

Probability Theory & Random Processes

EE5817

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Outline

- 1 Continuous Random Variables
- 2 Examples of Continuous Random Variables
- 3 Moments and Moment Generating Functions

Continuous Random Variables

A Continuous Random Variable X has a CDF, $F_X(x)$, that is differentiable almost everywhere.

For e.g., a number uniform randomly selected in the interval $[0, 1]$ has a CDF $F_X(x) = x \forall x \in [0, 1]$, 0 for $x < 0$ and 1 otherwise.

A Continuous Random Variable

The PDF of a continuous random variable X is the derivative of the CDF (if the derivative exists!).

$$f_X(x) = F'_X(x) \text{ alternatively,}$$

$$f_X(x) = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{P(x < X \leq x + \Delta)}{\Delta}$$

For e.g., for X uniformly distributed in the interval $[0, 1]$ the PDF $f_X(x) = 1 \forall x \in (0, 1)$ and 0 otherwise.

A Continuous Random Variable

Properties of the PDF:

- $f_X(x) \geq 0$
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(u) du = 1$
- $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(u) du$
- $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a) = \int_a^b f_X(u) du$
- More generally, $P(X \in \Phi) = \int_{\Phi} f_X(u) du$. For e.g.,
 $P(X \in [a, b] \cup [c, d]) = \int_a^b f_X(u) du + \int_c^d f_X(u) du$

Expectation

Expectation for a continuous r.v. X with PDF $f_X(x)$ is given by

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} uf_X(u)du$$

- Mean: $\mu_X = E[X]$
- Variance: $\sigma_X^2 = E[X^2] - \mu_X^2$

Uniform Random Variable

Uniform distribution: $X \sim \text{unif}(a, b)$

- $$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq a, \\ \frac{1}{(b-a)} & x \in (a, b), \\ 0 & x \geq b. \end{cases}$$

- $$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq a, \\ \frac{x-a}{(b-a)} & x \in (a, b), \\ 1 & x \geq b. \end{cases}$$

- $\mu_X = (a + b)/2$

- $\sigma_X^2 = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$

Exponential Distribution

Exponential distribution: $X \sim \exp(\lambda)$



$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$



$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$



$$\mu_X = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$



$$\sigma_X^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

Exponential Distribution

Exponential Distribution exhibits memorylessness:

- $P\{X > t_1 + t_2 | X > t_1\} = P\{X > t_2\}$

Standard Gaussian Distribution

Standard Normal distribution: $X \sim N(0, 1)$



$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5(x)^2}$$

- $\mu_X = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = 0$, as $x f_X(x)$ is an odd function of x

- $\sigma_X^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-0.5x^2} dx =$
 $\frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\int_0^{\infty} x (x e^{-0.5x^2}) dx \right)$ integrating by parts gives
 $= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(-x e^{-0.5x^2} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} e^{-0.5x^2} dx \right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(0 + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{2} \right) = 1$

- Self reading: Jacobian and $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-0.5x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{2}$

Standard Gaussian Distribution

Standard Normal distribution: $X \sim N(0, 1)$



$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5(x)^2}$$

- $\mu_X = 0$

- $\sigma_X^2 = 1$

Standard Gaussian Distribution

Standard Normal distribution: $X \sim N(0, 1)$



$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5(x)^2}$$

- $\mu_X = 0$
- $\sigma_X^2 = 1$
- $F_X(x) = ?$

Standard Gaussian Distribution

Standard Normal distribution: $X \sim N(0, 1)$



$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5(x)^2}$$

- $\mu_X = 0$
- $\sigma_X^2 = 1$
- $F_X(x) = 1 - Q(x)$, where, $Q(x) = \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5(x)^2} dx$
- Self Reading: Properties of Q function

Gaussian Distribution

Normal distribution: $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$



$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5 \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}}$$



$$F_X(x) = 1 - Q\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

- $\mu_X = \mu$

- $\sigma_X^2 = \sigma^2$

Gaussian Distribution

Normal distribution: $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5 \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}} dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\sigma y + \mu) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5y^2} \sigma dy, \text{ where } \left(y = \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma} \right) \\
 &= 0 + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5y^2} \sigma dy, \text{ first part is an odd function} \\
 &= \mu \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5y^2} \sigma dy, \text{ as integration of PDF}=1 \\
 &= \mu
 \end{aligned}$$

Gaussian Distribution

Normal distribution: $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_X^2 &= E[(x - \mu)^2] \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5 \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}} dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sigma^2 y^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-0.5 y^2} \sigma dy, \text{ where } , \left(y = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \\
 &= \sigma^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{y^2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5 y^2} dy \\
 &= \sigma^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Moments

Moments (if they exist!)

- n^{th} order moment, $E[X^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n f_X(x) dx$
- n^{th} order central moment,
 $E[(X - \mu_X)^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu_X)^n f_X(x) dx$
- n^{th} order absolute moment, $E[|X|^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x|^n f_X(x) dx$
- n^{th} order absolute central moment,
 $E[|X - \mu_X|^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x - \mu_X|^n f_X(x) dx$
- n^{th} order standardized moment,
 $E\left[\left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^n\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^n f_X(x) dx$

Moments

Moments (if they exist!)

