

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MA215 Probability Theory

Tutorial 08Solu

Set: Friday 4th November 2016; Hand in: Friday 11th November by 5pm.

1. Suppose that the continuous random variable X has p.d.f

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} kx(1-x) & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Evaluate the constant k .

Find the non-zero range of Y and the p.d.f $f_Y(y)$ of Y when

(a) $Y = -3X + 3$;

(b) $Y = \frac{1}{X}$.

Solution: A p.d.f must integrate to 1, so

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 f_X(x) dx + \int_0^1 f_X(x) dx + \int_1^{+\infty} f_X(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 0 dx + \int_0^1 kx(1-x) dx + \int_1^{+\infty} 0 dx \\ &= \int_0^1 kx(1-x) dx = \int_0^1 k(x - x^2) dx \\ &= \left[k \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} \right) \right]_0^1 = \frac{k}{6}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we get $k = 6$.

- (a) If $Y = -3X + 3$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P\{Y \leq y\} = P\{-3X + 3 \leq y\} = P\{-3X \leq y - 3\} \\ &= P\{X \geq \frac{y-3}{-3}\} \\ &= 1 - P\{X < \frac{y-3}{-3}\} = 1 - P\{X \leq \frac{y-3}{-3}\} \\ &= 1 - F_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \frac{dF_Y(y)}{dy} \\ &= \frac{d}{dy} \left(1 - F_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{d}{dy}F_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \\
&= -\frac{d}{du}F_X(u)\Big|_{u=\frac{y-3}{-3}} \cdot \frac{d}{dy}\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \\
&= -f_X(u)\Big|_{u=\frac{y-3}{-3}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{-3}\right) \\
&= -f_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{-3}\right) = \frac{1}{3}f_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Now since the continuous random variable X has p.d.f

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 6x(1-x) & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore, for $0 < \frac{y-3}{-3} < 1$, i.e. $0 < y < 3$,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{3}f_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) = \frac{1}{3} \times 6 \times \left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right)\left(1 - \frac{y-3}{-3}\right) = \frac{2}{9}y(3-y).$$

otherwise, $f_Y(y) = 0$. i.e.,

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{9}y(3-y) & 0 < y < 3, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, the non-zero range of f_Y is $(0,3)$.

(b) $Y = \frac{1}{X}$. Then,

$$F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\} = P\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq y\right\}$$

If $y = 0$, then $\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq 0\right\} = \{X < 0\}$, so

$$\begin{aligned}
F_Y(y) &= P\{Y \leq y\} = P\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq y\right\} = P\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq 0\right\} \\
&= P\{X < 0\} = P\{X \leq 0\} \\
&= F_X(0) = \int_{-\infty}^0 f_X(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 0dx = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since the probability density function in a point modify the value does not affect the distribution function, for $y = 0$, let $f_Y(y) = f_Y(0) = 0$.

If $y \neq 0$, then $\left\{\frac{y(\frac{1}{y}-X)}{X} \leq 0\right\} = \{yX(\frac{1}{y}-X) \leq 0, X \neq 0\}$, yields

$$F_Y(y) = P\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq y\right\} = P\left\{\frac{1-yX}{X} \leq 0\right\} = P\left\{\frac{y(\frac{1}{y}-X)}{X} \leq 0\right\} = P\{yX(\frac{1}{y}-X) \leq 0, X \neq 0\}.$$

► if $y > 0$,

$$F_Y(y) = P\{yX(\frac{1}{y}-X) \leq 0, X \neq 0\} = P\{X(\frac{1}{y}-X) \leq 0, X \neq 0\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= P\{X < 0 \text{ or } X \geq \frac{1}{y}\} = P\{X < 0\} + P\{X \geq \frac{1}{y}\} \\
&= P\{X < 0\} + 1 - P\{X < \frac{1}{y}\} = P\{X \leq 0\} + 1 - P\{X \leq \frac{1}{y}\} \\
&= F_X(0) + 1 - F_X(\frac{1}{y}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} (F_Y(y)) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(F_X(0) + 1 - F_X(\frac{1}{y}) \right) \\
&= - \frac{dF_X(u)}{du} \Big|_{u=\frac{1}{y}} \cdot \frac{d(\frac{1}{y})}{dy} \\
&= -f_X(u) \Big|_{u=\frac{1}{y}} \cdot (-\frac{1}{y^2}) \\
&= -f_X(\frac{1}{y}) \cdot (-\frac{1}{y^2}) = \frac{1}{y^2} f_X(\frac{1}{y}).
\end{aligned}$$

