

# **PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS**

## **(UCS401)**

### **Lecture-23**

**(Gamma distribution with illustrations)**

**Random Variables and their Special Distributions(Unit –III & IV)**



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# Gamma distribution with illustration

Part 1

## Gamma function :

For  $n > 0$ , the gamma function,  $\Gamma(n)$  is defined as

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

Their most important properties are:

(i) For any  $n > 1$

$$\Gamma(n) = (n-1) \Gamma(n-1)$$

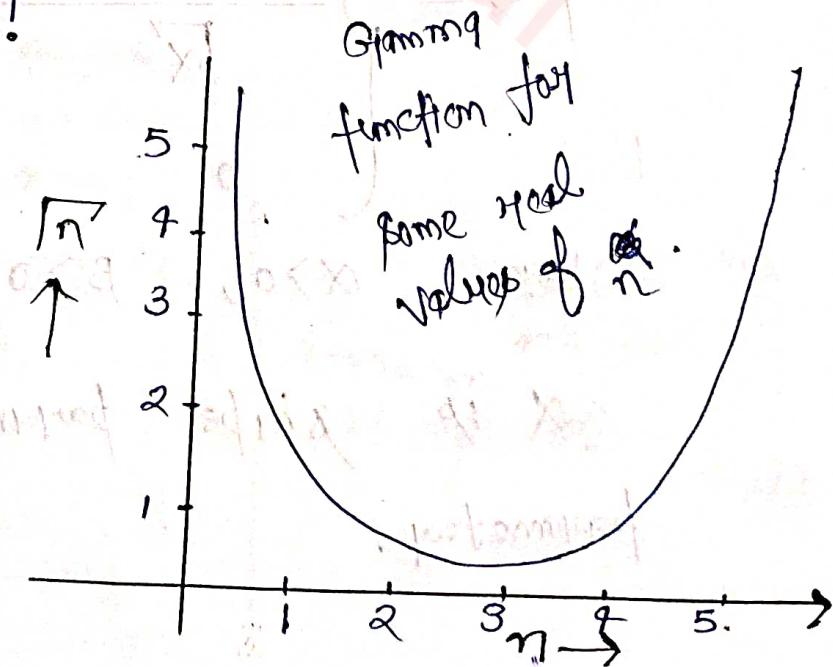
Easily obtained by integration by part.

(ii) For any integer  $n$ , without proof, we have

$$\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$$

$$\text{e.g. } \Gamma(n+1) = n!$$

(iii)  $\Gamma(2) = \sqrt{\pi}$



## Gamma distribution:

A continuous random variable  $X$  is said to follow gamma distribution if its probability density function is defined as

### Ist kind (Standard gamma distribution):

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & \text{for } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where the parameter  $\alpha > 0$ .

### II<sup>nd</sup> kind gamma distribution (two parameter gamma distn)

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & \text{for } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$

$\alpha$  is shape parameter,  $\beta$  is scale parameter.

\* Clearly, when  $\beta=1$ , then it converges to standard gamma distribution.

Special cases :

if  $\alpha=1, \beta=\theta$ , then

Gamma distribution

Reduces to

Exponential distribution

$\alpha=1, \beta=\theta$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x \geq 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} \theta e^{-\theta x} & ; x \geq 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

i.e., exponential distribution is special case of gamma distribution.

Cumulative distribution function (C.d.f.) :

