Recap: Random Variable

- ▶ Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , a random variable is a real-valued function on Ω .
- It essentially results in an induced probability space

$$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P) \stackrel{X}{\to} (\Re, \mathcal{B}, P_X)$$

where \mathcal{B} is the Borel σ -algebra and

$$P_X(B) = P[X \in B] = P(\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \in B\})$$

▶ For X to be a random variable

$$\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \in B\} \in \mathcal{F}, \ \forall B \in \mathcal{B}$$

Recap: Distribution Function

▶ Let X be a random variable. It distribution function, $F_X: \Re \to \Re$, is defined by

$$F_X(x) = P[X \le x] = P(\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \le x\})$$

- ▶ The distribution function, F_X , completely specifies the probability measure, P_X .
- ▶ The distribution function satisfies
 - 1. $0 < F_X(x) < 1, \ \forall x$
 - 2. $F_X(-\infty) = 0$; $F_X(\infty) = 1$
 - 3. F_X is non-decreasing: $x_1 \le x_2 \implies F_X(x_1) \le F_X(x_2)$
 - 4. F_X is right continuous and has left-hand limits.
- ▶ We also have

$$F_X(x^+) - F_X(x^-) = F_X(x) - F_X(x^-) = P[X = x]$$

 $P[a < X < b] = F_X(b) - F_X(a).$

Recap: Discrete Random Variable

- ▶ A random variable *X* is said to be discrete if it takes only finitely many or countably infinitely many distinct values.
- ▶ Let $X \in \{x_1, x_2, \cdots\}$
- ▶ Its distribution function, F_X is a stair-case function with jump discontinuities at each x_i and the magnitude of the jump at x_i is equal to $P[X = x_i]$

Recap: probability mass function

- ▶ Let $X \in \{x_1, x_2, \cdots\}$.
- ▶ The probability mass function (pmf) of X is defined by

$$f_X(x_i) = P[X = x_i]; \quad f_X(x) = 0, \quad \text{for all other } x$$

- It satisfies
 - 1. $f_X(x) \ge 0, \forall x \text{ and } f_X(x) = 0 \text{ if } x \ne x_i \text{ for some } i$
 - 2. $\sum_{i} f_X(x_i) = 1$
- We have

$$F_X(x) = \sum_{i:x_i \le x} f_X(x_i)$$

 $f_X(x) = F_X(x) - F_X(x^-)$

We can calculate the probability of any event as

$$P[X \in B] = \sum_{\substack{i: \\ x \in B}} f_X(x_i)$$

Recap: continuous random variable

▶ X is said to be a continuous random variable if there exists a function $f_X: \Re \to \Re$ satisfying

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(x) \ dx$$

The f_X is called the probability density function.

- ▶ Same as saying F_X is absolutely continuous.
- ▶ Since F_X is continuous here, we have

$$P[X = x] = F_X(x) - F_X(x^-) = 0, \ \forall x$$

A continuous rv takes uncountably many distinct values. However, not every rv that takes uncountably many values is a continuous rv

Recap: probability density function

lacktriangle The pdf of a continuous rv is defined to be the f_X that satisfies

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) \ dt, \ \forall x$$

- It satisfies
 - 1. $f_X(x) \geq 0, \ \forall x$
 - 2. $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(t) dt = 1$
- ▶ We can, in principle, compute probability of any event as

$$P[X \in B] = \int_{B} f_X(t) dt, \ \forall B \in \mathcal{B}$$

▶ In particular,

$$P[a \le X \le b] = \int_{-b}^{b} f_X(t) dt$$

Recap: some discrete random variables

▶ Bernoulli: $X \in \{0,1\}$; parameter: p, 0

$$f_X(1) = p; \ f_X(0) = 1 - p$$

▶ Binomial: $X \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$; Parameters: n, p

$$f_X(x) = {}^{n}C_x p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, \ x = 0, \dots, n$$

▶ Poisson: $X \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$; Parameter: $\lambda > 0$.

$$f_X(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}, \ x = 0, 1, \cdots$$

▶ Geometric: $X \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$; Parameter: p, 0 .

$$f_X(x) = p(1-p)^{x-1}, x = 1, 2, \cdots$$

Recap: Some continuous random variables

▶ Uniform over [a, b]: Parameters: a, b, b > a.

