

## Chapter 2. Discrete Distributions

### Objectives

- Basic Concepts & Expectations
- Binomial, Poisson, Geometric, Negative Binomial, and Hypergeometric Distributions
- Introduction to the Maximum Likelihood Estimation
- Basic Bivariate Distributions; joint, marginal & conditional pdf

### Discrete Distributions

The (theoretical) population mean, population variance, and the population sd (standard deviation) are:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i = \sum_x x f(x), \quad \sigma^2 = \sum_x (x - \mu)^2 f(x), \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$$

The sample mean, sample variance, and the sample sd from a dataset:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i, \quad s^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}, \quad s = \sqrt{s^2}$$

or equivalently, from a frequency table:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^k f_i x_i, \quad s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^k \{f_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2\}, \quad s = \sqrt{s^2}$$

Note also:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2 &= \sum_x (x - \mu)^2 f(x) \\ &= \sum_x (x^2 - 2\mu x + \mu^2) f(x) \\ &= \sum_x x^2 f(x) - 2\mu \sum_x x f(x) + \mu^2 \sum_x f(x) \\ &= \sum_x x^2 f(x) - \mu^2 \quad (\text{Why?}) \end{aligned}$$

$\sum_x x^2 f(x)$  is called the **2nd moment about the origin**.

#### Ex 1.

1. Find the mean and sd of the following observations:  $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 2, x_4 = 6, x_5 = 3$ .
2. Let  $f(x) = x/6$ ,  $x = 1, 2, 3$  be the pmf of  $X$ . Find the mean ( $\mu$ ) and the sd ( $\sigma$ ) of  $X$ .

**Ex 2.** Let the random variable  $X$  = the number of rolls of a regular die until the “first” 5 or 6. The probability of rolling a 5 or 6 is  $1/3$ , thus the pmf of  $X$  is written as:

$$f(x) = P(X = x) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right), \quad x = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Find (a) the mean ( $\mu$ ) and the sd ( $\sigma$ ) of  $X$ .

*Answer:*

$$\mu = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} x f(x) = 1 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + \dots$$

You will see quite a few of similar infinite sums of this kind. Here is how to find the answer easily. First, let's call  $\frac{1}{3} = a$ . Then,

$$\mu = 1a + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) a + 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 a + \dots$$

Write one more line like

$$\frac{2}{3}\mu = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) a + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 a + \dots$$

Subtract, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3}\mu &= a + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) a + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 a + \dots \\ &= \frac{a}{1 - 2/3} = 3a \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \mu = 9a = 3$$

**Remark** Textbook introduces another way of handling this kind of infinite sum. First recall the Taylor series expansion:

$$f(x) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}x + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}x^2 + \dots$$

Next, apply the Taylor series expansion to  $f(x) = (1 - x)^{-2}$  around 0, we get

$$(1 - x)^{-2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots$$

Now, notice that we have  $3\mu = 1 + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \dots$ . The RHS is  $(1 - x)^{-2}$ , where  $x = 2/3$ . That is,  $\mu = \frac{(1-2/3)^{-2}}{3} = 3$ .

$$E(X^2) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) = 1^2 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 2^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + 3^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + \dots$$

Rewrite as

$$3E(X^2) = 1^2 + 2^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 3^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \dots$$

Write one more line like before

$$3 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) E(X^2) = 1^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 2^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + 3^2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 + \dots$$

Subtract the last two equations, we get

$$E(X^2) = 1 + 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 5 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + 7 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 + \dots$$

Write one more line again like before

$$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) E(X^2) = 1 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + 5 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 + \dots$$

Subtract the last equation from the one above, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) E(X^2) &= 1 + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 + 2 \left(\frac{2/3}{1 - 2/3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X^2) = 15$$

$$\therefore \sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = 15 - 9 = 6$$

**Basel Problem:** 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$$

We begin with the Taylor series expansion of  $\sin(x)$

$$\sin(x) = x - \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \frac{1}{5!}x^5 - \frac{1}{7!}x^7 + \dots$$

Divide both sides by  $x$

$$\frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1 - \frac{1}{3!}x^2 + \frac{1}{5!}x^4 - \frac{1}{7!}x^6 + \dots$$

Notice that the roots of  $\sin(x)$  are  $\pm n\pi$  (i.e.,  $\sin(\pm n\pi) = 0$ ). The above expression must have factors like

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(1 - \frac{x}{\pi}\right) \left(1 + \frac{x}{\pi}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x}{2\pi}\right) \left(1 + \frac{x}{2\pi}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x}{3\pi}\right) \left(1 + \frac{x}{3\pi}\right) \cdots \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{\pi^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{4\pi^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{9\pi^2}\right) \cdots \\ &= 1 - \left(\frac{1}{\pi^2} + \frac{1}{4\pi^2} + \frac{1}{9\pi^2} + \cdots\right) x^2 + \cdots \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} x^2 + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $x^2$  term, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3!} &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \\ \therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} &= \frac{\pi^2}{6} \end{aligned}$$

**Ex 3.** Find a constant  $c$  so that  $f(x) = \frac{c}{x^2}$ ,  $x = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$  is a pmf.

