

# Probability and Random Process

COSE382

# PDF of a function of random variables

In general, PDF of a function of random variables is computed via CDF.

- **Function of a random variable:** Given a random variable  $X$  and a function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Let

$$Y := g(X)$$

T

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

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y)$$

- **Function of two random variables:** Given random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  and a function  $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Let

$$Z := g(X, Y)$$

$$F_Z(z) = P(Z \leq z) = P(g(X, Y) \leq z) = \iint_{\{x,y|g(x,y) \leq z\}} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$$

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{d}{dz} F_Z(z)$$

**Example 8.1.3** (Chi-Square PDF). Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and

$$Y = X^2$$

$Y$  is an example of a *Chi-Square* distribution (with degree of freedom 1). Find the PDF of  $Y$

*Solution:* Starting from CDF again,

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(X^2 \leq y) = P(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) = \Phi(\sqrt{y}) - \Phi(-\sqrt{y}) \\ &= 2\Phi(\sqrt{y}) - 1, \\ f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F(y) = 2\varphi(\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2}y^{-1/2} = \varphi(\sqrt{y})y^{-1/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}y^{-1/2}e^{-y/2}, \quad y > 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Example: Sum

**Example (pdf of  $Z = X + Y$ )** Let  $Z = X + Y$

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= P(X + Y \leq z) = \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{y=-\infty}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx \\ f_Z(z) &= \frac{d}{dz} \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{y=-\infty}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx = \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{d}{dz} \int_{y=-\infty}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy \right] dx \\ &= \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, z - x) dx \end{aligned}$$

When  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) f_Y(z - x) dx,$$

becomes the convolution of  $f_X$  and  $f_Y$ .

# Maximum of independent r.v.'s

**Maximum** Let  $X = \max \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ , where  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent.

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= P(X \leq x) = P(\max \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \leq x) \\ &= P(X_1 \leq x \text{ and } X_2 \leq x, \dots \text{ and } X_n \leq x) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i \leq x) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_{X_i}(x) \end{aligned}$$

If  $\{X_i\}$  are i.i.d.,

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= F_{X_1}^n(x) \\ f_X(x) &= nF_{X_1}^{n-1}(x)f_{X_1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

# Minimum of independent r.v.'s

**Minimum** Let  $X = \min \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ , where  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent.

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= P(X \leq x) = 1 - P(X > x) = 1 - P(\min \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} > x) \\ &= 1 - P(X_1 > x \text{ and } X_2 > x, \dots \text{ and } X_n > x) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i > x) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - F_{X_i}(x)) \end{aligned}$$

If  $\{X_i\}$  are i.i.d.,

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= 1 - (1 - F_{X_1}(x))^n \\ f_X(x) &= n(1 - F_{X_1}(x))^{n-1} f_{X_1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

# Example: Minimum of Exponentials

Find pdf of  $X = \min(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  where  $X_i$  are independent and  $X_i \sim \text{Expo}(\lambda_i)$ .

From  $F_{X_i}(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda_i x}$

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \prod_i (1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_i x})) = 1 - \prod_i e^{-\lambda_i x} = 1 - e^{-\sum \lambda_i x}$$

$$f_X(x) = \left( \sum_i \lambda_i \right) e^{-(\sum_i \lambda_i)x}$$

Hence,  $X \sim \text{Expo}(\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n)$

# Change of variables

If  $g$  is invertible and differentiable, we have an easy way to compute PDF.

**Theorem 8.1.1** (Change of variables in one dimension). Let  $X$  be a continuous r.v. with PDF  $f_X$  and let  $Y = g(X)$ , where  $g$  is differentiable and strictly increasing (or strictly decreasing). Then the PDF of  $Y$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right| \\ &= f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|, \quad \text{where } x = g^{-1}(y) \end{aligned}$$

where  $dx/dy$  is the derivative of  $g^{-1}$  evaluated at  $y$ . From the inverse function theorem,

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{\frac{d}{dx} g(x)} = \frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}}$$

You can compute either  $dy/dx$  or  $dx/dy$  at your convenience (mostly  $dy/dx$  is easy).