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}, \ a \le x \le b.$$

• exponential: Parameter: $\lambda > 0$.

$$f_X(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \ x \ge 0.$$

▶ Gaussian (Normal): Parameters: $\sigma > 0, \mu$.

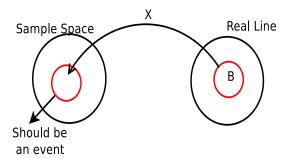
$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}, -\infty < x < \infty$$

Functions of a random variable

 We next look at random variables defined in terms of other random variables.

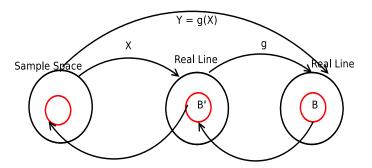
- Let X be a rv on some probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) .
- ▶ Recall that $X: \Omega \to \Re$.
- Also recall that

$$[X \in B] \triangleq \{\omega : X(\omega) \in B\} \in \mathcal{F}, \forall B \in \mathcal{B}$$



Functions of a Random Variable

- Let X be a rv on some probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) . (Recall $X : \Omega \to \Re$)
- ▶ Consider a function $q: \Re \to \Re$
- Let Y = g(X). Then Y also maps Ω into real line.
- ▶ If g is a 'nice' function, Y would also be a random variable
- ▶ We need: $g^{-1}(B) \triangleq \{z \in \Re : g(z) \in B\} \in \mathcal{B}, \forall B \in \mathcal{B}$



- ▶ Let X be a rv and let Y = g(X).
- ▶ The distribution function of *Y* is given by

$$F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y]$$

= $P[g(X) \le y]$
= $P[g(X) \in (-\infty, y]]$
= $P[X \in \{z : g(z) \le y\}]$

- ▶ This probability can be obtained from distribution of X.
- lacktriangle Thus, in principle, we can find the distribution of Y if we know that of X

Example

- Let Y = aX + b, a > 0.
- Then we have

$$F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y]$$

$$= P[aX + b \le y]$$

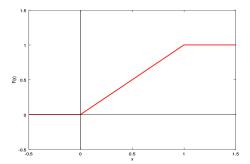
$$= P[aX \le y - b]$$

$$= P\left[X \le \frac{y - b}{a}\right], \text{ since } a > 0$$

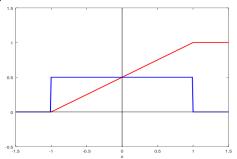
$$= F_X\left(\frac{y - b}{a}\right)$$

- ► This tells us how to find df of Y when it is an affine function of X.
- ▶ If X is continuous rv, then, $f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$

- ▶ In many examples we would be using uniform random variables.
- ▶ Let $X \sim U[0, 1]$. Its pdf is $f_X(x) = 1, 0 \le x \le 1$.
- ▶ Integrating this we get the df: $F_X(x) = x$, $0 \le x \le 1$



- Let $X \sim U[-1, 1]$. The pdf would be $f_X(x) = 0.5, -1 \le x \le 1$.
- ▶ Integrating this, we get the df: $F_X(x) = \frac{1+x}{2}$ for -1 < x < 1.
- ► These are plotted below



- ▶ Suppose $X \sim U[0, 1]$ and Y = aX + b
- ightharpoonup The df for Y would be

$$F_Y(y) = F_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) = \begin{cases} 0 & \frac{y-b}{a} \le 0\\ \frac{y-b}{a} & 0 \le \frac{y-b}{a} \le 1\\ 1 & \frac{y-b}{a} \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

ightharpoonup Thus we get the df for Y as

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y \le b \\ \frac{y-b}{a} & b \le y \le a+b \\ 1 & y > a+b \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Hence $f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{a}$, $y \in [b, a+b]$ and $Y \sim U[b, a+b]$.
- ▶ If $X \sim U[0, 1]$ then Y = aX + b, (a > 0), is uniform over [b, a + b].

