

Functions of One Random Variable

Example 1:

x	$p_X(x)$		$y = x^2$	$p_Y(y) = p_X(\sqrt{y})$
1	0.2	$Y = X^2$	1	0.2
2	0.4		4	0.4
3	0.3		9	0.3
4	0.1		16	0.1


 Need to keep track of changes in support

Example 2:

x	$p_X(x)$		y	$p_Y(y)$
-2	0.2	$Y = X^2$	0	$p_X(0) = 0.4$
0	0.4		4	$p_X(-2) + p_X(2) = 0.5$
2	0.3		9	$p_X(3) = 0.1$
3	0.1			

Example 3:

$$X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda): \quad p_X(x) = \frac{\lambda^x \cdot e^{-\lambda}}{x!}, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

$$Y = X^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad p_Y(y) = \frac{\lambda^{\sqrt{y}} \cdot e^{-\lambda}}{(\sqrt{y})!}, \quad y = 0, 1, 4, 9, 16, \dots$$

Let X be a continuous random variable.

Let $Y = g(X)$.

What is the probability distribution of Y ?

1. Cumulative Distribution Function approach:

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(g(X) \leq y) = \int_{\{x: g(x) \leq y\}} f_X(x) dx = \dots$$

2. Moment-Generating Function approach:

$$M_Y(t) = E(e^{Y \cdot t}) = E(e^{g(X) \cdot t}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{g(x) \cdot t} f_X(x) dx = \dots$$

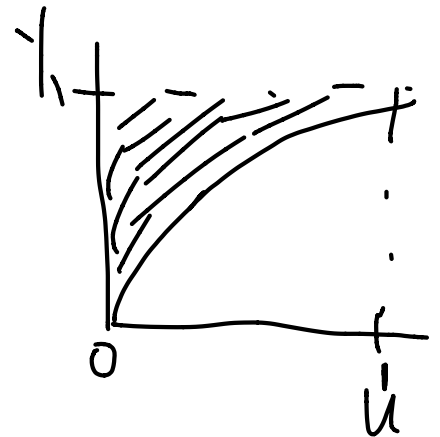
3. Change of Variables Approach

1. Let U be a Uniform(0, 1) random variable:

$$f_U(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < u < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases} \quad F_U(u) = \begin{cases} 0 & u < 0 \\ u & 0 \leq u < 1 \\ 1 & u \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Consider $Y = U^2$. What is the probability distribution of Y ?

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(U^2 \leq y)$$



$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} y < 0 & P(U^2 \leq y) = 0 & F_Y(y) = 0. \\ 0 \leq y < 1 & P(U^2 \leq y) = P(U \leq \sqrt{y}) = \sqrt{y} & F_Y(y) = \sqrt{y}. \\ y \geq 1 & P(U^2 \leq y) = 1 & F_Y(y) = 1. \end{cases}$$

$$f_Y(y) = F'_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} & 0 < y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Theorem: (change of variables) (the pdf,)

$$P(X \leq x) = F_X(x) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} F_X'(x) = f_X(x) \end{array} \right.$$

Suppose we transform:

$$y = G(x) \quad \text{where } G \text{ is one-to-one}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = G^{-1}(y)$$