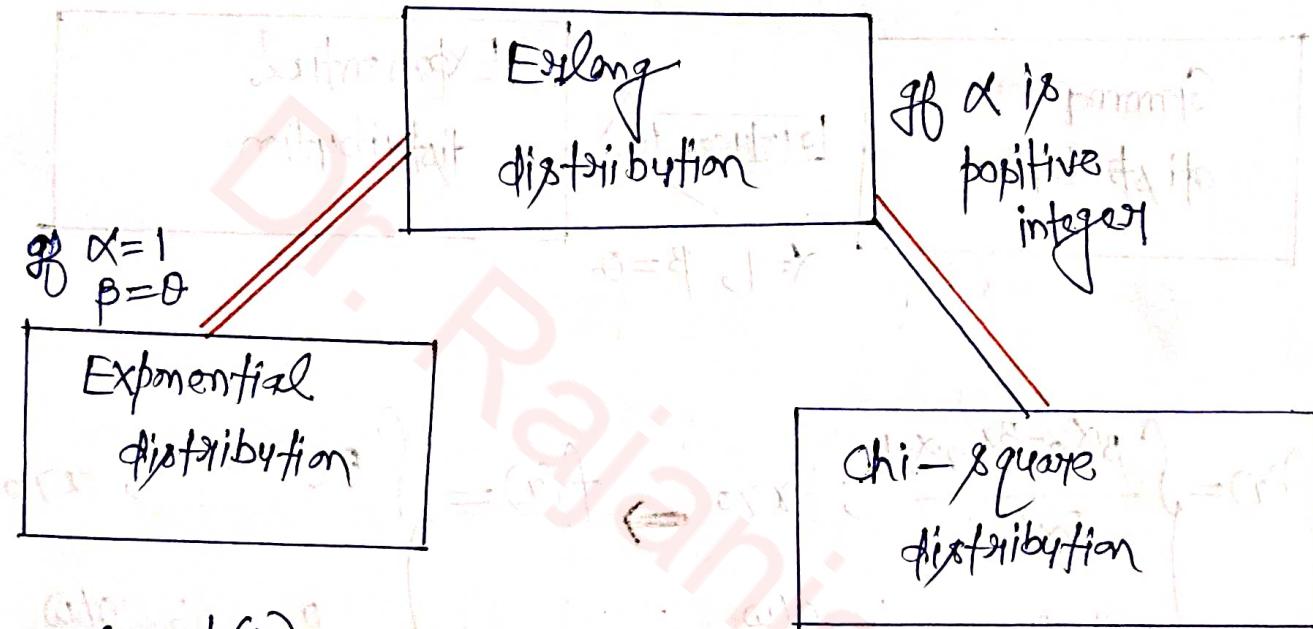
$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x) dx$$

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

$$\therefore f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\theta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x \geq 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

Special Cases: For standard gamma distribution

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$



$$X \sim \exp(\theta)$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \theta e^{-\theta x} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$X \sim \exp(1/\beta)$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-x/\beta} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

if  $\Gamma(\alpha)$  is replaced by  $2^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{2^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{n/2-1}}{2^{n/2} \Gamma(n/2)} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Question :- The daily consumption of milk in a city is excess of 20,000 gallons is approximately distributed as a Gamma distribution with parameter  $\beta = \frac{1}{10,000}$  and  $\alpha = 2$ . The city has a daily stock of 30,000 gallons. What is probability that the stock is insufficient on a particular day.

Solution :- Let  $X$  denotes the daily consumption of milk (in liters) in a city.

Then the random variable

$y = X - 20,000$  has a gamma distribution with p.d.f.

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{(10000)^2 \sqrt{2}} y^{2-1} e^{-\frac{y}{10000}} ; y > 0$$

$$\therefore f(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} y^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; y > 0 \\ 0 & ; 0 \leq y \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Here,  $\alpha = 2, \beta = \frac{1}{10,000}$

Since, the city has a daily stock of 30,000 gallons, the probability that the stock is insufficient for a (single) day is

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X > 30,000) &= P(X - 20,000 > 30,000 - 20,000) \\
 &= P(Y > 10000) \\
 &= \int_{10000}^{\infty} f(y) dy \\
 &= \int_{10000}^{\infty} \frac{ye^{-y/10000}}{(10000)^2} dy \\
 &\quad \text{put } \frac{y}{10000} = z \\
 &= \int_1^{\infty} 1ze^{-z} dz \\
 &\quad \text{put } \frac{dy}{10000} = dz \\
 &= (-ze^{-z})_1^{\infty} + \int_1^{\infty} e^{-z} dz \\
 &= 0 + e^{-1} - (e^{-z})_1^{\infty} \\
 &= e^{-1} - (0 - e^{-1}) = \frac{2}{e}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(X > 30,000) = \frac{2}{e}$$

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## Relation between Normal distribution and Gamma distribution :

Remark :

$$\text{If } X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\text{then } \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma} = \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

where  $Z = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}$  is the standard normal variate.

