

Joint pdf calculation

Example 1 Consider random variables X, Y with pdf $f(x, y)$ such that

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 6x^2y, & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

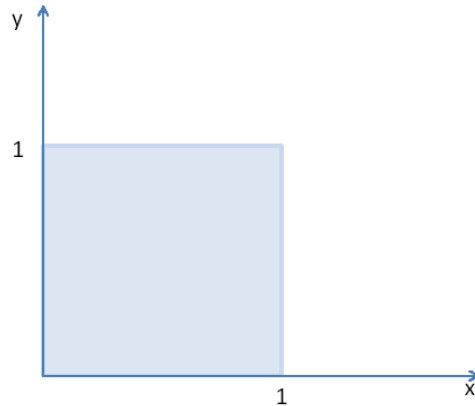


Figure1. $\{(x, y) | 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1\}$

- Note that $f(x, y)$ is a valid pdf because

$$\begin{aligned} P(-\infty < X < \infty, -\infty < Y < \infty) &= P(0 < X < 1, 0 < Y < 1) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx dy \\ &= 6 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 x^2 y dx dy \\ &= 6 \int_0^1 y \left\{ \int_0^1 x^2 dx \right\} dy \\ &= 6 \int_0^1 \frac{y}{3} dy \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

- Following the definition of the marginal distribution, we can get a marginal distribution for X . For $0 < x < 1$,

$$f(x) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy = \int_0^1 f(x, y) dy = \int_0^1 6x^2 y dy = 3x^2 \int_0^1 2y dy = 3x^2.$$

If $x \leq 0$ or $x \geq 1$, $f(x) = 0$ (Figure1).

- Similarly we can get a marginal distribution for Y. For $0 < y < 1$,

$$f(y) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx = \int_0^1 f(x, y) dx = \int_0^1 6x^2 y dx = 2y \int_0^1 3x^2 dx = 2y$$

If $y \leq 0$ or $y \geq 1$, $f(y) = 0$ (Figure1).

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$$E(X) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^1 3x^3 dx = \frac{3}{4},$$

$$Var(X) \equiv E(X^2) - \{E(X)\}^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx - \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{3}{5} - \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2.$$

- Let's calculate $P(X > Y)$. For fixed x_0 , $0 < y < x_0$ (Figure 2).

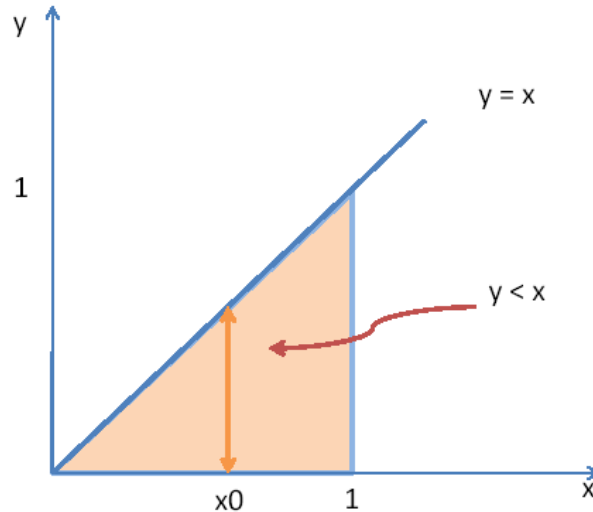


Figure 2. $\{(x, y) | y < x, 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1\}$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > Y) &= \int_0^1 \left\{ \int_0^x f(x, y) dy \right\} dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left\{ \int_0^x 6x^2 y dy \right\} dx \\ &= \int_0^1 3x^4 dx = \frac{3}{5}. \end{aligned}$$

Example 2 Consider random variables X, Y with pdf $f(x, y)$ such that

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 8xy, & 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < y < x \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}.$$

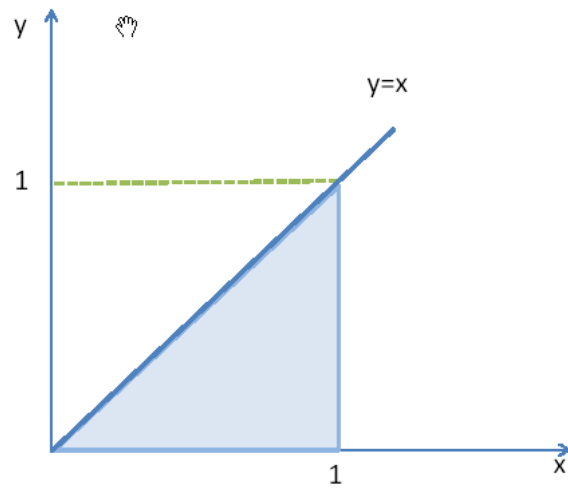


Figure 3. $\{(x, y) | 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < x\}$

- Note that given x_0 , domain of y is given by $0 < y \leq x_0$. (Figure 4)