**Definition 1.** (Mathematical) Expectation

Univariate case:  $X \sim f(x)$  pdf for a continuous rv; pmf for a discrete rv.

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \\ \sum_x x f(x) \end{cases}$$

Multivariate case:  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \sim f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  pdf or pmf

$$E\{u(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)\} = \begin{cases} \int \cdots \int u(x_1, \dots, x_n) f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \cdots dx_n \\ \sum_x \cdots \sum_x u(x_1, \dots, x_n) f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{cases}$$

**Properties 1.** If  $k$  is a constant  $E(k) = k$ .

**Properties 2.** If  $k$  is a constant and  $v(\cdot)$  is a function, then  $E\{kv(X)\} = kE\{v(X)\}$ .

This can be extended to  $E\left\{\sum_{i=1}^m k_i v_i(X)\right\} = \sum_{i=1}^m k_i E\{v_i(X)\}$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Ex 4.** Let the random variable  $X$  have the pmf  $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$ ,  $x = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Find  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ .

*Answer:* You can use the same methods shown before or use the Taylor series expansion of:

$$(1-x)^{-2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad (1-x)^{-3} = 1 + \frac{3 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 1}x + \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 1}x^2 + \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 1}x^3 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu = E(X) &= \sum_{x=1} x f(x) = 1 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 1 + 2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \dots \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^{-2} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E\{X(X+1)\} &= \sum_{x=1} x(x+1)f(x) = 1 \cdot 2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2 \cdot 3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 3 \cdot 4 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \\ &= \left(1 \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\right) \left\{ 1 + \frac{3 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \dots \right\} \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^{-3} = 8 \end{aligned}$$

So,  $E(X^2) = 6$  (Why?)

$$\therefore \sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \{E(X)\}^2 = 6 - 4 = 2$$

### Some special mathematical expectations

- Mean value of  $X$ :

$$E(X) = \mu = \begin{cases} \int x f(x) dx \\ \sum_x x f(x) \end{cases}$$

- Variance of  $X$ :

$$E(X - \mu)^2 = \sigma^2 = \begin{cases} \int (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx \\ \sum_x (x - \mu)^2 f(x) \end{cases}$$

- Moment generating function (mgf) of  $X$ :

$$M(t) = \begin{cases} \int e^{tx} f(x) dx \\ \sum_x e^{tx} f(x) \end{cases}$$

### Related facts

- $\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \{E(X)\}^2$
- (sd)  $\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$
- Not every distribution has an mgf. Suppose  $M_X(t) = M_Y(t)$  for  $|t| < h$ , and some  $h > 0$ , then  $P_X(\cdot) = P_Y(\cdot)$ , i.e.,  $F_X(z) = F_Y(z)$ ,  $\forall z$ . This is called the “uniqueness of mgf”, i.e., mgf uniquely determines the distribution.
- $M'(0) = E(X)$ ,  $M''(0) = E(X^2)$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $M^{(k)}(0) = E(X^k)$ .

The last part is because

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} M(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E(e^{tX}) = E(Xe^{tX})$$

**Ex 5. {Cauchy distribution}**  $X$  has pdf  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ ,  $-\infty < x < \infty$ . Then, both  $E(X)$  &  $M_X(t)$  do NOT exist.

(Why?):

$$\lim_{\substack{a \rightarrow -\infty \\ b \rightarrow \infty}} \int_a^b x \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = ? \quad (\text{Does it exist?})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b x \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log(1+x^2) \right\} \Big|_0^b = +\infty \\ \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \int_a^0 x \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log(1+x^2) \right\} \Big|_a^0 = +\infty \end{aligned}$$

## Binomial distribution

**Definition 2.**  $X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p)$

$X$  has a binomial distribution with parameters  $n$  &  $p$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ )

$$\Leftrightarrow f(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, \quad x = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$X \sim \text{binomial}(1, p)$  is particularly called the “Bernoulli” random variable, i.e.,  $P(X = 1) = p = 1 - P(X = 0)$

**Properties 3.**  $X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p) \Leftrightarrow M_X(t) = (pe^t + q)^n$ ,  $q = 1 - p$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} (\Rightarrow) \quad M_X(t) &= E(e^{tX}) = \sum_{x=0}^n \binom{n}{x} (pe^t)^x (1-p)^{n-x} = (pe^t + q)^n \\ (\Leftarrow) \quad &(\text{Uniqueness of mgf}) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Properties 4.** *Representational definition of binomial  $(n, p)$*

$$X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p) \Leftrightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i, \quad Z_1, \dots, Z_n : \text{iid } \text{binomial}(1, p).$$

