

Exponential Distribution

Expected Value Proof

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_0^{\infty} x f_x(x) dx \quad (\text{Integrating by parts}) \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} x \lambda \exp(-\lambda x) dx = [-x \exp(-\lambda x)]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-\lambda x) dx \\ &= (0 - 0) + \left[-\frac{1}{\lambda} \exp(-\lambda x)\right]_0^{\infty} = 0 + \left(0 + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

Variance Proof

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_0^{\infty} x^2 \lambda \exp(-\lambda x) dx \\ &= [-x^2 \exp(-\lambda x)]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} 2x \exp(-\lambda x) dx \quad (\text{integrating by parts}) \\ &= (0 - 0) + \left[-\frac{2}{\lambda} x \exp(-\lambda x)\right]_0^{\infty} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-\lambda x) dx \end{aligned}$$

(integrating by parts)

$$= (0 - 0) + \frac{2}{\lambda} \left[-\frac{1}{\lambda} \exp(-\lambda x)\right]_0^{\infty} = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}$$

$$E[X]^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$