PRACTICE QUESTIONS CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE

EXERCISE – 3.3

PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTIONS

1. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^2 & 0 \le x \le 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant k
- (b) $P(X \ge 1)$
- (c) P(1/2 < X < 3/2)

(Ans: 3/8, 7/8, 13/32)

2. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k & -2 \le x \le 3\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant k
- (b) $P(-1.6 \le X \le 2.1)$

(Ans: 0.2, 0.74)

3. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k(4-x) & 1 \le x \le 3\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant k
- (b) $P(1.2 \le X \le 2.4)$

(Ans: 0.25, 0.66)

4. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k(x+2)^2 & 0 \le x \le 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant k
- (b) $P(0 \le X \le 1)$
- (c) P(X > 1)

(Ans: 3/56,19/56,37/56)

5. A continuous random variable X has p.d.f f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} A(2-x)(2+x) & 0 \le x \le 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant A
- (b) $P(X \le 1)$
- (c) $P(X \ge 2)$
- (d) P(1 < X < 2)
- (e) P(X = 1/2)

(Ans: 3/16, 11/16, 0, 5/16, 0)

6. A continuous random variable X has p.d.f f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < 1 \\ 2 - x & 1 < x < 2 \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

- (a) Show that $P(0 \le X \le 2) = 1$
- (b) Find P(X < 1.2)
- (c) Find $P(X \ge 0.5)$

(Ans: 0.68, 0.875)

7. The continuous random variable X has p.d.f f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^3 & 0 \le x \le c \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

and $P(X \le 1/2) = 1/16$. Find the values of constants c and k.

$$(Ans: c = 1, k = 4)$$

8. Suppose a special type of small data processing firm is so specialized that some have difficulty making a profit in their first year of operation. The p.d.f that characterizes the proportion X that make a profit is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^4 (1-x)^3 & 0 \le x \le 1\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

- (a) what is the value of *k* that renders the above a valid density function.
- (b) Find the probability that at most 50% of the firms make a profit in the first year.
- (c) Find the probability that at least 80% of the firms make a profit in the first year.

(Ans: k = 280, 0.3633, 0.0563)

9. A continuous random variable X has p.d.f f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k & 0 \le x < 2\\ k(2x - 3) & 2 \le x \le 3\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) value of constant k
- (b) $P(X \le 1)$
- (c) P(X > 2.5)
- (d) $P(1 \le X \le 2.3)$
- (e) P(X = 2)

(*Ans*: 0.25, 0.25, 0.3125, 0.3475, 0)

10. A continuous random variable X has p.d.f f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x/2 & 0 \le x < 1\\ (3-x)/4 & 1 \le x < 2\\ 1/4 & 2 \le x < 3\\ (4-x)/4 & 3 \le x < 4\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) $P(X \ge 3)$
- (b) $P(X \le 2)$
- (c) P(1 < X < 3)
- (d) P(|x| < 1.5)
- (e) P(|x| > 1.25)

(Ans: 1/8, 5/8, 0.46875, 0.6328)

PRACTICE QUESTIONS CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE

EXERCISE – 3.4

DISTRIBUTION FUNCTIONS FOR CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE

1. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{8}x^2 & 0 \le x \le 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the cumulative distribution function

$$(Ans: F(x)) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ \frac{x^3}{8} & 0 \le x \le 2) \\ 1 & x \ge 2 \end{cases}$$

2. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & 0 \le x \le 2\\ \frac{1}{4}(2x - 3) & 2 \le x \le 3\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the cumulative distribution function

$$(Ans: F(x)) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ \frac{x}{4} & 0 \le x \le 2 \\ \frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 3x + 4) & 2 \le x \le 3 \\ 1 & x \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

3. The continuous random variable X has probability density function f(x) where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} c/\sqrt{x} & 0 \le x \le 4\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) the value of c
- (b) The distribution function of X
- (c) P(X > 1)
- (d) $P(2 \le X \le 3)$

$$(Ans: c = 1/4, F(x)) = \begin{cases} \frac{0}{\sqrt{x}} & x < 0\\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 \le x \le 4, (0.5, 0.159) \end{cases}$$

4. The continuous random variable X has the distribution function

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ \frac{x^3}{27} & 0 \le x < 3 \\ 1 & x \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) The p.d.f of X
- (b) $P(X \le 2)$
- (c) $P(1 \le X \le 2)$

$$(Ans: p.d.f \ f(x)) = \begin{cases} x^2/9 & 0 \le x \le 3\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

5. The continuous random variable X has the distribution function

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ \frac{2x^2}{5} & 0 \le x < 1 \\ -\frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{5} \left(3x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right) & 1 \le x < 2 \\ 1 & x \ge 2 \end{cases}$$

Find the following

- (a) The p.d.f of X
- (b) P(|X| > 1.25)

$$(Ans: p.d.f \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{4x}{5} & 0 \le x < 1\\ 2(3-x)/5 & 1 \le x < 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

(Ans: 0.4125)