*Proof.* Begin with the mgf of  $\sum Z_i$

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= E\left(e^{t \sum Z_i}\right) \\ &= E\left(e^{tZ_1} e^{tZ_2} \dots e^{tZ_n}\right) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n E\left(e^{tZ_i}\right) && \text{(Why?)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n M_{Z_i}(t) && \text{(Why?)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n (pe^t + q) && \text{(Why?)} \\ &= (pe^t + q)^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p) \Leftrightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i, \quad Z_1, \dots, Z_n : \text{iid } \text{binomial}(1, p)$$

The last part is by the uniqueness of mgf. □

**Properties 5.** *Mean & variance of binomial  $(n, p)$*

$$X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p) \Rightarrow E(X) = np, \quad \text{Var}(X) = npq.$$

*Proof.*

- Easiest way: use the representational definition
- Proof by mgf: Try on your own using  $M'(0) = E(X)$ ,  $M''(0) = E(X^2)$
- Proof by pmf:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{x=0}^n x \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \\ &= \sum_{x=1}^n \frac{n!}{(x-1)!(n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} && \text{(let } k = x - 1) \\ &= np \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{(n-1)!}{k!(n-1-k)!} p^k (1-p)^{n-1-k} \\ &= np && \text{(Why?)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
E\{X(X-1)\} &= \sum_{x=0}^n x(x-1) \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \\
&= \sum_{x=2}^n \frac{n!}{(x-2)!(n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} && (\text{let } k = x-2) \\
&= n(n-1)p^2 \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} \frac{(n-2)!}{k!(n-2-k)!} p^k (1-p)^{n-2-k} \\
&= n(n-1)p^2 && (\text{Why?})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \sigma^2 = E\{X(X-1)\} + E(X) - \{E(X)\}^2 = n(n-1)p^2 + np - (np)^2 = np(1-p)$$

□

**Ex 6. {WLLN: Weak Law of Large Numbers}** (Binomial case)

$$\textbf{Chebyshev's Inequality: } P(|X - \mu| \geq k\sigma) \leq \frac{1}{k^2}$$

Chebyshev's inequality came from the following:

$$\sigma^2 = E\{(X - \mu)^2\} = \sum_{x \in S} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) \geq \sum_{x \in A} (x - \mu)^2 f(x),$$

where  $A = \{x : |x - \mu| \geq k\sigma\}$  for a positive constant  $k$ . This leads to

$$\sigma^2 \geq \sum_{x \in A} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) \geq \sum_{x \in A} k^2 \sigma^2 f(x) = k^2 \sigma^2 \sum_{x \in A} f(x) = k^2 \sigma^2 P(X \in A)$$

□

Now, let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be an iid *binomial*(1,  $p$ ),  $\hat{p} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  = sample success ratio. Consider

$$P(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon)$$

Note that  $E(\hat{p}) = p$  and  $\sigma(\hat{p}) = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$ , so by plugging into the Chebyshev's inequality we get

$$P(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon) \leq \frac{p(1-p)}{\epsilon^2 n}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p(1-p)}{\epsilon^2 n} = 0$$

This means that the probability that the sample success ratio ( $\hat{p}$ ) is more than  $\epsilon$  away from  $p$  goes to zero as  $n$  goes to  $\infty$ , and we say ( $\hat{p}$ ) **converges in probability** to  $p$ .

□



**Definition 3.** Cumulative distribution function (cdf) – univariate case

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

**Properties 6.** cdf  $F(x)$

1. (monotonicity)  $a \leq b \quad \rightarrow \quad F(a) \leq F(b)$
2.  $F(-\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = 0, \quad F(+\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F(x) = 1$
3. (right continuity)  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} F(x+h) = F(x)$

A random variable  $X$  may not have a pdf or mgf, BUT it always has a cdf.

**Definition 4.** Relationship with pdf (or pmf) when it exists

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt & (\text{continuous case}) \\ \sum_{t \leq x} f(t) & (\text{discrete case}) \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(x) & \text{for } x \text{ where } f \text{ is continuous} & (\text{continuous case}) \\ F(x) - F(x-) & & (\text{discrete case}) \end{cases}$$

**Ex 7.**

1. Find the cdf  $F(x)$  of

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{6} & \text{for } x = 1, 2, 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2. Find the cdf  $F(x)$  of

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{x^3} & \text{for } x > 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Answer:*

