

Let X, Y be continuous random variables with jdf $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$. Let $Z = g(X, Y)$. Then

$$F_Z(z) = \mathbb{P}(Z \leq z) = \mathbb{P}(g(X, Y) \leq z) = \int_{-\infty}^z f_Z(t) dt = \iint_{\{(x,y): g(x,y) \leq z\}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy$$

where $f_Z(t)$ is the pdf of Z .

Let $T = X + Y$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= \iint_{\{(x,y): x+y \leq z\}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{\{y: y \leq z-x\}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{z-x} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{-\infty}^z f_{X,Y}(x, t-x) dt dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^z \underbrace{\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x, t-x) dx \right)}_{f_T(t)} dt \end{aligned}$$

The convolution of $f_X(x) \times f_Y(y)$ is sometime notated as $(f_X \times f_Y)(x)$.

If $X, Y \stackrel{iid}{\sim}$, the definition of convolution for independent random variables is as follows

$$f_T(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_X(x) f_Y(t-x) dx = \int_{\text{Supp}[X]} f_X(x) f_Y(t-x) \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in \text{Supp}[Y]} dx$$

Note that the indicator functions are included in both $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(t-x)$.

Let $X, Y \stackrel{iid}{\sim} U(0, 1)$ and $T = X + Y$. What's $f_T(t)$?

$$\begin{aligned} f_T(t) &= \int_{\text{Supp}[X]} f_X(x) f_Y(t-x) \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in \text{Supp}[Y]} dx \\ &= 1 \cdot \mathbb{1}_{x \in [0,1] \text{ and } y \in [0,1]} \\ F_T(t) &= \iint_{\{(x,y): x+y \leq t\}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}t^2 & \text{if } t \in [0, 1] \\ \frac{1}{2} + (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(2-t)^2) & \text{if } t \in [1, 2] \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

If we integrate this function to get $f_T(t)$,

$$f_T(t) = F'_T(t) = \begin{cases} t & \text{if } t \in [0, 1] \\ 2-t & \text{if } t \in [1, 2] \end{cases}$$

Let $X_1, X_2 \stackrel{iid}{\sim} U(a, b)$ and $T_2 = X_1 + X_2$. $\text{Supp}[T] = [2a, 2b]$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{T_2}(t) &= \int_{\text{Supp}[X_1]} f_{X_1}(x) f_{X_2}(t-x) dx \\
 &= \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} \frac{1}{b-a} \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in [a, b] \rightarrow x \in [t-b, t-a]} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{(b-a)^2} \int_{\max\{a, t-b\}}^{\min\{b, t-a\}} 1 dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{(b-a)^2} \left(\min\{b, t-a\} - \max\{a, t-b\} \right) \\
 f_{T_2}(t) &= \begin{cases} \frac{t-2a}{(b-a)^2} & \text{if } t < a+b \\ \frac{2b-t}{(b-a)^2} & \text{if } t \geq a+b \end{cases} \mathbb{1}_{t \in [2a, 2b]}
 \end{aligned}$$

Recall that if $X \sim \text{Geom}(p) = (1-p)^x p$, then $F(x) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X > x) = 1 - (1-p)^x$. If n many geometric realizations occur within each time period, then $x = tn$ and so $p(t) = (1-p)^{tn} p$. If $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $p \rightarrow 0$ but $\lambda = np$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(t) &= \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{tn} \frac{\lambda}{n} \\
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(t) &= \underbrace{\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n\right)^t}_{e^{-\lambda t}} \underbrace{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda}{n}}_0 = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Once the support is no longer discrete, the PMF vanishes. But recall that

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x) &= 1 - (1-p)^x \\
 F_n(t) &= 1 - (1-p)^{nt} \\
 F_n(t) &= 1 - \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{nt} \\
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(t) &= 1 - \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^n\right)^t = 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \\
 \mathbb{P}(X > x) &= 1 - F(t) = e^{-\lambda t} \\
 f_T(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} F_T(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$ where $\text{Supp}[X] = (0, \infty)$. Parameter space: $\lambda = np$ and $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$. This distribution can be used as a basic model for waiting time or failure time or survival.

