

Solutions to Assignment #8

1. Let the random vector (X_1, X_2) have a multinomial distribution with parameters n, p_1, p_2 .

(a) Give the marginal distributions for X_1 and X_2 and compute $E(X_i)$ for $i = 1, 2$.

Solution: Compute, for $n_1 = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} p_{X_1}(n_1) &= \sum_{\substack{n_2 \\ n_2 = n - n_1}} \frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!} p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} \\ &= \frac{n!}{n_1!(n - n_1)!} p_1^{n_1} (1 - p_1)^{n - n_1}, \end{aligned}$$

since $p_1 + p_2 = 1$. This is the pmf for a binomial(n, p_1) random variable. Hence, $X_1 \sim \text{binomial}(n, p_1)$. Similarly, $X_2 \sim \text{binomial}(n, p_2)$. It then follows that

$$E(X_i) = np_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2.$$

□

(b) Show that X_1 and X_2 are not independent and compute the covariance, $\text{cov}(X_1, X_2)$, of X_1 and X_2 .

Solution: Note that

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 = n_1, X_2 = n_2) &= P(X_1 = n_1, X_1 = n - n_2) \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!} p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} & \text{if } n_1 + n_2 = n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

while

$$p_{X_1}(n_1)p_{X_2}(n_2) = \frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!} p_1^{n_1} \frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!} p_2^{n_2}$$

for $n_1 + n_2 = n$. Thus, X_1 and X_2 are not independent.

To find $\text{cov}(X_1, X_2)$ compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cov}(X_1, X_2) &= E[(X_1 - np_1)(X_2 - np_2)] \\
 &= E[X_1(X_2 - np_2) - np_1(X_2 - np_2)] \\
 &= E[X_1X_2 - np_2X_1] - np_1E(X_2 - np_2) \\
 &= E[X_1X_2] - np_2E[X_1] \\
 &= E[X_1X_2] - n^2p_2p_1 \\
 &= E[X_1X_2] - n^2(1 - p_1)p_1 \\
 &= E[X_1X_2] - n^2p_1 + n^2p_1^2 \\
 &= E[X_1X_2] - n^2p_1 + (E(X_1))^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X_1X_2] &= E[X_1(n - X_1)] \\
 &= E[nX_1 - X_1^2] \\
 &= nE[X_1] - E[X_1^2] \\
 &= n^2p_1 - E[X_1^2].
 \end{aligned}$$

It then follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cov}(X_1, X_2) &= -E(X_1^2) + (E(X_1))^2 \\
 &= -\text{var}(X_1) \\
 &= -np_1(1 - p_1) \\
 &= -np_1p_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

2. Given two random variables, X and Y , the joint moment generating function of X and Y , denoted by $M_{(X,Y)}(t_1, t_2)$, is defined to be

$$M_{(X,Y)}(t_1, t_2) = E(e^{t_1X + t_2Y})$$

for (t_1, t_2) in some neighborhood of the origin in \mathbb{R}^2 .

Let the random vector (X_1, X_2) have a multinomial distribution with parameters n, p_1, p_2 .

(a) Compute the joint mgf of (X_1, X_2) .

Solution: Compute

$$\begin{aligned} M_{(X_1, X_2)}(t_1, t_2) &= E(e^{t_1 X_1 + t_2 X_2}) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2 \\ n_1 + n_2 = n}} e^{t_1 n_1 + t_2 n_2} \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2!} p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2 \\ n_1 + n_2 = n}} \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2!} (p_1 e^{t_1})^{n_1} (p_2 e^{t_2})^{n_2} \\ &= (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^n, \end{aligned}$$

by the binomial theorem. □

(b) Verify that $\text{cov}(X_1, X_2) = \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2}(0, 0) - \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_1}(0, 0) \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_2}(0, 0)$, where $M = M_{(X_1, X_2)}$.

Solution: Write $M(t_1, t_2) = (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^n$ and compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_1}(t_1, t_2) &= n(p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^{n-1} \cdot p_1 e^{t_1} \\ &= n p_1 e^{t_1} (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial t_2}(t_1, t_2) = n p_2 e^{t_2} (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^{n-1}.$$

Differentiating one more time we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2}(t_1, t_2) &= n p_2 e^{t_2} \cdot (n-1) p_1 e^{t_1} (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^{n-2} \\ &= n(n-1) p_1 p_2 e^{t_1 + t_2} (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2})^{n-2}. \end{aligned}$$

We then have that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2}(0, 0) &= n(n-1)p_1 p_2 (p_1 + p_2)^{n-2} \\ &= n(n-1)p_1 p_2,\end{aligned}$$

since $p_1 + p_2 = 1$.

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial M}{\partial t_1}(0, 0) \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_2}(0, 0) &= n^2 p_1 p_2 (p_1 + p_2)^{2(n-1)} \\ &= n^2 p_1 p_2.\end{aligned}$$

We then have that

$$\frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2}(0, 0) - \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_1}(0, 0) \frac{\partial M}{\partial t_2}(0, 0) = -n p_1 p_2,$$

which is the value for $\text{cov}(X_1, X_2)$ that we got in part (b) of Problem 1. \square

3. Let X_1 and X_2 be independent $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ random variables. For a fixed value of n ($n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$), determine the conditional distribution of X_1 given that $X_1 + X_2 = n$.