*Proof:* For  $Y = g(X)$ , consider  $y$  with  $y = g(x)$ . To show is

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|.$$

When  $g$  is strictly increasing,  $\frac{dx}{dy} > 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(g(X) \leq y) = P(X \leq g^{-1}(y)) = F_X(g^{-1}(y)) = F_X(x), \\ f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F_X(x) = f_X(x) \frac{dx}{dy}. \end{aligned}$$

When  $g$  is strictly decreasing,  $\frac{dx}{dy} < 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(g(X) \leq y) = P(X \geq g^{-1}(y)) = 1 - F_X(g^{-1}(y)) = 1 - F_X(x), \\ f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} (1 - F_X(x)) = -f_X(x) \frac{dx}{dy}. \end{aligned}$$

Together, we have

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|.$$

**Example 8.1.2** (Log-Normal PDF).  $Y$  is called Log-Normal r.v., if  $Y = e^X$  for  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . Find the PDF of  $Y$ .

*Solution:*  $g(x) = e^x$  is strictly increasing. Let  $y = e^x$ , so  $x = g^{-1}(y) = \ln y$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{d}{dy} \ln y = \frac{1}{y} = \frac{1}{e^x}$$

On the other hand,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x = y$$

Note that  $dy/dx$  is easy to compute. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = \varphi(x) \left| \frac{1}{e^x} \right| = \varphi(\ln y) \frac{1}{y}, \quad \text{for } y > 0 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} y^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\ln y)^2\right) \quad \text{for } y > 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Example 8.1.4** (PDF of a location-scale transformation). Let  $X$  have PDF  $f_X$ , and let

$$Y = a + bX,$$

with  $b \neq 0$ . Then,  $g(x) = a + bx$  and  $x = (y - a)/b$  and  $\frac{dx}{dy} = 1/b$ . The PDF of  $Y$  is

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = f_X \left( \frac{y - a}{b} \right) \frac{1}{|b|}.$$

**Theorem 8.1.5** (Change of variables). Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be a continuous random vector with joint PDF  $f_{\mathbf{X}}$ , and let  $\mathbf{Y} = g(\mathbf{X})$  where  $g$  is an invertible function from  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $\mathbf{y} = g(\mathbf{x})$ , and suppose that all the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial y_i}$  exist and are continuous, so we can form the *Jacobian matrix*:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial y_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial y_n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also assume that the determinant of the Jacobian matrix is never 0. Then the joint PDF of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \right) \right| f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y})) = \frac{1}{\left| \det \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|} f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y})),$$

$\left| \det \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \right) \right|$  is the absolute value of the determinant of the Jacobian matrix  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{y}}$ .

**Example 8.1.7** (Box-Muller). Let  $U \sim \text{Unif}(0, 2\pi)$ , and let  $T \sim \text{Expo}(1)$  be independent of  $U$ . Define  $X = \sqrt{2T} \cos U$  and  $Y = \sqrt{2T} \sin U$ . Find the joint PDF of  $(X, Y)$  and marginal distributions. Are they independent?

*Solution:* The joint PDF of  $(U, T)$  is  $f_{U,T}(u, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-t}$ , for  $u \in (0, 2\pi)$  and  $t > 0$ . The transform  $(T, U) \rightarrow (X, Y)$  is invertible, since it is a coordinate change from the polar to the rectangular:

$$X^2 + Y^2 = 2T(\cos^2 U + \sin^2 U) = 2T$$

The Jacobian matrix is given as

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, t)} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{2t} \sin u & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t}} \cos u \\ \sqrt{2t} \cos u & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t}} \sin u \end{pmatrix}$$

has absolute determinant  $|\sin^2 u - \cos^2 u| = 1$ . Letting  $x = \sqrt{2t} \cos u$ ,  $y = \sqrt{2t} \sin u$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X,Y}(x, y) &= f_{U,T}(u, t) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial(u, t)}{\partial(x, y)} \right| = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-t} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2} \end{aligned}$$

$X$  and  $Y$  are i.i.d.  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . This result is called the Box-Muller method for generating Normal r.v.s.