Now since the continuous random variable X has p.d.f

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 6x(1-x) & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

- for $0 < \frac{1}{y} < 1$, i.e. $y > 1$,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{y^2} f_X(\frac{1}{y}) = \frac{1}{y^2} \cdot 6 \frac{1}{y} (1 - \frac{1}{y}) = \frac{6(y-1)}{y^4}.$$

- for $\frac{1}{y} \geq 1$, i.e. $0 < y \leq 1$,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{y^2} f_X(\frac{1}{y}) = \frac{1}{y^2} \cdot 0 = 0.$$

► if $y < 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}
F_Y(y) &= P\{yX(\frac{1}{y} - X) \leq 0, X \neq 0\} = P\{X(\frac{1}{y} - X) \geq 0, X \neq 0\} \\
&= P\{X(X - \frac{1}{y}) \leq 0, X \neq 0\} \\
&= P\{\frac{1}{y} \leq X \leq 0, X \neq 0\} = P\{\frac{1}{y} \leq X < 0\} \\
&= F_X(0) - F_X(\frac{1}{y}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (F_Y(y)) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(F_X(0) - F_X(\frac{1}{y}) \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{dF_X(u)}{du} \Big|_{u=\frac{1}{y}} \cdot \frac{d(\frac{1}{y})}{dy} \\
&= -f_X(u) \Big|_{u=\frac{1}{y}} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{y^2}\right) \\
&= -f_X\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{y^2}\right) = \frac{1}{y^2} f_X\left(\frac{1}{y}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Now since the continuous random variable X has p.d.f

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 6x(1-x) & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore, for $y < 0$, i.e. $\frac{1}{y} < 0$,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{y^2} f_X\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) = \frac{1}{y^2} \cdot 0 = 0.$$

To sum up, we get

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{6(y-1)}{y^4} & y > 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, the non-zero range of f_Y is $(1, +\infty)$.

Remark: (Reference Version)

- (a) Easy to see the non-zero range of X is $0 < x < 1$ and, hence, the non-zero range of Y is $0 < y < 3$. Since $X = \frac{y-3}{-3}$ and thus easy to get that for $0 < y < 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
f_Y(y) &= f_X\left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \times \frac{1}{3} \\
&= 6 \left(\frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{y-3}{-3}\right) \times \frac{1}{3} \\
&= \frac{6}{27}(y-3)(-y) \\
&= \frac{2}{9}y(3-y). \quad 0 < y < 3
\end{aligned}$$

- (b) NON-ZERO Range: $1 < Y < \infty$. Easy to get, if $y > 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
f_Y(y) &= f_X\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{y^2} \\
&= 6 \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{y^2} \\
&= 6 \frac{(y-1)}{y^4}. \quad y > 1
\end{aligned}$$

2. Suppose that the random variable X has (cumulative) distribution function

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ \frac{1 - \cos(x)}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, \\ 1 & x > \pi. \end{cases}$$

and that $Y = \sqrt{X}$.

What is the non-zero range of Y ? Find the (cumulative) distribution function $F_Y(y)$ of Y , and hence find the p.d.f of Y .

Solution: Let $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$ be the p.d.fs of the random variable X and Y , respectively. Then $F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\} = P\{\sqrt{X} \leq y\}$.

Now,

1° if $y < 0$, then the event $\{w \in \Omega : \sqrt{X}(\omega) \leq y\} = \{\sqrt{X} \leq y\} = \emptyset$ and hence

$$F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\} = P\{\sqrt{X} \leq y\} = P(\emptyset) = 0.$$

So, $f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (0) = 0$.

2° if $y = 0$, then the event $\{\sqrt{X} \leq y\} = \{\sqrt{X} \leq 0\} = \{\sqrt{X} = 0\} = \{X = 0\}$ and hence

$$F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\} = P\{\sqrt{X} \leq y\} = P(X = 0) = 0.$$

Since the probability density function in a point modify the value does not affect the distribution function, for $y = 0$, let $f_Y(y) = f_Y(0) = 0$.