Case 1: Monotone increasing $\frac{dG^{-1}(y)}{dy} > 0$

$$P(y \leq y) = P(G(x) \leq y) = P(x \leq G^{-1}(y))$$

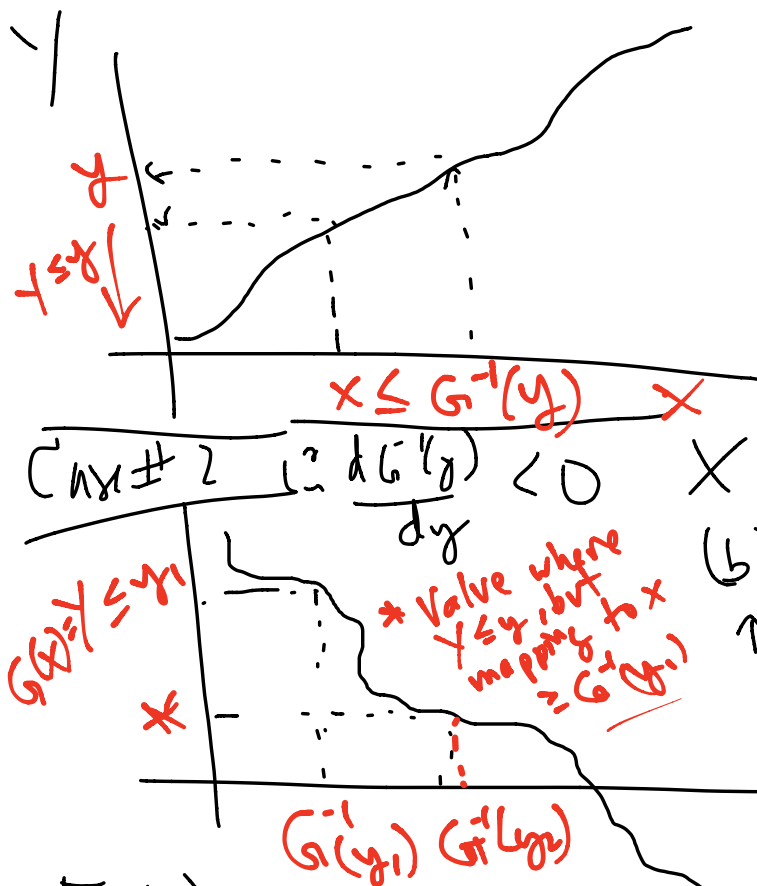
$$= F_X(G^{-1}(y))$$

the pdf. is

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_X(G^{-1}(y)) = F_X'(G^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} G^{-1}(y)$$

$$= f_X(G^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} G^{-1}(y) \right|$$

* Used chain rule!!



$$Y = G(X)$$

$$Y < y \Leftrightarrow X \leq G^{-1}(y)$$

b/c large $X \Leftrightarrow$ large Y

(b) Here

$$\uparrow X \Rightarrow \downarrow Y$$

$$= P(Y \leq y) = P(X \geq G^{-1}(y))$$

$$F_Y(y) =$$

$$P(Y \leq y) = P(X \geq G^{-1}(y)) = 1 - F_X(G^{-1}(y))$$

$$f_Y(y) = -F'_X(G^{-1}(y)) \frac{dG^{-1}(y)}{dy}$$

$$\text{but } -\frac{dG^{-1}(y)}{dy} > 0, \text{ so,}$$

$$f_y(y) = f_x(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d g^{-1}(y)}{dy} \right| \text{ for case 2}$$

This holds for both cases. ~~QED~~

Theorem

X – continuous r.v. with p.d.f. $f_X(x)$.

$$Y = g(X)$$

$g(x)$ – one-to-one, differentiable

$$dx/dy = d[g^{-1}(y)]/dy$$

$$\Rightarrow f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|$$

Approach
#3

$$g(u) = u^2$$

$$g^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y} = y^{1/2}$$

$$du/dy = \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2}$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_U(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{du}{dy} \right| = (1) \left| \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} \right| = \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} \quad 0 < y < 1$$

2. Consider a continuous random variable X with p.d.f.

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases},$$

- a) Find the probability distribution of $Y = \sqrt{X}$.

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases} \quad F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ x^2 & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Approach:

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

①

$$y \geq 0 \quad F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = P(X \leq y^2) = F_X(y^2).$$

$$0 \leq y < 1 \quad F_Y(y) = F_X(y^2) = y^4.$$

$$y \geq 1 \quad F_Y(y) = F_X(y^2) = 1.$$

CDF approach

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y < 0 \\ y^4 & 0 \leq y < 1 \\ 1 & y \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$f_Y(y) = F'_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 4y^3 & 0 < y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

(change of var. Appl^{OR})

(2)

$$g(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$g^{-1}(y) = y^2$$

$$dx/dy = 2y$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = (2y^2)(2y) = 4y^3, \quad 0 < y < 1.$$

b) Find the probability distribution of $W = \frac{1}{X+1}$.

