# DATA MINING TECHNIQUES Review of Probability Theory 

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# Review of Probability Theory 

Based on "Review of Probability Theory" from CS 229 Machine Learning, Stanford University (Handout posted on the course website)

## Elements of Probability

- Sample space $\Omega$ : the set of all the outcomes of an experiment
- Event space $F$ : a collection of possible outcomes of an experiment. $F \subseteq \Omega$.
- Probability measure: a function $P: F \rightarrow R$ that satisfies the following properties:
- $P(A) \geq 0 \forall A \in F$
- $P(\Omega)=1$
- If $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots$ are disjoint events, then

$$
P\left(\cup_{i} A_{i}\right)=\sum_{i} P\left(A_{i}\right)
$$

## Properties of Probability

- If $A \subseteq B \Longrightarrow P(A) \leq P(B)$
- $P(A \cap B) \leq \min (P(A), P(B))$
- $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A)+P(B)$ (Union Bound)
- $P(\Omega \backslash A)=1-P(A)$
- If $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{k}$ is a disjoint partition of $\Omega$, then

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{k} P\left(A_{k}\right)=1
$$

## Conditional Probability

- A conditional probability $P(A \mid B)$ measures the probability of an event $A$ after observing the occurrence of event $B$

$$
P(A \mid B)=\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}
$$

- Two events $A$ and $B$ are independent iff $P(A \mid B)=P(A)$ or equivalently, $P(A \cap B)=P(A) P(B)$


## Conditional Probability Examples

- A math teacher gave her class two tests. $25 \%$ of the class passed both tests and $42 \%$ of the class passed the first test. What percent of those who passed the first test also passed the second test?
- In New England, 84\% of the houses have a garage and $65 \%$ of the houses have a garage and a back yard. What is the probability that a house has a backyard given that it has a garage?


## Independent Events Examples

- What's the probability of getting a sequence of $1,2,3,4,5,6$ if we roll a dice six times?
- A school survey found that 9 out of 10 students like pizza. If three students are chosen at random with replacement, what is the probability that all three students like pizza?


## Random Variable

A random variable $X$ is a function that maps a sample space $\Omega$ to real values. Formally,

$$
X: \Omega \longrightarrow R
$$

Examples:

- Rolling one dice
$X=$ number on the dice at each roll
- Rolling two dice at the same time $X=$ sum of the two numbers


## Random Variable

A random variable can be continuous. E.g.,

- $X=$ the length of a randomly selected phone call
(What's the $\Omega$ ?)
- $X=$ amount of coke left in a can marked 120 z (What's the $\Omega$ ?)


## Probability Mass Function

If $X$ is a discrete random variable, we can specify a probability for each of its possible values using the probability mass function (PMF). Formally, a PMF is a function $p: \Omega \longrightarrow R$ such that

$$
p(x)=P(X=x)
$$

- Rolling a dice:
$p(X=i)=\frac{1}{6} \quad i=1,2, \ldots, 6$
- Rolling two dice at the same time:
$X=$ sum of the two numbers
$p(X=2)=\frac{1}{36}$


## Probability Mass Function

- $X \sim \operatorname{Bernoulli}(p), p \in[0,1]$

$$
p(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
p & \text { if } & x=1 \\
1-p & \text { if } & x=0
\end{array}\right.
$$

- $X \sim \operatorname{Binomial}(n, p), p \in[0,1]$ and $n \in Z^{+}$

$$
p(x)=\binom{n}{x} p^{x}(1-p)^{n-x}
$$

- $X \sim \operatorname{Geometric}(p), p>0$

$$
p(x)=p(1-p)^{x-1}
$$

- $X \sim \operatorname{Poisson}(\lambda), \lambda>0$

$$
p(x)=e^{-\lambda \frac{\lambda^{x}}{x!}}
$$

## Probability Density Function

- If $X$ is a continuous random variable, we can NOT specify a probability for each of its possible values (why?)
- We use a probability density function PDF to describe the relative likelihood for a random variable to take on a given value
- A (PDF) specifies the probability of $X$ takes a value within a range. Formally, a $P D F$ is a function $f(x): \Omega \longrightarrow R$ such that

$$
P(a<X<b)=\int_{a}^{b} f(x) d x
$$

## Probability Density Function

- $X \sim$ uniform on $[a, b]$ :


$$
f(x)=\frac{1}{b-a}
$$

- $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$ :


$$
f(x)=\frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2 \pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2 \sigma^{2}}(x-\mu)^{2}}
$$

