y) = \int_0^y 2 dx = 2x \Big|_0^y = 2y .$ Hence, $f(y) = 2y ; 0 < y < 1 .$

$$f(x|y) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f(y)} = \frac{2}{2y} = \frac{1}{y}; \text{ Hence, } f(x|y) = \frac{1}{y}; 0 < x < y \text{ and } 0 < y < 1.$$

$$f(y|x) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f(x)} = \frac{2}{2(1-x)} = \frac{1}{(1-x)}; \text{ Hence, } f(y|x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)}; x < y < 1 \text{ and } 0 < x < 1.$$

Computing Probabilities:

$$P(0 < x < \frac{1}{2} | y = \frac{3}{4}) = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f(x|y) dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{y=\frac{3}{4}} dx = \frac{4x}{3} \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$P(0 < x < \frac{1}{2}) = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f(x) dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} 2(1-x) dx = 2x - x^2 \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Conditional Expectations:

$$E(X|y) = \int_0^y x \frac{1}{y} dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \frac{1}{y} \Big|_0^y = \frac{y}{2}; \text{ Hence, } E(X|y) = \frac{y}{2}; 0 < y < 1.$$

$$E(Y|x) = \int_x^1 y \frac{1}{(1-x)} dy = \frac{y^2}{2} \frac{1}{(1-x)} \Big|_x^1 = \frac{1-x^2}{2(1-x)} = \frac{x+1}{2}; E(Y|x) = \frac{x+1}{2}; 0 < x < 1$$

Conditional Variance:

$$\sigma_{X|y}^2 = E(X^2|y) - (E(X|y))^2$$

$$E(X^2|y) = \int_0^y x^2 \frac{1}{y} dx = \frac{x^3}{3} \frac{1}{y} \Big|_0^y = \frac{y^2}{3}$$

$$\sigma_{X|y}^2 = E(X^2|y) - (E(X|y))^2 = \frac{y^2}{3} - \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{y^2}{3} - \frac{y^2}{4} = \frac{y^2}{12};$$

Hence, $\sigma_{X|y}^2 = \frac{y^2}{12}; 0 < y < 1$

$$E(Y^2|x) = \int_x^1 y^2 \frac{1}{(1-x)} dy = \frac{y^3}{3} \frac{1}{(1-x)} \Big|_x^1 = \frac{1-x^3}{3(1-x)} = \frac{(1-x)(x^2+x+1)}{3(1-x)} = \frac{x^2+x+1}{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{Y|x}^2 &= E(Y^2|x) - (E(Y|x))^2 = \frac{x^2 + x + 1}{3} - \left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{x^2 + x + 1}{3} - \frac{x^2 + 2x + 1}{4} \\ &= \frac{4x^2 + 4x + 4 - 3x^2 - 6x - 3}{12} = \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{12} = \frac{(x-1)^2}{12};\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\sigma_{Y|x}^2 = \frac{(x-1)^2}{12}; \quad 0 < x < 1$

Example 2: If X and Y are random variables of discrete type having pdf

$f(x, y) = \frac{x+2y}{18}; (x, y) = (1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2)$, determine the conditional mean and variance of Y given X.

Note: $f(x, y) = \frac{x+2y}{18}$ for $x=1,2$ and $y=1,2$.

$$f(x) = \sum_{y=1}^2 \frac{x+2y}{18} = \frac{(x+2) + (x+4)}{18} = \frac{2x+6}{18}; \quad x=1,2 \quad \text{and} \quad f(x) = \frac{2x+6}{18}; \quad x=1,2$$

$$f(y) = \sum_{x=1}^2 \frac{x+2y}{18} = \frac{(1+2y) + (2+2y)}{18} = \frac{3+4y}{18}; \quad y=1,2 \quad \text{and} \quad f(y) = \frac{3+4y}{18}; \quad y=1,2$$

$$f(y|x) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f(x)} = \frac{\frac{x+2y}{18}}{\frac{2x+6}{18}} = \frac{x+2y}{2x+6}; \quad \text{and} \quad f(y|x) = \frac{x+2y}{2x+6}; \quad y=1,2 \quad \text{and} \quad x=1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$E(Y|x) = \sum_{y=1}^2 y \frac{x+2y}{2x+6} = \sum_{y=1}^2 \frac{xy + 2y^2}{2x+6} = \frac{(x+2) + (2x+8)}{2x+6} = \frac{3x+10}{2x+6}; \quad \text{where } x=1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$E(Y|x) = \frac{3x+10}{2x+6}; \quad \text{where } x=1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$E(Y|x=1) = \frac{3+10}{2+6} = \frac{13}{8} \quad \text{and} \quad E(Y|x=2) = \frac{6+10}{4+6} = \frac{16}{10}$$