If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}(x > a + b \mid x > b) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(x > a + b \text{ and } x > b)}{\mathbb{P}(x > b)} \\
 &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(x > a + b)}{\mathbb{P}(x > b)} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-(a+b)x}}{e^{-bx}} \\
 &= e^{-ax} \\
 &= 1 - F(a) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(x > a)
 \end{aligned}$$

For a continuous random variable X ,

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \int_{\text{Supp}[X]} x f(x) dx$$

For the exponential distribution,

$$\int_0^\infty x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \lambda \int_0^\infty x e^{-\lambda x} dx = \dots = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

Let $X_1, X_2, \dots \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Exp}(\lambda)$. What's $T_2 = X_1 + X_2 \sim?$ $\text{Supp}[T_2] = (0, \infty)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{T_2}(t) &= \int_{\text{Supp}[X_1]} f_{X_1}(x) f_{X_2}(t-x) dx \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \mathbb{1}_{x \in (0, \infty)} \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda(t-x)} \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty) \rightarrow x \in (-\infty, t)} dx \\
 &= \lambda^2 \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \mathbb{1}_{x \in (-\infty, t)} dx \\
 &= \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda t} \int_0^\infty dt \\
 &= \lambda^2 t e^{-\lambda t}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let $T_3 = X_1 + X_2 + X_3 = X_3 + T_2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{T_3}(t) &= \int_{\text{Supp}[X_1]} f_{X_1}(x) f_{T_2}(t-x) dx \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \cdot \lambda^2 (t-x) e^{-\lambda(t-x)} \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty)} dx \\
 &= \lambda^3 e^{-\lambda t} \int_0^\infty (t-x) \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty)} dx \\
 &= \lambda^3 e^{-\lambda t} \left(t \int_0^\infty \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty)} dx - \int_0^\infty x \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty)} dx \right) \\
 &= \lambda^3 e^{-\lambda t} \left(t \int_0^t dx - \int_0^t x dx \right) \\
 &= \lambda^3 e^{-\lambda t} \left(t^2 - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{\lambda^3 t^2}{2} e^{-\lambda t}
 \end{aligned}$$

One more time

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{T_4}(t) &= f_{X_4}(x) f_{T_3}(t) \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \frac{\lambda^3 (t-x)^2}{2} e^{-\lambda(t-x)} \mathbb{1}_{t-x \in (0, \infty)} dx \\
 &= \lambda^4 e^{-\lambda t} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t (t-x)^2 dx \\
 &= \lambda^4 e^{-\lambda t} \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2} t^3
 \end{aligned}$$

Following this pattern, we get

$$f_{T_k}(x) = \frac{\lambda^k x^{k-1} e^{-\lambda x}}{(k-1)!} = \text{Erlang}(k, \lambda)$$

Its parameter space is as follows: $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$. $\text{Supp}[X] = (0, \infty)$.

What's F_{T_k} of the Erlang distribution?

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{T_k} &= \int_0^x \frac{\lambda^k y^{k-1} e^{-\lambda y}}{(k-1)!} dy \\
 &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \int_0^x \lambda (\lambda y)^{k-1} e^{-\lambda y} dy \\
 \text{Let } u &= \lambda y \rightarrow \frac{du}{dy} = \lambda \rightarrow dy = \frac{du}{\lambda} \\
 &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \int_0^{\lambda x} u^{k-1} e^{-u} du \\
 &= \frac{\gamma(k, \lambda x)}{(k-1)!}
 \end{aligned}$$

The Gamma function is as follows:

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt = \underbrace{\int_0^a t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt}_{\gamma(x,a)} + \underbrace{\int_a^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt}_{\Gamma(x,a)}$$