Note: $0 < x < 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} < w < 1$ } *

$$F_W(w) = P(W \leq w) = P\left(\frac{1}{X+1} \leq w\right) = P\left(X \geq \frac{1}{w} - 1\right) = 1 - F_X\left(\frac{1}{w} - 1\right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{(1-w)^2}{w^2} = 1 - \frac{1}{w^2} + \frac{2}{w} - 1 = \frac{2}{w} - \frac{1}{w^2}, \quad \frac{1}{2} < w < 1.$$

$$f_W(w) = F'_W(w) = -\frac{2}{w^2} + \frac{2}{w^3} = \frac{2-2w}{w^3}, \quad \frac{1}{2} < w < 1.$$

OR

$$= \frac{2(1-w)}{w^3}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x+1}$$

$$g^{-1}(w) = \frac{1}{w} - 1$$

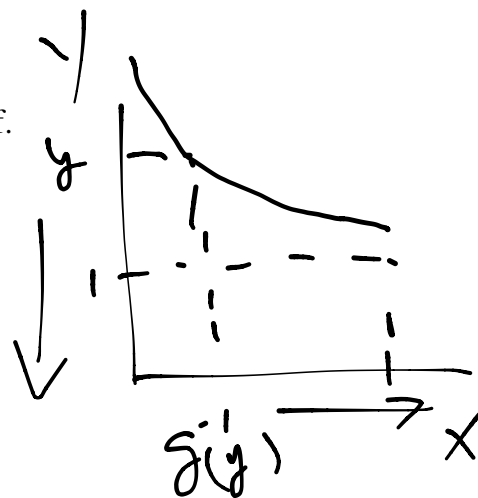
$$dx/dw = -\frac{1}{w^2}$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = \left[2\left(\frac{1}{w} - 1\right) \right] \left(\frac{1}{w^2} \right) = \frac{2-2w}{w^3}, \quad \frac{1}{2} < w < 1.$$

3. Consider a continuous random variable X with p.d.f.

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 6x^5 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Find the probability distribution of $Y = 1/X^2$.



Support of $X = \{ 0 < x < 1 \}$

$$Y = 1/X^2 \Rightarrow \text{Support of } Y = \{ y > 1 \}$$

$$g(x) = 1/x^2 \quad X = g^{-1}(y) = 1/\sqrt{y} = y^{-1/2}$$

$$dx/dy = -\frac{1}{2} y^{-3/2}$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = (6y^{-5/2}) \left(\frac{1}{2} y^{-3/2} \right) = 3y^{-4} \quad y > 1.$$

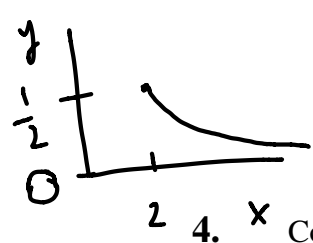
OR

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 6x^5 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases} \quad F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ x^6 & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(1/X^2 \leq y) = P(X \geq 1/\sqrt{y}) = 1 - F_X(1/\sqrt{y})$$

$$= 1 - y^{-3}, \quad y > 1.$$

$$f_Y(y) = F'_Y(y) = 3y^{-4}, \quad y > 1.$$



Consider a continuous random variable X with the p.d.f. $f_X(x) = \frac{24}{x^4}$, $x > 2$.

a) Let $Y = 1/X$. Find the p.d.f. of Y , $f_Y(y)$.

$$F_X = 24 \int_2^x t^{-4} dt = \frac{24}{-3} t^{-3} \Big|_2^x \\ = -8 \left(x^{-3} - \frac{1}{8} \right) \\ = 1 - \frac{8}{x^3}$$