Result: If  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , obtain p.d.f.

$$\text{if } U = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \text{ i.e., } \frac{Z^2}{2}$$

Solution -: Since  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , which implies that  $Z = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$  standard normal variate.

Hence, the p.d.f. of  $Z$  is

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} \rightarrow \text{even function}$$

The p.d.f. of  $U = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 = \frac{Z^2}{2}$  is found by

$$g(y) = f(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|$$

$$\text{As } U = \frac{x^2}{2} \Rightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{2U}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2U}}$$

Then

$$g(y) = f(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2U}}$$

(as  $f(x)$  is an even function)

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

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

$$g(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} e^{-y} y^{\frac{1}{2}-1} \sim \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

which is the p.d.f of gamma distribution with parameter  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Hence  $U = \frac{x^2}{2}$  is a  $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$  variate.

Standard Gamma dist.

Two parameter Gamma dist.

$$\text{Mean} = \alpha$$

$$\text{Variance} = \alpha$$

M.g.f.

$$M_x(t) = (1-t)^{-\alpha} \\ \quad ; |t| < 1$$

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

$$\text{Variance} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$$

M.g.f.

$$M_X(t) = (1-\frac{t}{\beta})^{-\alpha} \\ \quad ; |t| < \beta$$

Mean of Standard Gamma distribution :

$$X \sim \Gamma(\alpha)$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; 0/x \end{cases}$$

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} x \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} dx$$

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

$$E(X) = \frac{\alpha/\cancel{\alpha}}{\cancel{\alpha}}$$

$$\therefore E(X) = \alpha$$

## Mean of two parameter Gamma distribution :

If  $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$  so its p.d.f. is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; 0 \leq x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$E(X) = \int_x^\infty x f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^\infty x f(x) dx$$

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

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{(\beta x)^\alpha e^{-\beta x}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} dx \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Put} \\ \beta x = y \\ \beta dx = dy \end{array} \right.$$

$$= \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha} \int_0^\infty y^\alpha e^{-y} dy = \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^{\alpha+1-1} dy$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{\alpha!}{\beta^\alpha}$$

$$\therefore E(X) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

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

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n \Gamma(n)$$

## Variance of Standard Gamma distribution :

If  $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha)$ , so its p.d.f. is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and  $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$

$$\therefore E(X^2) = \int x^2 f(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{x^2 e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{\alpha+1} dx = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2)}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$$= \frac{(\alpha+1)\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$\therefore \text{For any } n > 1$

$$\sqrt{n+1} = n \sqrt{n}$$

$$\sqrt{n} = (n-1) \sqrt{n-1}$$

$$\therefore E(X^2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)$$

$$\text{So } \text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = \alpha(\alpha+1) - \alpha^2.$$

$$\boxed{\text{Var}(X) = \alpha}$$

Therefore, Mean = Variance in the standard Gamma dist!!

## Variance of two-parameter Gamma distribution:

A random variable  $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$ , so its p.d.f. is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; 0/0 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$$

$$E(X^2) = \int x^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^\infty x^2 \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} dx$$

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

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

$$= \frac{1}{\beta^2 \Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^y y^{\alpha+1} dy$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+2)}{\beta^2 \Gamma(\alpha)} = \frac{(\alpha+1)\alpha/\cancel{\alpha}}{\beta^2 \cancel{\alpha}}$$

Put  
 $\beta x = y$   
 $\beta dx = dy$   
 $dx = \frac{dy}{\beta}$

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$$E(X^2) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\beta^2}$$

$$\text{Mean} = E(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

$$\therefore \text{Var}(x) = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\beta^2} - \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)^2$$

$$= \cancel{\frac{\alpha^2}{\beta^2}} + \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2} - \cancel{\frac{\alpha^2}{\beta^2}}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Var}(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}}$$

Hence, Variance =  $\frac{\text{Mean}}{\beta}$

If  $\beta < 1$ , then Variance > Mean

If  $\beta > 1$ , then Variance < Mean

If  $\beta = 1$  then Mean = Variance.