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1/6 & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 3/6 & 2 \leq x < 3 \\ 1 & x \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} \int_1^x \frac{2}{t^3} dt = 1 - \frac{1}{x^2}, & x > 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Ex 8.** Let  $X \sim \text{binomial}(8, 0.65)$ . Find (a)  $P(X \leq 5)$ , (b)  $P(X = 5)$ , (c)  $P(X \leq 5) - P(X \leq 4)$   
*Answer by R:*

```
> pbinom(5,8,0.65)
[1] 0.5721863
> dbinom(5,8,0.65)
[1] 0.2785858
> pbinom(5,8,0.65)-pbinom(4,8,0.65)
[1] 0.2785858
```

## Poisson distribution

### Poisson approximation to the binomial distribution:

$$\binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x} \rightarrow \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad np = \lambda \text{ (fixed)}$$

There are different ways to show this. Here is an easy way from the textbook. We begin with

$$P(X = x) = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-x}$$

Next, let  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-x} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1) \cdot (n-x+1)}{n^x} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{-x} \\ &= 1 \cdot \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} \cdot e^{-\lambda} \quad (\text{Why?}) \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} \sim \text{Poisson with } \lambda \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 5.**  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

$$X \text{ has a Poisson distribution with parameter } \lambda (> 0) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}$$

**Properties 7.**  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad M_X(t) = \exp\{\lambda(e^t - 1)\}.$

*Proof.*

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \sum_{x=0}^n e^{tx} \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{x=0}^n \frac{(\lambda e^t)^x}{x!} = e^{-\lambda} e^{(\lambda e^t)} = e^{\{\lambda(e^t-1)\}}$$

□

**Properties 8.** Mean & variance of Poisson ( $\lambda$ )

$$X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda) \Rightarrow E(X) = \lambda, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda.$$

**Properties 9.** (Reproductive property)

$$X_1, \dots, X_k \text{ independent } \& X_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \\ \text{then } \sum X_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\sum \lambda_i)$$

*Proof.* Begin with the mgf of  $\sum Z_i$

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\sum X_i}(t) &= E(e^{t \sum X_i}) \\ &= E(e^{tX_1} e^{tX_2} \dots e^{tX_n}) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n E(e^{tX_i}) && \text{(Why?)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n M_{X_i}(t) && \text{(Why?)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n e^{\lambda_i(e^t-1)} \\ &= e^{\sum \lambda_i(e^t-1)} \\ &\sim \text{mgf of Poisson} \left( \sum \lambda_i \right) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \sum X_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\sum \lambda_i)$  by the uniqueness of mgf.

□

**Ex 9.** Let  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda = 1)$ . Find (a)  $P(X \leq 2)$ , (b)  $P(X = 2)$ , (c)  $P(X \leq 2) - P(X \leq 1)$

*Answer by R:*

```
> ppois(2,1)
[1] 0.9196986
> dpois(2,1)
[1] 0.1839397
> ppois(2,1)-ppois(1,1)
[1] 0.1839397
```

## Geometric distribution

**Definition 6.**  $Y \sim \text{Geometric}(p) \Leftrightarrow f(y) = pq^y, \quad y = 0, 1, \dots; q = 1 - p$

$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{iid binomial}(1, p)$ ,  $Y = \#$  of “failures” before the first success.

**Properties 10.**  $Y \sim \text{Geometric}(p) \Leftrightarrow M_Y(t) = p(1 - qe^t)^{-1}, \quad 1 - qe^t > 0.$   
 $\Leftrightarrow E(Y) = \frac{q}{p}, \quad \text{Var}(Y) = \frac{q}{p^2}.$

*Proof.*

$$M_Y(t) = E(e^{tY}) = \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} p(qe^t)^y = \frac{p}{(1 - qe^t)}, \quad 1 - qe^t > 0$$

□

**One note:** Textbook (page. 64) uses a slightly different definition. There,  $X$  = the trial number on which the 1st “success” occurs and it’s related by  $Y = X - 1$ , ( $x = 1, 2, \dots$ ). According to this definition, we have

$$f(x) = pq^{x-1} \ (x = 1, 2, \dots); E(X) = \frac{1}{p}, \text{Var}(X) = \frac{q}{p^2}; M_X(t) = pe^t(1 - qe^t)^{-1}$$

## Negative Binomial distribution

**Definition 7.**  $Y \sim \text{Negative Binomial}(r, p)$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(y) = \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} p^r q^y, \quad y = 0, 1, \dots; q = 1 - p$$

$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{iid binomial}(1, p)$ ,  $Y = \#$  of “failures” before the  $r$ th success ( $r \geq 1$ ).

