

P8104 Homework Assignment 6

Due Wed 10/29. 11:59pm

Problem 1

Verify that the following probability density functions (pdfs) have the indicated hazard function. The hazard function of a random variable T is defined as

$$h_T(t) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(t \leq T < t + \delta \mid T \geq t)}{\delta} = \frac{f_T(t)}{1 - F_T(t)}$$

Compute $h_T(t)$ in each case and verify that it matches the stated form:

(a) $T \sim \text{Exponential}(\beta)$: $h_T(t) = \frac{1}{\beta}$.

(b) $T \sim \text{Weibull}(r, \beta)$: $h_T(t) = \frac{r}{\beta} t^{r-1}$.

(c) $T \sim \text{Logistic}(\mu, \beta)$, where $F_T(t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(t-\mu)/\beta}}$: $h_T(t) = \frac{1}{\beta} F_T(t)$.

Problem 2

Let $X \sim \text{DoubleExponential}(\mu, \sigma)$ with pdf

$$f(x|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{2\sigma} e^{-|x-\mu|/\sigma}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

Compute

(a) $E(X)$ using its definition.

(b) $Var(X)$ using its definition.

(c) The moment generating function (MGF) using its definition.

Please show all intermediate steps to get full credits.

Problem 3

The pdf of X , representing the lifetime of a device (in years) is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}xe^{-x/2}, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & x < 0. \end{cases}$$

- What is the probability that the device survives at least 5 years?
- Calculate the expected lifetime of the device.
- In a batch of 100 such devices, what is the (approximate) probability that 25 or more will survive at least 5 years?

Problem 4

Simple transformations of many distributions conform to a known distribution. In this exercise, we provide a set of random variables X paired with a transformation $Y = g(X)$. In each case, (i) derive and identify the distribution of Y and specify its domain, and (ii) calculate $E(Y)$ and $\text{Var}(Y)$.

- $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, $Y = e^X$.
- $X \sim \text{Gamma}(n, \beta)$, n integer, $Y = \frac{2X}{\beta}$.
- $X \sim U(0, 1)$, $Y = \max(X, 1 - X)$.
- $X \sim \text{Cauchy}(0)$, $Y = \frac{1}{X}$.
- $X \sim \text{Exp}(\beta)$, $Y = \text{smallest integer } \geq X$. For example, if $X = 5.13$, then $Y = 6$.

Problem 5

There is an interesting relationship between the negative binomial and the gamma distribution, which can sometimes provide a useful approximation. Let $Y \sim \text{NegativeBinomial}(r, p)$, where $f(y) = \binom{y-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{y-r}$. Show that the mgf of Y converges to $\text{Gamma}(r, 1)$ when p goes to 0.

Hint: You may use L'Hôpital's rule: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g'(x)}{f'(x)}$.