- ▶ Recall that Gaussian density is $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- We denote this as $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- ▶ Let Y = aX + b where $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. The df of Y is

$$F_Y(y) = F_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{y-b}{a}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

we make a substitution: $t = ax + b \Rightarrow x = \frac{t - b}{a}$, and $dx = \frac{1}{a}dt$

$$F_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{y} \frac{1}{a\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(t-b)^2}{2a^2}} dt$$

▶ This shows that $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(b, a^2)$

- ▶ Suppose X is a discrete rv with $X \in \{x_1, x_2, \cdots\}$.
- ▶ Suppose Y = g(X).
- ▶ Then Y is also discrete and $Y \in \{g(x_1), g(x_2), \dots\}$.
- ▶ Though we use this notation, we should note:
 - 1. these values may not be distinct (it is possible that $g(x_i) = g(x_j)$);
 - 2. $g(x_1)$ may not be the smallest value of Y and so on.
- ightharpoonup We can find the pmf of Y as

$$f_Y(y) = p[Y = y] = P[g(X) = y]$$

$$= P[X \in \{x_i : g(x_i) = y\}]$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{i: \\ g(x_i) = y}} f_X(x_i)$$

- ▶ Let $X \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ with $f_X(k) = \frac{1}{N}, 1 \le k \le N$
- Let Y = aX + b, (a > 0).
- ▶ Then $Y \in \{b + a, b + 2a, \dots, b + Na\}.$
- \blacktriangleright We get the pmf of Y as

$$f_Y(b+ka) = f_X(k) = \frac{1}{N}, \ 1 \le k \le N$$

▶ Suppose *X* is geometric:

$$f_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1}p, \ k = 1, 2, \cdots$$

- ▶ Let Y = X 1
- \blacktriangleright We get the pmf of Y as

$$f_Y(j) = P[X - 1 = j]$$

= $P[X = j + 1]$
= $(1 - p)^j p, j = 0, 1, \cdots$

- ▶ Suppose *X* is geometric. $(f_X(k) = (1-p)^{k-1}p)$
- ▶ We can calculate the pmf of Y as

$$f_{Y}(5) = P[\max(X|5) = 5] = \sum_{k=0}^{5} f_{Y}(k) = 1 - (1 - n)$$

$$f_Y(5) = P[\max(X, 5) = 5] = \sum_{k=1}^{5} f_X(k) = 1 - (1 - p)^5$$

 $f_Y(k) = P[\max(X, 5) = k] = P[X = k] = (1 - p)^{k-1}p, \ k = 6, 7, \dots$

• We next consider Y = h(X) where

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

▶ This is written as $Y = X^+$ to indicate the function only keeps the positive part.

- ▶ Let $X \sim U[-1, 1]$: $F_X(x) = \frac{1+x}{2}$ for $-1 \le x \le 1$.
- Let $Y = X^+$. That is,

$$Y = X^{+} = \begin{cases} X & \text{if } X > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

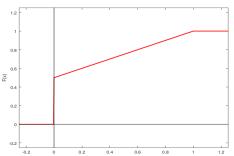
- For y < 0, $F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = 0$ because $Y \ge 0$.
- $F_Y(0) = P[Y \le 0] = P[X \le 0] = 0.5.$
- ► For 0 < y < 1, $F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = P[X \le y] = \frac{1+y}{2}$
- ▶ For $y \ge 1$, $F_Y(y) = 1$.
- ightharpoonup Thus, the df of Y is

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < 0\\ 0.5 & \text{if } y = 0\\ \frac{1+y}{2} & \text{if } 0 < y < 1\\ 1 & \text{if } y \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

▶ The df of *Y* is

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < 0\\ \frac{1+y}{2} & \text{if } 0 \le y < 1\\ 1 & \text{if } y \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

► This is plotted below



▶ This is neither a continuous rv nor a discrete rv.

- ▶ For y < 0, $F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = 0$ (since $Y \ge 0$)
- ▶ For $y \ge 0$, we can get $F_Y(y)$ as

$$F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = P[X^2 \le y]$$

= $P[-\sqrt{y} \le X \le \sqrt{y}]$
= $F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) + P[X = -\sqrt{y}]$

▶ If X is a continuous random variable, then we get

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \left[f_X(\sqrt{y}) + f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \right]$$

▶ This is the general formula for density of X^2 when X is continuous rv.

- ▶ Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$: $f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}$
- Let $Y = X^2$. Then we know $f_Y(y) = 0$ for y < 0. For y > 0,

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} [f_X(\sqrt{y}) + f_X(-\sqrt{y})]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{y}{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{y}{2}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{y}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{0.5} y^{-0.5} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y}$$

This is an example of gamma density.

Gamma density

▶ The Gamma function is given by

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha - 1} e^{-x} dx$$

It can be easily verified that $\Gamma(\alpha + 1) = \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$.

