

**Assignment 3**

MATH 323 - Probability  
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1. Suppose  $Y$  is a continuous random variable that has an Exponential distribution with parameter  $\beta$  :

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-y/\beta} \quad y > 0$$

and  $f(y) = 0$  otherwise.

(a) Compute the following probabilities:

(i)  $P(Y \leq 2)$  if  $\beta = 1$ .

In general

$$P(Y \leq y) = \int_{-\infty}^y f(t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^0 0 dt + \int_0^y \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-t/\beta} dt = 1 - e^{-y/\beta}$$

Then, with  $\beta = 1$ ,

$$P(Y \leq 2) = 1 - e^{-2}$$

(ii)  $P(Y > 4)$  if  $\beta = 2$ .

$$P(Y > y) = 1 - P(Y < y) = 1 - (1 - e^{-y/\beta}) = e^{-y/\beta}$$

Then, with  $\beta = 2$ ,

$$P(Y > 4) = e^{-4/2} = e^{-2}$$

(iii)  $P(Y > 4 | Y > 2)$  if  $\beta = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y > 4 | Y > 2) &= \frac{P(Y > 4 \cap Y > 2)}{P(Y > 2)} \\ &= \frac{P(Y > 4)}{P(Y > 2)} \\ &= \frac{P(Y > 4)}{1 - P(Y \leq 2)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-4}}{e^{-2}} \\ &= e^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

(iv)  $P(Y = 3 | Y > 2)$  if  $\beta = 4$ .

$$P(Y = 3 | Y > 2) = \frac{P(Y = 3 \cap Y > 2)}{P(Y > 2)} = \frac{P(Y = 3)}{P(Y > 2)} = 0$$

(b) Now suppose that we define the new random variable  $X = 3Y$ . Find the pdf of  $X$ .

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_Y\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) = \frac{d}{dx} (1 - e^{-x/(3\beta)}) = \frac{1}{3\beta} e^{-x/(3\beta)}$$

2. Suppose  $Y$  is a continuous random variable that has a Normal distribution with parameters  $\mu \in R$  and  $\sigma \in R^+$ :

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \mu)^2\right\}$$

for  $y \in R$ .

(a) Using the Normal probability tables (attached, also see page 2.), compute the following probabilities:

(i)  $P(Y \leq 2)$  if  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ .

$\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$  give the standard Normal pmf. Therefore,

$$P(Y \leq 2) = 0.9772$$

(ii)  $P(Y > 1)$  if  $\mu = 1$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ .

$$Z = \frac{Y - \mu}{\sigma} = \frac{Y - 1}{1} = Y - 1$$

$$P(Y > 1) = P(Y - 1 > 0) = P(Z > 0) = 0.5$$

(iii)  $P(Y > 0 | Y > 2)$  if  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\sigma = 4$ .

$$P(Y > 0 | Y > 2) = \frac{P(Y > 0 \cap Y > 2)}{P(Y > 2)} = \frac{P(Y > 2)}{P(Y > 2)} = 1$$

(iv)  $P(Y > 2 \text{ or } Y < -1)$  if  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\sigma = 2$ .

$$Z = \frac{Y}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Z > 1 \cup Z < -0.5) &= P(Z > 1) + P(Z < -0.5) \\ &= P(Z > 1) + P(Z > 0.5) \\ &= 0.1587 + 0.3085 \\ &= 0.4672 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Now suppose that we define the new random variable  $X = 2Y - 1$ . Find the pdf of  $X$ .

$$F_X(x) = F_Y\left(\frac{X+1}{2}\right)$$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_Y\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} f_Y\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\frac{x+1}{2} - \mu\right)^2\right\}$$

3. Suppose  $Y$  is a continuous random variable that has a pdf given by

$$f(y) = c \exp\{-y - e^{-y}\}$$

for  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  for some constant  $c$ , and cdf

$$F(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y c \exp\{-t - e^{-t}\} dt = c \exp\{-e^{-y}\}$$

for  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Write down the value of  $c$ .

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} F(y) = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} c \exp\{-e^{-y}\} = 1 \Rightarrow c = 1$$

(b) Compute  $P(Y > 1)$ .

$$P(Y > 1) = 1 - F(1) = 1 - \exp\{-e^{-1}\} = 1 - e^{-1/e}$$

(c) Find the pdf of random variable  $X = e^{-Y}$ , and hence identify the distribution of  $X$ .

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= P(X \leq x) \\ &= P(e^{-Y} \leq x) \\ &= P(Y \geq -\ln x) \\ &= 1 - F_Y(-\ln x) \\ &= 1 - \exp\{-e^{\ln x}\} \\ &= 1 - e^{-x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(1 - e^{-x}) \\ &= e^{-x} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $X$  has an Exponential distribution with parameter  $\beta = 1$ .