3° if $y > 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = P\{0 \leq X \leq y^2\} \\ &= F_X(y^2) - F_X(0). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the random variable X has (cumulative) distribution function

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ \frac{1 - \cos(x)}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, \\ 1 & x > \pi. \end{cases}$$

It follows that, if $0 \leq y^2 \leq \pi$, i.e. $|y| \leq \sqrt{\pi}$, $\Rightarrow 0 < y \leq \sqrt{\pi}$, then

$$F_Y(y) = F_X(y^2) - F_X(0) = \frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2} - 0 = \frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2}.$$

About the variable y differentiating, for $0 < y < \sqrt{\pi}$, we have

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot (-\sin(y^2)) \cdot (2y) = y \sin(y^2).$$

Since the probability density function in a point modify the value does not affect the distribution function, for $y = \sqrt{\pi}$, let $f_Y(y) = f_Y(\sqrt{\pi}) = 0$.

if $y^2 > \pi$, i.e. $|y| > \sqrt{\pi}$, $\Rightarrow y > \sqrt{\pi}$, then

$$F_Y(y) = F_X(y^2) - F_X(0) = 1 - 0 = 1.$$

Differentiating, we have

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (1) = 0.$$

In sum up, we get that the (cumulative) distribution function of Y is

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y \leq 0, \\ \frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2} & 0 < y < \sqrt{\pi}, \\ 1 & y \geq \sqrt{\pi}. \end{cases}$$

and the probability density function(p.d.f) of Y is

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y \sin(y^2) & 0 < y < \sqrt{\pi}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, the non-zero range of f_Y is $(1, \sqrt{\pi}) \setminus \{\sqrt{k\pi}\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$.

Remark: (Reference Version) Since the non-zero range for X is $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ and $Y = \sqrt{X}$, and so the non-zero range for Y is $0 \leq y \leq \sqrt{\pi}$. For $0 \leq y \leq \sqrt{\pi}$,

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= \Pr(Y \leq y) = \Pr(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = \Pr(X \leq y^2) \\ &= F_X(y^2) = \frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

In full,

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y \leq 0, \\ \frac{1 - \cos(y^2)}{2} & 0 < y < \sqrt{\pi}, \\ 1 & y \geq \sqrt{\pi}. \end{cases}$$

Differentiating, pdf is

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y \sin(y^2) & 0 < y < \sqrt{\pi}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

3. Suppose that the two random variables X and Y have joint probability cumulative function $F(x, y)$. Show that $F(x, y)$ possesses the following properties:

- (a) For any fixed x , $F(x, y)$ is a non-decreasing function of y and, similarly, for any fixed y , $F(x, y)$ is a non-decreasing function of x .
- (b) $F(x, y) \rightarrow 1$ when both $x \rightarrow +\infty$ and $y \rightarrow +\infty$.
- (c) $F(x, y) \rightarrow 0$ when either $x \rightarrow -\infty$ or $y \rightarrow -\infty$.
- (d) If $x_1 < x_2$ and $y_1 < y_2$, then

$$\Pr(x_1 < X \leq x_2, y_1 < Y \leq y_2) = F(x_2, y_2) - F(x_2, y_1) - F(x_1, y_2) + F(x_1, y_1)$$

Proof: Easy. For detailed proofs, see the lecture notes.

4. Suppose that the two discrete random variables X and Y have joint probability mass function given by

$X \backslash Y$	$Y = 1$	$Y = 2$	$Y = 3$	$Y = 4$
$X = 1$	$2/32$	$3/32$	$4/32$	$5/32$
$X = 2$	$3/32$	$4/32$	$5/32$	$6/32$

Obtain the marginal probability mass function(p.m.f.) of X .