Note that: In discrete distribution, Poisson

distribution has the property that

Mean = Variance. While in Continuous distribution,

Standard Gamma distribution has this property.

## Moment generating function of standard gamma distribution:

Ist kind (standard gamma distribution):

$X \sim \Gamma(\alpha)$ , so its p.d.f. is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

The moment generating function is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= E(e^{tx}) = \int e^{tx} f(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{tx} \frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-(1-t)x} x^{\alpha-1} dx \quad \text{provided } |t| < 1$$

put  $x(1-t)=y \Rightarrow dx(1-t)=dy$

$$\Rightarrow dx = \frac{dy}{1-t}$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \left(\frac{y}{1-t}\right)^{\alpha-1} \frac{dy}{1-t}$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (1-t)^{\alpha} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y} y^{\alpha-1} dy \quad \text{provided } |t| < 1$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{\cancel{\Gamma}(\alpha)} (1-t)^{\cancel{\alpha}} \quad \cancel{\Gamma}$$

$$M_X(t) = (1-t)^{-\alpha} ; \quad \text{provided } |t| < 1$$

M.g.f. for two parameter gamma distribution:

If  $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$ , so its p.d.f. is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^\alpha e^{-\beta x} x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx$$

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

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

provided  
 $|t| < \beta$

$$\text{Put } (\beta-t)x = y \Rightarrow x = \frac{y}{\beta-t}$$

$$(\beta-t)dx = dy \Rightarrow dx = \frac{dy}{\beta-t}$$

$$\therefore M_X(t) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \left(\frac{y}{\beta-t}\right)^{\alpha-1} \frac{dy}{\beta-t}$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)(\beta-t)^\alpha} \int_0^\infty e^{-y} y^{\alpha-1} dy$$

$$= \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)(\beta-t)^\alpha} \Gamma(\alpha) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{(\beta-t)^\alpha} \quad |t| < \beta$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{1}{(1-\frac{t}{\beta})^\alpha} \quad |t| < \beta$$

$$M_X(t) = \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha} \quad \text{provided } |t| < \beta$$

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## Mean and Variance by moment generating function:

If  $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha)$  then

$$M_X(t) = (1-t)^{-\alpha} \quad ; \quad |t| < 1$$

For Standard  
Gamma distn

We know that

$$E(X^k) = \left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mean} = E(X) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} ((1-t)^{-\alpha}) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \alpha(1-t)^{-\alpha-1} \right|_{t=0} = \alpha \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Mean} = E(X) = \alpha}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(X^2) &= \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (\alpha(1-t)^{-\alpha-1}) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \alpha(\alpha+1)(1-t)^{-\alpha-2} \right|_{t=0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{E(X^2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)}$$

$$\therefore \text{Var}(x) = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = \alpha(\alpha+1) - \alpha^2$$

$$\boxed{\text{Var}(x) = \alpha}$$

Therefore,  $\boxed{\text{Mean} = \text{variance}}$  in the Gamma distribution.

For two parameter gamma distribution :

If  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$  and its m.g.f.  
is given by

$$M_X(t) = \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha} \text{ provided } |t| < \beta.$$

We know that

$$E(x^n) = \left. \frac{d^n}{dt^n} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \text{Coefficient of } \frac{t^n}{n!} \text{ in the expression of } M_X(t).$$

$$\therefore E(x) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha} \right) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$E(x) = \left. \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-1} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

$$\therefore \text{Mean} = E(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

and  $E(x^2) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (M_x(t)) \Big|_{t=0}$

$$= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-1} \right) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\beta^2} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-2} \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$E(x^2) = \boxed{\frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\beta^2}}$$

$$\therefore \text{Var}(x) = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{\beta^2} - \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)^2$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = \boxed{\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}}$$