**Properties 11.**  $Y \sim \text{NB}(r, p) \Leftrightarrow M_Y(t) = p^r(1 - qe^t)^{-r}, \quad 1 - qe^t > 0.$   
 $\Leftrightarrow Y = \sum_{i=1}^r Z_i, \quad Z_1, \dots, Z_r \sim \text{iid geometric}(p).$   
 $\Leftrightarrow E(Y) = r\frac{q}{p}, \quad \text{Var}(Y) = r\frac{q}{p^2}.$

*Proof.* Note first  $\sum_{y=0}^{\infty} \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} q^y = p^{-r}$  (Why?). This is known as the “negative binomial expansion” and it’s the Taylor series expansion of  $f(q) = (1 - q)^{-r}$  as shown below

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!}x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \dots \\ (1 - q)^{-r} &= 1 + \frac{r}{1!}q + \frac{r(r+1)}{2!}q^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Making use of this, we have

$$M_Y(t) = E(e^{tY}) = \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} p^r (qe^t)^y = p^r (1 - qe^t)^{-r}, \quad 1 - qe^t > 0$$

*Proof.* (mgf  $\rightarrow$  representational definition)

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_{\sum Z_i}(t) &= E\left(e^{t \sum Z_i}\right), \quad \text{where } \sum_1^r Z_i \sim iid \text{ geometric}(p) \\
 &= \prod_1^r E\left(e^{t Z_i}\right) \quad (\text{Why?}) \\
 &= \prod_1^r M_{Z_i}(t) \quad (\text{Why?}) \\
 &= \prod_1^r \left\{p(1 - qe^t)^{-1}\right\} \\
 &= p^r (1 - qe^t)^{-r} \\
 &\sim \text{mgf of NB}(r, p)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \sum Z_i \sim \text{NB}(r, p)$  by the uniqueness of mgf.

□

**Another note:** Textbook (page. 64) uses a slightly different definition. There,  $X$  = the trial number on which the  $r$ th “success” occurs and it’s related by  $Y = X - r$ , ( $x = r, r + 1, \dots$ ). Textbook calls  $Y$  has a “translated negative binomial” distribution. According to this definition, we have

$$f(x) = \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r q^{x-r} \quad (x = r, r + 1, \dots); \quad \mu = \frac{r}{p}, \sigma^2 = \frac{rq}{p^2}; \quad M_X(t) = (pe^t)^r (1 - qe^t)^{-r}$$

## Hypergeometric distribution

**Definition 8.**  $X \sim \text{Hypergeometric}(N_1, N_2, n)$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(x) = \frac{\binom{N_1}{x} \binom{N_2}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad x \leq n$$

In a box, there are  $N_1$  “red” balls and  $N_2$  “blue” balls,  $X = \#$  of “red” balls.

**Properties 12.**  $X \sim \text{Hypergeom}(N_1, N_2, n) \Leftrightarrow \mu = np, \sigma^2 = np(1-p) \left(\frac{N-n}{N-1}\right), p = \frac{N_1}{N}.$

## MLE: Maximum Likelihood Estimate

**Definition 9.** Suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are random samples from the same underlying distribution (i.e., iid) with the pdf  $f(x_i; \theta)$ , then  $\prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta)$  is called the **joint pdf (joint pdf)** or the **likelihood**

**function.** Furthermore, the value of the parameter  $\hat{\theta}$  that maximizes the likelihood is called the mle (maximum likelihood estimator) of  $\theta$ .

**Ex 10.**  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ : iid from binomial  $(1, p)$ . Find the mle of  $p$ .

*Answer:*

$$\begin{aligned} L(p) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; p) = \prod_{i=1}^n p^{x_i} (1-p)^{1-x_i}, \quad 0 < p < 1, x_i = 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ &= p^{\sum x_i} (1-p)^{n-\sum x_i} \\ \ln L(p) &= \sum x_i \ln p + \left(n - \sum x_i\right) \ln(1-p) \quad (\text{log-likelihood function}) \end{aligned}$$

Now, to find  $p$  that maximizes the log likelihood, differentiate this wrt  $p$  and set it equal to zero, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \ln L(p) &= \frac{\sum x_i}{p} - \frac{(n - \sum x_i)}{1-p} = 0 \\ (1-p) \sum x_i - \left(n - \sum x_i\right) p &= 0 \\ \hat{p} &= \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

To make sure that this indeed makes the log likelihood maximum, we can do the second derivative test. Here, we have

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 p} \ln L(p) = -\frac{\sum x_i}{p^2} - \frac{(n - \sum x_i)}{(1-p)^2}$$

This is always  $< 0$  regardless of  $\hat{p}$ , which means that our solution  $\hat{p}$  is indeed the mle. **One note:**  $\bar{X}$  is called the maximum likelihood **estimator**, and  $\bar{x}$  is the maximum likelihood **estimate**.

**Ex 11.**  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ : iid from Poisson  $(\lambda)$ . Find the mle of  $\lambda$ .