**(PDF of jointly Gaussian).** Now we are ready to prove joint PDF of jointly Gaussian. Let  $X = [X_1, \dots, X_n]^T$  be a jointly Gaussian with  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma_X)$ . Then the joint PDF of  $X$  is given by

$$f_X(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\det \Sigma_X|}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \Sigma_X^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right)$$

Proof: Since  $\Sigma$  is a covariance matrix, there is a symmetric square root matrix of  $\Sigma$ ,  $\Sigma^{1/2}$ , such that  $\Sigma^{1/2} \Sigma^{1/2} = \Sigma$ . Let  $\mathbf{z} = \Sigma^{-1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ , where  $\Sigma^{-1/2}$  is the inverse of  $\Sigma^{1/2}$  ( $\Sigma^{1/2}$  and  $\Sigma^{-1/2}$  always exist!). Then the covariance of  $\mathbf{z}$  is

$$\Sigma_Z = E(\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}^T) = \Sigma^{-1/2} E(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^T) \Sigma^{-1/2} = \Sigma^{-1/2} \Sigma \Sigma^{-1/2} = I$$

Hence,  $\mathbf{z}$  is i.i.d. Gaussian vectors of  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and

$$f_Z(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{z} \right)$$

From  $\mathbf{z}$  we get  $\mathbf{x}$  back from  $\mathbf{x} = \Sigma^{1/2} \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\mu}$ . Since the Jacobian of  $d\mathbf{x}/d\mathbf{z} = \Sigma_X^{1/2}$ , and  $\det(\Sigma_X^{1/2}) = \det(\Sigma_X)^{1/2}$ ,

$$f_X(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\det \Sigma_X|}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma_X^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right)$$

# Gamma function

**Definition 8.4.1** (Gamma function). The *gamma function*  $\Gamma$  is defined by

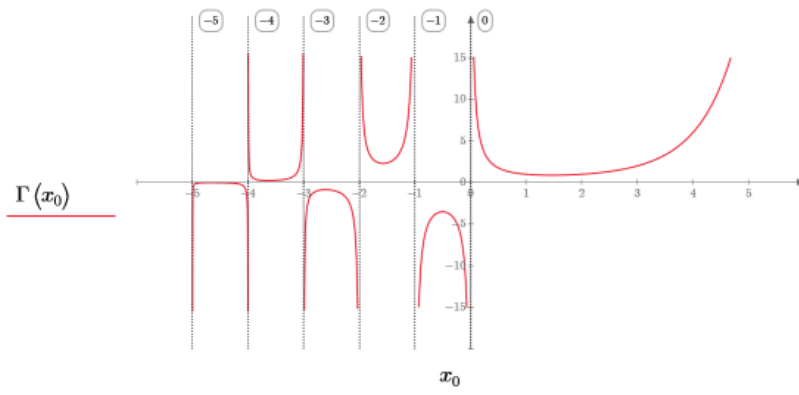
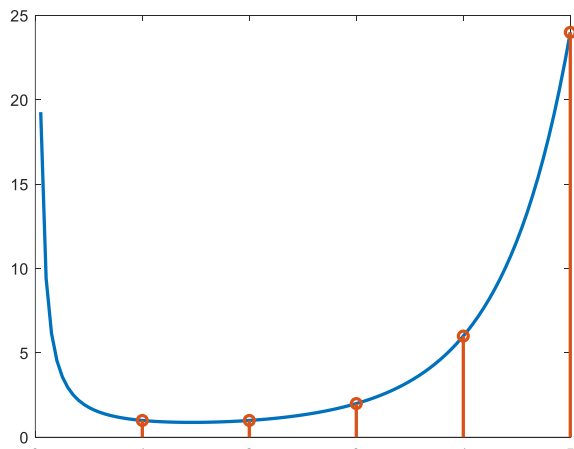
$$\Gamma(a) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{a-1} e^{-x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \lambda^a x^{a-1} e^{-\lambda x} dx \text{ (for any } \lambda > 0),$$

for real numbers  $a > 0$ .

- $\Gamma(a + 1) = a\Gamma(a)$  for all  $a > 0$ . This follows from integration by parts:

$$\Gamma(a + 1) = \int_0^{\infty} x^a e^{-x} dx = -x^a e^{-x} \Big|_0^{\infty} + a \int_0^{\infty} x^{a-1} e^{-x} dx = 0 + a\Gamma(a).$$

- $\Gamma(n) = (n - 1)!$  if  $n$  is a positive integer.