Solution: Notice that

$$\{X = 1\} = \{X = 1, Y = 1\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 2\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 3\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 4\}.$$

then, the marginal probability mass function of X is:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = 1) &= P(\{X = 1, Y = 1\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 2\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 3\} \cup \{X = 1, Y = 4\}) \\ &= P\{X = 1, Y = 1\} + P\{X = 1, Y = 2\} + P\{X = 1, Y = 3\} + P\{X = 1, Y = 4\} \\ &= \frac{2}{32} + \frac{3}{32} + \frac{4}{32} + \frac{5}{32} \\ &= \frac{14}{32} = \frac{7}{16}. \end{aligned}$$

Method 1:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = 2) &= P(\{X = 2, Y = 1\} \cup \{X = 2, Y = 2\} \cup \{X = 2, Y = 3\} \cup \{X = 2, Y = 4\}) \\ &= P\{X = 2, Y = 1\} + P\{X = 2, Y = 2\} + P\{X = 2, Y = 3\} + P\{X = 2, Y = 4\} \\ &= \frac{3}{32} + \frac{4}{32} + \frac{5}{32} + \frac{6}{32} \\ &= \frac{18}{32} = \frac{9}{16}. \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Observed that $\{X = 1\} \cup \{X = 2\} = \Omega$, yield $\{X = 1\} = \{X = 2\}^c$. Then

$$P(X = 2) = 1 - P(X = 1) = 1 - \frac{7}{16} = \frac{9}{16}.$$

5. Continuous random variables X and Y have joint p.d.f

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

- (a) Find the marginal p.d.fs of X and Y .
- (b) Find $P(X > Y)$,
- (c) Find $P(X \leq 0.5)$.

Proof:

- (a) For $x < 0$ or $x > 1$, we have $f(x, y) = 0$, thus

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 0 dy = 0.$$

For $0 \leq x \leq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x, y) dy + \int_0^1 f(x, y) dy + \int_1^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 0 dy + \int_0^1 (x + y) dy + \int_1^{+\infty} 0 dy \\ &= \int_0^1 (x + y) dy = \left(xy + \frac{y^2}{2} \right) \Big|_{y=0}^{y=1} = x + \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for $y < 0$ or $y > 1$, we have $f(x, y) = 0$, thus

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 0 dx = 0.$$

For $0 \leq y \leq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x, y) dx + \int_0^1 f(x, y) dx + \int_1^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 0 dx + \int_0^1 (x + y) dx + \int_1^{+\infty} 0 dx \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int_0^1 (x+y)dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + yx\right)\Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} = y + \frac{1}{2}.$$

In sum up, we obtain the marginal p.d.f of X :

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} x + \frac{1}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The marginal p.d.f of Y :

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y + \frac{1}{2} & 0 \leq y \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} P\{X > Y\} &= \iint_{x>y} f(x,y)dxdy = \iint_{\substack{x>y \\ -\infty < x < +\infty \\ -\infty < y < +\infty}} f(x,y)dxdy \\ &= \iint_{\substack{x>y \\ 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1}} f(x,y)dxdy = \iint_{\substack{x>y \\ 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1}} (x+y)dxdy \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^x (x+y)dydx = \int_0^1 \left[xy + \frac{y^2}{2}\right]\Big|_0^x dx = \int_0^1 \left(x^2 + \frac{x^2}{2}\right)dx \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^1 x^2 dx = \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{x^3}{3}\right]\Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

(c) **Method 1:**

$$\begin{aligned} P\{X \leq \frac{1}{2}\} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}} f_X(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 f_X(x)dx + \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f_X(x)dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 0dx + \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)dx \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x}{2}\right)\Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{8}. \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Note that $\{X \leq \frac{1}{2}\} = \{X \leq \frac{1}{2}, -\infty < Y < +\infty\}$, so

$$\begin{aligned} P\{X \leq \frac{1}{2}\} &= P\{X \leq \frac{1}{2}, -\infty < Y < +\infty\} \\ &= \iint_{\substack{x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ -\infty < y < +\infty}} f(x,y)dxdy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \iint_{\substack{x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1}} f(x, y) dx dy = \iint_{\substack{0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1}} (x + y) dx dy \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \int_0^1 (x + y) dy dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[xy + \frac{y^2}{2} \right]_0^1 dx \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(x + \frac{1}{2} \right) dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{8}.
\end{aligned}$$

Remark: Remember the following formula: for any $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^2)$,

$$P((X, Y) \in B) = \iint_B f(x, y) dx dy.$$

Moreover, we have

blablabla...

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx$$