*Answer:*

$$\begin{aligned} L(\lambda) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda}}{x_i!} = \frac{\lambda^{\sum x_i} e^{-n\lambda}}{x_1! x_2! \cdots x_n!} \\ \ln L(\lambda) &= -n\lambda + \sum x_i \ln \lambda - \ln(x_1! \cdots x_n!) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \ln L(\lambda) &= -n + \frac{\sum x_i}{\lambda} = 0 \\ \hat{\lambda} &= \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

Now, the second derivative is  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 \lambda} \ln L(\lambda) = -\frac{\sum x_i}{\lambda^2}$ , and this is always  $< 0$  regardless of  $\hat{\lambda}$ , which means  $\hat{\lambda}$  is the mle.

**Ex 12.**  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ : iid from discrete uniform for  $x = 1, 2, \dots, \theta$ . Find the mle of  $\theta$ .

*Answer:*

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta} = \left(\frac{1}{\theta}\right)^n, \quad x_i = 1, \dots, \theta$$

$$\ln L(\theta) = -n \ln \theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(\theta) = -\frac{n}{\theta}$$

$$\therefore \hat{\theta} = \max_i (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

This agrees with our intuition because in  $n$  observations of a discrete uniform random variable, the largest value should be taken as the upper bound.

### Expected Values – Linear Functions of “Independent” Random variables

**Ex 13.**  $X_1, X_2$ : independent random samples from Poisson with  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 3$ , respectively.

Find (a)  $P(X_1 = 3, X_2 = 4)$ , (b)  $P(X_1 + X_2 = 2)$ .

*Answer:*

$$P(X_1 = 3, X_2 = 4) = \left(\frac{2^3 e^{-2}}{3!}\right) \left(\frac{3^4 e^{-3}}{4!}\right) = \frac{9}{2} e^{-5} = 0.0303$$

$$P(X_1 + X_2 = 2) = P(0, 2) + P(1, 1) + P(2, 0)$$

$$= \left(\frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!}\right) \left(\frac{3^2 e^{-3}}{2!}\right) + \left(\frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!}\right) \left(\frac{3^1 e^{-3}}{1!}\right) + \left(\frac{2^2 e^{-2}}{2!}\right) \left(\frac{3^0 e^{-3}}{0!}\right) = 0.0842$$

Let  $u(X_1, X_2)$  be a new random created as a function of two independent random variables  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  have pdf's  $f_1(x_1), f_2(x_2)$ , respectively. Then the expected value of  $u(X_1, X_2)$  can be found by

$$E\{u(X_1, X_2)\} = \sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_2} u(x_1, x_2) f_{12}(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_2} u(x_1, x_2) f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2)$$

The last part, where the joint pdf is written as a product of marginal pdf, is due to the independence of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . Now, consider  $Y = a_1 X_1 + a_2 X_2$ , where  $a_1, a_2$  are constants. We have

$$E(Y) = \mu_Y = E(a_1 X_1 + a_2 X_2) = a_1 E(X_1) + a_2 E(X_2) = a_1 \mu_1 + a_2 \mu_2$$

$$Var(Y) = \sigma_Y^2 = E\left\{(a_1 X_1 + a_2 X_2 - a_1 \mu_1 - a_2 \mu_2)^2\right\} = E\left[\{a_1 (X_1 - \mu_1) + a_2 (X_2 - \mu_2)\}^2\right]$$

$$= a_1^2 E\left\{(X_1 - \mu_1)^2\right\} + a_2^2 E\left\{(X_2 - \mu_2)^2\right\} + 2a_1 a_2 E\{(X_1 - \mu_1)(X_2 - \mu_2)\}$$

$$= a_1^2 Var(X_1) + a_2^2 Var(X_2) + 2a_1 a_2 E(X_1 - \mu_1) E(X_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$= a_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + a_2^2 \sigma_2^2$$

In general, let  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i$ , where  $a_i$ 's are constants and  $X_i$ 's are **independent** random

samples with mean  $\mu_i$  and variance  $\sigma_i^2$ , then

$$E(Y) = \mu_Y = E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i E(X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mu_i$$

$$Var(Y) = \sigma_Y^2 = Var\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 Var(X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \sigma_i^2$$

**One note:** In case when  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are not independent, we have

$$\sigma_Y^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} a_i a_j \sigma_{ij}, \quad \text{where } \sigma_{ij} = Cov(X_i, X_j)$$

**Ex 14.** Let  $X_1 \sim \text{binomial}(n_1 = 100, p_1 = 1/2)$ ,  $X_2 \sim \text{binomial}(n_2 = 48, p_2 = 1/4)$  and they are independent. Find the expected value and the variance of  $Y = X_1 - X_2$ .