**Definition 8.3.1** (Beta distribution).  $X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ : A r.v.  $X$  is said to have the *Beta distribution* with parameters  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $a, b > 0$ , if its PDF is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta(a, b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1}, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

where the constant  $\beta(a, b)$  is chosen to make the PDF integrate to 1;

$$\beta(a, b) = \int_0^1 x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} dx.$$

An integral of this form is called a beta integral. When  $a, b$  are integers,

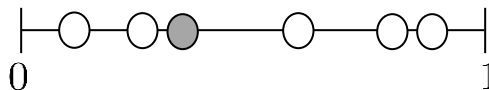
$$\beta(a, b) = \frac{1}{(a+b-1) \binom{a+b-2}{a-1}} = \frac{(a-1)!(b-1)!}{(a+b-1)!} = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$$

from the fact (Bayes' billiards)

$$\int_0^1 \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} dp = \frac{1}{n+1} \implies \int_0^1 x^k (1-x)^{n-k} dp = \frac{1}{(n+1) \binom{n}{k}}$$



# Bayes' Billiards



Start with  $n + 1$  balls,  $n$  white and 1 gray. Randomly throw each ball on to the unit interval  $(0, 1)$ . Let  $X$  be the number of white balls to the left of gray ball. Find  $P(X = k)$ .

1. We use LOTP by conditioning on the position of the gray ball. Let  $G$  be the position of the gray ball. Conditional on  $G = p \in [0, 1]$ , the random variable  $X$  has  $\text{Bin}(n, p)$  distribution. Since  $G \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$ ,

$$P(X = k) = \int_0^1 P(X = k \mid G = p) f_G(p) dp = \int_0^1 \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k} dp$$