$$E(Y^2|x) = \sum_{y=1}^2 y^2 \frac{x+2y}{2x+6} = \sum_{y=1}^2 \frac{xy^2 + 2y^3}{2x+6} = \frac{(x+2) + (4x+16)}{2x+6} = \frac{5x+18}{2x+6}; \text{ where } x=1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\sigma_{Y|x}^2 = E(Y^2|x) - (E(Y|x))^2 = \frac{5x+18}{2x+6} - \left(\frac{3x+10}{2x+6}\right)^2 = \frac{x^2 + 6x + 8}{(2x+6)^2}; \text{ where } x=1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\sigma_{Y|x=1}^2 = \frac{x^2 + 6x + 8}{(2x+6)^2} = \frac{15}{64} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{Y|x=2}^2 = \frac{x^2 + 6x + 8}{(2x+6)^2} = \frac{24}{100}$$

Now consider the joint pdf, $f(x,y) = \frac{x+2y}{18}$ for $x=1,2$ and $y=1,2$, in the form of a table.

find $f(y|x=1)$ and $f(y|x=2)$ and compute their conditional mean and variance.

		Y		
		1	2	$f(x)$
X	1	$\frac{3}{18}$	$\frac{5}{18}$	$\frac{8}{18}$
	2	$\frac{4}{18}$	$\frac{6}{18}$	$\frac{10}{18}$
$f(y)$		$\frac{7}{18}$	$\frac{11}{18}$	

Y	$f(y x=1)$	$yP(y x=1)$	$y^2P(y x=1)$
1	$\frac{\frac{3}{18}}{\frac{8}{18}} = \frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$
2	$\frac{\frac{5}{18}}{\frac{8}{18}} = \frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{10}{8}$	$\frac{20}{8}$
		$\mu_{Y x=1} = \frac{13}{8}$	$y^2P(y x=1) = \frac{23}{8}$
		$\sigma_{Y x=1}^2 = \frac{23}{8} - \left(\frac{13}{8}\right)^2 = \frac{184}{64} - \frac{169}{64} = \frac{15}{64}$	

Y	$f(y x=2)$	$yP(y x=2)$	$y^2P(y x=2)$
	$\frac{\frac{4}{18}}{\frac{10}{18}} = \frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$
2	$\frac{\frac{6}{18}}{\frac{10}{18}} = \frac{6}{10}$	$\frac{12}{10}$	$\frac{24}{10}$
		$\mu_{Y x=2} = \frac{16}{10}$	$y^2P(y x=2) = \frac{28}{10}$
		$\sigma_{Y x=2}^2 = \frac{28}{10} - \left(\frac{16}{10}\right)^2 = \frac{280}{100} - \frac{256}{100} = \frac{24}{100}$	

Example 3: Given the joint pdf of X and Y find $f(y|x=2) = \frac{f(x=2,y)}{f(x=2)}$ and $f(x|y=3) = \frac{f(x,y=3)}{f(y=3)}$ and compute their conditional mean and variance .

		Y			
		1	2	3	f(x)
X	1	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$
	2	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{6}{10}$
f(y)		$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{5}{10}$	

Y	$f(y x=2)$	$yP(y x=2)$	$y^2P(y x=2)$
1	$\frac{\frac{1}{10}}{\frac{6}{10}} = \frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$
2	$\frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{6}{10}} = \frac{2}{6}$	$\frac{4}{6}$	$\frac{8}{6}$
3	$\frac{\frac{3}{10}}{\frac{6}{10}} = \frac{3}{6}$	$\frac{9}{6}$	$\frac{27}{6}$
		$\mu_{Y x=2} = \frac{14}{6} = \frac{7}{3}$	$y^2P(y x=2) = \frac{36}{6} = 6$
		$\sigma_{Y x=2}^2 = 6 - \left(\frac{7}{3}\right)^2 = 6 - \frac{49}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$	

X	$f(x y=3)$	$xP(x y=3)$	$x^2P(x y=3)$
1	$\frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{5}{10}} = \frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{2}{5}$
2	$\frac{\frac{3}{10}}{\frac{5}{10}} = \frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{6}{5}$	$\frac{12}{5}$
		$\mu_{X y=3} = \frac{8}{5}$	$y^2P(x y=3) = \frac{14}{5}$
		$\sigma_{X y=3}^2 = \frac{14}{5} - \left(\frac{8}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{70}{25} - \frac{64}{25} = \frac{6}{25}$	