(1)

Support of $X = \{x > 2\}$

$Y = 1/X \Rightarrow$ Support of $Y = \{0 < y < 1/2\}$

(2a)

$$g(x) = 1/x$$

$$g^{-1}(y) = 1/y$$

$$dx/dy = -1/y^2$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = (24y^4)(y^{-2}) = 24y^2, \quad 0 < y < 1/2.$$

OR

(2b)

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \frac{8}{x^3}, \quad x > 2.$$

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(1/X \leq y) = P(X \geq 1/y) = 1 - F_X(1/y) = 8y^3,$$

$$0 < y < 1/2.$$

$$f_Y(y) = 24y^2, \quad 0 < y < 1/2.$$

b) Let $Y = 1/X^2$. Find the p.d.f. of Y , $f_Y(y)$.

Support of $X = \{x > 2\}$

$Y = 1/X^2 \Rightarrow$ Support of $Y = \{0 < y < 1/4\}$

$$g(x) = 1/x^2$$

$$g^{-1}(y) = 1/\sqrt{y} = y^{-1/2}$$

$$dx/dy = -\frac{1}{2} y^{-3/2}$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = (24y^2) \left(\frac{1}{2} y^{-3/2} \right) = 12y^{1/2} = 12\sqrt{y},$$

$$0 < y < 1/4.$$

OR

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \frac{8}{x^3}, \quad x > 2.$$

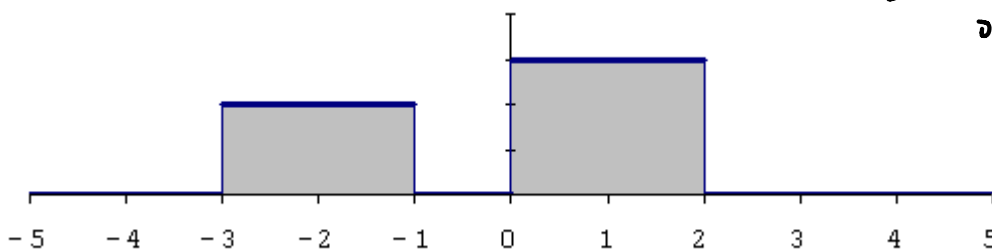
$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P\left(\frac{1}{X^2} \leq y\right) = P\left(X \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}\right) \\ &= 1 - F_X\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}\right) = 8y^{3/2}, \quad 0 < y < 1/4. \end{aligned}$$

$$f_Y(y) = 12y^{1/2} = 12\sqrt{y}, \quad 0 < y < 1/4.$$

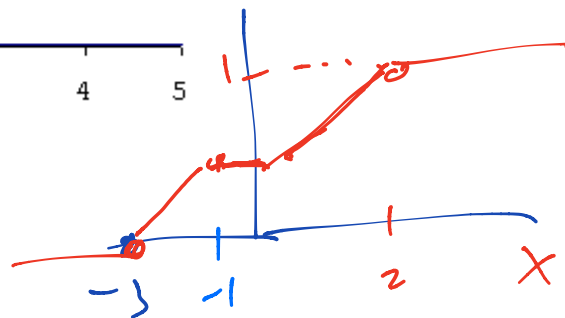
5. Consider a continuous random variable X with p.d.f.

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0.2 & -3 < x < -1 \\ 0.3 & 0 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow F_x &= \int_{-3}^x \frac{1}{5} dt = \frac{1}{5}(x+3) \quad -3 < x < -1 \\ &= \frac{2}{5} + \int_{-1}^x \frac{3}{10} dt = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{10}x \quad 0 < x < 2 \end{aligned}$$



Find the probability distribution of $Y = X^2$.