▶ The Gamma density is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \lambda^{\alpha} x^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\lambda x} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (\lambda x)^{\alpha - 1} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x > 0$$

- Here $\alpha, \lambda > 0$ are parameters.
- ▶ The earlier density we saw corresponds to $\alpha = \lambda = 0.5$:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{0.5} y^{-0.5} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y}, \ y > 0$$

▶ The gamma density with parameters $\alpha, \lambda > 0$ is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \lambda^{\alpha} x^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x > 0$$

- ▶ If $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ then X^2 has gamma density with parameters $\alpha = \lambda = 0.5$.
- When α is a positive integer then the gamma density is known as the Erlang density.
- If $\alpha = 1$, gamma density becomes exponential density.

- ▶ Let $X \sim U(0, 1)$.
- Let $Y = \frac{-1}{\lambda} \ln(1 X)$, where $\lambda > 0$.
- Note that Y > 0. We can find its df:

$$F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = P\left[\frac{-1}{\lambda}\ln(1-X) \le y\right]$$

$$= P[-\ln(1-X) \le \lambda y]$$

$$= P[\ln(1-X) \ge -\lambda y]$$

$$= P[1-X \ge e^{-\lambda y}]$$

$$= P[X \le 1 - e^{-\lambda y}]$$

$$= 1 - e^{-\lambda y}, y \ge 0 \text{ (since } X \sim U(0,1))$$

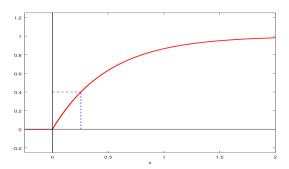
- ▶ Thus Y has exponential density
- ▶ If $X \sim U(0, 1)$, $\frac{-1}{\lambda} \ln(1 X)$ has exponential density

- ▶ If $X \sim U(0, 1)$, $\frac{-1}{\lambda} \ln(1 X)$ has exponential density
- ▶ This is actually a special case of a general result.
- ▶ The exponential distribution fn is $F(x) = 1 e^{-\lambda x}$.
- ► This is continuous, strictly monotone and hence is invertible. The inverse function maps [0, 1] to \Re^+ . We derive its inverse:

$$z = 1 - e^{-\lambda x} \implies e^{-\lambda x} = 1 - z \implies x = \frac{-1}{\lambda} \ln(1 - z)$$

- ▶ Thus, the inverse of F is $F^{-1}(z) = \frac{-1}{\lambda} \ln(1-z)$
- ▶ So, we had $Y = F^{-1}(X)$ and the df of Y was F

▶ We can visualize this as shown below



- ▶ Let G be a continuous invertible distribution function.
- ▶ Let $X \sim U[0, 1]$ and let $Y = G^{-1}(X)$.
- We can get the df of Y as

$$F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = P[G^{-1}(X) \le y] = P[X \le G(y)] = G(y)$$

- ► Thus, starting with uniform rv, we can generate a rv with a desired distribution.
- Very useful in random number generation. Known as the inverse function method.
- ► Can be generalized to handle discrete rv also. It only involves defining an 'inverse' when *F* is a stair-case function. (Left as an exercise!)

- ▶ Let X be a cont rv with an invertible distribution function, say, F.
- ▶ Define Y = F(X).
- ▶ Since range of F is [0, 1], we know $0 \le Y \le 1$.

 $F_{Y}(y) = P[Y \le y] = P[F(X) \le y] = P[X \le F^{-1}(y)] = F(F^{-1}(y)) = y$

▶ For $0 \le y \le 1$ we can obtain $F_Y(y)$ as

For
$$0 \le y \le 1$$
 we can obtain $F_Y(y)$ a

- ► This means Y has uniform density.
- Has interesting applications.
 E.g., histogram equalization in image processing

- ▶ Let us sum-up the last two examples
- ▶ If $X \sim U[0, 1]$ and $Y = F^{-1}(X)$, then Y has df F.
- ▶ If df of X is F and Y = F(X) then Y is uniform over [0, 1].