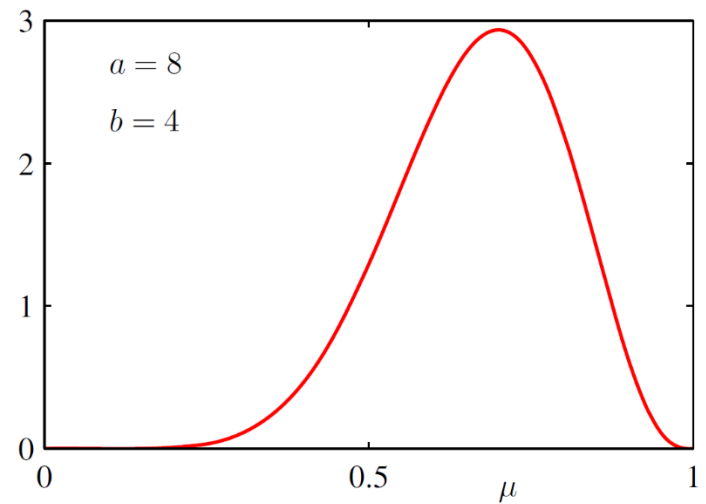
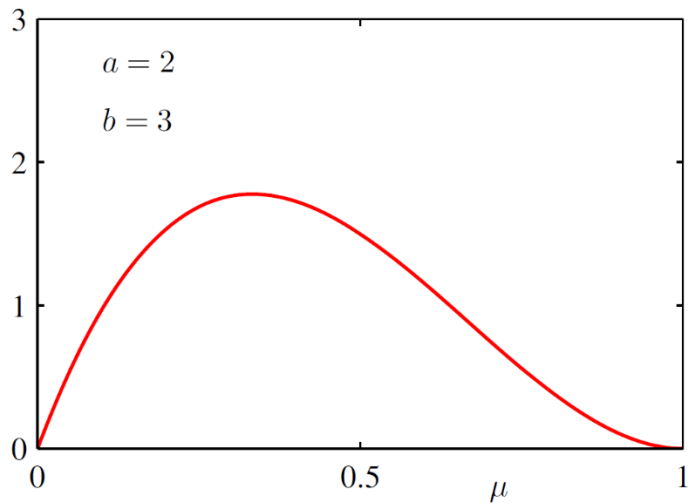
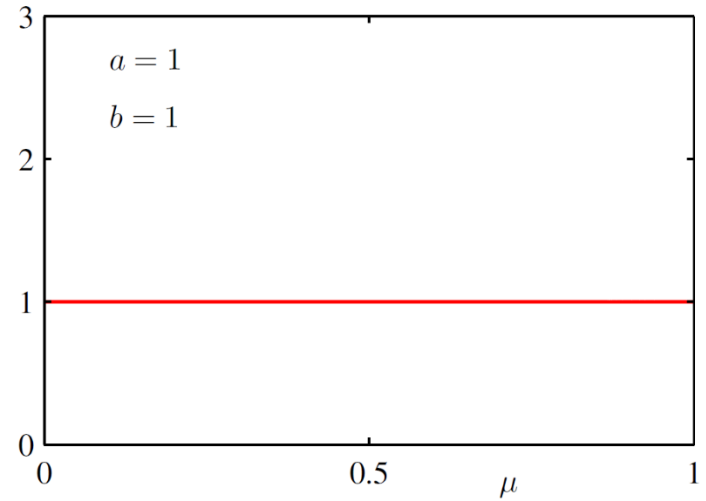
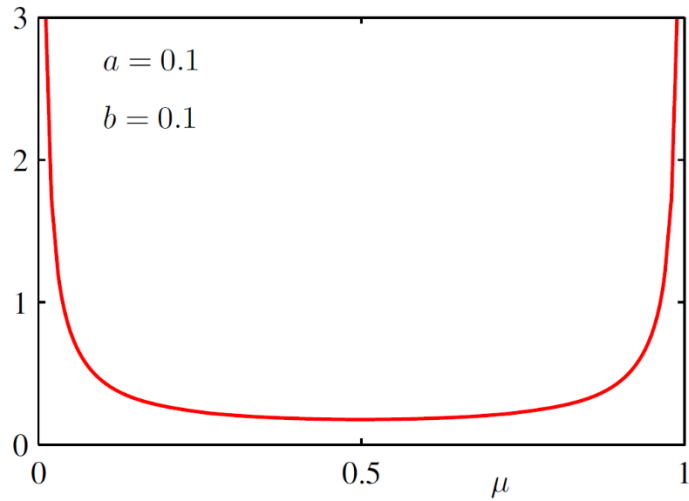
2. On the other hand: Start with  $n + 1$  balls, all white. Randomly throw each ball onto to the unit interval. Then choose one ball at random and paint it gray. The event  $\{X = k\}$  is equivalent to the event "the  $(k + 1)$  th ball from the left is gray". Therefore

$$P(X = k) = \frac{1}{n + 1}$$

Since  $X$  has the same distribution in both cases we have

$$\int_0^1 \binom{n}{k} x^k (1 - x)^{n-k} dx = \frac{1}{n + 1}, \quad k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}.$$

# Beta distribution



# Example

- Example:

Statisticians say that the probability of success that someone would agree to go on a date with you follows a Beta( $a = 2$ ,  $b = 8$ ). What is the probability that your chance of having a date will be greater than 50% ?

*Solution:*

$$P(X > 0.5) = \frac{1}{\beta(2, 8)} \int_{x=1/2}^1 x(1-x)^7 dx = \frac{1!7!}{9!} \int_{x=1/2}^1 x(1-x)^7 dx \approx 0.01953$$

Statisticians say that the probability of  $H$  of a coin manufactured in a factory follows a Beta( $a = 2$ ,  $b = 8$ ). What is the probability that your chance of having  $H$  by tossing the coin will be greater than 50% ?

*Solution:*

$$P(X > 0.5) = \frac{1}{\beta(2, 8)} \int_{x=1/2}^1 x(1-x)^7 dx = \frac{1!7!}{9!} \int_{x=1/2}^1 x(1-x)^7 dx \approx 0.01953$$

# Mean and Variance of Beta distr.

- We will shortly prove that

$$\beta(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$$

holds not just for integers but for all real  $a, b > 0$ .