*Answer:*

$$E(Y) = E(X_1 - X_2) = E(X_1) - E(X_2) = 50 - 12 = 38$$

$$Var(Y) = Var(X_1 - X_2) = Var(X_1) + Var(X_2) = 25 + 9 = 34$$

**Definition 10.**  $f(x_1, x_2)$  = joint pdf of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

$$f_1(x_1) = \text{marginal pdf of } X_1 = \sum_{x_2} f(x_1, x_2) \text{ or } \int f(x_1, x_2) dx_2.$$

$$f(x_2|x_1) = \frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{f_1(x_1)} = \text{conditional pdf of } X_2 \text{ given } X_1 = x_1.$$

**Ex 15.** Consider the following (discrete) joint pmf of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

	$X_1 = 1$	$X_1 = 2$	marginal
$X_2 = 1$	4/10	2/10	6/10
$X_2 = 2$	3/10	1/10	4/10
marginal	7/10	3/10	1

Find (a)  $f(1, 2)$ , (b)  $f_1(1) \cdot f_2(2)$ , (c) pmf of  $Y = X_1 + X_2$ , (d)  $E(Y)$ , and (e)  $E(X_1 + X_2)$ .



Answer:

$$f(1, 2) = \frac{3}{10}; \quad f_1(1) \cdot f_2(2) = \frac{7}{10} \cdot \frac{4}{10} = \frac{28}{100}; \quad f(x_1, x_2) \neq f_1(x_1)f_2(x_2)$$

$$P(Y) = \begin{cases} 4/10, & Y = 2 \\ 5/10, & Y = 3 \\ 1/10, & Y = 4 \end{cases}$$

$$E(Y) = 2 \left( \frac{4}{10} \right) + 3 \left( \frac{5}{10} \right) + 4 \left( \frac{1}{10} \right) = \frac{27}{10}$$

$$E(X_1 + X_2) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) = 1 \left( \frac{7}{10} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{3}{10} \right) + 1 \left( \frac{6}{10} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{4}{10} \right) = \frac{27}{10}$$

**Definition 11.**  $Cov(X_1, X_2) = \sigma_{12} = E(X_1 - \mu_1) \cdot E(X_2 - \mu_2) = E(X_1 X_2) - \mu_1 \mu_2$

$$\rho = Cor(X_1, X_2) = \frac{Cov(X_1, X_2)}{\sigma_1 \sigma_2} = \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}.$$

**Definition 12.** Conditional mean & conditional variance:

$$E(X_2|x_1) = \mu_{X_2|x_1} = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1) dx_2 \\ \sum_{x_2} x_2 f(x_2|x_1) \end{cases}$$

$$Var(X_2|x_1) = \sigma_{X_2|x_1}^2 = E[\{X_2 - E(X_2|x_1)\}^2|x_1] = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{x_2 - E(X_2|x_1)\}^2 f(x_2|x_1) dx_2 \\ \sum_{x_2} \{x_2 - E(X_2|x_1)\}^2 f(x_2|x_1) \end{cases}$$

The conditional variance can also be shown as

$$Var(X_2|x_1) = E(X_2^2|x_1) - \{E(X_2|x_1)\}^2$$

**Ex 16.** Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  have the joint pmf

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{21}, \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3, \quad x_2 = 1, 2$$

Here is the probability table for your information.

	$X_1 = 1$	$X_1 = 2$	$X_1 = 3$	marginal
$X_2 = 1$	2/21	3/21	4/21	9/21
$X_2 = 2$	3/21	4/21	5/21	12/21
marginal	5/21	7/21	9/21	1

Find (a) the marginal pmf's  $f_1(x_1), f_2(x_2)$ , (b) conditional pmf's  $f(x_1|x_2), f(x_2|x_1)$ , (c) conditional expectation  $E(X_2|x_1)$ , (d) conditional variance  $Var(X_2|x_1)$ , and (e)  $P(X_1 = 2|X_2 = 2), E(X_2|x_1 = 3), Var(X_2|x_1 = 3)$ .

Answer: Shown below are the “conditional” probabilities for your information. Check your calculation below with these values.

	$X_1 = 1$	$X_1 = 2$	$X_1 = 3$	conditional prob
$X_2 = 1$	2/9	3/9	4/9	$\Leftarrow f(x_1 x_2 = 1)$
$X_2 = 2$	3/12	4/12	5/12	$\Leftarrow f(x_1 x_2 = 2)$

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	$X_1 = 1$	$X_1 = 2$	$X_1 = 3$
$X_2 = 1$	2/5	3/7	4/9
$X_2 = 2$	3/5	4/7	5/9