## Joint Probability Mass Function

If we have two discrete random variables $X, Y$, we can define their joint probability mass function $(P M F) p_{X Y}: R^{2} \longrightarrow[0,1]$ as:

$$
p(x, y)=P(X=x, Y=y)
$$

where $p(x, y) \leq 1$ and $\sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x, y)=1$

- $X, Y$ : rolling two dice

$$
p(x, y)=\frac{1}{36} \quad x, y=1,2, \ldots, 6
$$

- $X$ : rolling one dice $Y$ : drawing a colored ball $p(6$, green $)=? \quad p(5$, red $)=?$


## Joint Probability Density Function

If we have two continuous random variables $X, Y$, we can define their joint probability density function $(P D F) f_{X Y}: R^{2} \longrightarrow[0,1]$ as:

$$
P(a<X<b, c<Y<d)=\int_{c}^{d} \int_{a}^{b} f(x, y) d x d y
$$

- 2D Gaussian



## Marginal Probability Mass Function

How does the joint PMF over two discrete variables relate to the PMF for each variable separately? It turns out that

$$
p(x)=\sum_{y \in Y} p(x, y)
$$

- $X, Y$ : rolling two dice

$$
\begin{aligned}
& p(x, y)=\frac{1}{36} \quad x, y=1,2, \ldots, 6 \\
& p(x)=\sum_{y=1}^{6} p(x, y)=\frac{1}{6}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Marginal Probability Density Function

Similarly, we can obtain a marginal PDF (also called marginal density) for a continuous random variable from a joint $P D F$ :

$$
f(x)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) d y
$$

- Integrating out one variable in the 2D Gaussian gives a 1D Gaussian in either dimension




## Conditional Probability Distribution

A conditional probability distribution defines the probability distribution over $Y$ when we know that $X$ must take on a certain value $x$

- Discrete case: conditional PMF

$$
p(y \mid x)=\frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)} \Longleftrightarrow p(x, y)=p(y \mid x) p(x)
$$

- Continuous case: conditional PDF

$$
f(y \mid x)=\frac{f(x, y)}{f(x)} \Longleftrightarrow f(x, y)=f(y \mid x) f(x)
$$

## Marginal vs. Conditional

- Marginal probability:

| $i \backslash j$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $p_{X}(i)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 2 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 3 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 4 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 5 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 6 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| $p_{Y}(j)\| \|$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ |  |

- Conditional probability: probability of rolling a 2

| $i \backslash$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $p_{X}(i)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 2 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 3 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 4 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 5 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| 6 | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 36$ | $1 / 6$ |
| $p_{Y}(j)$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ | $1 / 6$ |  |

## Bayes Rule

- We can express the joint probability in two ways:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& p(x, y)=p(y \mid x) p(x) \\
& p(x, y)=p(x \mid y) p(y)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Bayes rule:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
p(y \mid x)=\frac{p(x \mid y) p(y)}{p(x)} & \text { (discrete) } \\
f(y \mid x)=\frac{f(x \mid y) f(y)}{f(x)} & \text { (continuous) }
\end{array}
$$

## Bayes Rule Application

A patient underwent a HIV test and got a positive result. Suppose we know that

- Overall risk of having HIV in the population is 0.1\%
- The test can accurately identify $98 \%$ of HIV infected patients
- The test can accurately identify $99 \%$ of healthy patients

What's the probability the person indeed infected HIV?

## Bayes Rule - Application

We have two random variables here:

- $X \in\{+,-\}$ : the outcome of the HIV test
- $C \in\{Y, N\}$ : the patient has HIV or not

We want to know: $P(C=Y \mid X=+)$ ?
Apply Bayes rule:

$$
P(C=Y \mid X=+)=\frac{P(X=+\mid C=Y) P(C=Y)}{P(X=+)}
$$

$P(X=+\mid C=Y)=0.98 \quad P(C=Y)=0.001$
$P(X=+)=0.98 * 0.001+(1-0.99) * 0.999=0.01097$
Answer: $0.98 * 0.001 / 0.01097=8.9 \%$

