GATE PROBABILITY

Through Simulations

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Introduction

This book solves probability problems in GATE question papers.

Axioms

Distributions

1. Let $\phi(.)$ denote the cumulative distribution function of a standard normal random variable. If the random variable X has the cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} \phi(x), & x < -1 \\ \phi(x+1), & x \ge -1 \end{cases}$$
 (2.1)

then which one of the following statements is true?

(a)
$$P(X \le -1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(b)
$$P(X = -1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(c)
$$P(X < -1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(d)
$$P(X \le 0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(GATE ST 2023)

Solution: Gaussian

Q function is defined

$$Q(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{r}^{\infty} e^{\frac{-u^2}{2}} du \tag{2.2}$$

From question and (2.2);

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} Q(-x), & x < -1 \\ 1 - Q(x+1), & x \ge -1 \end{cases}$$
 (2.3)

From (2.3);

(a)

$$\Pr\left(X \le -1\right) = F_X(-1) = 1 - Q\left(0\right) \tag{2.4}$$

$$=0.5 \tag{2.5}$$

So Option A i.e., $P(X < -1) = \frac{1}{2}$ is correct

(b) The pdf of X can be defined in terms of cdf as

$$\Pr(X = b) = F_X(b) - \lim_{x \to b^-} F_X(x)$$
 (2.6)

From (2.6);

$$\Pr(X = -1) = F_X(-1) - \lim_{x \to -1^-} F_X(x)$$
 (2.7)

$$= 1 - Q(0) - Q(-(-1))$$
(2.8)

$$=0.341$$
 (2.9)

So Option B i.e., $P(X = -1) = \frac{1}{2}$ is incorrect

(c)

$$\Pr(X < -1) = \lim_{x \to -1^{-}} F_X(x) = F_X(-1)$$
 (2.10)

$$= Q(-(-1)) (2.11)$$

$$= 0.159 (2.12)$$

So Option C i.e., $P(X < -1) = \frac{1}{2}$ is incorrect

(d)

$$Pr(X \le 0) = F_X(0) = 1 - Q(1)$$
(2.13)

$$= 0.8413 \tag{2.14}$$

So Option D i.e., $P(X \le 0) = \frac{1}{2}$ is incorrect

Guassian CDF plot of X is given in fig2.1

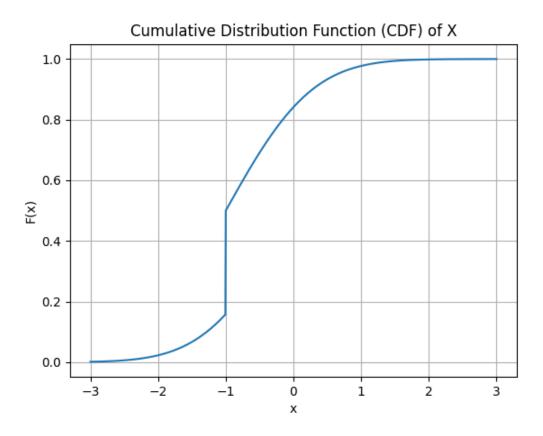


Figure 2.1:

2. Let X be a random variable with the probability density function f(x) such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}, & -\sqrt{3} \le x \le \sqrt{3} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2.15)

Then the variance of X is?

(GATE XH-C1 2023)

Solution:

The mean of X

$$\mu_X = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \tag{2.16}$$

As the integrand is odd

$$\implies \mu_X = 0 \tag{2.17}$$

The variance of X is:

$$\sigma_X^2 = \mathbb{E}\left(X - \mu_X\right)^2 \tag{2.18}$$

From (2.17)

$$\implies \sigma_X^2 = \mathbb{E}\left(X^2\right) \tag{2.19}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \int_{-\sqrt{3}}^{\sqrt{3}} x^2 dx \tag{2.20}$$

$$=1 \tag{2.21}$$

Conditional Probability

Moments

Random Algebra

Hypothesis Testing

Bivariate Random Variables

Random Processes

Information Theory

1. The frequency of occurrence of 8 symbols (a-h) is shown in the table below. A symbol is chosen and it is determined by asking a series of "yes/no" questions which are assumed to be truthfully answered. The average number of questions when asked in the most efficient sequence, to determine the chosen symbol, is

Symbols	Frequency of occurance
a	$\frac{1}{2}$
b	$\frac{1}{4}$
С	$\frac{1}{8}$
d	$\frac{1}{16}$
e	$\frac{1}{32}$
f	$\frac{1}{64}$
g	$\frac{1}{128}$
h	$\frac{1}{128}$

Solution:

Parameter	Value	Description	
X	$1 \le X \le 8$	number of symbols	
l	2	base of algorithm	
H(X)	$\sum_{i} p_X(i) \log_l \left(\frac{1}{p_X(i)}\right)$	average number of question	

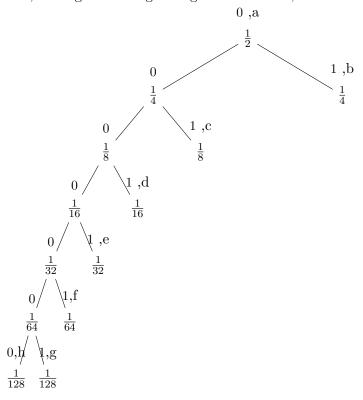
$$H(X) = \sum_{i} p_X(i) \log_b \left(\frac{1}{p_X(i)}\right)$$
(9.1)

$$= \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2) + \frac{1}{4}\log_2(4) + \dots + \frac{1}{128}\log_2(128)$$
 (9.2)

$$= 0.5 + 0.5 + 0.375 + \dots + 0.0078125 \tag{9.3}$$

$$= 1.984375 \tag{9.4}$$

Now, finding the average using Huffman code,



Using the above binary table following code is generated;

Symbols	Frequency	Code	Size
a	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0.5
b	$\frac{1}{4}$	01	0.25
c	$\frac{1}{8}$	001	0.125
d	$\frac{1}{16}$	0001	0.0625
e	$\frac{1}{32}$	00001	0.03125
f	$ \begin{array}{c c} f & \frac{1}{64} \\ g & \frac{1}{128} \end{array} $		0.015625
g			0.0078125
h $\frac{1}{128}$		0000000	0.0078125

Table 9.1: Huffman table

The average number of question = Weighted path length = 1.9844