- Then for  $X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ ,

- The  $n$  –  $th$  moment is

$$\begin{aligned} E[X^n] &= \frac{1}{\beta(a, b)} \int_0^1 x^n x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} dx = \frac{1}{\beta(a, b)} \int_0^1 x^{n+a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} dx \\ &= \frac{\beta(a+n, b)}{\beta(a, b)} = \frac{\Gamma(a+n)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b+n)} \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \end{aligned}$$

- The mean and variance are

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \frac{\Gamma(a+1)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b+1)} \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} = \frac{a}{a+b} \\ \text{Var}(X) &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 = \frac{\beta(a+2, b)}{\beta(a, b)} - \left(\frac{a}{a+b}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)} \end{aligned}$$

# Gamma distribution

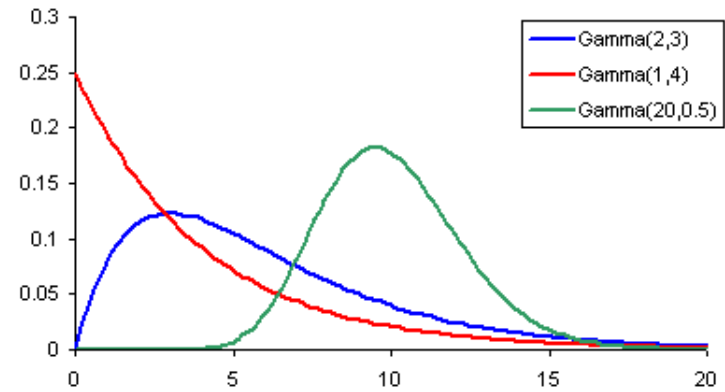
**Definition 8.4.2** (Gamma distribution). An r.v.  $X$  has the *Gamma distribution* with parameters  $a$  and 1, denoted  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(a, 1)$ , if its PDF is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} x^{a-1} e^{-x}, \quad x > 0.$$

$Y = \frac{1}{\lambda} X$  is called the  $\text{Gamma}(a, \lambda)$  distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} (\lambda y)^{a-1} e^{-\lambda y} \lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \lambda (\lambda y)^{a-1} e^{-\lambda y} \end{aligned}$$

- $\text{Gamma}(1, \lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda y} = \text{Expo}(\lambda)$



**Theorem 8.4.3** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d.  $\text{Expo}(\lambda)$ . Then

$$X_1 + \dots + X_n \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \lambda).$$

*Proof.* The MGF of an  $\text{Expo}(\lambda)$  r.v. is  $\frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}$  for  $t < \lambda$ , so the MGF of  $X_1 + \dots + X_n$  is

$$M_n(t) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t} \right)^n$$

for  $t < \lambda$ . Let  $Y \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \lambda)$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} E(e^{tY}) &= \int_0^\infty e^{ty} \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} \lambda (\lambda y)^{n-1} e^{-\lambda y} dy \\ &= \frac{\lambda^n}{(\lambda - t)^n} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} (\lambda - t) ((\lambda - t)y)^{n-1} e^{-(\lambda - t)y} dy \\ &= \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t} \right)^n \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $X_1 + \dots + X_n \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \lambda)$ .

# Example

- Example:

A device is consisted of independently working three components and the life time of each component has exponential distribution with the averaged life time 1 year. The device is out of order when all of the three components are. What is the probability that the device is working more than 3 years?

*Solution:* Let  $X$  denote the life time of the device. Then  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(3, 1)$ .

$$P(X > 3) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(3)} \int_{x=3}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-x} dx \approx 0.3232$$

## Mean and Variance of Gamma distribution

The  $n$ th moment of Gamma( $a,1$ ).

$$E(X^n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^n}{\Gamma(a)} x^{a-1} e^{-x} dx = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty x^{a+n-1} e^{-x} dx = \frac{\Gamma(a+n)}{\Gamma(a)} = (a+n-1) \cdots a$$

Mean of Gamma( $a, 1$ ):  $E(X) = a$ .

Variance of Gamma( $a, 1$ ):  $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - EX^2 = (a+1)a - a^2 = a$ .