## Bayes Rule Terminology

$$
P(Y \mid X)=\frac{P(X \mid Y) P(Y)}{P(X)}
$$

$P(Y)$ : prior probability or, simply, prior
$P(X \mid Y)$ : conditional probability or, likelihood
$P(X)$ : marginal probability
$P(Y \mid X)$ : posterior probability or, simply, posterior

## Independence

Two random variables X and Y are independent iff

- For discrete random variables

$$
p(x, y)=p(x) p(y) \quad \forall x \in X, y \in Y
$$

- For discrete random variables

$$
p(y \mid x)=p(y) \quad \forall y \in Y \text { and } p(x) \neq 0
$$

- For continuous random variables

$$
f(x, y)=f(x) f(y) \quad \forall x, y \in R
$$

- For continuous random variables

$$
f(y \mid x)=f(y) \quad \forall y \in R \text { and } f(x) \neq 0
$$

## Multiple Random Variables

Extend to multiple random variables:

- Joint Distribution (discrete):
$p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)=P\left(X 1=x_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}=x_{n}\right)$
- Conditional Distribution (chain rule - discrete)
$p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)=p\left(x_{n} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right) p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right)$
$=p\left(x_{n} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right) p\left(x_{n-1} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-2}\right) p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-2}\right)$
$=p\left(x_{1}\right) \prod_{i=2}^{n} p\left(x_{i} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{i-1}\right)$
(continuous case can be defined similarly using PDF)


## Multiple Random Variables

- Independence:

Discrete case: $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ are independent iff

$$
p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} p\left(x_{i}\right)
$$

Continuous case: $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ are independent iff

$$
f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} f\left(x_{i}\right)
$$

## Multiple Random Variables

## - Bayes rule:

Discrete case:
$p\left(x_{n} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right)=\frac{p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1} \mid x_{n}\right) p\left(x_{n}\right)}{p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right)}$
Continuous case:
$f\left(x_{n} \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right)=\frac{f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1} \mid x_{n}\right) f\left(x_{n}\right)}{f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n-1}\right)}$

## Probabilistic View of a Dataset

What about a dataset $S=\left\{\left(\mathbf{x}_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(\mathbf{x}_{N}, y_{N}\right)\right\}$ ?

- We can view $S$ as $d+1$ random variables where $d$ is the number of attributes in $\mathbf{x}$, i.e.

$$
X_{1}, X_{2}, \ldots, X_{d}, Y
$$

- Uncover(model) $p\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{d}, y\right)$ from the training data
- For $\operatorname{ANY}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$, we will compute:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P\left(y=0 \mid x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right) ? \\
& P\left(y=1 \mid x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right) ?
\end{aligned}
$$

That is predicting $y$ from $x$ !



$\square$ Statistical Inference





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$\square$ Statistical inference deals with such problems.
$\square$ To draw conclusions or inferences about the
unknown parameters of the populations from the
limited information contained in the sample.

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Is this a good idea?
$\square$ May be used to predict values for the missing data.
$\square$ E.g.,
$\square$ A company contains 100 employees
$\square 99$ have salary information
$\square$ Mean salary of these is $\$ 50,000$
$\square$ Use $\$ 50,000$ as value of remaining employee's salary.
Is this a good idea?


$\square$ Statistical Inference
$\square$ Point Estimation
$\square$ Estimation Error

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ן:sD!g Estimation Error

$\square$ Why square?

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$\square$ Solves estimation with incomplete data.


$\square$ Statistical Inference





$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { From training data: } \\
& \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~h}_{1}\right)=\text { ? } ; \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~h}_{2}\right)=? ; \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~h}_{3}\right)=? ; \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~h}_{4}\right)=? \text { ?. }
\end{aligned}
$$

| ID | Income | Credit | Class | $\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{i}}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 4 | Excellent | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{4}$ |
| 2 | 3 | Good | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{7}$ |
| 3 | 2 | Excellent | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{2}$ |
| 4 | 3 | Good | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{7}$ |
| 5 | 4 | Good | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{8}$ |
| 6 | 2 | Excellent | $\mathrm{h}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{2}$ |
| 7 | 3 | Bad | $\mathrm{h}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{11}$ |
| 8 | 2 | Bad | $\mathrm{h}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{10}$ |
| 9 | 3 | Bad | $\mathrm{h}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{11}$ |
| 10 | 1 | Bad | $\mathrm{h}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{x}_{9}$ |





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