

Week 4

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Question 1. Suppose X is continuous with density

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} cx^2 & 0 \leq x < 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Write an expression for the value of c that makes X a valid PDF, and set up expressions (integrals) for its mean and variance. Also, find the CDF of X , F_X .

+ Conditions for valid PDF: $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) dx = 1$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left. \frac{cx^3}{3} \right|_0^3 = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{c = \frac{1}{243}}$$

+ Mean: $E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f_X(x) dx = \int_0^3 x \cdot \frac{1}{243} x^2 dx$

$$= \frac{1}{243} \int_0^3 x^3 dx$$

+ Variance: We have $E[X^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx$

$$= \frac{1}{243} \int_0^3 x^4 dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{Var}(X) = \left(\frac{1}{243} \int_0^3 x^3 dx \right)^2 - \frac{1}{243} \int_0^3 x^4 dx}$$

+ $\frac{dF_X(x)}{dx} = f_X(x) \Rightarrow \boxed{F_X(x)} = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < 0 \\ \frac{c}{3} x^3 & , 0 \leq x < 3 \\ 1 & , x \geq 3 \end{cases}$

Question 2.

a. Suppose the current (in Amperes) flowing through a 1-ohm resistor is a $\text{Uniform}(a,b)$ random variable I for $a, b > 0$. The power dissipated by this resistor is $\bar{X} = I^2$. What is the expected power dissipated by the resistor?

b. Continuing with the previous example, suppose that the current instead follows an $\text{Exponential}(\lambda)$ distribution. What is the expected power dissipated by the resistor?

a. The CDF of the current flowing through the resistor:

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

\Rightarrow For the power dissipated by the resistor is:

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < a^2 \\ \frac{\sqrt{x}-a}{b-a} & , a^2 \leq x \leq b^2 \\ 1 & , x > b^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2(b-a)\sqrt{x}} & , a^2 \leq x \leq b^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow E[X] = \int_a^b x \cdot \frac{1}{2(b-a)\sqrt{x}} dx = \frac{b^3 - a^3}{3(b-a)}$$

$$b. E[X^2] = \int_0^\infty x^2 \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \boxed{\frac{2}{\lambda^2}}$$

Question 3: A flea of negligible size is trapped in a large, spherical, inflated beach ball with radius r . At this moment, it is equally likely to be at any point within the ball. Let X be the distance of the flea from the centre of the ball.

- Find the range of X , Ω_X .
- Find the cumulative distribution function $FX(x) = P(X \leq x)$.
- Find the probability density function $fX(x)$.
- Find an integral for $E[X]$.

$$a. \Omega_X = [0, r]$$

$$b. P(X \leq x) = \frac{\text{Volume of the sphere of radius } x}{\text{Volume of the sphere of radius } r} = \boxed{\frac{x^3}{r^3}}$$

$$c. f_X(x) = \frac{dFX(x)}{dx} = \frac{3x^2}{r^3}, \quad 0 < x < r$$

$$\boxed{f_X(x)} = \begin{cases} \frac{3x^2}{r^3} & , 0 < x < r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$d. E[X] = \int_0^r x f(x) dx = 3 \int_0^r \frac{x^3}{r^3} dx = \boxed{\frac{3}{4} \cdot r}$$

Question 4: Suppose that you are s minutes early for an appointment, then you incur the cost cs , and if you are s minutes late, then you incur the cost ks . Suppose also the travel time from where you presently are to the location of your appointment is a continuous random variable having probability density function f . Determine the time at which you should depart if you want to minimize your expected cost.

Suppose we leave t minutes before the appointment, then:

$$\text{Cost: } C_t(x) = \begin{cases} c(t-x) & \text{if } x \leq t \\ k(x-t) & \text{if } x > t \end{cases}$$

where X is the travel time

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } E[C_t(x)] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C_t(x) f(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^t c(t-x) f(x) dx + \int_t^{\infty} k(x-t) f(x) dx \\ &= ct \cdot \int_0^t f(x) dx - c \int_0^t x f(x) dx \\ &\quad + kt \int_t^{\infty} f(x) dx - kt \int_t^{\infty} x f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have: } \frac{dE[C_t(x)]}{dt} &= c \cdot t \cdot f(t) - c \cdot F(t) - ct \cdot f(t) \\ &\quad - kt \cdot f(t) + kt f(t) \\ &\quad - k[1 - F(t)] \\ &= \boxed{(k+c) F(t) - k} \end{aligned}$$

Question 5: You are waiting for a bus to take home from VinUni. You can either take the A-line, B-line, and C-line. The distribution of the waiting time in minutes for each is the following:

- A-line: $A \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda=0.1)$
- B-line: $B \sim \text{Unif}(0, 20)$

• C-line: has range $(1, \infty)$ and density function $f_C(x) = 1/(x^2)$
 Assume the three bus arrival times are independent. You take the first bus that arrives.

- Find the CDFs of A, B, and C.
- What is the ~~probability~~ you wait more than 5 minutes for a bus?
- What is the probability you wait ~~more than 30 minutes~~ for a bus?
- What is the expected amount of ~~time you will wait~~ for a bus?

+ CDF:

$$A: F_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-0.1x} & , x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{ow} \end{cases}$$

$$B: F_B(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < 0 \\ \frac{x}{20} & , 0 \leq x \leq 20 \\ 1 & , x > 20 \end{cases}$$

$$C: F_C(x) = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t^2} dt = \left[1 - \frac{1}{x} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow F_C(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{1}{x} & x > 1 \\ 0 & \text{ow} \end{cases}$$

+ Let $D = \min \{A, B, C\}$ be the time until the first bus arrives.
 then:

$$\begin{aligned} P(D > 5) &= P(A > 5) \cdot P(B > 5) \cdot P(C > 5) \\ &= (1 - F_A(5)) \cdot (1 - F_B(5)) \cdot (1 - F_C(5)) \\ &= (e^{-0.5}) \cdot \left(\frac{15}{20} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5} \right) \\ &= \left[\frac{3}{20} e^{-0.5} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} + \text{ Similarly: } P(D > 30) &= P(A > 30) \cdot P(B > 30) \cdot P(C > 30) \\ &= \boxed{0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} + E[D] &= \min \{ E(A), E(B), E(C) \} \\ &= \min \left\{ \frac{1}{0.1}, \frac{10}{2}, \int_1^{\infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{x^2} dx \right\} \\ &= \min \{ 10, 10, +\infty \} \\ &= \boxed{10} \end{aligned}$$