For  $Y = X/\lambda \sim \text{Gamma}(a, \lambda)$ ;

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{\lambda} E(X) = \frac{a}{\lambda},$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \text{Var}(X) = \frac{a}{\lambda^2},$$

$$E(Y^n) = \frac{1}{\lambda^n} E(X^n) = \frac{1}{\lambda^n} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(a+n)}{\Gamma(a)}.$$



# Beta-Gamma Connection

Given two independent Gamma distributions with the same  $\lambda$ ,

$$X \sim \text{Gamma}(a, \lambda), \quad Y \sim \text{Gamma}(b, \lambda),$$

Let  $T = X + Y$  and  $W = X/T$ . What is the joint PDF of  $(T, W)$  ?

*Solution:*  $X = TW$  and  $Y = T(1 - W)$ . Hence the Jacobian matrix is

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(t, w)} = \begin{pmatrix} w & t \\ 1 - w & -t \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(t, w)} \right| = t$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{T,W}(t, w) &= f_{X,Y}(x, y) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(t, w)} \right| = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \lambda (\lambda x)^{a-1} e^{-\lambda x} \cdot \frac{1}{\Gamma(b)} \lambda (\lambda y)^{b-1} e^{-\lambda y} \cdot t \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \lambda (\lambda t w)^{a-1} e^{-\lambda t w} \cdot \frac{1}{\Gamma(b)} \lambda (\lambda t (1 - w))^{b-1} e^{-\lambda t (1 - w)} \cdot t \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} w^{a-1} (1 - w)^{b-1} \lambda (\lambda t) (\lambda t)^{a-1+b-1} e^{-\lambda t w - \lambda t (1 - w)} \\ &= \underbrace{\left( \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} w^{a-1} (1 - w)^{b-1} \right)}_{f_W(w)} \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(a+b)} \lambda (\lambda t)^{a+b-1} e^{-\lambda t} \right)}_{f_T(t)} \end{aligned}$$

# Beta-Gamma Connection

- **Beta-Gamma connection:** For independent  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(a, \lambda), Y \sim \text{Gamma}(b, \lambda)$

$$T = X + Y \sim \text{Gamma}(a + b, \lambda)$$
$$W = \frac{X}{T} = \frac{X}{X + Y} \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$$

$T$  and  $W$  are independent

- **Gamma+Gamma:**

$$\text{Gamma}(a, \lambda) + \text{Gamma}(b, \lambda) = \text{Gamma}(a + b, \lambda), \text{ for any } a, b > 0$$

- **Beta integral:**

$$\beta(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a + b)} = \int_0^1 x^{a-1}(1 - x)^{b-1}dx, \text{ for any } a, b > 0$$

# Chi-squared with n degree of freedom

**Definition:** (Chi-squared with  $n$  degree of freedom). The chi-squared distribution with  $n$  degrees of freedom (or chi-squared ( $n$ ), or  $\chi^2(n)$ ) is the distribution of the random variable

$$z = X_1^2 + X_2^2 + \cdots + X_n^2,$$

where  $X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

**Theorem.** (Pdf of  $\chi^2(n)$ ) Chi-squared is a Gamma distribution

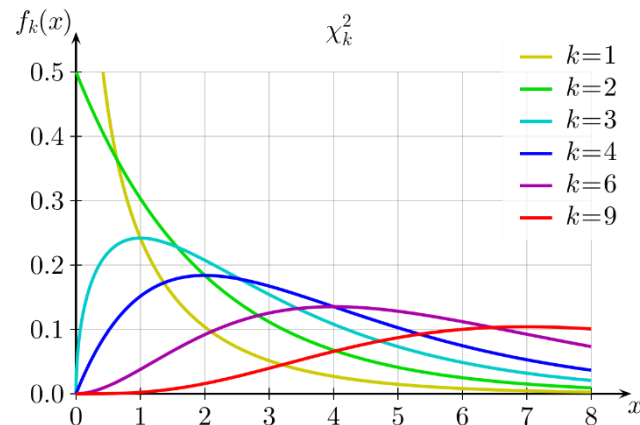
Proof: From the earlier example we have shown that for  $Z \sim \chi^2(1)$

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} z^{-1/2} e^{-z/2}, \quad z > 0$$

