

Recall the definition of the Gamma function:

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{+\infty} t^{n-1} e^{-t} dt = (n-1)!$$

Show that for a fixed integer  $n \geq 1$  the function:

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} t^{n-1} e^{-t} \quad \text{for } t > 0$$

is a probability density function.

Let  $X$  be a random variable with that density, compute the mean and variance of  $X$ .

**1. Show that for a fixed integer  $n \geq 1$ ,  $f(x)$  is a p.d.f.**

$f(t)$  is non-negative in its domain:

$$\forall t > 0 \quad f(x) \geq 0$$

Its integral from 0 to  $+\infty$  should be 1:

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} t^{n-1} e^{-t} dt = \frac{\Gamma(n)}{(n-1)!} = \frac{(n-1)!}{(n-1)!} = 1$$

$$\forall t > 0 \quad f(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^{+\infty} f(t) dt = 1 \implies f(t) \text{ is a p.d.f.}$$

**2. Compute the mean and variance of  $X$ .**

$$X \sim f(t)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} t^n e^{-t} dt = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{(n-1)!} = \frac{n!}{(n-1)!} = n$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} t^{n+1} e^{-t} dt = \frac{\Gamma(n+2)}{(n-1)!} = \frac{(n+1)!}{(n-1)!} = n(n+1) = n^2 + n$$

$$V(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = n^2 + n - n^2 = n$$

The mean is  $n$  and the variance is  $n$ .