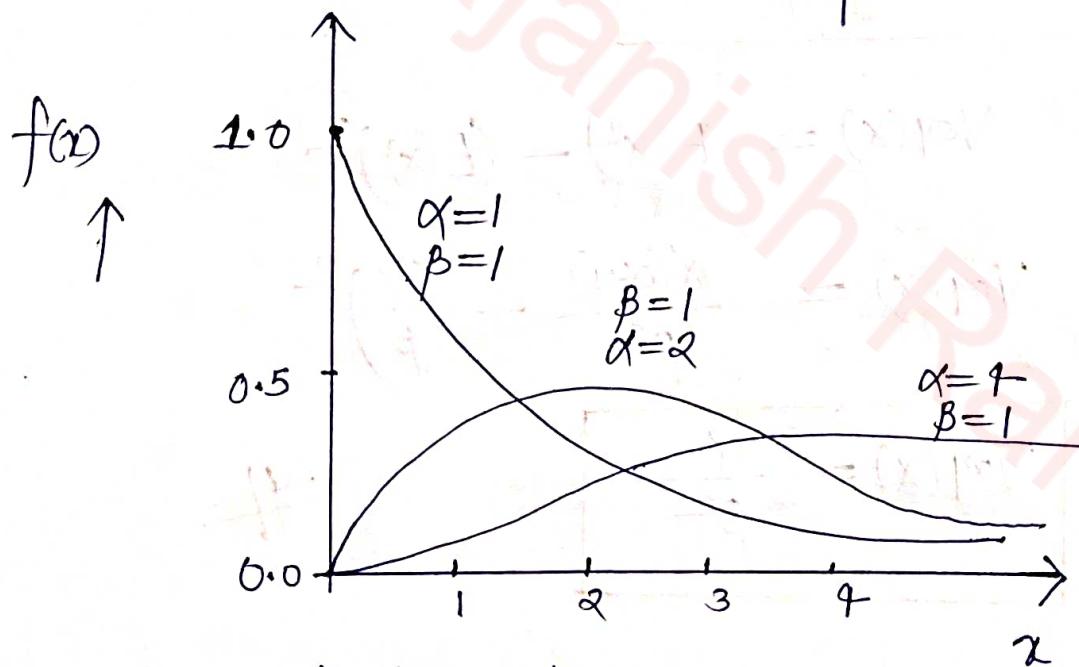
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A random variable  $X$  has a gamma distribution, with parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , if its density function is given by

$$f(x; \alpha, \beta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\beta} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Mean} = E(X) = \alpha\beta \\ \text{Var}(X) = \alpha\beta^2 \end{array} \right|$$



For  $\alpha=1$ , it is reduced to exponential distribution

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-x/\beta} & ; x > 0 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Mean} = E(X) = \beta \\ \text{Var}(X) = \beta^2 \end{array} \right|$$

Question :- In a biomedical study with rats, a dose-response investigation is used to determine the effect of the dose of a toxicant on their survival time. The toxicant is one that is frequently discharge into the atmosphere from jet fuel. For a certain dose of the toxicant, the study determines that the survival time, in weeks, has a gamma distribution with  $\alpha = 5$  and  $\beta = 10$ . What is probability that a rat survives no longer than 60 weeks?

Solution :-

$$X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-x/\beta} x^{\alpha-1} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let the random variable  $X$  be the survival time (time to death). The required probability is

$$P(X \leq 60) = \int_0^{60} \frac{1}{(10)^5 \Gamma(5)} e^{-x/10} x^4 dx$$

put  $\frac{x}{10} = y$ ,  $dx = 10 dy$

$$P(X \leq 60) = \frac{1}{(10)^5 \sqrt{5}} \int_0^6 e^{-y} (10y)^4 10 dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{(10)^5 \sqrt{5}} \int_0^6 e^{-y} y^{5-1} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \int_0^6 e^{-y} y^{5-1} dy = F(6, 5)$$

From table

$$F(6, 5) = 0.715$$

$$\therefore P(X \leq 60) = 0.715$$

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