

Homework 1 stat mech

- 1 Some necessary conditions for the formula to make sense are for $\langle x \rangle$, $\text{Var}(X)$ to exist

$$P(|X - \langle X \rangle| \geq \epsilon) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(X)}{\epsilon^2}$$

It turns out that the proof just require this two conditions for both the continuous and discrete case.

- 2 a) Let X such that equality holds

$$P(|X - \langle X \rangle| \geq \epsilon) = \frac{\text{Var}(X)}{\epsilon^2}$$

Then let $Y = X - \langle X \rangle$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var} X$

$P(|Y| \geq \epsilon) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\epsilon^2}$, we can compute the RHS and LHS as follows

$$P(|Y| \geq \epsilon) = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{-\epsilon} + \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \right) dy \pi(y), \quad \frac{\sigma^2}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy y^2 \pi(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\int_{-\infty}^{-\epsilon} + \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \right) dy \left(\frac{y^2}{\epsilon^2} - 1 \right) \pi(y) + \int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \frac{y^2}{\epsilon^2} \pi(y) = 0$$

As both terms are positive, they have both to be 0.
Then $\pi(y) = 0$ for all y st $|y| < \epsilon$ and $y \neq 0$

And $\pi(y) = 0$ for all y st $|y| > \epsilon$.

Hence Y is a discrete random variable whose values are $\{\epsilon, -\epsilon, 0\}$. To have 0 average ($\langle Y \rangle = 0$) we must have

$$P(Y=\epsilon) = P(Y=-\epsilon) \quad \text{Then we set } P(Y=\epsilon) = P(Y=-\epsilon) = \frac{1}{2K}$$

$$\text{Then } P(Y=0) = 1 - \frac{1}{2K}$$

We can then compute $\langle Y \rangle = \frac{1}{K}(\epsilon - \epsilon) = 0$ $\sigma^2 = \langle Y^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{K}(\epsilon^2 + \epsilon^2) = \frac{\epsilon^2}{2K}$

Then $P(|X| \geq \epsilon) = \frac{1}{2\kappa} = \frac{\epsilon^2}{2\kappa} \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}$ Saturating Chebyshev's inequality

Then we have proven that every RV X that saturates Chebyshev's inequality has a distribution

$$\pi_X(x) = \frac{1}{\kappa} (\delta(x - \epsilon - \mu) + \delta(x + \epsilon - \mu) + \delta(\mu))$$

for some constants $\boxed{x, \kappa, \mu}$

b It has already been shown it is not possible.

Rényi's formula.

1 $\langle X \rangle = 0$, $\sigma^2 = \langle X^2 \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 dx x^2 = \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sigma^2 = \frac{2}{3}}$

2. The variance of the sum of independent random variables is the sum of the variances. Then $\boxed{\sigma_n^2 = \frac{2}{3} n}$

3.

4 Chebyshev's inequality is way too big for this distribution. It's always way too far to the right.

5 For small x The Cantelli inequality is more restrictive.

6 No. The graph shows that for some values Chebyshev's inequality is actually better. The Hoeffding bound is $e^{-\epsilon^2/2n}$

It can have this behaviour because it's particular to this distribution. Not a general statement as Chebyshev's inequality. Also we recall Chebyshev's inequality can be saturated at a single point. Not everywhere.

Lévy distributions two simple demonstration

1. $\pi_f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{x^{1+\alpha}}, x \geq 1$

$$\int_1^{\infty} dx \frac{\alpha}{x^{1+\alpha}} = -\frac{\alpha}{x^{\alpha}} \frac{1}{\alpha} \Big|_1^{\infty} = \begin{cases} 1 & \alpha > 0 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Hence the function is normalized in particular for $\alpha = 1.25, \alpha = 5$

2. $\int_1^{\infty} dx \frac{x \alpha}{x^{1+\alpha}} = \int_1^{\infty} dx \frac{\alpha}{x^{\alpha}} = \frac{\alpha}{(1-\alpha)} \frac{1}{x^{\alpha-1}} \Big|_1^{\infty} = \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1} & \alpha > 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

for $\alpha = 1.25$ $\langle x \rangle = \frac{1.25}{0.25} = 5$

for $\alpha = 5$ $\langle x \rangle = \frac{5}{4} = 1.25$

3 For $\gamma = -0.2$ the histogram of $\bar{x}_n - \langle x \rangle$ is pretty sharp and symmetric around 0

4 But for $\gamma = -0.8$ the situation is pretty different there are very few points above zero but very far and a lot of points below zero but very close