Example 4: $f(x,y) = 6y$; $0 < y < x < 1$.

$$f(y) = \int_y^1 6y \, dx = 6yx \Big|_y^1 = 6y(1-y) = 6y - 6y^2; \text{ Hence, } f(y) = 6y - 6y^2; \quad 0 < y < 1.$$

$$E(Y) = \int_0^1 y(6y - 6y^2) \, dy = \int_0^1 6y^2 - 6y^3 \, dy = 2y^3 - \frac{3}{2}y^4 \Big|_0^1 = 1 - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{1}{2}; \text{ Hence, } E(Y) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$E(Y^2) = \int_0^1 y^2(6y - 6y^2) \, dy = \int_0^1 6y^3 - 6y^4 \, dy = \frac{3}{2}y^4 - \frac{6}{5}y^5 \Big|_0^1 = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{6}{5} = \frac{15-12}{10} = \frac{3}{10}; \text{ Hence, } E(Y^2) = \frac{3}{10}$$

$$\sigma_Y^2 = E(Y^2) - (E(Y))^2 = \frac{3}{10} - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{3}{10} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{6-5}{20} = \frac{1}{20}; \text{ Hence, } \sigma_Y^2 = \frac{1}{20}$$

On the average the random variable Y will be, $E(Y) = \frac{1}{2}$ with variance $\sigma_Y^2 = \frac{1}{20}$. It means that Y as an estimator of μ is good but can we do better? Can we find another random variable, say V, so the mean or expected value of V is $E(V) = \frac{1}{2}$ but the variance of V is less than variance for Y, i.e $\sigma_v^2 < \sigma_Y^2 = \frac{1}{20}$?

In the search of such random variable consider the conditional pdf of Y given X ; i.e. $f(y|x)$.

$$f(x) = \int_0^x 6y \, dy = \frac{6}{2} y^2 \Big|_0^x = 3x^2; \text{ Hence, } f(x) = 3x^2; 0 < x < 1.$$

$$f(y|x) = \frac{f(x,y)}{f(x)} = \frac{6y}{3x^2} = \frac{2y}{x^2}; \text{ Hence, } f(y|x) = \frac{2y}{x^2}; 0 < y < x \text{ and } 0 < x < 1.$$

$$E(Y|x) = \int_0^x y \frac{2y}{x^2} \, dy = \int_0^x \frac{2y^2}{x^2} \, dy = \frac{2y^3}{3x^2} \Big|_0^x = \frac{2x}{3}; E(Y|x) = \frac{2x}{3}; 0 < x < 1$$

Note: The $E(Y|x) = \frac{2x}{3}$ is a random variable say V; i.e. $V = \frac{2x}{3}$. The distribution of V is

$$G(V) = P(V \leq v) = P\left(\frac{2x}{3} \leq v\right) = P\left(x \leq \frac{3v}{2}\right) \text{ where } 0 < V < \frac{2}{3}.$$

$$G(V) = \begin{cases} 0 & ; v \leq 0 \\ \int_0^{\frac{3v}{2}} 3x^2 \, dx = x^3 \Big|_0^{\frac{3v}{2}} = \frac{27}{8} v^3 & ; 0 < v < \frac{2}{3} \\ 1 & ; v \geq \frac{2}{3} \end{cases}$$

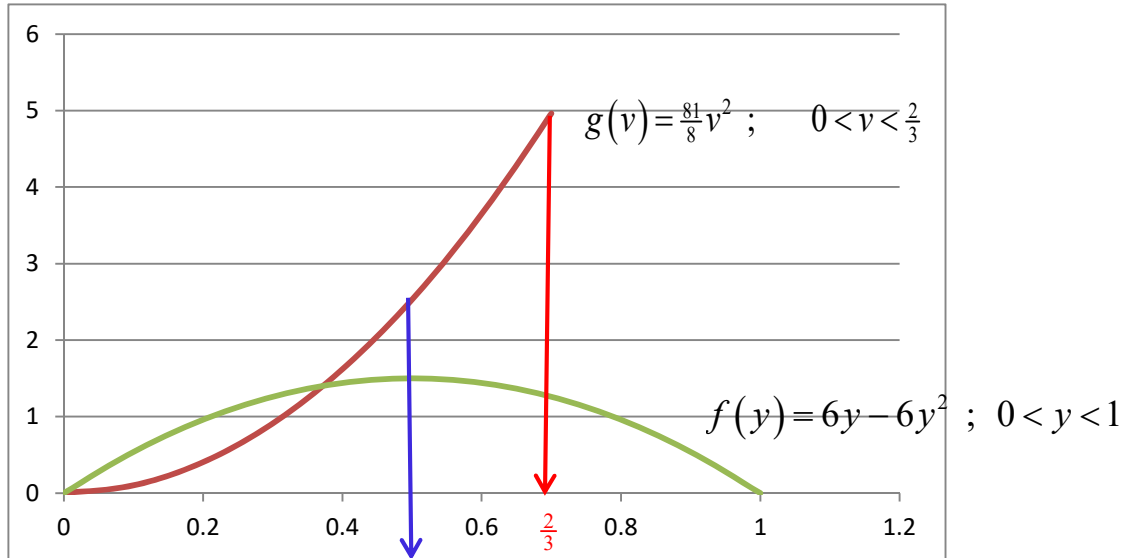
$$g(v) = \frac{81}{8} v^2; 0 < v < \frac{2}{3}.$$

