

► 7th Material Subject: Continuous Univariate Random Variable

Undergraduate of Telecommunication Engineering

MUH1F3 - PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS

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السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

WELCOME

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After careful study of this chapter, student should be able to do the following:

1. **Determine probabilities from probability density functions and the reverse**
2. **Determine probabilities and probability density functions from cumulative distribution functions and the reverse**
3. **Calculate means and variances for continuous random variables**

PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS AND PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTIONS

A **Probability Density Function**, denoted by $f(x)$ can be used to describe the probability distribution of a continuous random variable X . The probability that X is between a and b is determined as the integral of $f(x)$ from a to b . For continuous random variable X , a **Probability Density Function** is a function such that:

$$f(x) \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1 \quad (2)$$

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx = \text{area under } f(x) \text{ from } a \text{ to } b \quad (3)$$

If X is a continuous random variable, for any x_1 and x_2

$$P(x_1 \leq X \leq x_2) = P(x_1 < X \leq x_2) = P(x_1 \leq X < x_2) = P(x_1 < X < x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f(x) dx \quad (4)$$

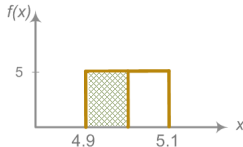
PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS AND PROBABILITY MASS FUNCTIONS

Example: Let the continuous random variable X denote the current measured in a thin copper wire in milliamperes (mA). Assume that the range of X is $4.9 - 5.1\text{mA}$, and the probability density function of X is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5 & , \text{ for } 4.9 \leq x \leq 5.1 \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

What is the probability that a current measurement is less than 5 mA?

Answer: The probability density function is shown in Figure below. The shaded area in indicates the probability $P(X < 5)$.



$$P(X < 5) = \int_{4.9}^5 f(x) dx = \int_{4.9}^5 5 dx$$

$$P(X < 5) = 5x \Big|_{4.9}^5 = 5(5 - 4.9) = 0.5$$

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(u) du, \text{ for } -\infty < x < \infty \quad (6)$$

$$\text{If } \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{y} \text{ then } \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) \leq \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{y}) \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{d}{d\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (9)$$

Example: Calculate the Cumulative distribution function for continuous random variable \mathbf{X} denote the current measured in a thin copper wire in milliamperes (mA). Assume that the range of \mathbf{X} is $4.9 - 5.1\text{mA}$, and the probability density function of \mathbf{X} is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5 & , \text{ for } 4.9 \leq x \leq 5.1 \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Answer: The CDF $F(x) = 0$ for $x < 4.9$ and:

$$F(x) = P(X < x) = \int_{4.9}^x f(u) du = \int_{4.9}^x 5 du = 5u \Big|_{4.9}^x = 5(x - 4.9) = 5x - 24.5$$

Finally, for $x \geq 5.1$ the CDF $F(x) = 1$

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION

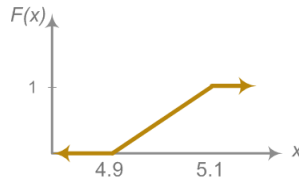


Figure 1: The Graph of Cumulative Distribution Function

VARIABLE

The **MEAN** and **VARIANCE** can also be defined for a continuous random variable. Integration replaces summation in the discrete definitions.

- The **Mean** or expected value of the continuous random variable **X**, denoted as μ or **E(X)**, is:

$$\mu = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} \quad (10)$$

- The **Variance** of the discrete random variable **X**, denoted as σ^2 or **Var(X)**, is:

$$\sigma^2 = \mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\mathbf{x} - \mu)^2 \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X}^2) - (\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X}))^2 \quad (11)$$

- The **Standard Deviation** of the discrete random variable **X**, denoted as σ or, is:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2} \quad (12)$$

MEAN & VARIANCE OF A DISCRETE RANDOM VARIABLE

The **MEAN**, **VARIANCE** and **STANDARD DEVIATION** for Example 1 before are:

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f(x) dx = \int_{4.9}^{5.1} x \cdot 5 dx = \frac{5x^2}{2} \Big|_{4.9}^{5.1} = \frac{5(5.1^2 - 4.9^2)}{2} = 5$$

$$E(X^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot f(x) dx = \int_{4.9}^{5.1} x^2 \cdot 5 dx = \frac{5x^3}{3} \Big|_{4.9}^{5.1} = \frac{5(5.1^3 - 4.9^3)}{3} = 25.003$$

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = 25.0033 - (5)^2 = 0.0033 \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2} = \sqrt{0.0033} = 0.057$$

CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE TRANSFORMATION

Suppose that \mathbf{X} is a continuous random variable with probability density function $f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$, the function $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ is a one-to-one transformation between the values of \mathbf{Y} and \mathbf{X} , so that the equation $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ can be uniquely solved for \mathbf{x} in terms of \mathbf{y} . The probability distribution of \mathbf{Y} is:

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{g}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})) \cdot |\mathbf{J}| \quad (13)$$

where $\mathbf{J} = \frac{d}{d\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{g}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$ is called the **Jacobian Transform**.

CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE TRANSFORMATION

Example: Let \mathbf{X} be a continuous random variable with probability distribution:

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{8} & , 0 \leq x \leq 4 \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

Find the probability distribution of $\mathbf{Y} = 2\mathbf{X} + 4$.

Example: The inverse solution is $g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbf{y}-4}{2}$ and from this, we find the Jacobian to be $\mathbf{J} = \frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{\mathbf{y}-4}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2}$. Therefore, from Equation 31, the probability distribution of \mathbf{Y} is:

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot |\mathbf{J}| = \frac{\frac{\mathbf{y}-4}{2}}{8} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\mathbf{y}-4}{32} & , \text{for } 4 \leq y \leq 12 \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Thank You