---

conditional prob	$f(x_2 x_1 = 1)$	$f(x_2 x_1 = 2)$	$f(x_2 x_1 = 3)$
------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

$$f_1(x_1) = \sum_{x_2} f(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{x_2=1}^2 \frac{x_1 + x_2}{21} = \frac{x_1 + 1}{21} + \frac{x_1 + 2}{21} = \frac{2x_1 + 3}{21}, \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3$$

$$f_2(x_2) = \sum_{x_1} f(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{x_1=1}^3 \frac{x_1 + x_2}{21} = \frac{1 + x_2}{21} + \frac{2 + x_2}{21} + \frac{3 + x_2}{21} = \frac{3x_2 + 6}{21}, \quad x_2 = 1, 2$$

$$f(x_1|x_2) = \frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{f_2(x_2)} = \frac{\frac{x_1 + x_2}{21}}{\frac{3x_2 + 6}{21}} = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{3x_2 + 6}, \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3 \quad \text{when} \quad x_2 = 1, 2$$

$$f(x_2|x_1) = \frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{f_1(x_1)} = \frac{\frac{x_1 + x_2}{21}}{\frac{2x_1 + 3}{21}} = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2x_1 + 3}, \quad x_2 = 1, 2 \quad \text{when} \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3$$

$$P(X_1 = 2|X_2 = 2) = f(x_1 = 2|x_2 = 2) = \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$E(X_2|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} x_2 f(x_2|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \frac{x_2(x_1 + x_2)}{2x_1 + 3}, \quad x_2 = 1, 2 \quad \text{when} \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3$$

$$E(X_2|x_1 = 3) = \sum_{x_2} \frac{x_2(3 + x_2)}{9} = \frac{1(3 + 1)}{9} + \frac{2(3 + 2)}{9} = \frac{14}{9}$$

$$E(X_2^2|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} x_2^2 f(x_2|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \frac{x_2^2(x_1 + x_2)}{2x_1 + 3}, \quad x_2 = 1, 2 \quad \text{when} \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3$$

$$E(X_2^2|x_1 = 3) = \sum_{x_2} \frac{x_2^2(3 + x_2)}{9} = \frac{1(3 + 1)}{9} + \frac{4(3 + 2)}{9} = \frac{24}{9}$$

$$\text{Var}(X_2|x_1) = E(X_2^2|x_1) - \{E(X_2|x_1)\}^2, \quad x_2 = 1, 2; \quad x_1 = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\text{Var}(X_2|x_1 = 3) = E(X_2^2|x_1 = 3) - \{E(X_2|x_1 = 3)\}^2 = \frac{24}{9} - \left(\frac{14}{9}\right)^2 = \frac{20}{81}$$

□

**One note:**

Check  $E\{E(X_2|x_1)\} \stackrel{?}{=} E(X_2)$

$$E\{E(X_2|x_1)\} = E\left\{\sum_{x_2} \frac{x_2(x_1 + x_2)}{2x_1 + 3}\right\} = E\left(\frac{3x_1 + 5}{2x_1 + 3}\right) = \sum_{x_1} \left\{\left(\frac{3x_1 + 5}{2x_1 + 3}\right) \left(\frac{2x_1 + 3}{21}\right)\right\} = \frac{33}{21}$$

$$E(X_2) = \sum_{x_2} \left(x_2 \cdot \frac{3x_2 + 6}{21}\right) = \frac{33}{21}$$

**Definition 13.** The conditional expectation of a function of random variables  $X_1, X_2$ :

$$E\{u(X_1, X_2) | x_1\} = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x_1, x_2) f(x_2|x_1) dx_2 \\ \sum_{x_2} u(x_1, x_2) f(x_2|x_1) \end{cases}$$

**Properties 13.** Conditional expectation:

1.  $E(aX_2 + b|x_1) = aE(X_2|x_1) + b$
2.  $E(X_2 + X_3|x_1) = E(X_2|x_1) + E(X_3|x_1)$
3.  $X_2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow E(X_2|x_1) \geq 0$
4.  $E\{E(X_2|x_1)\} = E(X_2)$
5.  $E\{g(x_1)X_2|x_1\} = g(x_1)E(X_2|x_1)$

*Proof.*

$$E(aX_2 + b|x_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (ax_2 + b)f(x_2|x_1)dx_2 = a \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1)dx_2 + b \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x_2|x_1)dx_2$$

$$= aE(X_2|x_1) + b$$

$$E(X_2 + X_3|x_1) = E(X_2|x_1) + E(X_3|x_1) \quad (\text{Property of integral})$$

$$E(X_2|x_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1)dx_2 \geq 0 \quad (\text{Definition})$$

$$E\{E(X_2|x_1)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} E(X_2|x_1) f(x_1)dx_1$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1)dx_2 \right\} f_1(x_1)dx_1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1) f_1(x_1)dx_2 dx_1$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_1, x_2)dx_2 dx_1 \quad (\text{Def of conditional pdf}) = E(X_2)$$

$$E\{g(x_1)X_2|x_1\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x_1)x_2 f(x_2|x_1)dx_2$$

$$= g(x_1) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_2 f(x_2|x_1)dx_2$$

$$= g(x_1)E(X_2|x_1)$$