

1. The Weibull distribution has many applications in reliability engineering, survival analysis, and general insurance. Let $\beta > 0, \delta > 0$. Consider the probability density function

$$f_X(x) = \beta \delta x^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x^\delta}, \quad x > 0, \quad \text{zero otherwise.}$$

Find the probability distribution of $W = X^\delta$.

- a) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the c.d.f. of W , $F_W(w)$.

- i) Find the c.d.f. of X , $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$.

“Hint” 1: u -substitution: $u = \heartsuit^\delta$.

“Hint” 2: There is no such thing as a negative cumulative distribution function.

“Hint” 3: Should be $F_X(0) = 0$, $F_X(\infty) = 1$.

- ii) Find the c.d.f. of W , $F_W(w) = P(W \leq w) = P(X^\delta \leq w)$.

- iii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

- b) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the p.d.f. of W , $f_W(w)$, using the change-of-variable technique.

- i) Find the p.d.f. of W , $f_W(w) = f_X(g^{-1}(w)) \left| \frac{dx}{dw} \right|$.

- ii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

c) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the m.g.f. of W , $M_W(t)$.

i) Find the m.g.f. of W , $M_W(t) = E(e^{tW}) = E(e^{tX^\delta})$.

“Hint” 1: u -substitution: $u = \heartsuit^\delta$.

“Hint” 2: Must have $t < \beta$ for the integral to converge.

ii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

2. Let X have an exponential distribution with $\theta = 1$; that is, the p.d.f. of X is $f(x) = e^{-x}$, $0 < x < \infty$. Let T be defined by $T = \ln X$.

a) Show that the p.d.f. of T is

$$f_T(t) = e^t e^{-e^t}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty,$$

which is the p.d.f. of an **extreme value distribution**.

b) Let W be defined by $T = \alpha + \beta \ln W$, where $-\infty < \alpha < \infty$ and $\beta > 0$.

Show that W has a Weibull distribution.

Answers:

1. The Weibull distribution has many applications in reliability engineering, survival analysis, and general insurance. Let $\beta > 0, \delta > 0$. Consider the probability density function

$$f_X(x) = \beta \delta x^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x^\delta}, \quad x > 0, \quad \text{zero otherwise.}$$

Find the probability distribution of $W = X^\delta$.

- a) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the c.d.f. of W , $F_W(w)$.

- i) Find the c.d.f. of X , $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$.

“Hint” 1: u -substitution: $u = \heartsuit^\delta$.

“Hint” 2: There is no such thing as a negative cumulative distribution function.

“Hint” 3: Should be $F_X(0) = 0$, $F_X(\infty) = 1$.

- ii) Find the c.d.f. of W , $F_W(w) = P(W \leq w) = P(X^\delta \leq w)$.

- iii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= \int_0^x \beta \delta y^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta y^\delta} dy & u &= y^\delta & du &= \delta y^{\delta-1} dy \\ &= \int_0^{x^\delta} \beta e^{-\beta u} du = -e^{-\beta u} \Big|_0^{x^\delta} = 1 - e^{-\beta x^\delta}, & & & x > 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$x > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad w > 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_W(w) &= P(W \leq w) = P(X^\delta \leq w) = P(X \leq w^{1/\delta}) \\ &= F_X(w^{1/\delta}) = 1 - e^{-\beta w}, \quad w > 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$f_W(w) = \beta e^{-\beta w}, \quad w > 0.$$

W has an Exponential($\theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) distribution.

- b) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the p.d.f. of W , $f_W(w)$, using the change-of-variable technique.

i) Find the p.d.f. of W , $f_W(w) = f_X(g^{-1}(w)) \left| \frac{dx}{dw} \right|$.

- ii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

$$W = X^\delta \quad X = g^{-1}(w) = W^{1/\delta} \quad \frac{dx}{dw} = \frac{1}{\delta} w^{(1-\delta)/\delta}$$

$$f_W(w) = f_X(g^{-1}(w)) \left| \frac{dx}{dw} \right| = \beta \delta w^{(\delta-1)/\delta} e^{-\beta w} \cdot \frac{1}{\delta} w^{(1-\delta)/\delta} = \beta e^{-\beta w},$$

$w > 0.$

W has an Exponential($\theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) distribution.

c) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the m.g.f. of W , $M_W(t)$.

i) Find the m.g.f. of W , $M_W(t) = E(e^{tW}) = E(e^{tX^\delta})$.

“Hint” 1: u -substitution: $u = \heartsuit^\delta$.

“Hint” 2: Must have $t < \beta$ for the integral to converge.

ii) What is the name of the probability distribution of W ? What are its parameters?

$$\begin{aligned} M_W(t) &= E(e^{tW}) = E(e^{tX^\delta}) = \int_0^\infty e^{tx^\delta} \beta \delta x^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x^\delta} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \beta e^{-(\beta-t)x^\delta} \delta x^{\delta-1} dx \end{aligned}$$

Indeed, must have $t < \beta$ for the integral to converge.

$$u = x^\delta \quad du = \delta x^{\delta-1} dx$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \beta e^{-(\beta-t)u} du = \frac{\beta}{\beta-t} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{\beta}t}, \quad t < \beta.$$

W has an Exponential($\theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) distribution.

2. Let X have an exponential distribution with $\theta = 1$; that is, the p.d.f. of X is $f(x) = e^{-x}$, $0 < x < \infty$. Let T be defined by $T = \ln X$.

- a) Show that the p.d.f. of T is

$$f_T(t) = e^t e^{-e^t}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty,$$

which is the p.d.f. of an **extreme value distribution**.

$$t = \ln(x) \quad x = e^t \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = e^t$$

$$x > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

$$f_T(t) = f_X(e^t) \left| \frac{dx}{dt} \right| = e^t e^{-e^t}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

OR

$$F_X(x) = 1 - e^{-x}, \quad x > 0.$$

$$F_T(t) = P(T \leq t) = P(X \leq e^t) = F_X(e^t) = 1 - e^{-e^t}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

$$f_T(t) = e^t e^{-e^t}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

- b) Let W be defined by $T = \alpha + \beta \ln W$, where $-\infty < \alpha < \infty$ and $\beta > 0$. Show that W has a Weibull distribution.

$$t = \alpha + \beta \ln w \quad \frac{dt}{dw} = \frac{\beta}{w}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_W(t) &= f_T(\alpha + \beta \ln w) \left| \frac{dt}{dw} \right| = e^{\alpha + \beta \ln w} e^{-e^{\alpha + \beta \ln w}} \cdot \frac{\beta}{w} \\ &= e^{\alpha} \beta w^{\beta-1} e^{-e^{\alpha} w^{\beta}}, \quad w > 0. \end{aligned}$$