- ▶ If Y = g(X), we can compute distribution of Y, knowing the function g and the distribution of X.
- ▶ We have seen a number of examples.
- ► Finally, we look at a theorem that gives a formula for pdf of Y in certain special cases

- ▶ Let $q: \Re \to \Re$ be differentiable with $q'(x) > 0, \forall x$. Let X be a continuous rv with pdf f_X .
- \blacktriangleright Let Y = q(X)▶ **Theorem**: With the above, Y is a continuous rv with pdf

I neorem: With the above,
$$Y$$
 is a continuous V with pdf $f(x) = f(x^{-1}(x)) = d(x^{-1}(x)) = d(x^{-1}(x))$

- $f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{du} g^{-1}(y), \ g(-\infty) \le y \le g(\infty)$
- **Proof**: Since g'(x) > 0, g is strictly monotonically increasing and hence is invertible and q^{-1} would also be
- monotone and differentiable.
- ▶ So, range of Y is $[q(-\infty), q(\infty)]$. Now we have

Now we have
$$y = P[Y \le y] = P[g(X) \le y] = P[X \le g^{-1}(y)] = F_X(g^{-1}(y))$$

- $F_Y(y) = P[Y \le y] = P[g(X) \le y] = P[X \le g^{-1}(y)] = F_X(g^{-1}(y))$
 - ▶ Since g^{-1} is differentiable, so is F_Y and we get the pdf as $f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy}(F_X(g^{-1}(y))) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy}g^{-1}(y)$

This completes the proof. PS Sastry, IISc, Bangalore, 2020 36/43

- Now, suppose $g'(x) < 0, \forall x$. Even then the theorem essentially holds.
- \blacktriangleright Now, g is strictly monotonically decreasing. So, we get

$$F_Y(y) = P[g(X) \le y] = P[X \ge g^{-1}(y)] = 1 - F_X(g^{-1}(y))$$

Once again, by differentiating

$$f_Y(y) = -f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right|$$

because q^{-1} is also monotone decreasing.

- ▶ The range of Y here is $[g(\infty), g(-\infty)]$
- ▶ We can combine both cases into one result.

- ▶ Let $g: \Re \to \Re$ be differentiable with $g'(x) > 0, \forall x$ or $g'(x) < 0, \forall x$.
- Let X be a continuous rv and let Y = g(X).
- ► Then Y is a continuous rv with pdf

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right|, \ a \le y \le b$$

where
$$a = \min(g(\infty), g(-\infty))$$
 and $b = \max(g(\infty), g(-\infty))$

- For an example, take g(x) = ax + b.
- ▶ This satisfies the conditions and $g^{-1}(y) = \frac{y-b}{a}$
- ► Hence we get

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right| = f_X \left(\frac{y-b}{a} \right) \left| \frac{1}{a} \right|$$

- ▶ This is an example we saw earlier.
- ▶ We need to find the range of Y based on range of X.

- ▶ The function $g(x) = x^2$ does not satisfy the conditions of the theorem.
- ▶ The utility of the theorem is somewhat limited.
- ▶ However, we can extend the theorem.
- Essentially, what we need is that for a any y, the equation g(x) = y would have finite solutions and the derivative of g is not zero at any of these points.
- ▶ There are multiple ' $g^{-1}(y)$ ' and we can get density of Y by summing all the terms.

• If Y = q(x) and q is monotone,

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right|$$

- Let $x_o(y)$ be the solution of g(x) = y; then $g^{-1}(y) = x_o(y)$.
- ▶ Also, the derivative of g^{-1} is reciprocal of the derivative of g.
- ▶ Hence, we can also write the above as

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x_o(y)) |g'(x_o(y))|^{-1}$$

▶ However, the notation in the above may be confusing.

- ▶ We can now extend the theorem as follows.
- ▶ Suppose, for a given y, g(x) = y has multiple solutions.
- ▶ Call them $x_1(y), \dots, x_m(y)$. Assume the derivative of g is not zero at any of these points.
- ▶ Then we have

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_{k=1}^m f_X(x_k(y)) |g'(x_k(y))|^{-1}$$

▶ If g(x) = y has no solution (or no solution satisfying $g'(x) \neq 0$), then at that y, $f_Y(y) = 0$.

- ▶ Consider the old example $q(x) = x^2$.
- For y > 0, $x^2 = y$ has two solutions: \sqrt{y} and $-\sqrt{y}$.
- At both these points, the absolute value of derivative of g is $2\sqrt{y}$ which is non-zero.
- ► Hence we get

$$f_Y(y) = (2\sqrt{y})^{-1} (f_X(\sqrt{y}) + f_X(-\sqrt{y}))$$

► This is same as what we derived from first principles earlier.