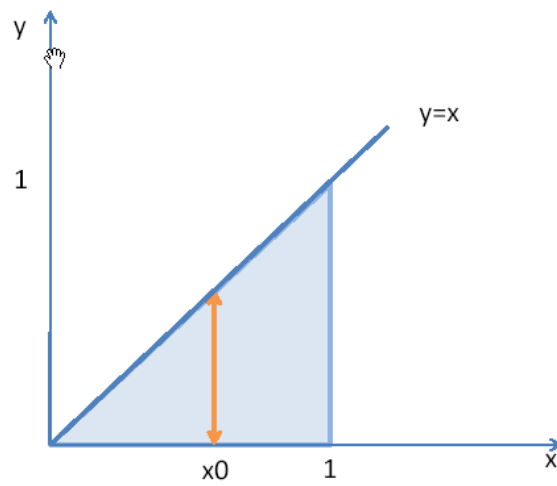


Figure 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
P(-\infty < X < \infty, -\infty < Y < \infty) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy dx \\
&= \int_0^1 \left\{ \int_0^x f(x, y) dy \right\} dx \\
&= 4 \int_0^1 x \left\{ \int_0^x 2y dy \right\} dx \\
&= 4 \int_0^1 x^3 dx \\
&= 1.
\end{aligned}$$

- Marginal distribution of X is, for $0 < x < 1$,

$$f(x) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy = \int_0^x f(x, y) dy = 4x \int_0^x 2y dy = 4x^3.$$

If $x \leq 0$ or $x \geq 1$, $f(x) = 0$ (Figure3).

- Similarly, for a given $0 < y_o < 1$, domain of x is given by $y_o \leq x < 1$. For $0 < y < 1$,

$$f(y) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx = \int_y^1 f(x, y) dx = 4y \int_y^1 2x dx = 4y(1 - y^2).$$

If $y \leq 0$ or $y \geq 1$, $f(y) = 0$ (Figure3).

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$$E(X) = \int_0^1 x f(x) dx = \int_0^1 4x^4 dx = \frac{4}{5},$$

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - \{E(X)\}^2 = \int_0^1 x^2 f(x) dx - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{2}{3} - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2.$$

- Let's calculate $P(Y < \frac{1}{2}X)$ (Figure 5).

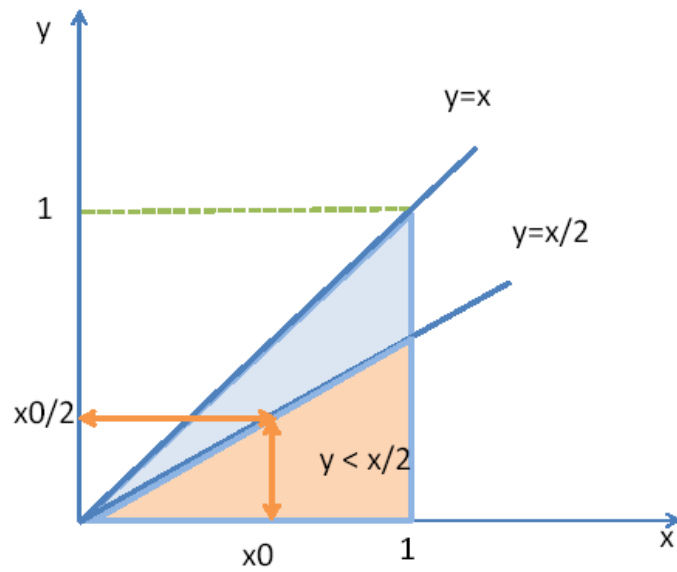


Figure 5.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P\left(Y < \frac{1}{2}X\right) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^{x/2} f(x,y) dy dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 4 \left\{ \int_0^{x/2} 2y dy \right\} dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 x^2 dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 Consider random variables X, Y with pdf $f(x, y)$ such that

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 3(x + y), & 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1, 0 < x + y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

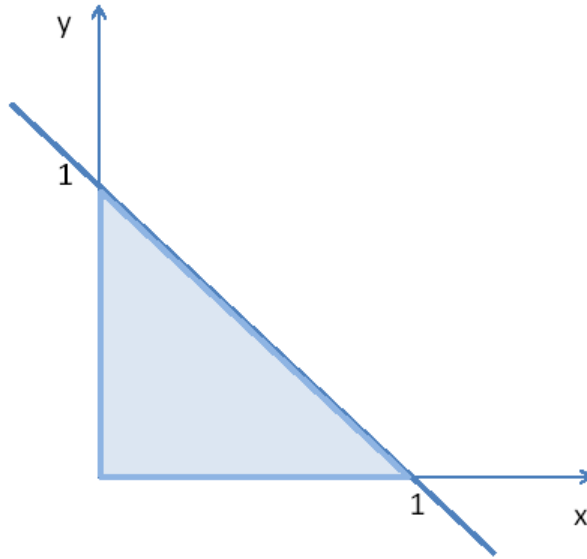


Figure 6. $\{(x, y) | 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1, 0 < x + y < 1\}$

- Note that given x_o , domain of y is given by $0 \leq y \leq 1 - x_o$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(-\infty < X < \infty, -\infty < Y < \infty) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 \left[\int_0^{1-x} f(x, y) dy \right] dx \\
 &= 3 \int_0^1 \left[\int_0^{1-x} (x + y) dy \right] dx \\
 &= 3 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} (1 - x)(1 + x) dx \\
 &= 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note again that given $0 \leq x_o \leq 1$, domain of y is given by $0 < y \leq 1 - x_o$ so that for $0 < x < 1$,

$$f(x) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dy = \int_0^{1-x} 3(x + y) dy = \frac{3}{2} (1 - x)(1 + x).$$

If $x \leq 0$ or $x \geq 1$, $f(x) = 0$ (Figure 6).