$$E(V) = \int_0^{\frac{2}{3}} v \frac{81}{8} v^2 \, dv = \int_0^{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{81}{8} v^3 \, dv = \frac{81}{32} v^4 \Big|_0^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{81}{32} \frac{16}{81} = \frac{1}{2}; \text{ Hence, } E(V) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$E(V^2) = \int_0^{\frac{2}{3}} v^2 \frac{81}{8} v^2 \, dv = \int_0^{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{81}{8} v^4 \, dv = \frac{81}{40} v^5 \Big|_0^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{81}{40} \frac{32}{243} = \frac{4}{15}; \text{ Hence, } E(V^2) = \frac{4}{15}$$

$$\sigma_v^2 = E(V^2) - (E(V))^2 = \frac{4}{15} - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{4}{15} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{16 - 15}{60} = \frac{1}{60}; \text{ Hence, } \sigma_v^2 = \frac{1}{60}$$

$$\text{Note: } \sigma_v^2 = \frac{1}{60} < \sigma_y^2 = \frac{1}{20}$$



$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{2} = E(V)$$

$$f(y) = 6y - 6y^2 ; 0 < y < 1$$

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_Y^2 = \frac{1}{20}$$

$$g(v) = \frac{81}{8}v^2 ; 0 < v < \frac{2}{3}$$

$$E(V) = E(Y|x) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_V^2 = \frac{1}{60}$$

Homework 2.3

1. If the pdf of X and Y is given by $f(x, y)$ and $0 < x < y < 1$, compute the following:
 - a. $f(y) =$; limits:
 - b. $E(Y) =$
 - c. $\sigma_Y^2 =$
 - d. $f(x|y) =$ and ; limits:
 - e. $E(X|y) =$; limits:
 - f. $\sigma_{X|y}^2 =$

2. If X and Y are random variables of discrete type having pdf

$$f(x, y) = \frac{3x + 4y}{46}; (x, y) = (0, 2), (0, 3), (1, 2), (1, 3) \text{ , determine the conditional}$$

mean and variance of Y given X. Note: $f(x, y) = \frac{3x + 4y}{46}$ for $x = 0, 1$ and $y = 2, 3$.

3. Given the pdf $f(x, y) = 6x; 0 < x < y < 1$

a. Find $f(x), f(y), f(x|y),$ and $f(y|x)$.

b. Compute the $P(0 < x < \frac{1}{4} | y = \frac{2}{5})$.

c. Compute the $E(X | y), E(X^2 | y),$ and $\sigma_{X|y}^2$

4. Given the joint pdf of X and Y find $f(y|x=1) = \frac{f(x=1,y)}{f(x=1)}$ and $f(x|y=2) = \frac{f(x,y=2)}{f(y=2)}$ and compute their conditional mean and variance .

		Y			
		1	2	3	f(x)
X	1	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{4}{10}$
	2	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{6}{10}$
f(y)		$\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{5}{10}$	

5. In Example 1 of the notes(section 2.3) $f(x) = 2(1-x); 0 < x < 1$ and

$$f(y) = 2y; 0 < y < 1 \text{ .}$$

a. Find the $E(X), E(X^2),$ and σ_X^2 .

b. In Example 1 of the notes(section 2.3) the $E(X | y) = \frac{y}{2}$. Let $V = \frac{y}{2}$

Find the pdf of V , the $E(V)$, and the σ_V^2 .

c. Compare $E(V)$ and σ_V^2 in part b to $E(X)$ and σ_X^2 in part a and write your conclusion.