- Mean, $E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_X(x)dx$
- Variance, $E[(X - \mu_X)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu_X)^2 f_X(x)dx$
- Skewness, $E\left[\left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^3\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^3 f_X(x)dx$
- Kurtosis, $E\left[\left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^4\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^4 f_X(x)dx$
- Excess Kurtosis,

$$E\left[\left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^4\right] - 3 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{X - \mu_X}{\sigma}\right)^4 f_X(x)dx - 3$$

Moments

Symmetry around Mean, (if mean exist!)

- $X - \mu$ has the same distribution as $\mu - X$
- Mean and Median will coincide
- All odd central moments of a symmetric distribution are zero

Moments

Moment Generating Function (MGF)

- $\text{MGF} = E[e^{sx}]$
- Characteristic Function $\Phi_X(\omega) = E[e^{j\omega x}]$
- Probability Generating Function = $E(t^X)$

Moment Generating Function (MGF)

$$e^{sX} = 1 + sX + \frac{s^2 X^2}{2!} + \frac{s^3 X^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{s^n X^n}{n!} + \dots$$

$$MGF = E[e^{sX}]$$

$$= E \left[1 + sX + \frac{s^2 X^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{s^n X^n}{n!} + \dots \right]$$

$$= 1 + sE[X] + \frac{s^2 E[X^2]}{2!} + \dots + \frac{s^n E[X^n]}{n!} + \dots$$

$$\left. \frac{dE[e^{sX}]}{ds} \right|_{s=0} = E[X]$$

$$\left. \frac{d^n E[e^{sX}]}{ds^n} \right|_{s=0} = E[X^n]$$

Moment Generating Function (MGF)

Some examples:

$$\text{Gaussian} = e^{\mu s + 0.5 \sigma^2 s^2}$$

$$\text{Exponential} = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - s}, \text{ for } s < \lambda$$

$$\text{Uniform} = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{sb} - e^{sa}}{s(b-a)} & \text{for } s \neq 0, \\ 1 & s = 0. \end{cases}$$

Characteristic Function

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\omega) &= E[e^{j\omega X}] \\ &= E\left[1 + j\omega X + \frac{j^2\omega^2 X^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{(j\omega X)^n}{n!} + \dots\right] \\ \left.\frac{d^n E[e^{j\omega X}]}{d\omega^n}\right|_{\omega=0} &= j^{-n} E[X^n]\end{aligned}$$

Characteristic Function

Some examples:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Gaussian} &= e^{j\mu\omega - 0.5\sigma^2\omega^2} \\ \text{Exponential} &= \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - j\omega} \\ \text{Uniform} &= \begin{cases} \frac{e^{j\omega b} - e^{j\omega a}}{j\omega(b - a)} & \text{for } \omega \neq 0, \\ 1 & \omega = 0. \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Probability Generating Function

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_X(z) &= E(z^X) \\
 &= \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} P_X(x) z^x, \text{ for nonnegative } X \\
 &= p_0 + p_1 z + p_2 z^2 + \dots + p_n z^n + \dots \\
 P(X = n) &= \left(\frac{1}{n!} \right) \frac{d^n E(z^X)}{dz^n} \Big|_{z=0}
 \end{aligned}$$

Self Reading: $E(X(X-1)(X-2)\dots(X-k+1)) = \frac{d^k E(z^X)}{dz^k} \Big|_{z=1}$

Probability Generating Function

Some examples:

$$\text{Bernoulli} = (pz + q)$$

$$\text{Binomial} = (pz + q)^n$$

$$\text{Discrete Uniform Distribution} = \frac{z^a - z^{b+1}}{n(1 - z)}$$

$$\text{Poisson} = e^{\lambda(z-1)}$$

Probability Generating Function

Geometric: def. 1, number of trials at which first success is observed with PMF, $P(X = k) = pq^{k-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{PGF} &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} pq^{k-1}z^k \\ &= pz \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (qz)^k \\ &= \frac{pz}{(1 - qz)} \text{ for } |z| < \frac{1}{q}\end{aligned}$$

Probability Generating Function

Geometric: def. 2, number of failures/trials after which first success is observed with PMF, $P(X = k) = pq^k$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PGF} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} pq^k z^k \\ &= p \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (qz)^k \\ &= \frac{p}{(1 - qz)} \text{ for } |z| < \frac{1}{q} \end{aligned}$$

Probability Generating Function

Negative Binomial:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{PGF} &= \sum_{k=r}^{\infty} \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (q)^{k-r} z^k \\
 &= (pz)^r \sum_{k=r}^{\infty} \binom{k-1}{k-r} (zq)^{k-r} \\
 &= (pz)^r \sum_{k-r=0}^{\infty} \binom{k-r+r-1}{k-r} (zq)^{k-r} \\
 &= (pz)^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n+r-1}{n} (zq)^n \\
 &= \left(\frac{pz}{1-qz} \right)^r \text{ for } |z| < \frac{1}{q}
 \end{aligned}$$

Questions