Solution: Let $Y = X_1 + X_2$. Then, since X_1 and X_2 are independent $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ random variables, $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(2\lambda)$; so that the pmf of Y is

$$p_Y(m) = \frac{(2\lambda)^m}{m!} e^{-2\lambda} \quad \text{for } m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

We want to determine the conditional distribution of X_1 given $Y = n$.

For $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$, compute

$$\begin{aligned}p_{X_1|Y}(k | n) &= \frac{\text{P}(X_1 = k, Y = n)}{\text{P}(Y = n)} \\ &= \frac{\text{P}(X_1 = k, X_1 + X_2 = n)}{p_Y(n)} \\ &= \frac{\text{P}(X_1 = k, X_2 = n - k)}{p_Y(n)} \\ &= \frac{p_{X_1}(k) \cdot p_{X_2}(n - k)}{p_Y(n)},\end{aligned}$$

by the independence of X_1 and X_2 , where

$$p_{X_1}(k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

and

$$p_{X_2}(n-k) = \frac{\lambda^{n-k}}{(n-k)!} e^{-\lambda}.$$

We then have that

$$\begin{aligned} p_{X_1|Y}(k | n) &= \frac{p_{X_1}(k) \cdot p_{X_2}(n-k)}{p_Y(n)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^{n-k}}{(n-k)!} e^{-\lambda}}{\frac{(2\lambda)^n}{n!} e^{-2\lambda}} \\ &= \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n, \end{aligned}$$

which is the pmf of a binomial($n, 1/2$) random variable. It then follows that

$$(X_1 | Y = n) \sim \text{binomial}(n, 1/2).$$

□

4. Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k be independent random variables satisfying $X_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i)$ for positive parameters $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$. For a fixed value of n ($n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$), determine the conditional distribution of the random vector (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) given that $X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_k = n$.

Solution: Write $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_k$; then, since X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k are independent Poisson(λ_i) random variables, respectively, $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$, where

$$\lambda = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j.$$

We want to determine the conditional distribution of

$$(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) | Y = n.$$

For nonnegative integers n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k such that $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k = n$, compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p_{(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) | Y}(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k | n) \\
 &= \frac{P(X_1 = n_1, X_2 = n_2, \dots, X_k = n_k, Y = n)}{P(Y = n)} \\
 &= \frac{P(X_1 = n_1, X_2 = n_2, \dots, X_k = n - n_1 - n_2 - \dots - n_{k-1})}{p_Y(n)} \\
 &= \frac{p_{X_1}(n_1) \cdot p_{X_2}(n_2) \cdots p_{X_k}(n - n_1 - n_2 - \dots - n_{k-1})}{p_Y(n)},
 \end{aligned}$$

by the independence of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k . We then have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p_{(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) | Y}(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k | n) \\
 &= \frac{\frac{\lambda_1^{n_1}}{n_1!} e^{-\lambda_1} \cdot \frac{\lambda_2^{n_2}}{n_2!} e^{-\lambda_2} \cdots \frac{\lambda_k^{n - n_1 - n_2 - \dots - n_{k-1}}}{(n - n_1 - n_2 - \dots - n_{k-1})!} e^{-\lambda_k}}{\frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda}} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_k!} \cdot \frac{\lambda_1^{n_1} \lambda_2^{n_2} \cdots \lambda_k^{n_k}}{\lambda^n} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_k!} \cdot \frac{\lambda_1^{n_1} \lambda_2^{n_2} \cdots \lambda_k^{n_k}}{\lambda^{n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k}} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_k!} \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda}\right)^{n_1} \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda}\right)^{n_2} \cdots \left(\frac{\lambda_k}{\lambda}\right)^{n_k},
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the pmf of a multinomial $\left(n, \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda}, \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda}, \dots, \frac{\lambda_k}{\lambda}\right)$ random vector.

Hence, $(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) | Y = n$ has a multinomial $\left(n, \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda}, \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda}, \dots, \frac{\lambda_k}{\lambda}\right)$

distribution, where $\lambda = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j$. □

5. Let the random vector (X_1, X_2) have a multinomial distribution with parameters n, p_1, p_2 . Define the random variable $Q = \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(X_2 - np_2)^2}{np_2}$. Show that for large values of n , Q has, approximately, a $\chi^2(1)$ distribution.

Suggestion Use the result of part (b) in Problem 1 and apply the Central Limit Theorem.

Solution: Since X_1 binomial(n, p_1), the random variable

$$\frac{X_1 - np_1}{\sqrt{np_1(1 - p_1)}}$$

has an approximate normal(0, 1) distribution for large values of n . Consequently, for large values of n ,

$$\frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1(1 - p_1)}$$

has an approximate $\chi^2(1)$ distribution.

Note that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1(1 - p_1)} &= \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2(1 - p_1) + (X_1 - np_1)^2 p_1}{np_1(1 - p_1)} \\ &= \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{n(1 - p_1)} \\ &= \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(n - X_2 - np_1)^2}{n(1 - p_1)} \\ &= \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(X_2 - n(1 - p_1))^2}{n(1 - p_1)} \\ &= \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(X_2 - np_2)^2}{np_2}, \end{aligned}$$

which is the Pearson Chi-Square statistic, Q , for $k = 2$. We have therefore proved that, for large values of n , the random variable

$$Q = \frac{(X_1 - np_1)^2}{np_1} + \frac{(X_2 - np_2)^2}{np_2}$$

has an approximate $\chi^2(1)$ distribution. \square