This implies that  $\chi^2(1) \sim \text{Gamma}(1/2, 1/2)$ . Hence,

$$\chi^2(n) \sim \text{Gamma}(n/2, 1/2)$$

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{2^{n/2} \Gamma(n/2)} z^{(n/2)-1} e^{-z/2}$$



# Gaussian Sample Variance

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d.  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . Define

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} (X_1 + \dots + X_n) \text{ and } S = \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

$\bar{X}$  is an estimate of  $\mu$ , called sample mean and  $\hat{\sigma}^2 := \frac{1}{n-1} S$  is an estimate of  $\sigma^2$ , called the sample variance. We can show  $S \sim \sigma^2 \chi^2(n-1)$  so that  $E(\hat{\sigma}^2) = \sigma^2$  and furthermore  $\hat{\sigma}^2$  and  $\bar{X}$  are independent.

*Proof:* We rewrite  $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} S = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{X_i - \bar{X}}{\sigma} \right)^2$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} S &= \left( \frac{X_1 - X_2}{\sigma\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{X_1 + X_2 - 2X_3}{\sigma\sqrt{2 \cdot 3}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{X_1 + X_2 + X_3 - 3X_4}{\sigma\sqrt{3 \cdot 4}} \right)^2 \\ &\quad + \dots + \left( \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{n-1} - (n-1)X_n}{\sigma\sqrt{(n-1)n}} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Each of the  $n-1$  expressions within brackets has the standard normal distribution. Furthermore, the expressions within brackets are all independent of one another and are also all independent of  $\bar{X}$ . It follows that  $S$  is independent of  $\bar{X}$ . Therefore, by the definition of the chi-squared distribution,  $S/\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(n-1)$

# t-distribution

The  $t$  distribution with  $n$  degrees of freedom (or Student ( $n$ ), or  $t(n)$ ), is the distribution of the random variable

$$T = \frac{X}{\sqrt{(X_1^2 + X_2^2 + \cdots + X_n^2)/n}}$$

where  $X, X_1, \dots, X_n$  are i.i.d., each with the standard normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  Equivalently,

$$T = \frac{X}{\sqrt{Y/n}},$$

where  $Y \sim \chi^2(n)$  independent from  $X$ . The pdf of  $T$  is given as

$$f_T(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{n}\right)^{-(n+1)/2} \propto \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{n}\right)^{-(n+1)/2}$$

**Sketch of Proof:**  $X$  and  $Y$  have joint pdf given by

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{e^{-x^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{y^{(n/2)-1} e^{-y/2}}{2^{n/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \quad \text{for } y > 0$$

Consider a transform  $(X, Y) \rightarrow (T, V)$ , where  $T = X/\sqrt{Y/n}$  and  $V = Y$ . Then  $X = T\sqrt{V/n}$ . We compute  $f_{T,V}(t, v)$  from  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$  using change of variables. The determinant of Jacobian is given by

$$\det \frac{\partial(t, v)}{\partial(x, y)} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{y/n}} & 0 \\ \frac{-x\sqrt{n}}{y^{3/2}} & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{y}}$$

Hence,

$$f_{T,V}(t, v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma(n/2)} \frac{1}{2^{(n+1)/2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} v^{(n+1)/2-1} e^{-(v/2)(1+t^2/n)}$$

for  $v > 0$ . Note that in terms of  $v$ ,  $f_{T,V}$  contains a Gamma function with  $a = (n+1)/2 - 1$  and  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2(1+t^2/n)}$ .

Finally, we compute the marginal density of  $T$  :

$$f_T(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{T,V}(t, v) dv = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma(n/2)} \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{n}\right)^{-(n+1)/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

# Mean estimation and t-distribution

- Consider an i.i.d. distribution  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  with  $X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . The normalized sample mean,

$$Z = \frac{(\bar{X} - \mu)/\sqrt{n}}{\sigma} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1).$$

However, when the variance  $\sigma$  is unknown and approximated by the sample variance  $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$ , the approximated normalized mean

$$T = \frac{(\bar{X} - \mu)/\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2}} \sim t(n-1),$$

since  $\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \sim \sigma^2 \chi(n-1)$ .

- Using  $t(n)$  instead  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  became popular by a paper written by a pseudonym “Student,” a statistician working in Guinness Brewery, William Sealy Gosset.

