

**Mathematics 1550H – Probability I: Introduction to Probability**  
TRENT UNIVERSITY, Summer 2023 (S62)

**Quiz #11**  
**A Joint Distribution**

**Instructions:** Do the following problem. Please show all your work.

1. Suppose the discrete random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly distributed according to the given table.

<b>a.</b> Compute the expected values $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$ , the variances $V(X)$ and $V(Y)$ , and also the covariance $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ of $X$ and $Y$ . [3.5]	$Y \backslash X$	0	1	2
	1	0.2	0.2	0.2
	2	0.2	0	0.1
<b>b.</b> Determine whether $X$ and $Y$ are independent. [0.5]	3	0	0.1	0
<b>c.</b> Let $T = X - Y$ . Compute $E(T)$ and $V(T)$ . [1]				

SOLUTIONS. **a.** Here we go:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= 0(0.2 + 0.2 + 0) + 1(0.2 + 0 + 0.1) + 2(0.2 + 0.1 + 0) \\ &= 0 \cdot 0.4 + 1 \cdot 0.3 + 2 \cdot 0.3 = 0 + 0.3 + 0.6 = 0.9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= 1(0.2 + 0.2 + 0.2) + 2(0.2 + 0 + 0.1) + 3(0 + 0.1 + 0) \\ &= 1 \cdot 0.6 + 2 \cdot 0.3 + 3 \cdot 0.1 = 0.6 + 0.6 + 0.3 = 1.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X^2) &= 0^2(0.2 + 0.2 + 0) + 1^2(0.2 + 0 + 0.1) + 2^2(0.2 + 0.1 + 0) \\ &= 0 \cdot 0.4 + 1 \cdot 0.3 + 4 \cdot 0.3 = 0 + 0.3 + 1.2 = 1.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y^2) &= 1^2(0.2 + 0.2 + 0.2) + 2^2(0.2 + 0 + 0.1) + 3^2(0 + 0.1 + 0) \\ &= 1 \cdot 0.6 + 4 \cdot 0.3 + 9 \cdot 0.1 = 0.6 + 1.2 + 0.9 = 2.7 \end{aligned}$$

$$V(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2 = 1.5 - 0.9^2 = 1.5 - 0.81 = 0.69$$

$$V(Y) = E(Y^2) - [E(Y)]^2 = 2.7 - 1.5^2 = 2.7 - 2.25 = 0.45$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(XY) &= 1 \cdot 0 \cdot 0.2 + 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.2 + 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 0.2 \\ &\quad + 2 \cdot 0 \cdot 0.2 + 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 0.1 \\ &\quad + 3 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.1 + 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 0 \\ &= 0 + 0.2 + 0.4 + 0 + 0 + 0.4 + 0 + 0.3 + 0 = 1.3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y) = 1.3 - 0.9 \cdot 1.5 = 1.3 - 1.35 = -0.05 \quad \square$$

- b.** Since  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = -0.05 \neq 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.  $\square$

- c.** Expected value is easy:  $E(T) = E(X - Y) = E(X) - E(Y) = 0.9 - 1.5 = -0.6$ . We have to work a little harder for variance:

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= V(X - Y) = V(X + (-1)Y) = V(X) + V((-1)Y) + 2 \text{Cov}(X, (-1)Y) \\ &= V(X) + (-1)^2 V(Y) + 2(-1) \text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0.69 + 0.45 - 2 \cdot (-0.05) \\ &= 0.69 + 0.45 + 0.1 = 1.24 \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$