$$y < 0$$

$$P(X^2 \leq y) = 0$$

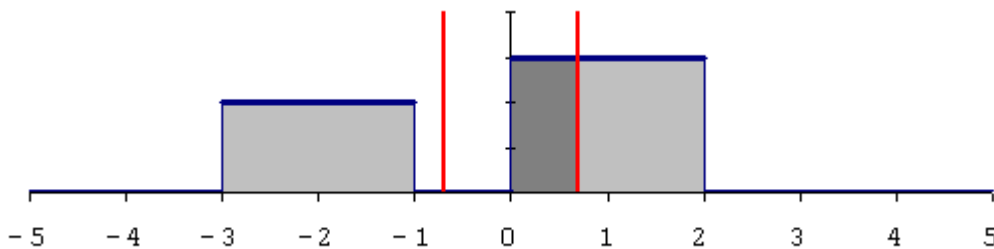
$$F_Y(y) = 0.$$

$$y \geq 0$$

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(X^2 \leq y) = P(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y})$$

$$F_Y = P(-\sqrt{y} \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}) = F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) = 0.3\sqrt{y}$$

Case 1: $0 \leq y < 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leq \sqrt{y} < 1$

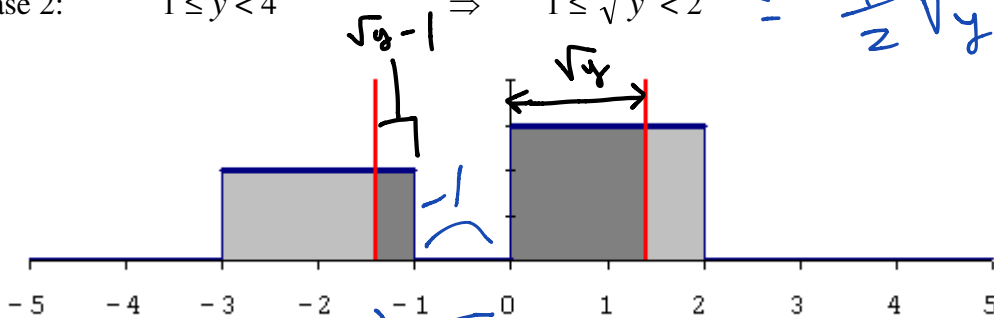


$$F_Y(y) = 0.3\sqrt{y}.$$

$$F_Y = F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) = \frac{3}{10}\sqrt{y} + \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{5}(-\sqrt{y} + 3)$$

Case 2: $1 \leq y < 4$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \leq \sqrt{y} < 2 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{y} - \frac{1}{5}$$

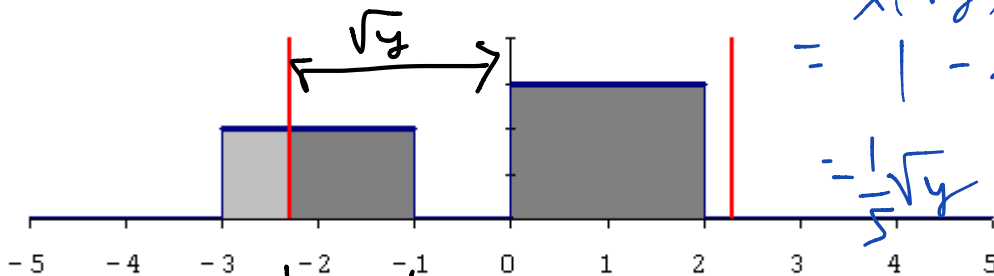


$$F_Y(y) = 0.2(-1 + \sqrt{y}) + 0.3\sqrt{y}.$$

Case 3: $4 \leq y < 9$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \leq \sqrt{y} < 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{5}(-\sqrt{y} + 3) \\ &= \frac{1}{5}\sqrt{y} - \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$



$$F_Y(y) = 0.2(-1 + \sqrt{y}) + 0.6 = \frac{1}{5}\sqrt{y} + .4$$

Case 4: $y \geq 9$

$$F_Y(y) = 1.$$

6. Let $\lambda > 0$ and let X be a random variable with the probability density function

$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda}{x^{\lambda+1}}, \quad x > 1, \quad \text{zero otherwise.}$$

Let $W = \ln X$. What is the probability distribution of W ?