- Similarly, given $0 < y_o < 1$, domain of x is given by $0 < x \leq 1 - y_o$

so that for $0 < y < 1$,

$$f(y) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx = \int_0^{1-y} 3(x+y) dx = 3 \left[\frac{1}{2}x^2 + yx \right]_0^{1-y} = \frac{3}{2} (1-y)(1+y).$$

If $y \leq 0$ or $y \geq 1$, $f(y) = 0$ (Figure 6).

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$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &\equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left\{ \frac{3}{2} x(1-x)(1+x) \right\} dx \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^1 (x - x^3) dx = \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 \right]_0^1 = \frac{3}{8}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X^2) &\equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^1 (x^2 - x^4) dx = \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{5}x^5 \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{5}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) \equiv E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2 = \frac{1}{5} - \left(\frac{3}{8} \right)^2.$$

• Let's calculate $P(X > Y)$. (Figure 7, 8)

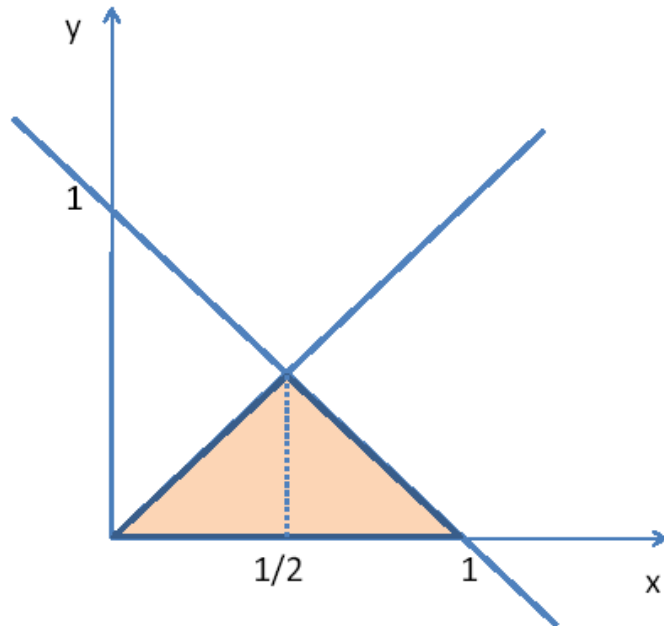


Figure 7. $\{(x, y) | 0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1, 0 < x + y < 1, x > y\}$

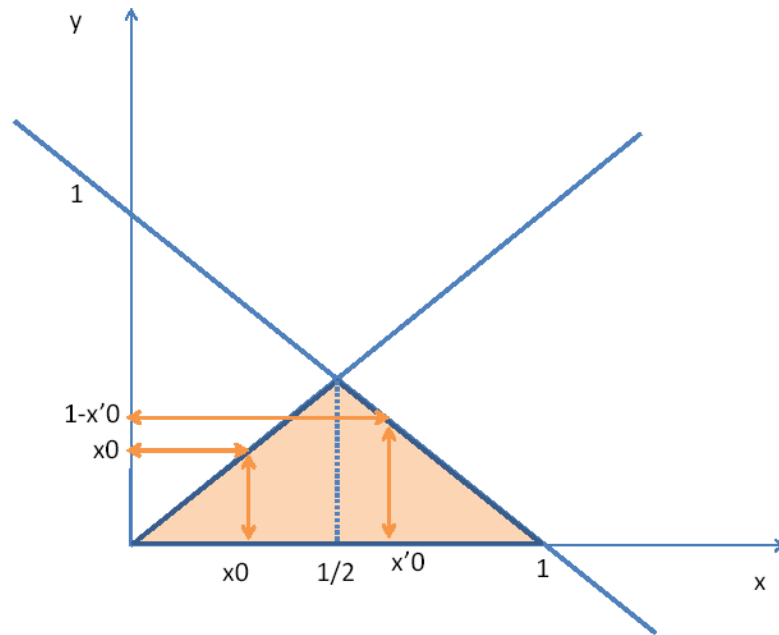


Figure 8

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X > Y) &= \int_0^{1/2} \int_0^x f(x, y) dy dx + \int_{1/2}^1 \int_0^{1-x} f(x, y) dy dx \\
 &= \int_0^{1/2} \left\{ \int_0^x 3(x + y) dy \right\} dx + \int_{1/2}^1 \left\{ \int_0^{1-x} 3(x + y) dy \right\} dx \\
 &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^{1/2} 3x^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{1/2}^1 (3 - 3x^2) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$