- a) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the c.d.f. of W

$$F_W(w) = P(W \leq w) = P(\ln X \leq w).$$

“Hint”: Find $F_X(x)$ first.

$$F_X(x) = \int_1^x \frac{\lambda}{y^{\lambda+1}} dy = 1 - \frac{1}{x^\lambda}, \quad x > 1.$$

$$F_Y(y) = P(W \leq w) = P(X \leq e^w) = F_X(e^w) = 1 - e^{-\lambda w}, \quad w > 0.$$

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

\Rightarrow W has Exponential distribution with mean $1/\lambda$.

- b) Determine the probability distribution of W by finding the m.g.f. of W

$$M_W(t) = E(e^{W \cdot t}) = E(e^{\ln X \cdot t}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_W(t) &= E(e^{W \cdot t}) = E(e^{\ln X \cdot t}) = E(X^t) = \int_1^\infty \left(x^t \cdot \frac{\lambda}{x^{\lambda+1}} \right) dx \\ &= \int_1^\infty \lambda x^{t-\lambda-1} dx = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{\lambda}t}, \quad t < \lambda. \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow W has Exponential distribution with mean $1/\lambda$.

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

$$w = \ln(x) \quad x = g^{-1}(w) = e^w \quad \frac{dx}{dw} = e^w$$

$$x > 1 \Rightarrow w > 0$$

$$f_W(w) = f_X(g^{-1}(w)) \left| \frac{dx}{dw} \right| = \frac{\lambda}{(e^w)^{\lambda+1}} \cdot e^w = \lambda e^{-\lambda w}, \quad w > 0.$$


\Rightarrow W has Exponential distribution with mean $1/\lambda$.

Consider a continuous random variable X , with p.d.f. f and c.d.f. F , where F is strictly increasing on some interval I , $F = 0$ to the left of I , and $F = 1$ to the right of I . I may be a bounded interval or an unbounded interval such as the whole real line. $F^{-1}(u)$ is then well defined for $0 < u < 1$.

Fact 1:

Let $U \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$, and let $X = F^{-1}(U)$. Then the c.d.f. of X is F .

Proof: $P(X \leq x) = P(F^{-1}(U) \leq x) = P(U \leq F(x)) = F(x)$.


or c.d.f. of U is $P(U \leq u) = u$

Fact 2:

Let $U = F(X)$; then U has a $\text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ distribution.

Proof: $P(U \leq u) = P(F(X) \leq u) = P(X \leq F^{-1}(u)) = F(F^{-1}(u)) = u$.

\leftarrow c.d.f. of $U \sim U(0,1)$

H W

7. Let X have a **logistic distribution** with p.d.f.

$$f(x) = \frac{e^{-x}}{(1+e^{-x})^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$$

Show that $Y = \frac{1}{1+e^{-X}}$ has a $U(0, 1)$ distribution.

$$F_X(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$$

$\Rightarrow Y = F_X(X)$ has a Uniform $(0, 1)$ distribution by Fact 2.

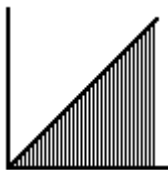
$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{e^{-t}}{(1+e^{-t})^2} dt \quad u = 1+e^{-t} \\ &\quad du = -e^{-t} dt \\ &= - \int u^{-2} du = -\frac{1}{-1} u^{-1} \Big|_{-\infty}^x \\ &= \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} \Big|_{-\infty}^x = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} \end{aligned}$$

~~~1.9.20~~ (7th edition)      **1.9.19** (6th edition)

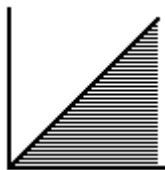
Let  $X$  be a nonnegative continuous random variable with p.d.f.  $f(x)$  and c.d.f.  $F(x)$ . Show that

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} (1-F(x)) dx.$$

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_0^x dy \right) f(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_0^x f(x) dy \right) dx$$



$\rightarrow$



$$\int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_0^x f(x) dy \right) dx$$

$=$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_y^{\infty} f(x) dx \right) dy$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_y^{\infty} f(x) dx \right) dy = \int_0^{\infty} P(X > y) dy = \int_0^{\infty} (1-F(y)) dy.$$

Example: Find the expected value of an Exponential ( $\theta$ ) distribution.

For Exponential ( $\theta$ ),  $1 - F(x) = P(X > x) = e^{-x/\theta}$ ,  $t > 0$ .

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F(x)) dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x/\theta} dx = \theta.$$

**1.9.21** (7th edition)      **1.9.20** (6th edition)

Let  $X$  be a random variable of the discrete type with pmf  $p(x)$  that is positive on the nonnegative integers and is equal to zero elsewhere. Show that

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} [1 - F(x)],$$

where  $F(x)$  is the cdf of  $X$ .

$$1 - F(x) = P(X > x) = p(x+1) + p(x+2) + p(x+3) + p(x+4) + \dots$$

$$1 - F(0) \quad p(1) + p(2) + p(3) + p(4) + p(5) + p(6) + p(7) + \dots$$

$$1 - F(1) \quad p(2) + p(3) + p(4) + p(5) + p(6) + p(7) + \dots$$

$$1 - F(2) \quad p(3) + p(4) + p(5) + p(6) + p(7) + \dots$$

$$1 - F(3) \quad p(4) + p(5) + p(6) + p(7) + \dots$$

$$1 - F(4) \quad p(5) + p(6) + p(7) + \dots$$

$$\dots \quad \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} [1 - F(x)] = 1 \times p(1) + 2 \times p(2) + 3 \times p(3) + 4 \times p(4) + \dots = E(X).$$

Example: Find the expected value of a Geometric ( $p$ ) distribution.

For Geometric ( $p$ ),  $1 - F(x) = P(X > x) = (1 - p)^x$ ,  $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .

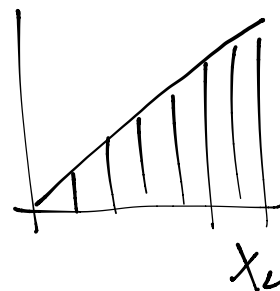
$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} [1 - F(x)] = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} [1 - p]^x = \frac{1}{1 - [1 - p]} = \frac{1}{p}.$$

$$X_1 \sim \exp(\lambda_1), X_2 \sim \exp(\lambda_2) \mathbb{I}(x_2 > 1)$$

$$Y = \frac{X_1}{X_2} \quad F_1(x_1) = 1 - e^{-\lambda_1 x_1}$$

$$f_2(x_2) = \frac{\lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 x_2}}{e^2} = \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2(x_2+1)}$$

$$F_2(x_2) = 1 - e^{-\lambda_2(x_2+1)}$$



$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(X_1 \leq y X_2)$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} F_1(y X_2) f_2(x_2) dx_2$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\lambda_1 y X_2}) \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2(x_2+1)} dx_2$$

$$= 1 - \lambda_2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2) x_2 - \lambda_2} dx_2$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\lambda_2}{e^{\lambda_2}} \left( \frac{-1}{\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2} e^{-(\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2) x_2} \right) \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2} \frac{e^{-\lambda_1 y}}{e^{\lambda_2}}$$

$$y > 0$$



$$\Rightarrow f_Y(y) = F'_Y(y)$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_2}{e^{2\lambda_2}} \left\{ \frac{-\lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 y} (\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2) - e^{-\lambda_1 y} \lambda_1}{(\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2)^2} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{e^{2\lambda_2}} e^{-\lambda_1 y} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2 - 1}{(\lambda_1 y + \lambda_2)^2} \right\}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-(y+1)} \frac{y}{(y+1)^2}, \quad y > 0$$